

AL ASR RAMADHAN CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			17 June First day of Al-Asr Ramadhan Program	18 1st Ramadhan	19 2	20 3
21	22	23	24	25 Assembly Ages 7-12 Review Assessment 1	26 WAFAT OF BIBI KHADIJA (A) Assembly Ages 7-12 Review Assessment 1	27
4	5	6	7	8 Assembly Ages 7-12 Review Assessment 2	9 WILADAT OF IMAM HASAN (A) Assembly Ages 7-12 Review Assessment 2	10 AWARDS DAY
11	12	13	14	15	16	17





بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



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DAILY DUA (ACCEPTANCE)

Prophet Ibrahim ('a) and Prophet Ismael ('a) recited this dua while building the house of Allah (swt), the Holy Ka'aba. They prayed to Allah (swt) for successful completion of their project.

رَبَّنَا تَقَبَّلْ مِنَّا إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ

OUR LORD, ACCEPT FROM US. SURELY YOU ARE THE
ALL-HEARING, THE ALL-KNOWING
(SURA BAQARAH 2:127)

STORY

Prophet Ibrahim ('a) and Prophet Ismael ('a) kept on calling people to worship Allah (swt). At that time there was no place built for the worship of Allah (swt). Prophet Ibrahim ('a) wished there could be such a place where people would be in peace, and concentrate solely for the worship of Allah (swt). His wish was answered when Almighty Allah (swt) ordered him to build the Sacred House, the Ka'aba.

LESSON IN APPLICATION

How often do we ask Almighty Allah (swt) to accept our acts of worship? None of us can ever reach the level of Prophet Ibrahim ('a) or Prophet Ismael ('a). None of us can ever stand the trials they went through. None of us can ever do a project like that of Prophet Ibrahim ('a) and Prophet Ismael ('a). Yet, these two Prophets of Allah (swt) were beseeching Him to accept their acts of worship.

We recite this verse at the end of any good deed; for example when you have read whole or part of the Holy Qur'an, or helping a friend in understanding his/her work or after praying the Sunnat or Wajib Salaat, or any good deed we do. It shows that our ibadat (actions) is only for the sake of Allah (swt) and we seek His acceptance for our deeds. Recitation of this verse is also recommended for seeking fulfillment of any legitimate desire.



LESSON 1: GUIDANCE

SHORT VERSE

إِهْدِنَا الصِّرَاطَ الْمُسْتَقِيمَ

“Keep us (O Lord) on the right path.

LONG VERSE

إِهْدِنَا الصِّرَاطَ الْمُسْتَقِيمَ

صِرَاطَ الَّذِينَ أَنْعَمْتَ عَلَيْهِمْ غَيْرِ الْمَغْضُوبِ عَلَيْهِمْ وَلَا الضَّالِّينَ

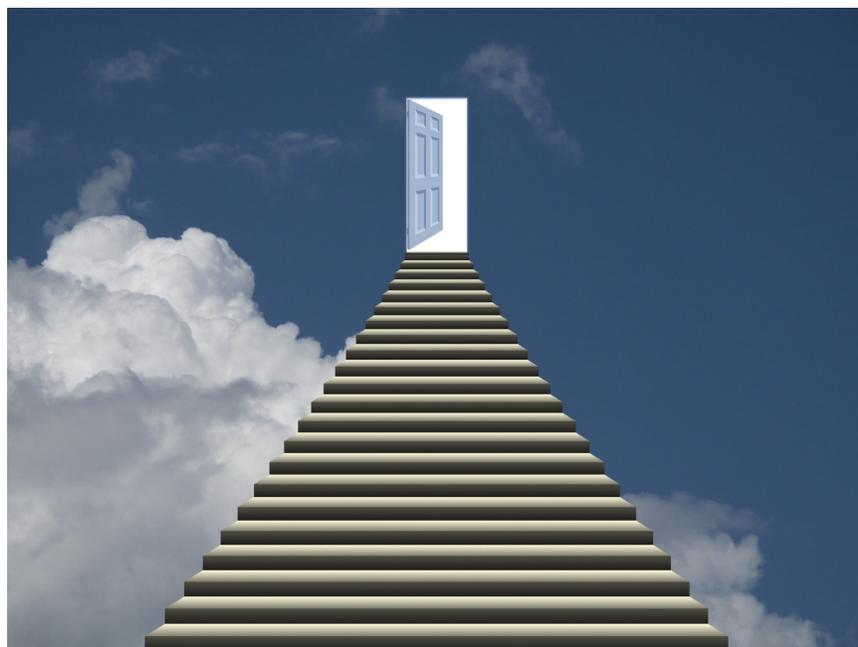
“Keep us (O Lord) on the right path. The path of those upon whom You have favoured, not the path of those with whom You are angry, nor those gone astray.”

(SURAH FATEHA 1:6-7)

In this verse, we ask Allah (swt) help us stay on the right path (the path of Islam). The Siratal Mustaqeem is the Path of Prophet Muhammad (s) and his family (Ahl al-Bayt).

AYAH LEARNING GUIDE

Guide us on (O Lord)	إِهْدِنَا
Path	الصِّرَاطَ
The Right	الْمُسْتَقِيمَ
The path of those	صِرَاطَ الَّذِينَ
Whom You have favoured	أَنْعَمْتَ عَلَيْهِمْ
Not the path of	غَيْرِ
Those with whom you are angry,	الْمَغْضُوبِ عَلَيْهِمْ
nor of those gone astray	وَالضَّالِّينَ



LESSON IN APPLICATION

We learn the concepts of Tawalla and Tabarra in Furu' Ad-Deen, the 10 Branches of our Religion. Tawalla means to be friends with those who are the friends of Allah (swt) and the Ahl Al-Bayt ('a). Tabarra means to keep away from those people who do not love Allah (swt) or those who dislike or hate the Ahl Al-Bayt ('a). In these verses, we pray to Allah (swt) to help us stay on the path of those whom He loves or who love Him and to stay away from the path of those whom Allah (swt) is angry with or who don't love Allah (swt). We have to be careful of the kind of friends we keep because friends can have a good or bad influence on our life and the choices we make in our life. Our Holy Prophet Muhammad (s) has said about Surah Al-Fatiha: "It is the mother of the Qur'an and a remedy for every sickness."

If you are sick or have a need, recite Surah Fatiha. If you are in pain, recite Surah Fatiha 70 times to cure pain anywhere. To recite Surah Fatiha once is the same hasanaat (good deeds) as reciting two-thirds of the Holy Qur'an.

STORY

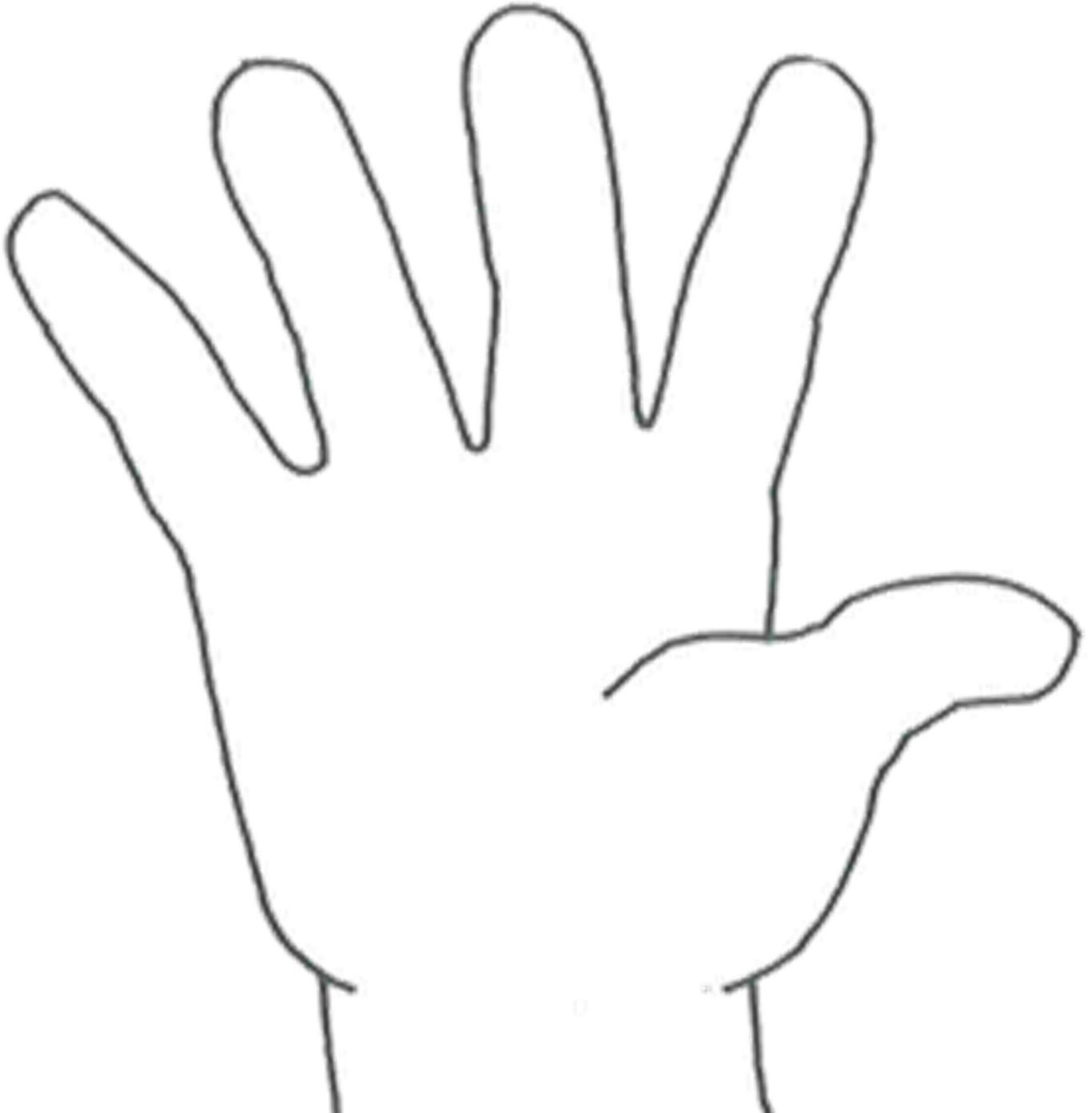
After coming to Hejaz (Makkah), Prophet Ibrahim ('a) said to his son: "I have been commanded by Almighty Allah (swt) to re-build a house in this desert." Prophet Ibrahim ('a) was referring to the Ka'aba, the house which had been built by Prophet Adam ('a) and now he was going to reconstruct (rebuild) it. Hearing this, Prophet Ismael ('a) told his father he was ready to help him in this noble task.

Almighty Allah (swt) loves those who submit to His commands and in return grants His believer what he asks for. In this case, Prophet Ibrahim ('a) and his son had completed building the Ka'aba and asked Almighty Allah (swt) for continued guidance so that they continue to be among those who submit and also asked the same for their family. We learn from this to ask for Almighty Allah's guidance for us and our families. It teaches us that even with Dua's, we should not be selfish to just pray for ourselves but include others first especially our family, relatives, friends, neighbors and community.



ACTIVITY

We seek for guidance from Allah (swt), the Holy Prophet (s) and his Holy Household. In addition, there are many people in our lives who help guide us on the right path. The 5 finger rule helps us to remember all those people in our duas. Write down the five groups of people on the fingers below.



LESSON 2: FORGIVENESS & PROTECTION

SHORT VERSE

رَبِّ إِنِّي ظَلَمْتُ نَفْسِي فَاغْفِرْ لِي

“My Lord! Surely I have wronged myself, so please forgive me;

LONG VERSE

رَبِّ إِنِّي ظَلَمْتُ نَفْسِي فَاغْفِرْ لِي فَغَفَرَ لَهُ ۚ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ

“My Lord! Surely I have wronged myself, so please forgive me; So He forgave him. Surely, He is the Forgiving, the Merciful.”

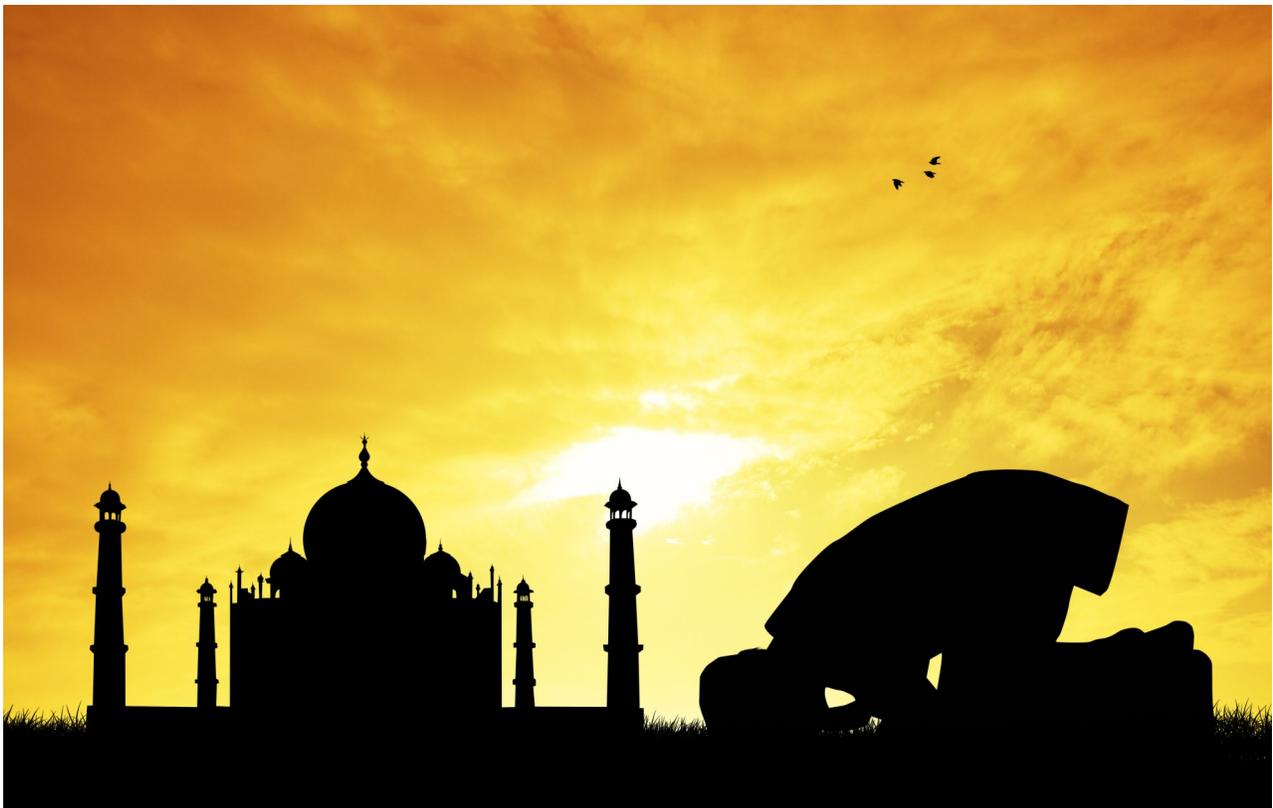
(SURAH QASAS 28:16)

Fir'awn hated Nabi Musa ('a) even though Nabi Musa was brought up in his house. One day, Nabi Musa ('a) found an Egyptian cook of Fir'awn beating a poor helpless Jewish person. When the Jewish person saw Nabi Musa ('a), he asked Nabi Musa ('a) to help him from being beaten up by the cook. Nabi Musa ('a) asked the cook to stop beating the Jewish person but the cook didn't listen and continued beating the helpless Jewish person. When Nabi Musa ('a) saw that the cook wouldn't stop when being told to, he punched the cook in an attempt to stop him. When the cook was punched, he fell down and died.

Nabi Musa ('a), in his attempt to help the oppressed Jewish person had killed the offender. He thought that the Egyptians would try to seek revenge for the death of their fellow Egyptian, the cook. So, Nabi Musa ('a) prayed to Allah (swt) to protect him and to keep his deed hidden from the men of Fir'awn, who were his enemies.

AYAH LEARNING GUIDE

My Lord! Surely I	رَبِّ إِنِّي
have wronged myself,	ظَلَمْتُ نَفْسِي
So please forgive me;	فَاغْفِرْ لِي
So He forgave him.	فَغَفَرَ لَهُ
Surely, He is the Forgiving,	إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ
The Merciful.	الرَّحِيمُ



LESSON IN APPLICATION

We learn from this Ayah that Allah (swt) is the best of Protectors. The Qur'an also has the power to protect us. There are many Ayaat of the Holy Qur'an that we can recite for protection including this one. It is highly recommended, for example, to recite Surah Ikhlas ten times when leaving your house as it will keep you safe until you return back home.

We learn from this Ayah that Islam allows us to do Taqiyyah (hide our faith) when our life is in real danger. We should never do things to endanger our life as life is a precious gift and blessing from Allah (swt) for His servants.

Another thing we learn from this verse is that Allah (swt) is Forgiving. He forgives our sins and hides our faults from others. The Qur'an often talks about Allah's forgiveness. In fact, in Islam, to lose hope of Allah's Mercy and Forgiveness is the second Major Sin (right after Shirk – assigning partners to Allah (swt)). That is how much Allah loves us! *Allah (swt) says in the Holy Qur'an: "Most surely I am the Most Forgiving to one who repents and believes and does good deeds then continues to follow the right guidance. (20:82)*

STORY

People visiting the idols hanging on the Kaaba did a lot of shopping in Mecca and made the Quraysh rich. How dare Prophet Muhammad (s) say the idols were useless and that there was only one god, Allah (swt), who couldn't be seen! So, the Quraysh who were mad with the Prophet (s) for teaching this, secretly decided to call a representative from every tribe to kill the Prophet (s) so that he would no longer spread Islam and stop people from worshipping the idols hanging on the Kaaba. Allah (swt) already informed the Prophet (s) about this secret plot. He was given the command to journey from Mecca to Medina and live in Medina from then on. This event would be known as Hijrah (migration) and the Islamic Calendar would begin from that date.

On the night of Hijrah, Prophet Muhammad (s) left his house to begin his journey. As he came out of the house he threw some sand towards the men who were waiting to kill him and recited the following verse of Surah YaSeen:

وَجَعَلْنَا مِنْ بَيْنِ أَيْدِيهِمْ سَدًّا وَمِنْ خَلْفِهِمْ سَدًّا فَأَغْشَيْنَاهُمْ فَهُمْ لَا يُبْصِرُونَ

"And We have made before them a barrier and a barrier behind them, then We have covered them over so that they do not see." (36:9)

Because of this, the men surrounding his house did not see the Prophet (s) pass by. It was as if they became blind for a moment!

ACTIVITY

Forgiveness

What does forgiveness look like when ...?

- ☹️ Your friend accidently broke your favourite toy
- ☹️ You did something to someone who you feel is a very bad person
- ☹️ Your brother or sister takes away something of yours without asking
- ☹️ Your friend got angry and said something unkind to you and then apologized
- ☹️ Someone keeps doing something hurtful to you over and over without being sorry



LESSON 3: INCREASE IN KNOWLEDGE

رَبِّ زِدْنِي عِلْمًا

“My Lord! Increase my knowledge “

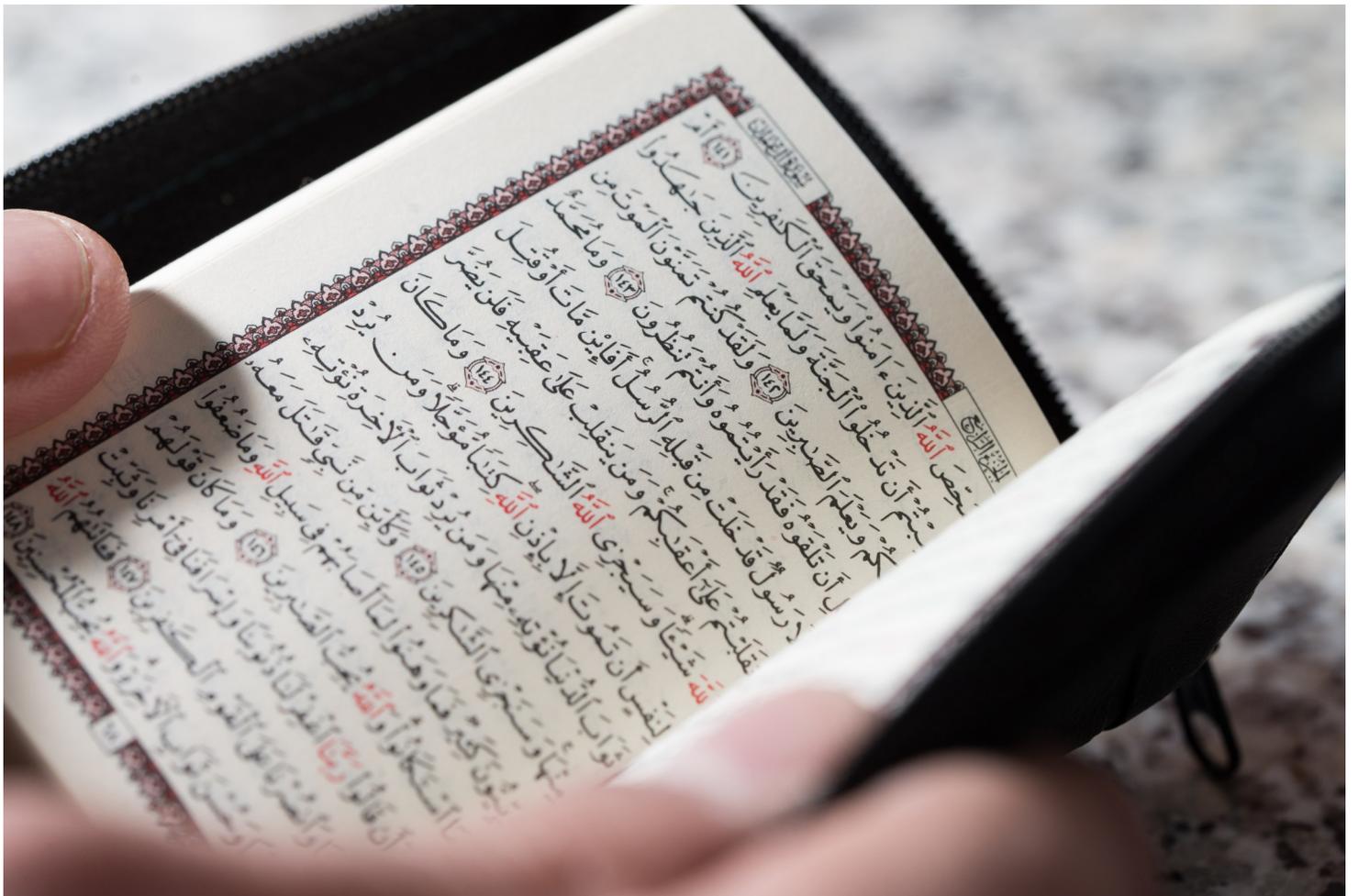
(SURAH TAHA 20:114)

Seeking Knowledge is very important in Islam. It is so important that the first verse revealed to the Holy Prophet (s) tells us to “Read!” (96:1). The Holy Prophet (s) tells us “It is obligatory for every Muslim to acquire knowledge. Allah (swt) likes those who seek knowledge.” And as for those of you who go out to seek knowledge, Our Prophet (s) says that the angels are so delighted with you that they spread their wings. And every single creature of the heaven and the earth including the fish in the sea ask for your forgiveness.



AYAH LEARNING GUIDE

My Lord!	رَبِّ
Increase my	زِدْنِي
knowledge	عِلْمًا



LESSON IN APPLICATION

Seeking knowledge is hard work – but the Holy Prophet (s) told his followers fourteen hundred years ago, when travelling was very hard (there were no airplanes or cars or trains!) that even if they find knowledge all the way in China, they have to go there to seek it. This was the Prophet's way of saying that it doesn't matter how much effort it requires, seek knowledge – that is how important it is.

However, just having knowledge is not enough. What is the point of knowledge if you don't act on it? As your knowledge increases, so it should change the way you act. Imam Ali ('a) says:

"O you who carry knowledge around with you; are you only carrying it around with you ? For surely knowledge belongs to whoever knows and then acts accordingly, so that his action corresponds to his knowledge. There will be a people who will carry knowledge around with them, but it will not pass beyond their shoulders. Their inner most thoughts will contradict what they display in public, and their actions will contradict what they know."

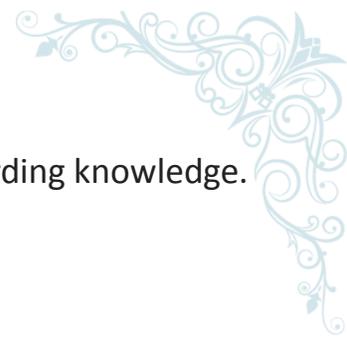
Imam 'Ali ('a), the door to the Prophetic city of Knowledge, once told his companion Kumayl:

"O Kumayl, knowledge is better than wealth; for knowledge guards you, while you have to guard wealth; and wealth is diminished when spent, while knowledge grows and increases when put in use."

STORY

Once our Prophet Muhammad (s) entered the Mosque before the prayer time. He found two groups in the Mosque. One group was busy with its own act of worship; some were reading Noble Qur'an while the others were supplicating. The other group was in a corner busy learning. They learnt how to read and write and discussed the teachings of Islam and their application to their daily lives. Looking at both, Prophet Muhammad (s) said: "They are both engaged in useful pursuits. But I am a teacher. I shall join the group assembled to learn." So he (s) sat with the group of students.

Prophet Muhammad (s) said: The virtue of knowledge is more beloved with Allah (swt) than the virtue of worship.



Knowledge

We have repeatedly heard the following hadiths of the Holy Prophet (s) regarding knowledge.

- ♦ "The ink of the scholar is more sacred than the blood of the martyr."
- ♦ "Seek knowledge from the cradle to the grave."

Create a circle graph (with 24 divisions to show the 24 hours in a day. Use the circle graph to show how much of your life is spent in learning every day (show a typical weekday in the month of Ramadhan, for example). See the example below.



LESSON 4: IMPORTANCE OF SALAH

SHORT VERSE

رَبِّ اجْعَلْنِي مُقِيمَ الصَّلَاةِ

“My Lord! Make me keep up prayer,

LONG VERSE

رَبِّ اجْعَلْنِي مُقِيمَ الصَّلَاةِ وَمِنْ ذُرِّيَّتِي ۚ رَبَّنَا وَتَقَبَّلْ دُعَاءِ

“My Lord! Make me keep up prayer, *and from my offspring (too). Our Lord, and accept my prayer*”

(SURAH IBRAHIM 14:40)

This Ayah is Prophet Ibrahim’s Dua asking Allah (swt) to make him establish prayer, and to give his children the motivation to do the same, and to favor them all by accepting their dua (supplication). In this Dua, Prophet Ibrahim (‘a) includes Prophet Muhammad (s) as Prophet Muhammad (s) is also an offspring of Prophet Ibrahim (‘a).

AYAH LEARNING GUIDE

My Lord!	رَبِّ
Make me	اجْعَلْنِي
Keep up	مُقِيمٍ
Prayer	الصَّلَاةِ
And from my offspring (too)	وَمِنْ ذُرِّيَّتِي
Our Lord,	رَبَّنَا
And accept our prayer	وَتَقَبَّلْ دُعَاءِ



LESSON IN APPLICATION

Salah is the pillar of our Deen and it helps us keep our faith in our religion alive – it helps us remember that Allah (swt) is the Greatest and we are His servants and we submit to Him. Just like a tent needs a pillar to keep prop it up, our faith needs Salah to prop it up and keep it straight and firm.

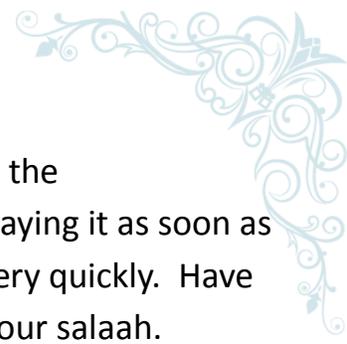
When we pray Salah five times a day, it reminds us to thank Allah (swt) and remember Him. It makes us stay away from doing sins throughout the day because we know we will soon have to go stand up before Allah and talk to Him again (so it makes us ashamed to sin).

STORY

Bilal was an African. He was a slave. He was amongst the first to convert to Islam. When his owner got the news of his conversion, he beat Bilal and made him work harder. He also fed him very little. He was hoping that when Bilal faced all this hardship, he would give up believing in his new religion, Islam and go back to idol worship.

When this did not work, his owner started torturing Bilal. He would make him lie bareback on stones made red-hot by the hot desert sun and leave him out there in the cold nights. He also whipped him constantly. Bilal became weak but still when his master leaned over him he heard him whisper “Ahad, Ahad” – meaning “One, One,” showing his strong belief in the One Allah (swt), the hearer of all Du’as.

News of the sufferings of Bilal reached the Holy Prophet (s) and he became very sad. He told his companions that whoever could afford to buy Bilal from his slave-master should do so and free Bilal. Some books say that Abu Bakr managed to do this and others say that it was the Holy Prophet (s) himself who bought and freed him. As soon as he was free, Bilal devoted his life to the Prophet (s) and Islam. He was also one of the people who migrated from Mecca to Madinah during the Hijrah (migration of the Prophet).



Salaat

We know that the best deed that brings human beings closer to Allah (swt) is the Salaah. However, many of us neglect its importance by delaying it and not praying it as soon as Adhan is called, or we don't pray it at all and recite it Qadhaa; or we pray it very quickly. Have a discussion about different strategies we can adopt that will help us perfect our salaah.



LESSON 5: ASKING FOR GOOD

رَبَّنَا آتِنَا فِي الدُّنْيَا حَسَنَةً وَفِي الْآخِرَةِ حَسَنَةً وَقِنَا عَذَابَ النَّارِ

“Our Lord, give us good in this world, and good in the hereafter, and save us from the punishment of fire.”

(SURAH BAQARAH 2:201)

This Du'a is well-known because it is often recited in our Qunoot in the five Daily Prayers. It is also recited when doing tawaf around the Ka'aba. It is a beautiful Dua' where we ask Allah (swt) to give us good here in this world and also good in the hereafter. It is a Du'a that teaches us that we should not only pray for this world and we should not only pray for the hereafter as Islam is the middle path and so, we should pray for both this world and the next. The good we get in this world can help us because we can use that good to earn good in the hereafter.



AYAH LEARNING GUIDE

Our Lord	رَبَّنَا
Give us	آتِنَا
In this world	فِي الدُّنْيَا
Good	حَسَنَةً
And in	وَفِي
The Hereafter	الْآخِرَةِ
Good	حَسَنَةً
And save us	وَقِنَا
From the punishment	عَذَابِ
Of fire	النَّارِ

LESSON IN APPLICATION

We ask Allah (swt) for goodness in this world and in the hereafter. We also know that we have to be responsible if we want to do good deeds. And that we have to earn good in the hereafter. Good deeds don't happen by themselves. We need to make them happen.

When you plant a seed, it grows into a tree. The same is with our deeds. Whatever good deeds we do here (plant in the world), they will take root and we will earn their results or fruits (either in world or in the hereafter).

STORY

Once the Holy Prophet (s) was informed that a person from Madinah had become very poor. The Prophet (s) said: "Bring him to me."

When some people brought the person before him, the Prophet (s) said to the poor man: "Bring whatever you have in your house; do not regard anything as unimportant."

The person went home and returned with a bowl and sack-cloth. The Holy Prophet (s) placed them for auction, and they were eventually bought by a person for two dirhams.

Handing over the money to the poor Muslim from Madinah, the Holy Prophet (s) advised: "Use one dirham to buy some food for your family and use the other dirham to buy an axe for yourself."

The man did as the Prophet (s) asked him to and bought an axe. He then went to the Prophet (s) with his axe. The Prophet (s) told him: "Go into the desert and collect firewood; collect every piece of wood that you find and do not consider anything to be trivial and insignificant, and then proceed to sell them."

The poor person went away and did as the Prophet (s) had asked him to do, collecting as much firewood in the desert every day and selling it. He came back to the Prophet (s) fifteen days later to show him how much he had earned from selling the firewood. He was no longer a poor man, but a hard-working man who earned and did not need to beg from others. The Prophet (s) told him it was better to work than beg for a living.

Some good deeds have huge rewards - even if we think they are small – Allah (swt) loves them so much that they can earn us reward in this world and the hereafter. For example: Imam Ja’ffar As-Sadiq (‘a) has said: “Doing good to the family purifies the deeds, increases wealth and wards off misfortunes, eases the accounting and delays death.”

So, when you do good to your family, according to Imam Sadiq (‘a), It helps you in this world because:

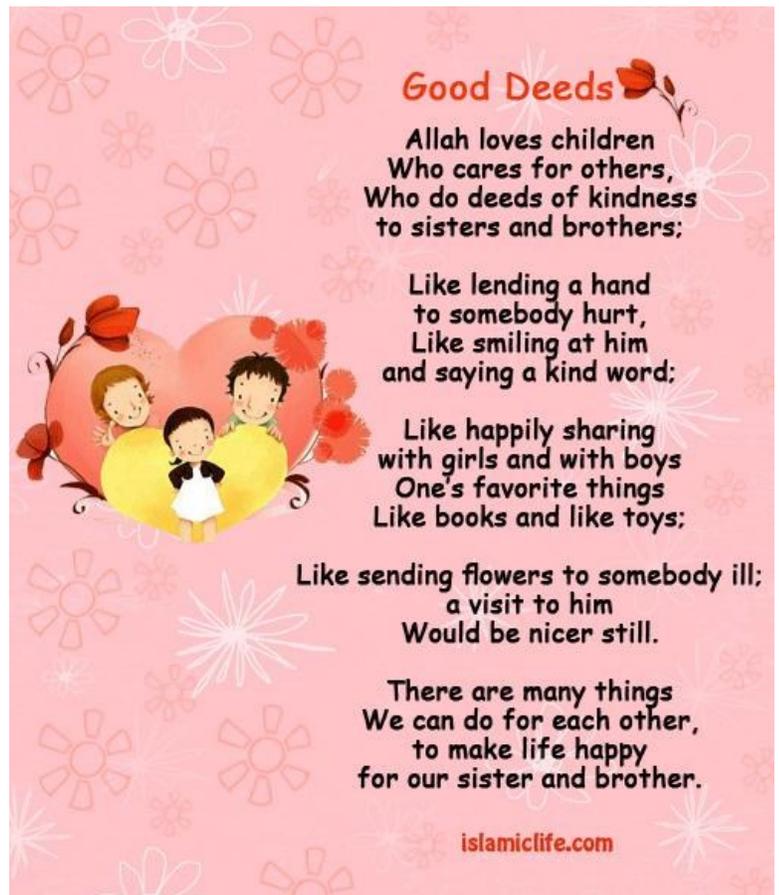
- it increases your wealth (so you can have an easy life but can also use your wealth for the hereafter)
- keeps away misfortunes from happening to you (like accidents for example)
- gives you longer life to enjoy this world (and to earn for the hereafter)

It helps you in the hereafter because:

- purifies your deeds (so if you have sins, Allah (swt) forgives your sins)
- makes your accounting easier on the day of Judgement (helps you get to Jannah faster).

Goodness

Write or draw some good deeds you plan on doing this Ramadhan. Write one good deed for each of the following people: Your Parents, your siblings, your teacher, your neighbour, your friends, and a stranger.



LESSON 6: CLOSENESS TO ALLAH (SWT)

رَبِّ ابْنِ لِي عِنْدَكَ بَيْتًا فِي الْجَنَّةِ

“My Lord! Build for me a house with You in Jannah...”

(SURAH TAHRIM 66:11)

Fir'awn was known for not believing in Allah (swt) and in fact saying he himself was god. He was proud and evil man. However, his wife, Sayyida Asiya is one of the four perfect women in Islam. She warned Fir'awn to be fearful of Allah (swt), but he did not listen. He punished Sayyida Asiya by ordering that her limbs be tied with nails and she should be left under the burning sun with a huge stone on her chest. As she lay there, Sayyida Asiya asked Allah (swt) to build her a home in paradise.



AYAH LEARNING GUIDE

My Lord!	رَبِّ
Build	ابْنِ
For me	لِي
With You	عِنْدَكَ
A house	بَيْتًا
In	فِي
Jannah	الْجَنَّةِ

LESSON IN APPLICATION

Sayyida Asiya (‘a) put her total trust in Allah (swt) even in her last very difficult hours in this world. She did not fear anyone – her faith in Allah (swt) was so great and her love for Allah so pure! She did not ask anyone for her need at that time – she only asked Allah. She showed great tawakkul in Allah (swt). Allah (swt) says in the Qur’an (3:159): “So when you have decided, then place your trust in Allah (swt); surely Allah (swt) loves those who trust.”

Imam Ja’far as-Sadiq (‘a) was asked regarding the words of Allah SWT in the Holy Qur’an: 'And whoever puts his trust in Allah (swt), then Allah (swt) is enough for him' (65:3).

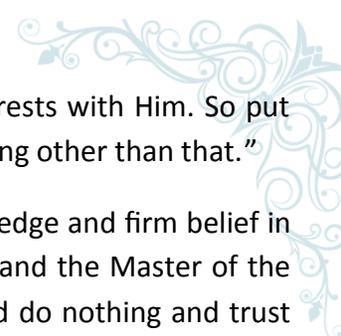
The Imam (a) said: “There are various degrees of trust in Allah (swt). Of them one is that you should put your trust in God in all your affairs, being well-pleased with whatever Allah (swt) does to you, knowing for certain that

STORY

During the time of the Noble Prophet (s) there lived a trader who, in all things, always placed his trust in Allah (swt). He used to travel from Syria to Madinah for trade and during one of his trips, he met a bandit who drew his sword and intended to kill him. “If it is my wealth that you desire, come and take it and leave me alone,” pleaded the trader. “Killing you is a must, for if I let you go free, you will identify me to the authorities,” said the bandit. “In that case give me some time until I have offered a two rak’at Salah,” requested the trader. The bandit agreed and the trader said his prayers. Having completed the prayers, he raised his hands and begged: ‘O’ Lord! I have heard from Your Prophet that whoever places his trust in You shall remain protected. I have no helper in this desert and Your Grace is my only hope.’ Having placed all his trust in Allah (swt), he had hardly completed this Du’a when a rider on a white horse appeared in the distance. When the rider came close, he fought the bandit and killed him. Then, turning to the trader, he said: “O you who places your trust in Allah (swt)! I have killed the enemy of Allah (swt) and Allah (swt) has saved you from him.”

“Who are you that you have come to my assistance in this desert?” the trader asked. “I am your tawakkul. Allah (swt) brought me out in the form of an Angel and I was in the heavens when Jibra`il called out to me and said: “Hurry and help your master and destroy his enemy,” and so here I have come and destroy your enemy.” Having said this, the angel disappeared out of sight.

The trader fell down in Sajda of Shukr (thanksgiving to Allah (swt)). On arrival in Madinah, he approached the Noble Prophet (s) and told him what had happened. Said the Prophet (s) on hearing the story: “Indeed! Tawakkul raises a person to the peak of success and the rank of a person who has it is equal to the ranks of the Prophets, the friends of Allah (swt), the righteous ones and the martyrs.”



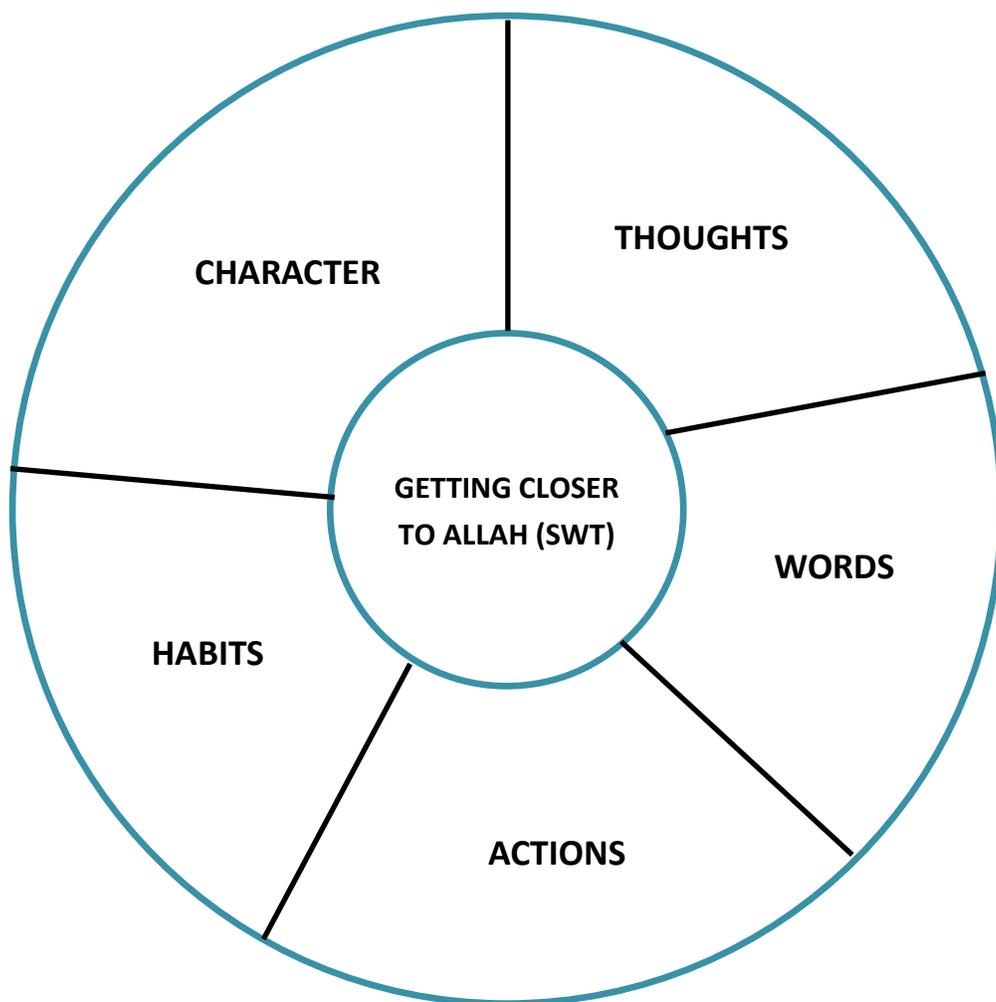
he does not stop His Goodness and Grace towards you, and that the command therein rests with Him. So put your trust in Allah, leaving that to Him and relying upon Him in regard to that and everything other than that.”

Tawakkul or entrusting one’s affairs (work) to Allah (swt) depends upon a person’s knowledge and firm belief in Allah (swt), the Rabb al-Aalameen and the Maliki yawmiddin – the Lord of the Universe and the Master of the Day of Judgement. However, trusting Allah (swt) doesn’t mean that we just sit down and do nothing and trust Him. Trusting Him means we have to work hard and not give up our efforts. We should perform actions to the best of our abilities and then rely on Allah (swt) for His justice, help and beneficence to help us.

Closeness to Allah (swt)

Read the following poem and connect it to your own life. Then complete the graphic TWICE. Once with your own ideas on how to get closer to Allah (swt), and another with your ideas on how one may be moving away from Allah (swt). Share and discuss your graphic with your classmates.

***Watch your thoughts; they become words.
Watch your words; they become actions.
Watch your actions; they become habits.
Watch your habits; they become character.
Watch your character; it becomes your destiny.***



LESSON 7: WHEN DOING A GOOD DEED

رَبِّ إِنِّي لِمَا أَنْزَلْتَ إِلَيَّ مِنْ خَيْرٍ فَقِيرٌ

“My Lord! Surely, I am in need of whatever good You send down to me .”

(SURAH QASAS 28:24)

Nabi Musa (‘a) recited this dua when he did a good deed for Prophet Shu’ayb’s daughters. He helped them collect water for their flock, when the well was crowded by other men. In his dua, he tells Allah (swt) that he is in need of opportunities to do good deeds for the pleasure of Allah (swt).



AYAH LEARNING GUIDE

My Lord!	رَبِّ
Surely I am	إِنَّ
Of whatever	لِمَا
You send down	أَنْزَلْتَ
To me,	إِلَيَّ
(from) Good	مِنْ خَيْرٍ
In need	فَقِيرٌ

LESSON IN APPLICATION

The above Du'a of Nabi Musa ('a) shows that he only did this good deed of helping the girls for Allah's sake – to please Allah (swt) and to get reward from Allah (swt) only. He did not want any reward from people or any reward in the world. He wanted a reward from Allah (swt) in the hereafter. This Du'a also teaches us that we are needy of Allah (swt) and He is not in need of anyone or anything. He is As-Samad as we recite in our Salah every day when we recite Surah Al-Ikhlās. Al-Samad is an Attribute of Allah (swt) whose meanings include the following: the ultimate goal, the obeyed Master without Whose command nothing can happen, the Support of those who need to be supported, the One to Whom all matters are referred, the One Who decides all issues, the One to Whom pleas are directed.

One of the good manners of a believer inspired by this 'Asma of Allah, As-Samad, is that he does not ask help from anyone besides Allah (swt) to help him meet his worldly needs, nor does he rely on anyone else besides Allah (swt) to fulfil his needs and wants. Instead, because of his akhlaq, people come to him for help. According to a hadith, the Messenger of Allah (s) has said, "One who is most loved among people is the one who benefits (helps) them most."

Prophet Muhammad (s) was asked: "What people does Allah love most?" The Prophet (s) said: "Those who are most useful to other people."

STORY

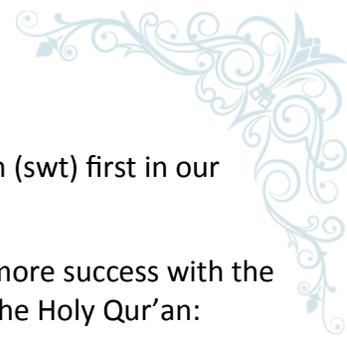
When going away from Egypt, Nabi Musa ('a) went towards Madyan, and wandering in the desert, arrived at an oasis, weak and hungry, after a week. He sat under a tree near a well and saw shepherds giving water to their flocks while two girls waited with their flocks for their turn.

The shepherds were drawing water for their own flocks but no one drew water for the girls.

These two girls were Safura and Safra, daughters of Prophet Shu'ayb ('a), who was very old and so could not come to give water to the flocks himself. So, the young ladies would go out and do this chore for their old father. However, because of their modesty they did not force themselves into the crowd of males.

Prophet Musa ('a) did not like how inconsiderate all the men at the well were – filling the water for themselves and making ladies wait! So, he went over to the girls to help. Nabi Musa ('a) asked the shepherds to help the young ladies but they told Nabi Musa ('a) to draw water for the flocks of the girls himself if he wanted to help; they refused to help.

The strong arms of Nabi Musa ('a) kept the shepherds away and he drew the huge bowl from the well alone which the shepherds needed several men to pull out. He gave the water to the girls.



New Task

Before trying any new task, we ask Allah (swt) to help us achieve success. By putting Allah (swt) first in our minds, we make an intention to please Allah (swt) with our actions.

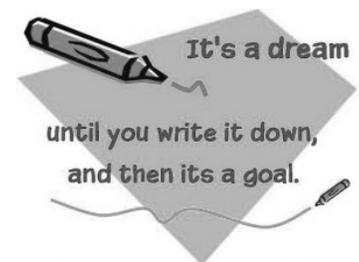
Goal setting is a strategy that allows us to organize ourselves, so that we can experience more success with the help of Allah (swt). Allah (swt) doesn't help those who don't help themselves. He says in the Holy Qur'an:

Truly, Allah does not change the condition of a people until they change what is in themselves. (13:11)

Complete the following to help you communicate your goal. The steps will help you achieve it, Insha Allah.

1. Write down your goal in as few words as possible
2. Why do you want to reach this goal?
3. List 3 action steps you will take to achieve this goal (how will you do it)
4. Complete the sentence: I will know I have reached my goal when

5. How will you find the time to accomplish your actions?
6. Who will you ask for help and support with your goal?
7. I will reach my goal by _____(date)
8. My halfway measurement of achieving the goal will be _____(date)



LESSON 8: PARENTS

رَبِّ اَرْحَمُهُمَا كَمَا رَبَّيَانِي صَغِيرًا

“My Lord, have Mercy on them (both) just as they raised me when I was small.”

(SURAH ISRA 17:24)

Prophet Ibrahim (‘a) asks Allah (swt) to favor his parents with divine grace and forgiveness and keep them safe from sinfulness; therefore there is no doubt that his parents were true believers. It is the best of Duas which we can pray for our parents at all times, whether they are alive or dead.



AYAH LEARNING GUIDE

My Lord	رَبِّ
Have mercy on them both (both)	ارْحَمَهُمَا
Just as they	كَمَا
Raised me (when I was)	رَبَّيَانِي
small	صَغِيرًا



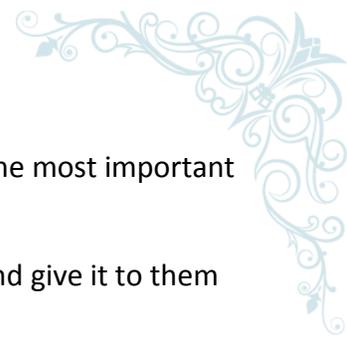
LESSON IN APPLICATION

It is the command of Allah (swt) to give the highest form of respect to our parents. Our parents sacrifice a lot for us as they bring us up. Our mothers especially give up many nights of their sleep to feed us and look after us. We can never be able to repay them for their favors. Instead the best thing we can do for them is pray to Allah (swt) to have mercy on them and to forgive their sins and bless them always.

When we think of our parents, we should feel great about them. Our parents are a great gift from Allah (swt) and sometimes we do not realize this because we are not mature enough to know their value. Allah (swt) tells us to show mercy, to be humble to them, to be kind, not to talk in a loud voice to them, not to scold them when they grow old etc. We should honor them on special days, like on women's day (Bibi Fatimah's birthday), Eid days, etc. by doing something special for them. We can help them in cooking a meal or giving them a special gift or also by praying a 2 rakat salaah and giving that as a spiritual gift to them. We should always be thankful to our parents by saying it often to them. This Dua can be recited as a qunoot in the salaah for Walydayn or just in the qunoot of any salaah.

STORY

King Namrud ruled the city of Babylon; he was a proud man and forced the people to believe in him as their God. He imprisoned and killed people and took whatever he wanted of their crops. Since the people were idolaters, who were worshipping wood and stone, they accepted this additional chain of slavery around their necks because they were afraid of his power. After some time, Almighty God decided to send Prophet Ibrahim ('a) to these people so they may be guided. Namrud was told by his high rank astrologers that a child would soon be born in this country that would stand against him and advise people to stop worshipping idols. Namrud ordered all male babies born in that year be killed. Prophet Ibrahim's mother showed no signs of pregnancy when she carried him, so she knew that her baby was special. She hid herself in a cave in the desert. This is where Prophet Ibrahim was born. He was all alone in the cave with no one to care for him. When he would become hungry, he would suckle his own fingers. Almighty God caused milk to flow from his fingers and thus provided him with a source of food. The child grew up under God's protection. From time to time, his mother would come secretly to the cave to watch him. Prophet Ibrahim ('a)'s mother was afraid that the King would harm her baby so she struggled to hide and protect him. She kept him as a secret and protected his life. Prophet Ibrahim ('a) never forgot her struggle as he remembered throughout his life and prayed to Allah (SWT) for forgiveness of both his parents.



Parents

We know that we can never thank our parents enough for what they have done for us. The most important thing we can do for them is to pray for them.

Make a card. Write down your own unique prayer or poem for your parents in the card and give it to them with a gift on 'Eid.

O Allah!
Forgive my parents have
mercy on them. Let me be of
service to them with
kindness and
compassion. Accept their
deeds and grant them
Jannah
Ameen

LESSON 9: PUBLIC SPEAKING

SHORT VERSE

رَبِّ اشْرَحْ لِي صَدْرِي وَيَسِّرْ لِي أَمْرِي

“My Lord, expand for me my chest and make easy for me my work

LONG VERSE

رَبِّ اشْرَحْ لِي صَدْرِي وَيَسِّرْ لِي أَمْرِي وَ اَحْلُلْ عُقْدَةً مِنْ لِسَانِي يَفْقَهُوا
قَوْلِي

“My Lord, expand for me my chest and make easy for me my work and remove the knots from my tongue, so they understand my words.”

(SURAH TAHA 20:25-28)

This Dua was recited by Prophet Musa (‘a) when he was commanded by Almighty Allah to go to Fir’awn and show him the power of Almighty Allah (swt) by the help of the two miracles given to him. Although Prophet Musa (‘a) was going to Fir’awn under the instruction of Allah (swt), equipped with two divine miracles, still he invoked Almighty Allah (swt) to set his mind at ease and to make his task easy. We must always seek Allah (swt)’s help to get success in our work, whatever the nature of it may be, so far as it is not prohibited.

AYAH LEARNING GUIDE

My Lord!	رَبِّ
Expand for me	اشْرَحْ لِي
My chest	صَدْرِي
And make easy for me	وَيَسِّرْ لِي
My work	أَمْرِي
And remove the knots	وَ احْلُلْ عُقْدَةً
From my tongue,	مِنْ لِسَانِي
So they understand my words.	يَفْقَهُوا قَوْلِي



LESSON IN APPLICATION

There may be times when we want to speak in front of others but do not have enough courage. We get nervous and sometimes frightened too. This Dua is very helpful to overcome those frights as it makes us seek Allah (swt)'s help to be successful in what we want to do. Sometimes we may want to say something to a friend but are afraid we may hurt them or say the wrong thing which may cause misunderstandings. This Dua is powerful in helping us being fluent and not make any blunders. Sometimes we may recite this Dua and are still not comfortable to standing in front of others, we should not stop trying. We should continue to practice and practice. We can do this in front of the mirror, in front of our family members, or even in front of one or two friends. Every time we try, and begin by reciting this Dua and believe that we can do it with Allah (swt)'s help, we will see the amazing difference.

STORY

When Allah (swt) commanded Prophet Musa ('a) to go invite Fir'awn to the right path, Prophet Musa ('a) needed some support to do this mission and he asked Almighty Allah (swt) to strengthen his speech and make people understand what he is saying. He asked for Allah (swt) to expand his chest, to make him big hearted, have positive feelings in front of his enemy and to let his brother Prophet Harun ('a) to accompany him. Almighty Allah granted Prophet Musa ('a) his wish and gave them strength in their work. Allah (swt) is always there to help us in any way; we just need to remember to call to Him at all times.



Ramadhan Dua 1

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allah, Most Beneficent, Most Merciful

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِ مُحَمَّدٍ

Allah, bless Muhammad and the family of Muhammad.

اللَّهُمَّ رَبَّ شَهْرِ رَمَضَانَ

Allah, Lord of the month of Ramadhan,

الَّذِي أَنْزَلْتَ فِيهِ الْقُرْآنَ

in which you sent down the Qur'an

وَأَفْتَرَضْتَ عَلَى عِبَادِكَ فِيهِ الصِّيَامَ

and made fasting obligatory on Your servants.

صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِ مُحَمَّدٍ

Bless Muhammad and the family of Muhammad,

وَارْزُقْنِي حَجَّ بَيْتِكَ الْحَرَامِ

and enable me to go for pilgrimage to your sacred House,

فِي عَامِي هَذَا وَفِي كُلِّ عَامٍ

in this year and in every year,

وَأَغْفِرْ لِي تِلْكَ الذُّنُوبَ الْعِظَامَ

for surely, none can forgive them except You,

فَأِنَّهُ لَا يَغْفِرُهَا غَيْرُكَ

for surely, none can forgive them except You,

يَا رَحْمَنُ يَا عَلَّامُ

O Merciful, O All-Knowing.



Ramadhan Dua 2

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allah, Most Beneficent, Most Merciful

يَا عَلِيُّ يَا عَظِيمُ، يَا غَفُورُ يَا رَحِيمُ

High, O Mighty, O Forgiver, O Merciful.

أَنْتَ الرَّبُّ الْعَظِيمُ الَّذِي لَيْسَ كَمِثْلِهِ شَيْءٌ

You are the Mighty Rabb, there is none like Him,

وَهُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْبَصِيرُ

and He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing. (42:11)

وَهَذَا شَهْرٌ عَظَّمْتَهُ وَكَرَّمْتَهُ

This is the month which You have made exalted, honoured,

وَشَرَّفْتَهُ وَفَضَّلْتَهُ عَلَى الشُّهُورِ

Ennobled and excelled over the other months.

وَهُوَ الشَّهْرُ الَّذِي فَرَضْتَ صِيَامَهُ عَلَيَّ

It is the month in which You have made fasting obligatory on me,

وَهُوَ شَهْرُ رَمَضَانَ، الَّذِي أَنْزَلْتَ فِيهِ الْقُرْآنَ

and it is the month of Ramadhan, in which you sent down the Qur'an,

هُدًى لِلنَّاسِ وَبَيِّنَاتٍ مِنَ الْهُدَى وَالْفُرْقَانِ

a guidance for mankind, having clear signs of guidance and distinction. (2: 185)

وَجَعَلْتَ فِيهِ لَيْلَةَ الْقَدْرِ

You have placed in it the Night of Power,

وَجَعَلْتَهَا خَيْرًا مِنْ أَلْفِ شَهْرٍ

and made it better than a thousand months. (97:2)



فَيَا ذَا الْمُنِّ وَلَا يُمَنُّ عَلَيْكَ

One who favours and none favours You,

مَنْ عَلَيَّ بِفَكَاكِ رَقَبَتِي مِنَ النَّارِ

favour me by saving me from the fire,

فَيَمَنْ تَمَنَّ عَلَيْهِ

amongst the ones You favour,

وَأَدْخِلْنِي الْجَنَّةَ

and make me enter Jannah,

بِرَحْمَتِكَ يَا أَرْحَمَ الرَّاحِمِينَ

by Your Mercy, O the Most Merciful.



Ramadhan Dua 3

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allah, Most Beneficent, Most Merciful

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِ مُحَمَّدٍ

Allah, bless Muhammad and the family of Muhammad.

اللَّهُمَّ ادْخِلْ عَلَى أَهْلِ الْقُبُورِ السُّرُورَ

Allah, bless the departed souls with joy and happiness.

اللَّهُمَّ اغْنِ كُلَّ فَقِيرٍ

Allah, make every poor person free from his need.

اللَّهُمَّ اشْبِعْ كُلَّ جَائِعٍ

Allah, feed every hungry person.

اللَّهُمَّ اكْسُ كُلَّ عُرْيَانٍ

Allah, clothe every unclothed person.

اللَّهُمَّ اقْضِ دَيْنَ كُلِّ مَدِينٍ

Allah, fulfill the debt of all those in debt.

اللَّهُمَّ فَرِّجْ عَنْ كُلِّ مَكْرُوبٍ

Allah, remove the distress of every distressed person.

اللَّهُمَّ رُدِّ كُلَّ غَرِيبٍ

Allah, return all the refugees to their homes safely.

اللَّهُمَّ فَكِّ كُلَّ أَسِيرٍ

Allah, grant freedom to all the innocent prisoners.



اللَّهُمَّ أَصْلِحْ كُلَّ فَاسِدٍ مِنْ أُمُورِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ

Allah, reform whatever is wrong in the affairs of the Muslims.

اللَّهُمَّ اشْفِ كُلَّ مَرِيضٍ

Allah, provide the cure for every sick person.

اللَّهُمَّ سُدِّ فَقْرَنَا بِغِنَاكَ

Allah, ease our poverty by your wealth.

اللَّهُمَّ غَيِّرْ سُوءَ حَالِنَا بِحُسْنِ حَالِكَ

Allah, change our evil state to a good one through your benevolence.

اللَّهُمَّ اقْضِ عَنَّا الدَّيْنَ

Allah, remove our debts,

وَأَغْنِنَا مِنَ الْفَقْرِ

And help us against poverty,

إِنَّكَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ

Surely You have power over all things.



Twelfth Imam Dua

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allah, Most Beneficent, Most Merciful

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِ مُحَمَّدٍ

Allah, bless Muhammad and the family of Muhammad.

اللَّهُمَّ كُنْ لَوْلِيِّكَ الْحُجَّةِ بْنِ الْحَسَنِ

Allah, be, for Your representative, the Hujjat (proof), son of Al Hasan,

صَلَوَاتِكَ عَلَيْهِ وَعَلَى آبَائِهِ

Your blessings be on him and his forefathers,

فِي هَذِهِ السَّاعَةِ وَفِي كُلِّ سَاعَةٍ

in this hour and in every hour,

وَلِيًّا وَحَافِظًا وَقَائِدًا وَنَاصِرًا وَدَلِيلًا وَعَيْنًا

a Guardian, a Protector, a Leader, a Helper, a Proof, and a Guard.

حَتَّى تُسْكِنَهُ أَرْضَكَ طَوْعًا

until You make him live on the earth, in obedience (to You),

وَتُمَتِّعَهُ فِيهَا طَوِيلًا

and cause him to live in it for a long time.



THANK YOU FOR JOINING US THIS
MONTH OF RAMADHAN
TO LEARN ABOUT VERSES IN THE QUR'AN
THAT CAN HELP US EVERY DAY!