

إن الحمد لله نحمده ونستعينه ، ونعوذ بالله من شرور أنفسنا ومن سيئات أعمالنا من يهده الله فلا مضل ومن يضل فلا هادي له ، وأشهد أن لا إله إلا الله وحده لا شريك له وأشهد أن محمدا عبده ورسوله صلى الله عليه وعلى آله وأصحابه وسلم تسليما كثيرا (يا أيها الناس اتقوا ربكم الذي خلقكم من نفس واحدة وخلق منها زوجها وبث منهما رجالا كثيرا ونساء واتقوا الله الذي تساءلون به والأرحام إن الله كان عليكم رقيبا) (يا أيها الذين اتقوا الله وقولوا قولا سديدا يصلح لكم أعمالكم ويغفر لكم ذنوبكم ومن يطع الله ورسوله فقد فاز فوزا عظيما)

Indeed all praise and thanks are due to Allah, we praise him, we seek his assistance, we seek his forgiveness, we seek his guidance. Whomsoever Allah misguides, no one can guide, and whomsoever Allah guides, no one can misguide, and I bear witness that there is no one worthy of worship save Allah, and that Muhammad is his final messenger.

"Oh you who believe, fear Allah as he ought to be feared, and die not except in a state of Islam"

"Oh you who believe, fear Allah and speak words of appropriate justice. He will amend for you your deeds and forgive you your sins. And whoever obeys Allah and his messenger has certainly attained a great attainment"

The fear of Allah, the awareness of Allah, the consideration of Allah, are all matters which must be considered in the thoughts, actions, and life pursuits of a believer. Whether in matters of education, wealth, life, death, a Muslim must never forget that it is Allah who had bestowed him with everything in the first place, and in all places.

Being conscience of Allah and Allah's blessings and favours must inevitably inspire a sense of gratitude within the person. Indeed, it is this gratitude that must be channelled towards actively seeking the pleasure of Allah through giving back to others, just as Allah had bestowed his favour upon the person in question.

Allah mentions in the story of Quran, in the words of his people advising him:

وَإِنِّعَ فِيمَا آتَاكَ اللهُ الدَّارَ الْآخِرَةَ وَلَا تَنسَ نَصِيبَكَ مِنَ الدُّنْيَا وَأَحْسِنَ كَمَا أَحْسَنَ اللهُ إِلَيْكَ وَلَا تَبْغِ الْفَسَادَ فِي الْأَرْضِ إِنَّ اللهَ لَا يُحِبُّ
الْمُفْسِدِينَ

But seek, through that which Allah has given you, the home of the Hereafter; and [yet], do not forget your share of the world. And do good as Allah has done good to you. And desire not corruption in the land. Indeed, Allah does not like corrupters."

The apostle of Allah ﷺ informs us in a hadith:

نعمتان مغبون فيهما كثير من الناس: الصحة، والفراغ

Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) "There are two blessings in which many people incur loss. (They are) health and free time (for doing good)".
[Narrated in Bukhari]

A great way of ensuring Allah maintains his favour upon you is to use that favour meaningfully for his sake, and as people incur loss in these 2 great favours of Allah as they are heedless towards them and therefore do not spend them in meaningful avenues, I will mention a small example of how someone may help others with regards to **health and time**.

[MACMILLAN]

There are 2.5 million people living with cancer in the UK today, and as more people live longer with their cancer, this number is set to grow to 4 million by 2030. There are many people in our community; family members, friends, neighbors and people we work with, who may face the trial. **How many of us have considered what good we can do to support those suffering with cancer in our community.** When we are tested by our health we begin to reflect on what time we wasted in good health. We also think about the sadaqah Jaariyah we could be doing to benefit our souls.

As Muslims giving is part of our faith, and where we can do good to benefit those around us, we should always strive to. This month as part of Macmillan Cancer UK's campaign, we will be hosting a coffee morning, to do our bit for the cause.

Macmillan in 2016, invested £160 million of fundraising for cancer support and services. This includes nurses for cancer patients, help lines, financial grants and provide substantial sums for research. We hope those of you who are able to donate something small or bake something will do so for our coffee morning next Friday 28th September. *

As the Prophet (pbuh) said:
"Take benefit of five before five:
your youth before your old age,
your health before your sickness,
your wealth before your poverty,
your free-time before your preoccupation,
and your life before your death."
(Hakim)

A consequence of being blessed with the urge to do good is that Allah may often test you with regards to your intention, such that you may find an action that was intended for good had been diverted through desire and ego to seeking something or someone other than Allah and his pleasure.

It is incumbent upon a Muslim to therefore to renew his intentions and seek Allah in everything he does, regardless of people recognition of not.

*edit date to suit mosque