

Lesson Tow

Getting Closer to Allah, glory be to Him

In this lesson I will learn to:

- Read the noble hadith properly.
- Explain the position of the righteous believers with Allah, glory be to Him.
- Infer ways that lead to the love of Allah, glory be to Him.
- Clarify signs of love by Allah, glory be to Him, of the righteous believer.
- Read the hadith properly by heart.

I take the initiative to learn

According to Abu Huraira, may Allah be pleased with him, the Prophet, peace be upon him, said: "If Allah loves a person, He calls Jibreel, saying, 'Allah loves so and so, O Jibreel love him' So Jibreel would love him and then would make an announcement in the Heavens: 'Allah has loved so and so therefore you should love him also.' So all the dwellers of the Heavens would love him, and then he is granted the pleasure of the people on the earth". [narrated by Al-Bukhari]

I read and specify

- What is the sign that people love Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan, may Allah have mercy upon him?
- How did he deserve that love and status with people?
- What aspect of the personality of Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan, may Allah have mercy upon him, should I follow for people to love me?

I use my skills to learn



I read and memorize

According to Abu Huraira, may Allah be pleased with him, the Prophet, peace be upon him, said: “Allah said, 'I will declare war against him who shows hostility to a pious worshipper of Mine. And the most beloved things with which My servant comes nearer to Me, is what I have enjoined upon him; and My servant keeps on coming closer to Me through performing voluntary worship acts till I love him, so I become his sense of hearing with which he hears, and his sense of sight with which he sees, and his hand with which he grips, and his leg with which he walks; and if he asks Me, I will give him, and if he asks for My protection, I will protect him’”. [narrated by Al-Bukhari]

I think of the meanings of vocabulary:

- 1 Shows hostility: makes one enemy and harm him.
- 2 Pious worshipper: a righteous believer who follows the orders of Allah, glory be to Him, and avoids things He ordered to be avoided.
- 3 I will declare war against him: I will let him know that I am angry with him.
- 4 I have enjoined upon him: religious obligation.
- 5 Voluntary worship acts: praying or doing extra deeds besides what is obligatory.
- 6 Ask for My protection: ask me to protect him from evils he fears.

The status of pious believers with Allah, glory be to Him:

- ☉ The pious believer gets a high status with Allah, glory be to Him, to the extent that He defends him and protects him from the evils of anyone trying to harm him in any way. Allah, glory be to Him, said: ﴿إِنَّ اللَّهَ يُدَافِعُ عَنِ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يُحِبُّ كُلَّ خَوَّانٍ كَفُورٍ﴾ “Inna Allāha Yudāfi`u `Ani Al-Ladhīna `Āmanū Inna Allāha Lā Yuḥibbu Kulla Khawwānin Kafūrin” (Indeed, Allah defends those who have believed. Indeed, Allah does not like everyone treacherous and ungrateful) [Al-Ĥaj: 38]. Despite that, we find many people who are enticed by their souls to harm others through tale-bearing, swearing, slandering, hatred, depriving them of any of their rights, or killing without justification, which puts them in a war against Allah and His Messenger without them realizing that. They forget the saying by the Prophet, peace be upon him: **“Don’t nurse grudge, don’t bid him out for raising the price, don’t nurse aversion or enmity, don’t enter into a transaction when the others have entered into that transaction and be as fellow-brothers and servants of Allah. A Muslim is the brother of a Muslim. He neither oppresses him nor humiliates him nor looks down upon him. The piety is here, (and while saying so he pointed towards his chest thrice). It is a serious evil for a Muslim that he should look down upon his brother Muslim. All things of a Muslim are inviolable for his brother in faith: his blood, his wealth and his honour.”** [narrated by Muslim].



I recite and compare

Between allies of Allah and allies of the devil based on my understanding of the following verse in the table below:

Allah, glory be to Him, said:

إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَلِيُّ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا يُخْرِجُهُم مِّنَ الظُّلُمَاتِ إِلَى النُّورِ وَالَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا أَوْلِيَاؤُهُم لَطَّاعُونَ لِلظُّلُمَاتِ
أُولَئِكَ أَصْحَابُ النَّارِ هُمْ فِيهَا خَالِدُونَ

“Al-Lahu Wa Līyu Al-Ladhīna 'Āmanū Yukhrijuhum Mina Až-Žulumāti 'Ilá An-Nūr Wa Al-Ladhīna Kafarū 'Awliyā'uuhumu Aṭ-Ṭāghūtu Yukhrijūnahum Mina An-Nūr 'Ilá Až-Žulumāti 'Ūlā'ika 'Aṣhābu An-Nāri Hum Fīhā Khālidūn” (Allah is the ally of those who believe. He brings them out from darknesses into the light. And those who disbelieve - their allies are Taghut. They take them out of the light into darknesses. Those are the companions of the Fire; they will abide eternally therein) [Al-Baqarah: 257]

Aspect	Allies of Allah	Allies of the devil
Their faith		
Their attributes		
Their reward/punishment		
Their effect on society		



I read and explain

- ⑧ How my relation with others should be in light of my understanding of the following hadith:

The Prophet, peace be upon him, said: "The Muslim is the one from whose tongue and hand the people are safe, and the believer is the one from whom the people's lives and wealth are safe." [narrated by Ahmad]

Ways to get closer to Allah, glory be to Him:

1 Getting closer to Allah, glory be to Him, by performing religious obligations:

Performing the religious obligations set by Allah, glory be to Him, for His servants is the highest rank of obedience and loyalty to Allah, glory be to Him. By virtue of these obligations, those servants get closer to Allah, glory be to Him, in this world and in the Hereafter, and are promised that they will be on the Day of Judgment with the prophets, the steadfast affirmers of truth, the martyrs and the righteous, who are the best companions; Allah, glory be to Him, said:

﴿وَمَنْ يُطِيعِ اللَّهَ وَالرَّسُولَ فَأُولَٰئِكَ مَعَ الَّذِينَ أَنْعَمَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِمْ مِنَ النَّبِيِّينَ وَالصَّدِّيقِينَ وَالشُّهَدَاءِ وَالصَّالِحِينَ وَحَسُنَ أُولَٰئِكَ رَفِيقًا﴾
 “Wa Man Yuṭi`i Allāha Wa Ar-Rasūla Fa`ulā`ika Ma`a Al-Ladhīna ‘An`ama Allāhu `Alayhim Mina An-Nabīyīna Wa Aş-Şiddīqīna Wa Ash-Shuhadā`i Wa Aş-Şāliḥīna Wa Ḥasuna ‘Ulā`ika Rafīqāa” (And whoever obeys Allah and the Messenger - those will be with the ones upon whom Allah has bestowed favor of the prophets, the steadfast affirmers of truth, the martyrs and the righteous. And excellent are those as companions) [An-Nisā’: 69]. According to Jabir bin Abdullah, a man asked the Messenger of Allah, saying: “Shall I enter Paradise in case I perform the obligatory prayers, observe the fasts of Ramadan, treat that as lawful which has been made permissible, deny myself that what is forbidden, and make no addition to it? The Prophet replied: ‘Yes’” [narrated by Muslim].

Performing religious obligations regularly results in spiritual, psychological, physical and health benefits for the Muslim.

Religious obligations are divided into individual obligations and collective ones as follows:

- ③ **Individual obligation:** an obligation that must be performed by every discerning individual, such as prayers, zakat, fasting, pilgrimage, honoring parents, maintaining good relations with one's kin, etc.
- ③ **Collective obligation:** an obligation that must be performed by the discerning in general, but not by each and every one of them; if some of them perform it, that will be sufficient and the rest do not need to perform it, otherwise they will all be sinful.



I think and compare

- between the individual obligation and the collective obligation in the following table:

Aspect	Individual obligation	Collective obligation
Concept	An obligation that must be performed by every discerning individual.	An obligation that must be performed by the group in general, but if some only perform it, that will be sufficient.
Example		
The result if not performed		

2 Getting closer to Allah, glory be to Him, by performing voluntary worship acts:

- Voluntary worship acts: worship acts other than religious obligations that the Prophet, peace be upon him, used to perform. Performing voluntary worship acts would compensate for any imperfections in performing religious obligations. For example, performing regular voluntary prayers would compensate for any shortcomings in performing the five obligatory prayers.



I think thoroughly and answer:

The Prophet, peace be upon him, said: “and My servant keeps on coming closer to Me through performing voluntary worship acts till I love him ...”

- a What is the implication of “keeps on”?
- b Why do we need the voluntary worship acts?
- c What is the result of performing voluntary worship acts regularly?



I cooperate and match:

- the following religious obligations in column (a) with the corresponding voluntary worship acts in column (b):

(أ)

Religious obligation
Pilgrimage
Fasting
Prayer
Zakat

(ب)

Voluntary worship act
Fasting on Ashura day (10 th of Muharram)
Umrah
Paying alms
Two rak'ahs before Fajr prayer
Feeding a hungry person
Fasting six days in Shawwal
Praying on the Night of Power

Signs of love by Allah, glory be to Him, of His servant:

By getting closer to Allah, glory be to Him, a pious believer would gain His love; he will be successful in the work he does with full devotion; he will hear and see only things that will please Allah; he will use his hand only for good purposes; and he will use his feet to walk only in obedience of Allah, glory be to Him. When he performs his religious obligations and keeps performing voluntary worship acts, Allah, glory be to Him, will answer his supplications and guides him toward the path of success in this world and in the Hereafter.



I cooperate and explain:

In the table below how man can use his limbs to obey Allah and avoid using them to disobey Allah:

To obey and please Allah	Limbs	To avoid disobeying and angering Allah
	Hearing	
	Sight	
	Tongue	
	Hand	
	Foot	

I organize My Imprint:

I learnt from this hadith:

Concept

A pious believer has a high status with Allah, glory be to Him

.....

Significance

Showing hostility to pious believers is a major sin

.....

Factors that help achieve it

Religious obligations are more dear to Allah than voluntary worship acts

.....

Effect on the advancement of countries

Allah's orders are of two types: religious obligations and voluntary worship acts that bring one closer to Allah

.....



I leave my imprint



I get closer to Allah, glory be to Him, through all religious obligations and voluntary worship acts, and I observe good manners in dealing with others to represent my religion and nation well.



I answer by myself:

1 According Talha bin Obaidillah, may Allah be pleased with him, a man with dishevelled hair from Najd came to the Messenger of Allah. We heard the humming of his voice but could not fully understand what he was saying. He approached close to the Messenger of Allah. Then I came to know that he was asking about Islam. The Messenger of Allah said: "There are five obligatory prayers during the day and the night." He said: "Am I obliged to perform any other prayer besides these?" The Messenger of Allah said, "No, but whatever you observe voluntarily," Then added, "There is the fasting of Ramadan." The inquirer asked: "Am I obliged to do anything besides this?" The Messenger of Allah said, "No, but you may observe voluntary fasting." And the Messenger of Allah told him about the Zakat. The inquirer asked: "Am I obliged to pay anything besides this?" The Messenger of Allah said, "No, but whatever you pay voluntarily out of your own free will." That man turned back saying: "By Allah! I will neither make any addition to this nor will I decrease anything from it." Upon hearing this, the Messenger of Allah remarked, "He is successful if he proves truthful to what he is saying." [narrated by Al-Bukhari]

⦿ Enumerate the religious obligations enjoined by Allah, glory be to Him, as stated in the holy hadith.

⦿ Find in the noble hadith evidence to the virtue of performing voluntary worship acts.

⦿ What good news did the Messenger of Allah tell the man? Is this good news restricted to the man?

2 Classify the following deeds in the table below:

(Going on pilgrimage to the Holy Mosque in Makkah – Fasting in Ramadan – donating for building a mosque – performing Umrah – performing full ablution before Friday prayer – performing prayer in the Prophet’s Mosque and greeting the Messenger of Allah – performing the Taraweeh with a group in the mosque – paying zakat for crops at the time of every harvest – reciting Surat Al-Fātiḥah in prayer – performing partial ablution for prayer – adding “Wa Rahmatu Allah Wa Barakatuh” when greeting people).

Voluntary worship act	Religious obligation

3

Indicate in the noble hadith the following meanings:

⦿ Allah, glory be to Him defends pious believers.

⦿ Success of pious people in performing good deeds and their avoidance of sins is attributed to the grace of Allah, glory be to Him.

Enriching My Experience:

⦿ Using the internet, search for the difference between a Prophet's hadith and a sacred hadith (Hadith Qudsi). Write a brief report about it and present it before your classmates in the classroom.