

Helping Others

Looking Ahead



"Don't worry! Allah would never abandon you! You care for your relatives, you help others, you provide for the poor, you show hospitality to the guest, and you are just and kind."

Do you remember who said these beautiful words to her husband?

Who was this person with such unique qualities of caring and helping others?

Abu Hurairah رضي الله عنه reported that the Messenger of Allah صلى الله عليه وسلم said:

“اللَّهُ فِي عَوْنِ الْعَبْدِ مَا دَامَ الْعَبْدُ فِي عَوْنِ أَخِيهِ .”

"Allah continues helping a servant of His as long as the servant continues to help his brother or sister." (Sahih al-Bukhari)

Read and Think

In this particular Hadith Rasulullah صلى الله عليه وسلم tells us about the importance of helping others. He tells us that Allah سبحانه is so happy with those who help others that He, in turn, helps them. Always remember this point, dear students! If we want Allah سبحانه to

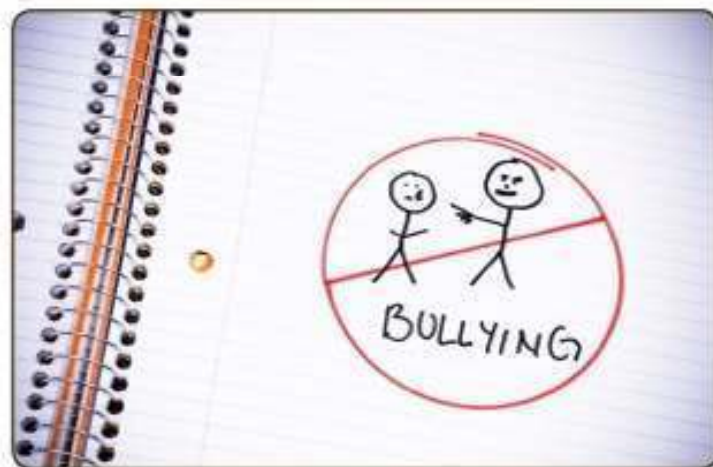
help and take care of us, we have to do our part and help Allah's creation.

As Muslims, we are people who live in peace and harmony with the world around us. One action which definitely brings peace and harmony to people is the help we give each other. Helping out creates respect, love and brotherhood between people, communities and nations.

Helping others makes both the helped and the helper feel good. It encourages bonds of warmth between people. It can even bring together people or countries who are enemies. Such things are highly encouraged by Islam. Islam is a religion of togetherness and community.

We help and cooperate with others in those deeds that are beneficial and good. However, we should not cooperate or help in those deeds that are wrong or can hurt others. For example, if one of our friends teases a fellow classmate, it is un-Islamic to join in. In fact, it is your duty to tell your friend to stop teasing. This type of helping falls into the Islamic practice of "Encouraging what is right and stopping what is wrong."

Helping each other in goodness is not something only Muslims have to do. It is a command that covers everyone.



The best example of helping each other during Rasulullah's lifetime can be seen in the "Treaty of Madinah." Rasulullah ﷺ was the leader of a society made up of both Muslims and non-Muslims. In order to uphold harmony, Rasulullah ﷺ made a treaty that asked each citizen to be helpful and keep good relations with each other.

Think! How do you feel after helping someone? Helping others

brings good feelings both to the giver and the receiver of the good deed. Allah ﷻ has put inside most of us a desire to do good and help others.

Reading the Words of Allah ﷺ

Let's remember Allah's command about helping one another:

وَتَعَاوَنُوا عَلَى الْبِرِّ وَالتَّقْوَىٰ وَلَا تَعَاوَنُوا عَلَى الْإِثْمِ وَالْعُدْوَانِ

"And help one another in righteousness and piety; and do not help one another in sin and aggression." *Surah al-Maidah 5:2*

Hadith in Action

When Abu Bakr رضي الله عنه ruled as Khalifah a great famine hit Arabia. It was a very disturbing scene to see people suffering. Everyone asked Allah ﷻ for help. The people of Madinah heard the news that Uthman رضي الله عنه was coming with a caravan from Syria.

As the caravan entered Madinah, people went out to welcome it. The leading merchants of Madinah were in the crowd. They came to buy the goods that Uthman رضي الله عنه brought. They wanted to resell these to the people. The merchants approached Uthman رضي الله عنه and he asked, "How much are you going to offer me if I sell this to you?"

The merchants said, "Since there is a famine, we will pay you double the price."

"I have already been offered more than that," replied Uthman رضي الله عنه.

"Then we'll pay five times the price!" said the merchants.

"But I have been offered more than that," replied Uthman رضي الله عنه.

The merchants were very surprised. They asked, "Who has offered you such a high price?"

"Allah has already promised me at least ten times the price," replied Uthman رضي الله عنه, "Because this entire caravan is to be given as Sadaqah to the people of Madinah. My reward is with my Lord."



Lesson Review

Let's Recall



- We are supposed to help everyone.
- Rasulullah ﷺ always helped people in need.
- The Sahabah followed in the footsteps of Rasulullah ﷺ by helping others.

Words to Know



beneficial harmony uphold bond merchant

Family Time Together

Reflect

Imagine how much money Sayyiduna Uthman رضي الله عنه spent on bringing the caravan to Madinah. With this in mind, answer the questions below.

Discuss as a Family

- Why did Uthman رضي الله عنه give all his goods to the starving people of Madinah?
- In what ways can all of you as a family follow the example of Uthman رضي الله عنه?

Now that you've come to the end of this lesson, sit quietly and make the following prayer:

Du'a



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

O Allah! Make me thankful to You for all Your favors. And bless me and my family and give us wisdom to share these blessing with those who are our relatives, friends as well as people in need. Amin!