



عش مع القرآن: سورة آل عمران

LIVE WITH THE QUR'AN: SURAH AAL IMRAAN

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
لَا حَوْلَ وَلَا قُوَّةَ إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ

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LIVE WITH THE QUR'AN

SURAH AAL IMRAAN

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INTRODUCTION

KNOTS IN OUR LIFE

- We all need to remember that the final destination is the Last Day. And as we move from station to station in life, we always want to remember that we are heading to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).

SUPPLICATION TO NOT MAKE THE
DUNIYA OUR GREATEST CONCERN

ولا تجعل الدنيا أكبر همنا، ولا مبلغ علمنا

wa la taj'alid-dunya akbara hammina, wa la mablagha 'ilmina

let not worldly affairs be our principal concern,
or the ultimate limit of our knowledge¹

- Everything in this life is to show us how Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is the Most Beautiful and the Most Powerful. And the strongest bond is (لا إله إلا الله محمد (رسول الله)).
- Sometimes we have some knots in our life. We might have heard comments when we were young and it became a “knot” in our life or we went through a bad experience so it becomes a “knot” in our life.
- Sometimes a person may say something normal to us, but it can cause us to react due to the a “knot” in our life. And someone can

¹ Riyadh As Saliheen, At Tirmidhi, Book 4, Hadith 21

say something that can undo that knot. And this is by the Might of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).

SURAH AL FALAQ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

1

قُلْ أَعُوذُ بِرَبِّ الْفَلَقِ

Say, "I seek refuge in the Lord of daybreak

2

مِنْ شَرِّ مَا خَلَقَ

From the evil of that which He created

3

وَمِنْ شَرِّ غَاسِقٍ إِذَا وَقَبَ

And from the evil of darkness when it settles

4

وَمِنْ شَرِّ النَّفَّاثَاتِ فِي الْعُقَدِ

And from the evil of the blowers in knots

5

وَمِنْ شَرِّ حَاسِدٍ إِذَا حَسَدَ

And from the evil of an envier when he envies."

- The word in Arabic for knot is (عقدة). And the word (عقد) means contract, and a contract is like something we are tied and bound to.
- And the word (عقدة) also refers to something that can trigger a great amount of pain and reacting within us. For example, if someone has been bullied, and if that topic is brought up, it can trigger a lot of pain within them.
- There are some “blows of words” that can penetrate deep within our heart and bring bad feelings.
- The word (عقيدة) also means strong belief that cannot be undone. Our belief in Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is like a “knot” within us that cannot be changed.

- And the word (معقد) means a complicated person and (تعقيد) means complications.
- Musa (عليه السلام) asked Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) to solve and undo the knot in his tongue. And this can be a physical knot due to a physical impediment or an emotional knot where a person is always told, “don't speak, you don't know” and so they do not speak or express themselves.
- The worst types of knots are knots about the religion when someone shows the religion with harshness. And this can cause someone to not want the deen.
- There are some knots in our life that can make us disabled or muted, to the point it puts us down and we cannot show our best. Or a person can react with a knot they have in their

life by being rebellious. And both ways are not good.

- And only Allah Rabb Al Falaq can undo these knots because we do not know how these knots accumulate within us and how it was holding us back all this time.
- The magician has evil within them and has evil intentions, so when they blow, it is an evil blow. But when performing ruqyah, the intention is good, so the blow is a good blow.
- When a person is jealous or arrogant, then any “blow” or words that comes out from them will have a bad impact and penetrate the heart of another, thus negatively affecting them.
- But if a person’s heart is pure then their words will be good and pure, and they will have a good impact on others.

SURAH AL INSHIQAQ 6

يَا أَيُّهَا الْإِنْسَانُ إِنَّكَ كَادِحٌ إِلَىٰ رَبِّكَ كَدْحًا فَمُلَاقِيهِ

O man! Verily, you are returning towards your Lord with your deeds and actions (good or bad), a sure returning, and you will meet (the results of your deeds which you did).

- All of us as humans are struggling in this life, but the end of this struggle is to meet our Lord. So we want any struggle we go through to take us closer to our Lord. We want any struggle we go through to be “inshiqaq” – an opening to take us closer to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).
- People who have deep “knots” in their life can end up having to go to psychologists and if they cannot handle them, they will give them medication to make them sleep and disable their feelings. It is important to make dua for

those who have “knots” in their life and are numbed and cannot connect with others.

- Alhamdulillah with Rabb Al Falaq, He can undo all the knots, no matter how deep they may be, and no matter how evil the one who blew the knot.
- The Qur'an always awakens our senses to be sharper in a good way. Sometimes a person can be so alert and so sensitive to everything that they can cause issues. But the sensitivity we are talking about is when we are awake and alert to see the Beauty of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).
- We do not want to be sensitive to see faults and negativity. We want to benefit from every blessing and we want to awaken all our senses because we want to do the best in our life.

- Life is very precious and to be alive and healthy are great blessings. To be able to come peacefully to the study circles are great blessings and we are grateful to Allah (سبحانه) (وتعالى) to give us permission to gather in the study circles in this time.

DUNIYA AND THE TAQWA

SURAH AL HUJURAT 13

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنَّا خَلَقْنَاكُمْ مِنْ ذَكَرٍ وَأُنْثَىٰ وَجَعَلْنَاكُمْ شُعُوبًا
وَقَبَائِلَ لِتَعَارَفُوا ۚ إِنَّ أَكْرَمَكُمْ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ أَتْقَاكُمْ ۚ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلِيمٌ

خَيْرٌ

O mankind, indeed We have created you from male and female and made you peoples and tribes that you may know one another. Indeed, the most noble of you in the sight of Allah is the

most righteous of you. Indeed, Allah is Knowing and Acquainted.

- We all have one father and one mother – Adam (عليه السلام) and Hawa – and all to know each other. It is all the power of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) to bring everyone together and the most honorable among them are those with taqwa.
- Why are there different tribes? For taqwa. So we can activate taqwa when there is diversity and differences. And the most honorable with Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is not about color, but the one with taqwa. We want to come out as muttaqeen. And alhamdulillah in one place, we are exposed to different people.
- We can learn many lessons when we go out and see things, and we want to have the

intention when going out to be a means to come closer to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).

- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) subjected the duniya so that we can attach more to Him, but there is deviation when there is separation between the duniya and deen.

SURAH AL KAHF 7

إِنَّا جَعَلْنَا مَا عَلَى الْأَرْضِ زِينَةً لَّهَا لِنَبْلُوهُمْ أَيُّهُمْ أَحْسَنُ عَمَلًا

Indeed, We have made that which is on the earth adornment for it that We may test them [as to] which of them is best in deed.

- How can we show ihsaan if we are not looking at the blessings? Ihsaan is to worship Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) as if we see Him. This means we are here in the duniya, but we do not see the

duniya or the people, but we see Allah (سبحانه
(وتعالى).

- The one with people and is struggling with them is greater in level than the one only sitting alone worshipping.

SURAH AL 'ARAAF 32

قُلْ مَنْ حَرَّمَ زِينَةَ اللَّهِ الَّتِي أَخْرَجَ لِعِبَادِهِ وَالطَّيِّبَاتِ مِنَ الرِّزْقِ
قُلْ هِيَ لِلَّذِينَ آمَنُوا فِي الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا خَالِصَةً يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ
كَذَلِكَ نُفَصِّلُ الْآيَاتِ لِقَوْمٍ يَعْلَمُونَ

Say, "Who has forbidden the adornment of Allah which He has produced for His servants and the good [lawful] things of provision?" Say, "They are for those who believe during the worldly life [but] exclusively for them on the Day of Resurrection." Thus do We detail the verses for a people who know.

- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) said, “who has forbidden the adornment of Allah which He has produced for His servants?”
- When a person deprives themselves then they will always have a knot.
- In life there is good and bad, so it is important to take the good and leave the bad. And wherever we go, there is good and bad, and there is good and bad within us, but we do not want to highlight the evil; we want to look at the good.
- And in the hereafter, adornment will be pure and good for the believers.
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) did not make this life “bald” with nothing on it. The duniya is subjected to us so that we know Who is Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). People can fear going to the duniya because it can

overpower them, but a person has the upper-hand over the duniya.

- The Companions are the greatest believers and they are experts in different fields because the duniya was not in their heart.
- Even in the prayer, we do not close our eyes. People think they will have more feelings of spirituality if they close their eyes, but where is the struggle?
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) gave us the duniya and we need to struggle, but we always need to keep a hold of it. We all need balance in life.

OPTIMISM – THINKING GOOD OF ALLAH

- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) covered His beauty and not due to faults, but due to His perfection. No one can handle seeing His Beauty so He covered it

with a Veil of Light. But we have faults and imperfections and we need taqwa to cover it. And when there is taqwa, then we will find beauty and dignity.

- To be optimistic and positive is to think good of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). We think it can be very difficult to be positive, but when we know Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) and everything is good from Him then we will be positive.
- Spreading positivity is to make everyone love Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). When we are in love, we see everything as good and beautiful. Loving Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) makes us see everything as beautiful, even the pain is beautiful because Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) will reward us for it. He will elevate us in ranks and purify us. When negativity comes to

us, it is just to purify us so that we can do our best.

- We all want to be optimistic and that is to think good of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) and be grateful to Him.
- Surah Aal Imraan is about life issues and how to remain positive while being surrounded with negativity.
- Something that we always want is to connect to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) and never separate or detach to Him from our heart.

SURAH AAL IMRAAN 103

وَأَعْتَصِمُوا بِحَبْلِ اللَّهِ جَمِيعًا وَلَا تَفَرَّقُوا

And hold firmly to the rope of Allah all together and do not become divided.

ALLAH LOVES US

- Sometimes someone can be so jealous and possessive of us and we do not understand why, but then it shows us how Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is possessive for us and wants our heart to feel for Him alone.
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) wants us for Him and to connect to Him, and then He will bring everything to the person.
- Sometimes we go through something to undo a knot that had paralyzed us. And then it opens to true love, to real love, to paradise in our heart. Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) loves us. And He will give us anything. If we want love, He will give us love. If we want mercy, He will give us mercy. If we want happiness, He will give us happiness.

- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) shows us His love through all decrees of evil and good. Allah Rabb Al Falaq opens so much goodness for us because He takes us to our purpose of (لا إله إلا الله محمد رسول الله).
- Sometimes our relation with Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) can be out of fear, or it can get cold, but Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) wants to take us as a close companion, though He does not need our love or closeness.

SURAH AL ISRAA 111

وَلَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُ وَّلِيٌّ مِّنَ الدُّنْيَا وَكَبْرُهُ تَكْبِيرًا

and has no [need of a] protector out of weakness; and glorify Him with [great] glorification."

- A close friend is not just someone you do things with them, but there are feelings.

- There are many good people, many believers, but Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) will deal with each as if we are the only wali – the only close companion.
- It is not possible to have partners with Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), but He can have many slaves and He deals with each one in a very special way.

SURAH AL MAEDA 54

يُحِبُّهُمْ وَيُحِبُّونَهُ

..a people He will love and who will love Him

- He loves them and they love Him. It is Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) Who loves them first.
- When Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) loves someone, it will not be kept to Himself, but He will share it for all to know. He will tell Jibreel (عليه السلام), “I love so and so, so love him, so Jibreel loves him”. Then Jibreel (عليه السلام) will tell the angels, “Allah loves

so and so, so love him, and so they love him.”.
And then Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) places acceptance for this person on this earth among the believers.

WHEN ALLAH LOVES A SLAVE

وعنه عن النبي، صلى الله عليه وسلم، قال: "إذا أحب الله العبد نادى جبريل: إن الله تعالى يحب فلانًا، فأحبه، فيحبه جبريل، فينادي في أهل السماء: إن الله يحب فلانًا، فأحبه، فيحبه أهل السماء، ثم يوضع له القبول في الأرض"

The Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) said, "When Allah loves a slave, calls out Jibril and says: 'I love so-and-so; so love him'. Then Jibril loves him. After that he (Jibril) announces to the inhabitants of heavens that Allah loves so- and-so; so love him; and the inhabitants of the heavens (the angels) also love him and then make people on earth love him".²

² Riyadh As Saliheen, Al Bukhari and Muslim, Book 1, Hadith 387

- When we believe in Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) and do good deeds, then He will place love between each other by His mercy.

SURAH MARYAM 96

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ سَيَجْعَلُ لَهُمُ الرَّحْمَنُ وُدًّا

Indeed, those who have believed and done righteous deeds - the Most Merciful will appoint for them affection.

- Everything will glow and bloom when there is love. Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is Al Hayiy, He is Modest to reject anyone. May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) love us and may He allow our hearts to love Him. Ameen.

LIVE WITH THE QUR'AN – SURAH AAL IMRAAN

- Surah Aal Imraan is about firmness and why do we need firmness? Because we do not want to lose what we have.
- In Surah Al Baqarah, we received the nurturing, rules and stories we need for our life, but then we want maintain that level, so we need firmness in our way to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).

FACTORS FOR FIRMNESS

1. FLEE TO ALLAH

BY KNOWING HIM

- We will flee to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) when we know Him and His Most Beautiful Names.

- When we want to be firm and the main factor is to turn to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). No one can keep us firm except Him.

SURAH ADH DHAARIYAT 50

فَفِرُّوا إِلَى اللَّهِ

So flee to Allah

- We should never rely on what we do; we do not have anyone to keep us firm except Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).
- To flee to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is to make Him our priority in life and to not forget Him. Sometimes people just want to be firm in their worships and their rituals. So we can easily think of ourselves, but we want to be firm in making Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) our priority.

- Only Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) can keep us firm and we find many reminders in the Qur'an to always turn to Him. And the start of Surah Aal Imraan is about Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).

SURAH AAL IMRAAN 1 TO 2

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

1

الم

Alif, Lam, Meem.

2

اللَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ الْحَيُّ الْقَيُّومُ

Allah - there is no deity except Him, the Ever-Living, the Sustainer of existence.

- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) reminds us all the time about (لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ) because no one can keep us firm except Him.

BY MAKING DUA TO HIM

- Making dua to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) keeps us firm and we find many different duas mentioned in Surah Aal Imraan depending on the situation.

2. WORSHIP ALLAH

- We will remain firm when we fulfil our purpose which is to worship Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).

SURAH ADH DHAARIYAAT 56

وَمَا خَلَقْتُ الْجِنَّ وَالْإِنْسَ إِلَّا لِيَعْبُدُونِ

And I (Allah) created not the jinn and mankind except that they should worship Me (Alone).

- When we forget our essentials then it will be difficult to remain firm. And our purpose is to worship Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).

- We do not want to compromise our worship. We want to make everything as a worship – our prayer, fasting, pondering, gratitude, devotions, reliance and good talk. The concept of worship is not only connected to rituals, but any role we may have can be a worship, as a mother, wife, student, sister.
- Surah Aal Imraan gives us different flavors of worships. To be a worshipper is to be a slave to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), and not as a master. A master is proud, thinks they have power, only considers their words, only must be listened to. We are all a slave to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) in whatever situation we may be and He is the Owner of all Dominion.
- What will make us not firm? When we behave as a master. No one is master to anything; we

are all under the Kingship of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) and He is The Master of all.

3. DAWAH TO ALLAH

- This means to be a role model and a good example to invite others to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) by their good behavior and good attitude.
- Good manners inspire others to love Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), and we help ourselves to be firm when we share positivity.

4. CLEAR VISION

- It is important to know where we are going because this keeps us firm. Our vision is the pleasure of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) and His paradise.

- If we do not have a goal then we cannot remain firm in the struggles we face.
- And when we have a vision and goal, we know nothing is vain in this life.

5. GOOD FRIEND AND COMPANION

- We all need a companion in the path to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). We cannot be alone. And to have someone to share the faith with them is one of the biggest blessings on a human being.
- We all have faults and we all make mistakes, but we need to love each other and not lose that connection. We cannot expect perfection. There is perfection in the imperfection.

- We need each other to be better, to be humbler, to be more accommodating and to be more submitting to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).
- The surah warns us from divisions. Anyone who thinks they are better off alone will lose a lot. To be together with the faults of others is better.
- We do not want to have expectations from anyone; we all want to be easy with each other. If we want anything, we ask Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) and He will give us.

DIVINE NURTURING LESSONS

- *There are some knots in our life that can make us disabled or muted, to the point it puts us down and we cannot show our best. Or a person can react with a knot they have in their life by being rebellious. And both ways are not good.*
- *And only Allah Rabb Al Falaq can undo these knots because we do not know how these knots accumulate within us and how it was holding us back all this time.*
- *All of us as humans are struggling in this life, but the end of this struggle is to meet our Lord. So we want any struggle we go through to take us closer to our Lord. We want any struggle we go through to be “inshiqaq” – an opening to take us closer to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).*

- Alhamdulillah with Rabb Al Falaq, He can undo all the knots, no matter how deep they may be, and no matter how evil the one who blew the knot.
- The Qur'an always awakens our senses to be sharper in a good way. Sometimes a person can be so alert and so sensitive to everything that they can cause issues. But the sensitivity we are talking about is when we are awake and alert to see the Beauty of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).
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- To be optimistic and positive is to think good of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). We think it can be very difficult to be positive, but when we know Allah (سبحانه

(وتعالى) and everything is good from Him then we will be positive.

- We all need a companion in the path to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). We cannot be alone. And to have someone to share the faith with them is one of the biggest blessings on a human being.*
- The surah warns us from divisions. Anyone who thinks they are better off alone will lose a lot. To be together with the faults of others is better.*

MAY ALLAH MAKE US LOVE HIM AND LOVE OTHERS FOR HIS SAKE. MAY HE KEEP US FIRM. AMEEN.

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