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I Love Islam 6

International Edition

I Love Islam © is a series of Islamic Studies textbooks that gradually introduces Muslim students to the essentials of their faith. It brings to light the historic and cultural aspects of Islam. The series covers levels one through five, which are suitable for young learners and includes student textbooks and workbooks as well as a teacher and parent's guides.

The Islamic Services Foundation is undertaking this project in collaboration with Brighter Horizons Academy in Dallas, Texas. Extensive efforts have been made to review the enclosed material. However, constructive suggestions and comments that would enrich the content of this work are welcome.

All praise is due to Allah (God), for providing us with the resources that have enabled us to complete the first part of this series. This is an ongoing project, and it is our sincere wish and hope that it will impact our Muslim children today, and for many years to come.

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PROGRAM DIRECTOR *
Nabil Sadoun, Ed.D.

WRITING TEAM
Ummukulthum Al-Maawiy
Lena Dirbashi
Nabil Sadoun, Ed.D.

REVIEWERS AND ADVISORS
Susan Douglass
Freda Shamma, Ph.D.

CONTRIBUTORS
Suad Abu Amarah
Sumayah Al-Khatib
Kacem Ayachi
Romana El-Rouby
Nicholas Howard
Sandra Schaffer
Omar Tarazi
Menat Zihni

CURRICULUM DESIGN
Nabil Sadoun, Ed.D.
Majida Salem

GRAPHIC DESIGN
Mohammed Eid Mubarak

ILLUSTRATIONS
Raed Abdulwahid
Special thanks to: Goodword Books

PHOTOGRAPHY
Al-Anwar Designs

* Names are in alphabetical order of the last names.
"I Love Islam" Friends and Family

Zaid
Leena
Mr. Mahmood
Mrs. Mahmood
Bilal
Sarah
Mr. Siraj
Mrs. Siraj
Amir
Omar
Mona
Khalid
Ahmad
Teacher Hibah
Baby Yousuf
Tawheed:
The Faith of All Prophets

CHAPTER 1
Ninty Nine Names: One Creator I

CHAPTER 2
Ninty Nine Names: One Creator II

CHAPTER 3
Surat-ul-Mulk

LESSON 1
Surat-ul-Mulk 1

LESSON 2
Surat-ul-Mulk 2

LESSON 3
Surat-ul-Mulk 3
Pre-reading Questions

1. How many names does Allah have?
2. What should we learn from Allah's names?
3. What rewards do we get if we learn these beautiful names?

Word Watch

The Ninety Nine Names of Allah

Allah has 99 names. Each name describes one feature of Allah. We cannot imagine what Allah is like. But He gave us these 99 clues so we can understand something about Him. These 99 names describe the One and Only God, the Creator of this wonderful universe. Allah's names are known as Al-Asmaa' ul-Husna. It is very important for Muslims to know these names and understand their meanings. Let's learn this important hadeeth:
" إن لله تسعة وتسعين إسماً، واحدها إلّا واحداً. من حفظها دخل الجنة "

Abu Hurayrah narrated that rasoolullah ﷺ said:

“Allah has ninety nine names; one hundred except one. Whoever learns them by heart [and lives by them] will enter Paradise.”

Reported in Al-Bukhari and Muslim

In the above hadeeth, rasoolullah (The messenger of God) encourages Muslims to learn the great names of Allah. This means learning them by heart, understanding their great meanings and living by them.

Al-Aseeili, one of the great scholars of Islam, explains this hadeeth’s meaning to us and makes the important point, "Learning the names of Allah means living by them, not just saying or memorizing them."
Calling on Allah by His Great Names

Learning and saying Allah's names is a form of thikr (remembering Allah). Thikr is very good for the heart. Allah says in the Qur'an:

**Words of Wisdom**

Holy Qur'an

"Indeed in remembering Allah, hearts find peace." [13:28]

It is also recommended that when we make dua'a (supplication), we call Allah by His great names. For example, if you want Allah to forgive you and be merciful with you, call him by His names, Ar-Rahman, Ar-Raheem, Al-Ghafl, Al-Ghafoor. If you want Allah to give you something in this life or in the next life, you call him by his names Al-Kareem, Al-Wahhab, Al-Mughni and other similar names. It is very easy to call Allah, and to have him listen to you:

**Words of Wisdom**

Holy Qur'an

قل ادعوا الله او ادعوا الرحمن أيما ما تدعوا فده الأسماء الحسنى

Say, "Call Him Allah, or call Him the Most Merciful; whatever name you use, to Him belong the most beautiful names" [17: 110]
His Names are His Attributes

The names of Allah describe the attributes of Allah. You will know Allah better when you study His names and learn their deep meanings. These attributes include the Generous, the Forgiving, the Patient, and the Most Gentle. Some of the words used to describe the attributes of Allah are also used to describe good human characteristics. However, the qualities of Allah’s attributes are far higher and better than those of humans. For example, you may say that Zaid is very generous, but, when you use the word generous to describe Zaid it is very different from describing Allah as the Generous. Human generosity cannot be compared to that of Allah. Allah’s generosity is at a level that no human can describe or match. Allah says about Himself:

Words of Wisdom

Holy Qur’an

"Nothing is like Him." [42:11]

The same rule applies to all the other names and attributes of Allah ﷻ. Let’s learn the meanings of some of the beautiful names of Allah and see how we can live by them.
Learning Al-Asmaa-ul-Husna

As you learned earlier, Prophet Muhammad ﷺ encouraged us to learn about the names of Allah. Learning Al-Asmaa-ul-Husna helps us to understand Allah better, and to love Him more.

1 Allah ﷺ

Allah is the proper name of God and means the One we worship. We must not worship anyone or anything other than Allah. A related name with a similar, although not identical, meaning is Al-Wahid الواحد (the Unified).

Did You Know?

In other semitic languages, the name for God (Allah) is only slightly different. In Hebrew, the language of Prophet Musa, or Moses, and the Jews, Allah is called Eloh or Elohim. In Aramaic, the language of Prophet Isa, or Jesus, Allah is called Alaha.
**2. Ar-Rahman, The Most Beneficent**

Ar-Rahman is the One Who has unlimited mercy for everyone in this world, and especially for the believers in the Hereafter.

*Words of Wisdom*

He is Allah, no God but Him; Who knows (all things) both secret and open; He is The Most Gracious, The Most Merciful. [59:22]

**Related Names**

- Ar-Ra’oof: The Kind
- Ar-Raheem: The Most Merciful
- Al-Ghaffar: The Ever-Forgiving
- Al-Ghafoor: The Forgiving

**3. Al-Qudooos, The Holy One**

“Al-Qudooos” is the One Who is pure from any weakness or imperfection. All people, animals, and things have shortcomings and weaknesses, but Allah is perfect. No one is holy but Allah.

**Related Names**

- Al-Jaleel: The Glorious
- Al-Majeed: The Majestic
"Al-Jabbar" is the One Who can force all others to submit to His power. Even kings, presidents, super heroes and powerful people cannot resist His power. They all fail to even challenge Him. Al-Jabbar destroyed Pharaoh, Qaroon, the people of Aad, the people of Thamood, Abu Jahl, Abu Lahab and many other tyrants when they dared to challenge Him. However, Allah uses His power only to support good and destroy evil.

**STORY TIME**

Pharaoh was a very evil ruler in Egypt. He oppressed his people, especially the Children of Israel, who were living in Egypt at that time. Allah chose Prophet Musa (Moses) to go to Phir'oun and invite him to the true faith. Pharaoh refused to obey Allah and claimed that he was God. Then Allah ordered Musa to flee with the Children of Israel from Egypt to Palestine. Prophet Musa obeyed. The flight began during the night. Pharaoh and his soldiers learned about the escape and chased Musa and the Children of Israel. The Children of Israel became very frightened as they came to the Red Sea. They knew that Pharaoh would have no mercy on them. They didn’t have ships to help them escape across the sea. The Children of Israel came to their Prophet, Musa. They cried to him, "We will be captured soon!"

Satellite picture of Egypt, Sinai, and part of Palestine

Prophet Musa said with confidence,

"کلَ یَعْقُبُ یَسَرُّی سَیَهَدُینَ!"

"No, My Lord is with me, and He will guide me through!"

Allah immediately ordered Musa to strike the sea with his rod. Musa and his people were stunned to see the sea parting. A dry path opened for them to pass over to the other side. Allah protected all of them and destroyed Pharaoh and his army.
5 Al-Mutakabbir, The Majestic

Al-Mutakabbir is the One Who is much greater than all His creation. He is the One whose acts and power are greater and higher than those of anyone or anything else.

Holy Qur’an

He is Allah, other than whom there is no god, the King, the Holy One, the Source of Peace, the Guardian of Faith, the Preserver of Safety, the Exalted in Might, the Irresistible, the Majestic: Glory to Allah! (High is He) above the partners they attribute to Him. [59:23]

Related Names

- Al-Kabeer The Greatest
- Al-Atheem The Grand
- Al-Azeez The Mighty
- Al-Malik The King
- Al-Muta’al The Most High
6. Al-Khaliq, The Creator

Al-Khaliq is the One Who brings everything from non-existence into being. He is the only true Creator of people, animals, plants, planets, all things, and the whole universe. No person can create living or nonliving things from nothing; Al-Khaliq subhanahu wa-ta'ala did and continues to do it.

Words of Wisdom

Holy Qur'an

He is Allah, the Creator, the Inventor, the Maker of forms. To Him belong the Most Beautiful Names: whatever is in the Heavens, praises Him; and He is the Mighty, the Wise. [59:24]

Related Names

- Al-Badee' البديع: The Awesome Inventor
- Al-Bari' البارئ: The Inventor
- Al-Mubdi' المبدع: The Originator
- Al-Muhyi المحي: The Giver of Life
- Al-Musawwir المصور: The Image Maker

Look at Allah's creation. No one can do the same! None can even come close to it!
Allah's Creation
Ar-Razzaq, The Ever Provider.

Ar-Razzaq is the One Who always provides His creation with all its needs. He gives people their food, water and everything else. People, even our parents, cannot give us something if Allah objects. And no one can stop us from getting anything if Allah wants us to have it. Allah put enough food in this world to feed everyone. But many people don’t have enough to eat because other people have a lot but don’t share.

Holy Qur’an

Allah is truly the One Who gives (all) sustenance,
[He is] the Lord of Power, the Steadfast.
Story Time

Once a Muslim woman’s dear husband passed away. He passed away and left her alone. A few days later, one of her friends asked her how she would take care of her family. How could she provide for herself and her children now that her husband had died? The woman answered, “My husband was not Ar-Razzaq, Allah is.”

Related Names

- Al-Wahhab (الوهاب) - The Giver of Gifts
- Al-Muqeet (المقيت) - The Giver of Food
Listen to a nasheed on Al-Asmaa'-ul-Husna, and try to memorize it.

If someone came to you and said, “Muslims really believe in many gods because they believe in the 99 names,” how would you answer him or her?

1. How many names of Allah did the Prophet tell us about?
2. What are Al-Asmaa'-ul Husna?
3. What reward will Allah give you if you learn His names properly?
4. Which of Allah's names means the Most Beneficent? Write three other names that have similar meaning.
5. Which of Allah's names means the Creator? Write three other names that have similar meaning.
Names for Allah Alone

In the last chapter you learned many of Allah’s great names. You know that there are many other names you must learn. However, there are some names that are for Allah alone. People must not give these names to anyone other than Allah. These names include Allah, Ar-Rahman, Al-Khaliq, Al-Quddoos, Al-Jabbar, Al-Mutakabbir, Al-Qahhar, Ar-Raziq and Ar-Razzaq.

1 Al-Kareem ﺍﻟﮑﺮيﻢ, The Most Generous:

Allah is Al-Kareem because He is the Most Kind, Noble and Generous. He continually gives the most precious gifts. He gives us loving parents, good health, delicious foods, refreshing drinks, beautiful clothes, and many other physical gifts. He also gives us the gift of Islam and all the great spiritual benefits that come with it. Allah gives His precious gifts even to those who may not deserve them, like evil people and criminals. He gives them many chances to choose to be good.

Words of Wisdom

Holy Qur’an

إِنَّنَا نَعْفَوُ عَلَىٰ نَاسٍ لَّا نُضِيعُهُمْ إِنَّا لَنَعْفَوْنَ عَنٍّ رَحِيمٍ

If you try to count up the favors of Allah, you will never be able to number them; for Allah is the Most Forgiving, Most Merciful. [16:18]
Related Names

- Al-Mughni  
  The Giver of Wealth
- Al-Barr  
  The Gracious Giver

Healthy Habit

1. Always be generous and giving, even to those who are not generous with you. This may make them change and become generous with you and others.
   -or-
2. Make a donation from your allowance every month.

Ar-Raqeeb  
الرقيب , the Watchful:

Allah is the Watchful because He can see and hear everything. He watches every activity in the whole universe at the same time. He is aware of all that we do; no matter where we are. Allah watches over us at all times to protect us from others and from ourselves as well. For example, sometimes Shaytan wants to tempt us to do wrong, but we remember that Allah is watching, so we stop. Other times, Allah may stop us when we try to do bad things. Sometimes, bad people may try to hurt us but Allah will not allow them to harm us.
Related Names

- Al-Baseer (البصير) - The All-Seeing
- As-Samee' (السمع) - The All-Hearing
- Al-Aleem (العلم) - The All-Knowing
- Al-Khabeer (الخير) - The All-Aware
- Ash-Shaheed (الشهيد) - The Ever-Witnessing

Healthy Habits

1. Always remember that Allah watches over you. So, try always to do the right thing and avoid doing wrong.
2. Try to watch over your younger brothers, sisters, and friends, and protect them when they are in danger. We learn this from Allah, Who is always taking care of us.

3. Al-Waliyy (الولي), The Protecting Guardian

Allah is Al-Waliyy because He loves, assists, protects, guides, guards, blesses and rewards all faithful servants. He is more loving and near to us than our parents or any of our dearest friends and relatives.
Allah is the Protector of the believers: He will lead them away from darkness into light. [2:257]

Allah is the Protector of the righteous people [45:19]

**Related Names**
- **Al-Waali** الوالي The Protective Ruler
- **Al-Hafeeth** الحفيف The Protector

**Healthy Habit**
Always be a good friend and supporter of good people.

**Story Time**

Once, Prophet Muhammad ﷺ and Abu Bakr As-Siddeeq were hiding in Ghar Thawr near Makkah. There were some Quraysh gangs trying to capture and kill them. The kuffar came near the cave and Abu Bakr was very nervous. Rasoolullah was very calm. Abu Bakr whispered to Rasoolullah, "If they look into this cave they will find us!" Rasoolullah comforted Abu Bakr and said,

لا تحزن إن الله معنا "Do not be worried, Allah will protect us."

And this is exactly what happened; the kuffar didn't see them and Allah protected Rasoolullah and Abu Bakr.
As-Samee', The All-Hearing:

Allah hears, but not the way humans do. He hears the voices of humans, animals and insects. He even hears your heartbeat and your silent prayers. Even if billions of people talk at the same time, and billions of animals call at the same time, Allah will hear every single one of them clearly.

Words of Wisdom

Holy Qur'an

O You who believe! Do not put yourselves forward before Allah and His Messenger. But fear Allah, for Allah is He Who hears and knows all things. [49:1]

Healthy Habit

Always try to listen to others carefully. Good listening skills help you learn more and grow smarter. People will like you more if you listen more than you talk.
5 Al-Hakeem, the Wise:

Allah is the Wisest. He has knowledge of all seen and unseen activities in the universe. He is the only one who always makes the correct decision. And His decisions are always right.

The Revelation of the Book is from Allah, the Exalted in Power, One Full of Wisdom. [46:2]

Allah gives knowledge and wisdom to some people. Those who are blessed with wisdom are granted great blessings. Listen to what Allah says:

"He grants wisdom to whomever He wants; and whoever is granted wisdom has indeed won overflowing goodness; but none will remember the guidance except those who have [wise] minds." [2:269]

Related Names

- Al-Aleem: The All-Knowing
- Al-Khabeer: The All-Aware
- An-Noor: The Light

Healthy Habit

Try to learn what Allah wants you to do since He knows what is best for you. This way you may become wise, insha’Allah.
6, 7  Al-Awwal & Al-Aakhir، The First & The Last

Allah is the first in everything. Al-Awwal also means the One whose existence is without a beginning. Everyone and everything in this world has a beginning and has an end, except Allah. When everything ceases to exist, Allah remains. His creations may come to an end, but He stays forever. He is final and perfect in every way.

Words of Wisdom

Holy Qur'an


doctrine

He is the First and the Last, the Evident and the Unseen: and He has full knowledge of all things. [57:3]

Related Names

- Al-Aliyy
- Al-Mubdi'
- Al-Mu'eed
- Al-Muta'al
- Al-Baqi

The Highest
The Beginner of Creation
The Renewer
The Most High
The Ever-Lasting

Healthy Habit

Always be the first to do good things.
Allah shows His servants the right way. He kindly guides them to their safe destinies. He sends prophets and messengers to guide mankind to the straight path with faith and knowledge. This guidance helps people to live happily in this life and win Paradise in the next life.

**Holy Qur'an**

Say, “Allah guides to the truth.” [10:35]

Allah tells (you) the truth, and He shows the (right) way. [33:4]

**Related Names**

- Ar-Rasheed: The Guide to the Right Path
- An-Noor: The Light
- Al-Fattah: The Inspirer
- Al-Haqq: The Truth

**Healthy Habit**

Always guide others to do good deeds.
9. Al-Adl, The Just

Al-Adl means the One Who always acts in a just and fair manner. Allah delivers absolute justice. His justice is based upon complete knowledge of past, present and future. Allah never oppresses anyone in this life or in the Hereafter.

Words of Wisdom

Holy Qur'an

الله لا يظلم الأناس ولا يحبس الأناس أنفسهم في ظلٍ

 Truly, Allah does not deal with mankind unjustly; rather, mankind transgresses against their own souls. [10:44]

Related Names

- Al-Hakam  The Judge
- Al-Muqsit  The Fair

10. Al-Haleem, The Tolerant

Al-Haleem is the One Who is infinitely tolerant and patient with His servants. He tolerates our mistakes and delays our punishments and gives us many chances. Though we may deserve punishment, He often forgives us out of great love.

Words of Wisdom

Holy Qur'an

الله عفوٌ حليم

Allah is truly most forgiving, most tolerant. [3:155]
Hadeeth Shareef

عن ابن عباس رضي الله عنه أن رسول الله ﷺ قال للأحنف بن قيس: "أن فيك خصائصين يحبِّهما الله: الحلم والأنانة.

رواه مسلم والترمذي.

Ibn Abbas رضي الله عنه narrated that rasoolullah ﷺ called upon Al-Ahnaﬁn Ibn Qays and told him:

"Allah loves two personal qualities in you; tolerance and patience."

Reported in Muslim and At-Tirmithi

Related Names

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Arabic</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>The Ever Patient</td>
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<tr>
<td>اللطيف</td>
<td>The Gentle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>العفو</td>
<td>The Pardoner</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Healthy Habits

1. Always be fair with everyone whether you are in a good or a bad mood.

2. Always be tolerant of others, especially when they make innocent mistakes.
Importance of Knowing Allah’s Names

1. Knowing Allah’s names is the best knowledge that a person can have. Think about it; is there anything more important than knowledge of Allah? No other knowledge can compare to it.

2. One of the best ways to have knowledge of Allah is by understanding His most beautiful names. Knowing Allah makes a person love and appreciate Him more.

3. Remember in the tawheed lesson that one of the categories of tawheed is called tawheed Al Asmaa’ was Sifaat. Learning Allah’s names increases our level of faith.

4. Allah created human beings and other creatures to know Him and worship Him. So, when a person learns about Allah, he or she is fulfilling his duty and obligation toward Allah.

5. Knowledge of Allah’s names is the basis of all other knowledge. Allah is Al-Aleem, Al-Hakeem, which means the All Knowing and All Wise. Any past knowledge or future knowledge waiting to be discovered is already known to Allah.

6. Each of the 99 names of Allah represents a quality that Allah possesses. Some of these names represent qualities reserved for Allah alone (Al-Khaliq, Al-Tawwab, Ar-Rahman, Al-Quddoos and others). Other names represent qualities which are perfected in Allah, these include As-Saboor, Ar-Raheem, Al-Kareem. People can acquire such qualities, but not as perfectly. Indeed, there is no comparison between people’s patience, mercy or generosity, and those of Allah. While no one can ever have as much patience, mercy, generosity, strength, or kindness as Allah, we should all strive to increase these qualities within ourselves.
Make a poster of the 99 names of Allah. Write the names in Arabic and English.

1. How can the names of Allah make you a better person?

2. Choose three names of Allah and explain how you apply them in your life.

Lesson Review

1. Why is it important to know Allah's names?

2. Write in Arabic and English seven names of Allah that are only used to describe Allah.

3. Can you compare the qualities of Allah to those of a person? Why or why not?

4. List three points that show the importance of learning Al-Asmaa'ul-Husna.
Introduction

Surat-ul-Mulk was revealed in Makkah. It has several other names. One of them is “Tabarak.” The Messenger of Allah called it “Al-Mani’ah,” meaning that it helps prevent people from committing sins or it protects them from being punished for them. He also said: "It is Al-Munjiyah (The Savior) because it saves the person who knows it from the punishment of the grave".

(Reported in At-Tirmithi)

Rasoolullah advised Muslims to read Surat Tabarak everyday.
سورۃ الملل

Tabarak-allathee biyadih-il-mulku wahuwa 'ala kulli shay'in qadeer (1) Allathee khalaq-al-mawta waalhayata liyabluwakum ayyukum ahsanu amalaw-wahuwal-azeez-ul-ghafoor (67-2) Allathee khalaqa sab'aa samawatin tibaqam-ma tara fee khalq-ir-rahmani min tafaawot, far-ji'il-basara hal tara min futoor (67-3) Thumm-arji'il-basara karratayni yanqalib ilayk-al-basaru khasi'-an wahuwa haseer (67-4) Walaqad zayyannas-sama'a-ddunya bimasabeeha waja'alnaha rujoomal-lishshayateeni wa'aatadna lahum athab-as-sa'eer (67-5)
UNDERSTOOD MEANING

(67-1) Allah is raised high in greatness and blessings. He has everything in His hand under His control and can do anything.
(67-2) He created death and life to test you, to see who among you does the best deeds. Allah has the power to do anything so obey Him. He is the One who always forgives sins so ask for forgiveness.
(67-3) Allah is He Who created seven Heavens in layers one on top of the other. In all of Allah's creation you will see no inconsistency or mistakes. Look again. Do you see any breaks in the sky?
(67-4) Then look again and again. Your eyes will come back humbled and worn out without finding anything wrong with Allah's creation.
(67-5) We decorated the lower sky with stars and planets like lamps in the night. We used them to attack the devils when they come up close and We have prepared for the devils the punishment of the blazing fire.

Quranic Terms

Tabarak ﺖﻛﺮﻛ: He is great and full of blessings.

Al-Azeez ﺍﻟْـعْـزِزِ: It is a name of Allah that means the One Who is so great and powerful. Nothing can stop Him from punishing those who are sinful.

Shaytan ﻣَﻨْـطاً: Satan or Devil, and he is a jinn. The word literally means someone who is getting farther away. Allah gave him this name because he is getting farther away from what is right and from Allah's love and mercy. His original
name is Iblees. Shayateen is plural of Shaytan. It refers to the soldiers of Iblees who try to get people to disobey Allah and go to Hell. Iblees is the leader of all of them. He is the one who tempted Adam and his wife Eve to forget and eat from the forbidden tree in Paradise. Ash-Shaytan is the worst enemy of mankind. It is sad that many people obey him and disobey God.

As-Samaa': It means "the sky." The plural is As-Samawati which means "Heavens." In the past, people thought that over the Earth was a roof and in it were the white dots we see as stars. These verses tell us that the first Heaven contains in it all of the stars and planets we see in the sky. Beyond the stars there are six other Heavens. Each of these Heavens has angels praying to Allah and serving Him.

Main Lessons

1. Allah is the only Creator of the Universe

These verses remind us of Allah's greatness and power. Then we are told that Allah alone is the Creator of life and death. This is the concept of tawheed-ul-Khaliq that you learned earlier in this unit. Allah created life and death as a test for us. Will we spend our life doing good deeds? Are we going to develop good habits? If we do so, we live and die doing good deeds for the sake of Allah. But if we develop a habit to sin regularly, we may die when we are doing something bad. That would be very dangerous for us as we meet Allah on the Day of Judgment.

2. We Know Allah through His Wonderful Creation

Allah tells us that the evidence for his existence is found in His wonderful creation. His creation is huge with billions of plants and animals on Earth. We can see His power in the billions of planets and stars. Scientists say that there are hundreds of billions of galaxies. Each galaxy has hundreds of billions of planets. They all revolve without crashing into each other. Allah made the universe perfect, and no one can find faults in His creation. The perfection in creation shows us Allah's power and wisdom. Everything He made is for us to learn about and use. This shows us Allah's love and mercy.
Allah's Creation is Flawless

Allah tells us to look again and again at His creation. This is because every time we look we are impressed with His perfect creation and adore Him. Sometimes we find things we don't understand. The disbelievers might think it is a mistake. If we look again, we may eventually understand why Allah did it that way.

We Must Offer Allah our Best Worship and Work

We will discover that Allah's way is always the best. Notice that Allah is encouraging us to do the "best" of deeds. He isn't asking us for the "most" of deeds. This is because how many good deeds we do depends on how long we live. But how good our deeds are depends on how much effort we make to obey Allah's guidance.

Healthy Habits

1. Always learn about Allah's creation and praise Him by tongue and heart.

2. Always remember that Allah gave you your life as a gift and a test. He wants to see how good your deeds are. Therefore, worship Allah properly and do the best of deeds.
(67:6) And those who disbelieve in Allah will suffer the punishment of Hell which is a terrible place to be in.

(67:7) When they are thrown into it they will hear its scary breath as it blazes with fury

(67:8) It is about to burst itself to pieces out of anger. Every time a group is thrown in, the guards will ask them, "Didn't a messenger
come to you with a warning?"
(67:9) They will say, "Yes, someone came with a warning and we disbelieved them. And we said Allah didn't send anything and you are clearly misguided."
(67:10) And they will say, "If only we listened or thought right about Allah's message, we would not be with the people in the burning fire."
(67:11) So they admit their guilt and they will be doomed in the depths of Hell.

Shaheeq شهيق: Noisy inhalation. Hell will make a terrible sound when it is sucking in all those who didn't worship Allah properly.
Ghayth غيط: Severe anger.
Sa'eer سعير: This is one of the name of Jahannam (Hell).

Main Lessons

1 Hellfire is the destination of those who disbelieve and disobey God.

In the previous ayaat, Allah told us that the Shayateen will be punished in Hell. Now, Allah tells us in these verses what happens to the people who listen to them. They will be punished in the horrible hellfire too. Everyone that goes into it knows he or she deserves it. That is because Allah warned people against disobedience, but they did not listen.

2 Disobeying Allah leads to punishment in Jahannam

Allah ordered us to listen to the Qur'an and Sunnah and implement them in our lives. Allah made His guidance available to all people. If people refuse to obey God, they will suffer the punishment in
Jahannam. This is an important lesson for both Muslims and non-Muslims. We must learn and understand Allah’s religion and put it into practice. On the Day of Judgment we will not have any excuses.

Allah will not punish people if they did not receive God’s Message.

These verses also show that Allah will not put anyone in Hell without sending them a messenger first. Allah says:

"And I will not punish anyone until I send them a Messenger." (17:15)

Today, people can learn easily about Islam. Books, schools, computers and copies of the Qur’an are available almost everywhere. However, if some people still did not know about Islam, Allah will be fair and merciful with them.

Healthy Habits

1. Always listen to good advice especially when it comes from parents, teachers and scholars. Give their advice your best attention and implement it immediately.

2. Always fear Allah’s punishment and do not let Shaytan fool you and you disobey Allah.
Activity Time

Do some research on stars and planets, which Allah created. Find out how many galaxies there are in the universe. Also find out how many stars and planets there are in each galaxy.

Critically

Why do you think the Prophet advised us to recite Surat Tabaraka once everyday?

Lesson Review

1. What are the other names of Surat-ul-Mulk? Explain these names.
2. Why did Allah create life and death? How should this affect your behavior in this life?
3. What does the word "Shaytan" mean?
Allah Watches us When We are Alone or in Public.

WORDS OF WISDOM
Holy Qur'an

سورۃ الملك
Surat-ul-Mulk 12-15

لا إن اللّه يخشى رأيتهم بالغضب فلهم عفوة وأجزاؤهم أجرًا يُرسلونكما أو آخرين بِهِ إِنَّ اللّه عٰلِمٌ بِثُلُّدِ الصُّدُور لا يَعْلَمُ مِنْ خَلْقِ وِلَّدِي اللّهِ الْبُشْرِ فَوَالَّذِي حِمَّلَ الْأَرْضَ دَوَلًا فَانْتَصِرُوا فِي مَنْكَبِها وَكَلَّوْا لِزَوْجِي وَاللّهُ النُّصُورِ
**TRANSLITERATION**

Inn-allatheena yakhshawna rabbahum bilghaybi-lahum maghfiratuw wa 'ajrun kabeer (67:12)
Wa 'asirroo qawlakum aw-ijharoo bihi innahu 'aleemun bithat-issudoor (67:13)
Ala ya'lamu man khalaqa wahuwa-llateef-ul-khabeer (67:14)
Huwa-llathee ja'ala lakum-ul-arda thaloolan fumshoo fee manakibiha wakuloo mir-rizqihi wa-`ilayh-in-nushoor (67:15)

**UNDERSTOOD MEANING**

(67:12) Those who fear and obey Allah, even when no people are watching them, they will be forgiven and they will get a great reward.
(67:13) So keep secret what you say or say it out loud, Allah knows what is in your hearts.
(67:14) Doesn't He know well what He created? Remember, He knows the smallest details and He is aware of everything.
(67:15) He made the Earth easy for you to live on. So go explore it and eat of what Allah has blessed you with, to him you will return, after you die.
Yakhshoun: It comes from the term خشون, which means fear. And here it means fearing Allah's punishment. There is a big difference between fearing the punishment of Allah and the punishment of others. When you fear people or things you run away from them. But when you fear Allah, you run to Him asking Him to forgive you and accept your repentance.

Al-Ghayb: The unseen. Here it means that believers obey Allah in private, even when no one is watching.

Ajr: Reward, and here it means a reward from Allah. Ajr, or Allah's rewards, are to be exchanged for Jannah in the next life. The more rewards you have in your account, the higher and better you will be in Jannah. If someone wants to be in Al-Firdaws Al-Ala, which is best place in Jannah then they must earn great rewards in this life. Al-Firdaws Al-Ala is where prophets, Sahabah and great people dwell in Jannah.

Al-Lateef: Someone who is aware of little and minute things. Also means the Gentle. Allah is Al-Lateef because He takes care of even very small things in our life to make us comfortable and happy.

Al-Khabeer: People sometimes think they know everything and they know it well. Later they discover that they know very little and their knowledge is not perfect. To be Al-Khabeer is to know things very well. Allah is Al-Khabeer because He knows everything very well. This word can also be used to refer to scientists or experts who often know better how things really work.

Reason for revelation

Ibn Abbas (a companion) said: "Some of the kuffar of Quraysh used to say bad things about the Messenger of Allah. Then Jibreel told him what they said. So, they would say to each other 'speak softly so that Muhammad's God doesn't hear you.'" So Allah revealed: "So keep secret what you say or say it out loud, Allah knows what is in your hearts."
Gifts of God are sold in a food market in Uzbekistan

Main Lessons

1. Muslims watch for Allah in private and in public.

Allah promises a great reward for the believers who obey Allah even when no one else is watching. What makes the believers different is that they fear Allah in private and in public.

You can fear Allah and love Him at the same time. Children always fear their parents, but still love them so much. We fear our parents when we make mistakes. Similarly, we love Allah, yet we fear His punishment for our mistakes and disobedience. However, we love and fear Allah much more than our parents or anyone else. Being fearful of displeasing Allah makes us better. It straightens up our behavior.

2. Allah gave us a great planet.

Allah tells the believers to go out and get the good of this world through serious work. When we do this, we will better understand how merciful and generous Allah is. He gave us a great planet that is full of gifts, blessings and beauty. However, we have to learn about our world and work hard to
make a living. For example, for certain foods we must first cultivate
the land and harvest the crops.

Allah takes care of you, but you should do your part first.

Some people think that if they really depend upon Allah, this
means they shouldn’t do any work. Omar Ibn Al-Khattab answered
them saying: “The person who depends upon Allah is the one who
plants his seeds in the ground and then puts his trust in Allah.” So we
have to do our part and depend upon Allah at the same time. We
should be like a bird which gets up early in the morning to work hard
all day. The bird works very hard and then puts its full trust in Allah.

The Messenger of Allah said:
“If you put your trust in Allah like you are supposed to,
Allah will feed you like He provides for the birds. They
set out in the morning hungry and come back full.”
(Reported in Ahmed)

Faith in Actions

1. When you think of doing something wrong because nobody is watching, remember that Allah
is watching.

2. Always remember that you are returning to Allah after death, and He is going to question you
about your deeds.
WORDS OF WISDOM
Holy Qur’an

Surat-ul-Mulk 16-21

TRANSLITERATION
Aa ‘amintum man fissama-ie ay-yakhsifa bikum-ul-arda fa-itha hiya tamoor (67:16)
Am amintum-man fissama-ie an yursila ‘alaykum hasiban fasata’lamoona kayfa natheer (67:17)
Walaqad kaththab-allatheena min-qablihim fakayfa kana nakeer (67:18)
Awalam yaraw ilattayri fawqahum saffatiw wayaqbidna ma yumsikuhunna illa-rrahmanu innahu bikulli shay-‘in baseer (67:19) Amman hatha-llathee huwa jundul-lakum yansurukum min dooni-rrahman inil-kafiroona illa fee ghuroor (67:20)
Amman hatha-llathee yarzuqukum in amsaka rizqah, bal lajjoo fee ‘utuwwiwiw wanufoor (67:21)
UNDERSTOOD MEANING

(67:16) How can you feel safe if you disobey Allah and reject His messengers? Allah, Who is in Heaven, may cause you to sink into the Earth, with an Earthquake, then it will be shaking.

(67:17) Or do you feel safe if you know that Allah, who is in Heaven, may send a strong wind with rocks to blow you away? Then, you will truly understand this warning.

(67:18) People before you rejected the message. Look how I destroyed them. (like Pharaoh and his people for example)

(67:19) Don't they see the birds over them how they fly with their wings spread out and close in? Nothing holds them up except the Most merciful. Allah sees everything and even takes care of every bird in flight.

(67:20) Where is this army that will help defend you from Allah, the Most Merciful? The only defense you have is Allah's mercy, so turn to Allah and ask forgiveness. Those disbelievers who reject Allah's message are only fooling themselves.

(67:21) And who will give you food and blessings, other than Allah, if He stops His blessings? And they continue in stubbornly running from the truth.
Main Lessons

1. Beware of the punishment of God.

It is true that Allah made the Earth easy to live on. However, it is also true that Allah uses this Earth to punish people who disbelieve and disobey. The Earth is a blessing, but if we are too disobedient, Allah can punish us with it by sinking us into the Earth or flooding us with water. Allah destroyed ancient nations with Earthquakes, floods, diseases, destructive winds and other types of punishments. In these verses Allah continues giving severe warnings to the kuffar. He reminds them how the people before were destroyed; to make them aware that they may be next.

2. Disobeying Allah leads to punishment in Jahannam.

Allah is also merciful. He gives people chances to ask for forgiveness and be forgiven. The wise person is the one who avoids sin as much as he or she can. And if we sin, we should repent immediately. This way we please Allah and protect ourselves from His punishment in this life and in the next one.

Words of Wisdom

Hadeeth Shareef

عن أنس رضي الله عنه فوال رسول الله ﷺ قال: "كل ابن آدم خطاء وخير الخطأين التوابون."

رواه الترمذي واحمد

Anas رضي الله عنه narrated that rasoolullah ﷺ said:

“All the sons of Adam make mistakes, and the best of sinners are those who repent continuously.”

Reported in At-Tirmithi and Ahmad
Allah gave the disbelievers many examples to make them believe in Him as the One True God.

Among these examples Allah lists the following:

* He is the One Who keeps Earth stable under their feet.

* He is the One Who protects them from destructive storms like those that came to nations before them.

* He is the One Who enables birds to fly up high and not fall.

* He is the One Who feeds them and gives them wealth every day.
Activity

Pick a kind of bird and do a research project about all the different skills and special abilities Allah gave it to survive. Present your findings to the class.

Think Critically

What are the differences between the behavior of a person who is always mindful of Allah and another who is not?

Lesson Review

1. Who are those to whom Allah is promising forgiveness and great reward?
2. How should a Muslim depend upon Allah?
3. What are the examples that Allah gave to the disbelievers to make them believe in Him?
4. What should a Muslim do when he or she disobeys Allah? Quote a hadeeth to support your answer.
The Disbelievers will Fail on the Day of Judgment

WORDS OF WISDOM

Holy Qur'an

سورة الملك

Surat-ul-Mulk 22-27

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

إِنَّ الْقَوْلَ الْحَقُّ وَالْقَدْرُ أَنَّ النَّارَ لَعَذَابٌ أَخِذْنَاهُ عَلَى نَفْسِي وَاعْلَمْنَاهُ عَلَى مَسَّهُ قَلْ هَوَّ الْيَدُ الَّتِي يَدْعُونَ فِي الْأَرْضِ وَالْقَبْلَةَ وَالْأَلْقَى فَيْسَدُونَ قَلْ هَوَّ الْيَدُ الَّتِي بَلَغَهَا مِنْهُ الْعَذَابُ فِي النَّارِ وَلَيْنَ أَتَيْنَعُونَ فِي هَذَا الْوَعْدِ قَلْ هَيْنَ أَنْتُمْ صَدِيقُونَ قَلْ إِنَّا أَلْهًا عَبَّادٌ وَلَمْ يَأْتِيْنَا نَذِيرٌ مَّسِينٌ قَلْ مَا رَأَوْنَاهُ مِثْلَ هَذَا الْبَيْتِ وَمَا رَأَيْنَاهُ امْتِلَأَ مِثْلَ هَذَا الْأَلْقَى فَخَلِيفَتُهُمْ فِي الْجَنَّةِ وَلَمْ يَأْتِيْنَا جَمِيعٌ الْحَكَايَةُ خَالِدٌ
Afamay-yamshee mukibban 'ala wajhihi ahda ammay yamshee sawiyyan 'ala siratim mustaqeem (67:22)
Qul huwa-llathee ansha-akum waja'ala lakumu allsam'a wal-absara wal-af-idata qaleelam ma tashkuroon (67:23)
Qul huwallathee thara-akum fi-ardi wa-ilayhi tuhsharoone (67:24)
Wayaqooloona mata hathalwa'du in kuntum sadiqeen (67:25)
Qul innamal-ilmu 'indallahi wa-innana ana natheerum mubeen (67:26)
Falamma raawhu zulfatan see-at wujoohu-llatheena kafa- roo waqeela hathallathee kuntum bihi tadda'oone (67:27)

**UNDERSTOOD MEANING**

(67:22) Is the kafir, who is made to walk in life with his face down, better guided than the believer who walks normally along the straight path?
(67:23) Say to the disbelievers: “Allah created you and gave you ears, eyes, and hearts, so you can hear, see and think about Allah’s message. But you are still not thankful nor obedient.”
(67:24) Say: “Allah spread you out on the Earth for a while, and to Him you will be gathered back on the Day of Judgment.”
(67:25) And they (the disbelievers) ask, “If you Muslims are telling the truth then when will this Day of Judgment happen?”
(67:26) Say: “Only Allah knows and I am just delivering to you a clear warning.”
(67:27) And when they see it (the punishment in hell) coming near them, their faces will turn dark from terror. And it will be said to them: “This is the punishment you disbelieved in and thought was not coming.”
As-Sirat-ul-Mustaquem
This term is repeated in the Qur’an 30 times. Surat-ul-Fatiha includes the famous ayah “إِنَّنا بِالصِّرَاطِ الْمُسْتَقِيمِ” which means: “guide us to the straight path. “This term literally means the straight path. Here it means the religion of Islam. To follow the straight path, one must practice Islam and obey Allah and His prophet in all aspects of life.

Main Lessons

1. Following As-Sirat-ul-Mustaqem, the straight path, leads you to Jannah.

In this world the disbelievers seem to be walking with their faces down. They do not look ahead of them, and have no real direction in life. They follow their desires and they keep falling into sin. The believers walk with clear guidance from Allah. They see the world as a test, so they do the right things to please Allah. They follow the straight path, which is Islam. They obey the rules of Allah and His messenger Muhammad ﷺ. Therefore, they succeed in this world and the next. Allah will grant them a happy and blessed life here and Jannah after death.

2. Following wrong paths leads to Jahannam.

Those who choose wrong paths away from the straight path will be punished in Hellfire. Allah gave them faces with eyes to see and ears to hear, but they did not use them wisely. Instead, they used them just to enjoy their lives, even if they were led to disobey Allah and harm themselves. Allah says about them, “They have hearts with which they don’t understand, eyes with which they don’t see, and ears with which they don’t hear. They are like animals, even more misguided.” [6:170] Therefore, Allah punishes them in the Day of Judgment by making them walk with their face down like animals.

The Messenger of Allah was asked, “How are the kuffar gathered together walking on their faces on the Day of Judgment?” The Messenger of Allah said: “Isn’t the one who made them walk on their feet in this world capable of making them walk on their faces on the Day of Judgment?” (Reported by Bukhari)
Anas Ibn Malik narrated that rasoolullah ﷺ said:

“Paradise is surrounded by [good but] disliked deeds, while Hellfire is reached by [prohibited] desires.”

Reported in Al-Bukhari and Muslim

Explanation

This hadeeth means: Paradise can be reached through doing the good deeds which we may dislike to do out of laziness. Imam An-Nawawi* said that these good deeds that we may dislike performing include, "Carrying out required worships consistently, tolerance, forgiveness, charity, being good to those who are bad to you, and avoiding haram desires and practices."

People may also fall into Hellfire by committing prohibited desires and entertainments which we might enjoy. Imam An-Nawawi gave the following examples of the prohibited desires, "Drinking intoxicants, looking upon haram sights, backbiting others and enjoying haram passtimes."

* Imam Yahya An-Nawawi, who lived in the 13th century, is a great medieval Muslim scholar. He wrote many great books including Riyad-us-Saliheen and Sharh Saheeh Muslim, from which we took the above quotes, and many other books.
Believers see this life as a test.

Disbelievers see life as a game.

**WORDS OF WISDOM**

Holy Qur'an

سورة الملك

Surat-ul-Mulk 28-30

全能的主啊！

你说：你们的主是我的主吗？我曾经是你们的主吗？

你说：我确是比你们的主更好。我确是引导者，确是引导者中的引导者。

你说：我的主、至仁主，你确是明白我的秘密的，他们所信仰的，除你所启示我的外，我从不知道。你确是全知的，确是明察的。

你说：我确是比他们更好。我确是引导者，确是引导者中的引导者。
TRANSLITERATION
Qul araaytum in ahlakani-Allahu waman ma'iyaa aw rahimana, famay yujeer-ul-kafireena min athabin aleem (67:28)
Qul huwa-rrahmanu amanna bihi wa'alayhi tawakkalna fasata'alamoona man huwa fee dalalim mubeen (67:29)
Qul araaytum in asbaha ma-okum ghawran famay yateekum bima-in ma’een (67:30)

UNDERSTOOD MEANING
(67:28) Say to the disbelievers: “Look, whether I and those who follow me die, or Allah keeps us alive out of His mercy, who will give protection to the disbelievers from a painful punishment?”
(67:29) Say: “He is Allah the Most Merciful. We believe in Him and we rely upon Him. You disbelievers will soon know which one of us is clearly misguided.”
(67:30) Say: “What if your water sunk deep into the Earth and you couldn’t reach it? Who would send you flowing water to drink?”
(The answer they have to say is that only Allah can do this, so tell them, “Then why don’t you leave your false gods and turn only to Allah for support and guidance.”)

Healthy Habit
Always do the right thing and good deeds even if they look difficult. And always avoid doing haram things or evil practices, even if they look tempting or enjoyable.
Tawakkul: To rely on or put your trust into someone else to help you. As Muslims, we must put our full trust in Allah. We realize that there is no real power except the power of Allah. We also do the best we can to utilize the tools and means Allah has given us to serve Him and be successful in this life and the next.

Reason for revelation

It has been reported that the kuffar of Makkah used to pray to their idols that the Muslims would just die and go away. So Allah revealed the verse, "Say: "whether I and those who are with me die..."[67:28]

Main Lessons

1. The believers always trust Allah

The believers always trust Allah, rely on Him, and practice real tawakkul. They do not fear any other than their Creator. They do not fear their enemies even if they are so powerful. True Muslims would never change their religion or disobey Allah to please the disbelievers.

2. Using the gifts of Allah the right way

These verses remind us that we owe Allah thanks for all His blessings. He reminds us with one of His gifts, water. What would happen to us if water was sucked deep into the Earth and we could not reach it?

Think about Allah’s many gifts, like our hearts, minds, eyes, ears, food, health and many more.

We must be grateful to Allah for the food and water that keeps us alive and healthy. We must use our healthy bodies to worship Allah and serve Him forever. We must be thankful for our ears by listening only to what Allah wants us to listen to. We must be thankful for our eyes by only looking at what we are allowed to look at. We must be thankful for our hearts by working to memorize and learn things that will help us in this world and the next.
Allah gave us eyes, ears and brains to learn with. Do some research about the benefits of these gifts of Allah and write a paragraph about each one of them. Water is a must for our life. Imagine if people woke up one day and found no water on Earth. How would their lives be that day? Have a discussion with your classmates about this subject.

Think Critically

1. Why do you think the Quraysh were hoping to see the Muslims destroyed?

2. Are there misguided people today that have the same feeling towards Islam and Muslims as those who are described in Surat Tabarak? How should we treat them?

Lesson Review

1. What is As-Sirat-ul-Mustaqeem?

2. Name the gifts that Allah gave us to help us do right and avoid wrong in this life.

3. Explain tawakkul.

4. Why do people sometimes fail to do good deeds and insist on doing wrong things?
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Pre-reading Questions

1. What do you know about Prophet Musa?
2. Where was he born?
3. Who was Phir’oun?

Word Watch

The Birth of Musa

You have probably studied Ancient Egyptian history in your history class. What do you think of when you hear the word Egypt? Do you think about the huge pyramids and the Nile River? Or do you remember the story of Prophet Musa and the Bani Isra’eeel, or the children of Isra’eeel in Egypt? For Muslims,

Egypt is important not because of its huge pyramids and sphinx, it is important because Egypt is the birthplace of Prophet Musa.

Prophet Musa was born at the time of Phir’oun. Phir’oun was a ruler who hated the Bani Isra’eeel, the descendants of Prophet Ya’qoub or Jacob. Phir’oun humiliated and disrespected the Bani Isra’eeel. He made the women and men of Bani
Isra’eel into slaves, working for very little or no pay at all. Phir’oun thought of himself as a god and he wanted his people to obey him and worship him alone.

The Strange Prophecy

One day Phir’oun was told that a boy from the Bani Isra’eel would be born and this boy would destroy his kingdom. When Phir’oun heard this prophecy, he became very worried and couldn’t overcome his fear. So, a very evil idea jumped to his wicked head. He ordered that every male child born to the Bani Isra’eel should be killed. Phir’oun could not stand the thought of someone else having more power than him. Some historians said that Phir’oun killed thousands of children.
The Worried Mother

Loha, Musa’s mother, feared for her unborn baby. She did not want her new child to be killed. She had two other kids, a girl, Maryam and a boy, Haroon. Musa’s mother was a very pious and obedient servant of Allah, so she received an inspiration from Allah. Allah said in Al-Qur’an:

وَأُوتِينَا إِلَى أَمْرِ رَبِّنَا أَنْ أَتَضِعَنَّهَا فَإِذَا حَفِظَتْهَا عَلَى عَرَبِيَّةٍ فَإِنَّكَ لاَ تَحْسَبُنَّا إِلَّا أَنْ نَعِجَنْهَا أَبَانَهُ إِلَى بَنِي إِسْرَائِيلَ وَجَعَلْنَاهُ مِنْ أَهْلِ الْكَرْسِيَّةِ

So We sent this inspiration to the mother of Musa: “Feed (your child), but when you fear about him, cast him into the river, but do not fear nor grieve: for We shall return him to you, and We shall make him one of Our messengers.” [Surat-ul-Qasas

Allah ordered Musa’s mother to put him into a chest and send it floating down the Nile River. Musa’s mother did what Allah commanded her to do. She put Musa into a box and gently slid it onto the waters of the Nile. Then she asked her daughter Maryam to follow the box. She was very sad to let her son go, but she knew for sure that one day he would return back to her and become a prophet as Allah had promised her. She believed truly in her heart that Allah is the best protector of her child and family.

Musa in the Palace of Phir’oun

The box floated down the river and stopped at a riverbank near Phir’oun’s palace. The guards of the palace found the baby and swiftly took it to Phir’oun and his wife. Phir’oun’s wife, Asiah, instantly fell in love with baby Musa because Allah put in her heart strong love for this baby. Phir’oun’s wife was very different from Phir’oun. He was a disbeliever; she was a believer. He was cruel; she was merciful. She was also very sad because Allah had not blessed her with a child of her own. When she saw baby Musa, she picked him up and she cried tears of joy. Phir’oun was amazed because he had never seen his wife this happy. She asked him if she could adopt the baby and Phir’oun agreed.
Musa Goes Back to his Mother

Phir’oun’s wife could not breastfeed the baby so she ordered for nurses to suckle baby Musa. Many nurses were found, but Musa refused to drink from their breasts and kept crying. As you learned earlier, Musa’s sister had followed the box floating down the river until it reached Phir’oun’s palace. Musa’s sister kept roaming around the palace until she learned that Phir’oun’s wife and servants were looking for someone Musa could breastfeed from. Musa’s sister told them about a person who could feed the baby. They quickly ordered his sister to find the woman she was talking about. When Musa’s sister Maryam arrived home, she saw how worried her mother had become.

She wanted to know anxiously what had happened to her baby Musa. Maryam told her mom the good news. As soon as she learned what had happened, her worries subsided and she quickly went to the palace.

As baby Musa was put to his mother’s breast, he instantly started drinking from her milk. SubhanAllah! Once again mother and son were reunited by a miracle from Allah. Musa’s mother was appointed by Phir’oun as Musa’s nurse. She was now paid good money for breast feeding her own son. Of course, Phir’oun and his wife did not know that the new nurse was none other than the baby’s mother.

When Musa grew up his mother was allowed the privilege of visiting him in the palace. Allah had granted Musa good health, strength, knowledge and wisdom.
28:5 And We wished to be gracious to those who were being oppressed in the land, to make them leaders (in Faith) and make them heirs,

28:6 To establish a firm place for them in the land, and to show Phir’oun, Haman, and their hosts, at their hands, what they were taking precautions against.
28:7 So We sent this inspiration to the mother of Musa: "Feed (your child), but when you fear about him, cast him into the river, but do not fear nor grieve: for We shall return him to you, and We shall make him one of Our messengers."

28:8 Then the people of Phir’oun picked him up (from the river): (It was intended) that (Musa) should be to them an adversary and a cause of sorrow: for Phir’oun and Haman and (all) their hosts were men of sin.

28:9 The wife of Phir’oun said: "(Here is) joy of the eye, for me and for you: Do not kill him. He may become of use to us, or we may adopt him as a son." And they perceived not (what they were doing)!

28:10 And there came a void in the heart of the mother of Musa: She almost disclosed his (case), had We not strengthened her heart (with faith), so that she would stay a (firm) believer.

28:11 And she said to the sister of (Musa), "Follow him." Then she (the sister) watched him from a distance and they did not notice. And they knew not.

28:12 And We decided that he refused suck at first, until (his sister came up and) said: "Shall I point out to you about the people of a house that will feed and raise him up for you and truly care about him?"

28:13 Thus did We return him to his mother, that her eye might be comforted, that she might not grieve, and that she would know that the promise of Allah is true: but most of them do not understand.

28:14 When he reached full age, and became a man, We granted him wisdom and knowledge: and that is how We reward those who do good.
Destiny:

By the time Musa was born, his destiny of prophethood was already determined. All the events that lead Musa to Phir’oun’s palace could only have happened through Allah’s command. When we look at our lives we should also realize that we live according to Allah’s plan, or destiny. So whatever happens in our lives, whether it is good or bad, we should embrace it and recognize that it is part of our destiny.

Obedience and Trust in Allah Pays off:

Imagine how Musa’s mother felt when she had to separate from her newborn child. She was an obedient servant of Allah; therefore, she put all her trust, or Thiqah ḥspK, in Allah. With the guidance of Allah, mother and son were soon reunited and she was able to see her baby everyday. She took care of him and she even got paid for that by Phir’oun. We should be like Musa’s mother who was obedient to Allah even in times of difficulty. She put her full trust in Allah that he was going to protect Baby Musa. If we completely submit to Allah and have a hundred percent trust in Him, then we will be under His great protection.

True Tawakkul:

Tawakkul mtcnfnJ, or true reliance on Allah, is the attitude of a true believer. It reflects a strong trust in Allah almighty. However, true tawakkul requires that the Muslim ask Allah for help and do his part as well. Musa’s mother trusted Allah, but at the same time, she put Musa in the box to save his life. She also sent his sister after him to find out his whereabouts.

Allah Controls Hearts:

Allah filled the heart of Phir’oun’s wife with love and affection for Musa. This is a divine power. No one can control the emotions of people like Allah does. If you want people to love and respect you, then please Allah and make Him love you first. He will do the rest.
Al-Malik

Allah is Al-Malik, meaning the King and The Sovereign Lord. He is the Lord of the whole universe. Leaders of different countries now and in the past call themselves kings and lords; something God does not like, since He is alone the King and the Lord of people. Early Muslim leaders were called khaleefah or ameer.

Dua'a

عن البراء بن عازب رضي الله عنه قال، قال رسول الله صلی الله علیه وسلم: "إذا أنت معتجل فضوعاً ووضوء للمساعة ثم استطعن على شلك الأبناء وقل: اللهم أسملت نفسي إليك، وفوجستي أرئي إليك، وألمأت مظهر إليك. آمنت بكبابك الذي أنزلت، ونبيت الذي أرسلت.

براء البخاري وصلی الله عليه وسلم

Al-Baraa’ Ibn Azib رضي الله عنه said, “Once Rasoolullah said, to me, ‘When you go to bed, make wudoo’ first, then lay on your right side and say:

“Oh Allah, I submit myself to You, and refer my affairs to You, and support myself by You. (I do that because I fear and love You.)” (There is
This dua’a is very important. It makes us renew our trust and reliance on Allah every night before we sleep. Don’t miss saying this dua’a every night.

**FAITH IN ACTION**

- Always be strong in times of hardships and trials.
- Always demonstrate full and heartily tawakkul, or reliance on Allah.
- Do your part, don’t ask Allah to do things for you and you just sit there. Do your best and ask Allah to do the things that you cannot do.

**Fast Facts**

The story of Musa and his people is repeated in the Qur’an more than eighty times. In some chapters of the Qur’an, the story was presented in a detailed manner, like in Surat-ul-Qasas. Most of the times, it was mentioned briefly like in Surat-us-Saff.
1. Draw a map of Egypt, pointing at major cities and showing the Nile River.
2. Write a poem or an essay about the birth of Musa. Explain how do you feel about that story.

1. Musa’s sister’s name was Maryam, was she the same person who became Prophet Isa’s mother? Explain your answer.
2. Why was Phir’oun angry at the children of Isra’eel?
3. Why were the children of Isra’eel living in Egypt while their great grandfather Ya’qoub, whose name was also Isra’eel, lived in Palestine?

1. How did Phir’oun treat the Bani Isra’eel? List three examples.
2. Why did Musa’s mother put her new baby in the box to float in the river?
3. How was Musa received in Phir’oun’s palace?
4. How did Musa’s mother become reunited with her son?
5. Why did Phir’oun easily accept to spare baby Musa’s life, although he was afraid that a Jewish child would destroy his kingdom in the future?
6. Write three important lessons you learned from the story.
Pre-reading Questions:
1. Where was Prophet Musa raised? And by whom?
2. Did he stay in his county?
3. What changed the young Musa’s life?

Word Watch

When he grew up, Prophet Musa unintentionally killed an Egyptian man while he was trying to help his fellow Israeli man. This caused Musa to flee Egypt to settle in a town called Madyan, where he established a new family.
Unintentional Killing

One day while Musa was in the city, he saw two men fighting. One man was an Israelite and the other was an Egyptian. When the Israelite saw Musa, he begged him for help. Musa sided with the Israelite, because the Egyptians used to oppress and humiliate the Israelites. Musa punched the Egyptian with his fist on the chest. Musa did not intend to kill the man, but the man died from the blow. When the man died, Musa realized he had done something wrong and his heart was filled with deep sadness and regret. He begged Allah for forgiveness, and promised Him that he would never side with criminals and evil people in the future.

Learning More

According to some history books, the name of the Israelite man was Samaritan or As-Samiriyy in Arabic. You will learn more about him in an upcoming chapter.
Musa in Danger

Meanwhile, the family of the victim went to Phir’oun and complained that an Israelite had just killed their relative. Phir’oun ordered his police to investigate the crime and find the killer.

The next day Musa saw the same Israelite he had helped the day before. He was involved in a fight with another Egyptian. Musa realized that the Israelite seemed to be a man who liked fighting with others a lot. Musa then became angry at the Israelite and shouted at him “you are truly such a trouble maker,” and he attempted to push away the Egyptian man. The Israelite saw Musa angry at him, so he thought that Musa was about to attack him. In panic, the Israelite shouted at Musa, “are you going to kill me just as you killed the other man yesterday?” The Egyptian man and those standing by heard the Israelite say this and quickly went and reported it to the authorities. Shortly after, as Musa was walking in the city, a man approached him and said, “O Musa the chiefs have taken counsel against you, they plotted to get you killed. Just leave town, this is my advice to you.”

Musa Leaves Egypt

Musa knew that he was in great danger because the punishment for killing an Egyptian was death. Musa left Egypt in a hurry without going to Phir’oun’s palace or changing his clothes to prepare for traveling. He traveled east toward Palestine.
While traveling in the hot desert, his only companion was Allah. His shoes were worn out from walking so much and he did not have money to buy a new pair of shoes.

Musa in Madyan

After crossing the Sinai desert, Musa saw a watering hole where shepherds water their sheep near the city of Madyan, which was in the northwestern part of Arabia, near Tabouk in Saudi Arabia now. Madyan was the city of an ancient prophet called Shu’ayb. Musa sat down near a tree and then he noticed two young women who were trying to care for their sheep. Musa felt that the women needed help, so he went and asked them if he could help in some way.

The older sister said: “We are waiting until the shepherds finish watering their sheep and then we will water ours.”

Musa asked: “Why are you waiting?”

The younger sister said: “We cannot intermingle with men and push them away.”

Musa was surprised to see that young women were herding because usually only men were supposed to do such hard and tiresome work. So Musa asked, “Why are you shepherding?”

The younger sister said: “Our father is an old man; his health is too poor to take care of the sheep.”

Musa said: “I will water the sheep for you.”

After watering their sheep, Musa returned to sit under the shade of the tree. Musa had no money, no
food and no home to go to. He prayed to Allah, “O my Lord! Truly, I need any good that you would send me.”

**Musa Meets A Pious Man**

The young women returned home earlier than usual, which surprised their old father. The young women explained to their father that they received some help from a stranger, which was the reason they returned early. The father asked his daughters to invite the stranger to their home. Some scholars believe the girls’ father was Prophet Shu’ayb. Others, however, think the old man was a different pious person whose name was Yi’roun. They say Prophet Shu’ayb lived around three hundred years before Musa’s time. The historians say that the names of the two daughters were Saffoura and Liya.

One of the daughters went to Musa and shyly told him: “My father is grateful for what you have done for us. He invites you to our home so he may thank you personally.”

Musa accepted the invitation. He was a very polite person. Therefore, he asked the girl if he could walk ahead of her so he would not look at her as they walked to her home. Musa arrived at the family’s home and was kindly received by the girls’ father.

Musa could sense that they lived comfortably as a happy and peaceful household. Musa introduced himself and he told them about what happened to him and why he had to flee from Egypt. The man comforted him and said, “Fear not, you have escaped from the wrong doers.”
The New Family

One of the daughters suggested to her father that he employ Musa to take care of the sheep because he was very trustworthy. The old man agreed and told Musa: “I wish to marry you one of my daughters on condition that you agree to work for me for a period of eight or ten years.” Musa agreed to the father’s request. He married one of the daughters, Saffoura according to some historians, and he looked after the old man for ten years.

Time passed and Musa lived in seclusion far away from his family and people in Egypt. This period was very important in his life because it was major preparation toward becoming a prophet of Allah. Musa would contemplate about the world around him, such as the stars at night and the sunrise in the morning.

The religion of Musa was the same as the religion of Prophet Ya’coub, which was Islamic monotheism. Monotheism is the belief in one God. The forefather of Musa was Prophet Yakoub who was the grandson of Prophet Ibraheem. Therefore Musa was one of the descendants of Ibraheem and every prophet that came after Ibraheem was one of Prophet Ibraheem’s descendants.

Back To Egypt

One day Musa really missed his family and people in Egypt. He went to his wife and told her, “Tomorrow we leave for Egypt.” His wife said to herself, “There are a thousand dangers in the way to Egypt,” but she put her trust in Allah and obeyed her husband.

Musa himself did not know the secret of the quick and sudden decision to return to a place of great danger for him. Did he want to visit his mother and siblings? Did he think of visiting Phir’oun’s wife whom he loved and who loved him as if she was his mother?

No one knows what went through Musa’s mind when he returned to Egypt. All we know is that Allah’s destiny drove him to make a decision and he did. Destiny indeed guided him towards a matter of great importance.
Siding with the Righteous:
In the story of the Israeli man fighting with the Egyptian, Musa sided with the Israeli because he was from his own tribe. Musa unintentionally killed the Egyptian man and he begged Allah for forgiveness. That happened in order to emphasize the wrongfulness of siding unconditionally with our family, tribe, or nation. What makes a man superior to another man is not his family, tribe, or nation, but his righteousness.

Extending and taking sincere advice:
The good man, someone named Sam'aan or Shimon, gave Musa life saving advice. This is the attitude of good believers. So is the acceptance of sincere advice, as well. In this case, this advice worked out very well and saved Musa's life. Prophet Muhammad said that "Religion [guides] to giving and accepting sincere advice." He also considered extending good advice as the right of a Muslim on the other. Good and sincere advice is the one you extend to others for the sake of Allah and to help them be successful in this life and the next life.

Extending Help and Generosity to Others:
When Musa came near the young women, he saw that they were struggling to do their job. Out of kindness and sincerity, Musa decided to help them. In the end Musa was rewarded for his help by being welcomed to the home of the pious family. Furthermore, he was also offered to marry one of the young women. Whenever we see someone in need of our assistance, we should never hesitate to extend a hand. Whether the charity is through action, prayer, or money, Allah will reward us just as he rewarded Prophet Musa, insha'Allah.

Modesty
The girls in this story showed us how modest and polite they were in the presence of men. They didn’t want to mix with men at the well to water their sheep; rather, they kept a distance. Musa also was very modest, polite and gracious when he helped them. When he walked to their home, he didn’t want to look at the girl that came to guide him to her home. He preferred to walk ahead of her for that reason. Islam teaches us to lower our gaze when we see people of the opposite gender and act modestly at all times.
Chapter Review

Activity Three

Draw a map of Egypt and Northern Arabia. Then trace the trip Musa took from Egypt to Madyan.

Think Critically

Why did Phir‘oun agree to punish Musa and kill him for his mistake although he had treated him as his son for years?

Lesson Review

1. Why did Prophet Musa side with the Israeli man when he saw the two men fighting?

2. How did Prophet Musa feel after he had unintentionally killed the Egyptian man?

3. Why did the Israeli man tell of Musa’s mistake?

4. Why did Prophet Musa flee from Egypt? Where did he go to?

5. Whom did Prophet Musa meet in the new place?

6. Describe what happened to Prophet Musa in the new city he moved to?

7. Why do some scholars think that the old man was not Prophet Shu‘ayb?

8. Why did Prophet Musa decide to return to Egypt after many years?
Musa The Prophet

CHAPTER THREE

Pre-reading Questions

1. Do you know how Musa became a Prophet?
2. What is a miracle?
3. What were the miracles of Prophet Musa?

Word Watch

Jabal-ul-Tour
Mount Sinai
جبل الطور
جبل سيناء

Musa Heads to Egypt

Musa left Madyan with his family and traveled back to Egypt. As Musa went through the Sinai desert, he discovered that he had lost his way. He asked Allah for help and he was guided in the right direction. At nightfall they reached Mount Sinai, or Jabal-ul-Tour. There he noticed a fire in the distance.
Musa Becomes a Messenger

As he got closer to the fire, he decided to go by it and get some for his family to warm up. Here is what Allah says about this in Surat-ul-Qasas 28: 29-30:

"Now when Musa had fulfilled the term, and was traveling with his family, he noticed a fire in the direction of Mount Toor. He said to his family: "Stay right here; I saw a fire; I hope to bring you from there some information, or a burning firebrand, that you may warm yourselves."

But when he came to the (fire), a voice was heard from the right bank of the valley, from a tree in the holy ground: "Oh Musa! Verily I am Allah, the Lord of the Worlds,"

Musa was confused and he looked around. Allah then told Musa that there is no God but Allah, the true creator of mankind, and that Musa should pray and worship Him alone. Then Allah surprised Musa, He chose him as a messenger of Allah to the children of Isra’eel. Furthermore, Allah ordered Musa to go to Egypt and call Pharaoh to believe in Allah and worship Him alone. Allah also wanted Musa to move the children of Isra’eel to Palestine if Pharaoh refused to follow the true faith.

Prophet Musa was in a complete shock, he never expected that, even in his dreams. Then suddenly, Allah asked him about the staff he
A Time for Miracles

Allah commanded Musa: "Throw down your staff." He did so and at once it turned into a wriggling snake. Musa turned away so he could run, but Allah told him, "Grasp it and fear not. We shall return it to its former state." The snake changed back into his staff. Musa's fear was replaced by peace, because he realized that he was witnessing the truth.

Allah commanded him also to put his hands into his robe at the armpit. When he took out his hand it had a brilliant shine. Allah then told Musa, "These are two miracles from your Lord to Phir'oun and his chiefs." However, Musa feared that he would be arrested and killed by Phir'oun, so he turned to Allah and said, "My Lord I have killed a man among them, and I fear that they will kill me." Allah assured him of his safety and set his heart at rest. Musa asked Allah one more thing; to have his brother Haroon or Aaron help him in this difficult mission. Allah agreed.

Prophet Musa Faces Phir'oun

When Musa arrived in Egypt he went to Phir'oun along with his brother Haroon. They delivered their message to Phir'oun about Allah, His mercy, His paradise and about the duty of worshipping one God. The meeting with Phir'oun and his generals was not an easy matter. Phir'oun was furious at
Musa and worried that he might be the one who would destroy his kingdom. After all, this is what the old prophecy tells. Phir'oun listened to Musa's speech with arrogance and refused to believe in Allah and worship Him. Phir'oun claimed that he was God. He thought that Musa was crazy to challenge him like that. Phir'oun raised his hand and said, "What do you want from me?"

Musa answered: "I want you to send the children of Isra’eeel with us."

Phir'oun asked: "Why should I send them when they are all my slaves?"

Musa replied: "They are the slaves of Allah, Lord of the Worlds."

Phir'oun then sarcastically asked him if his name was Musa. Musa answered, "Yes."

"Aren't you the Musa whom we picked up from the Nile as a helpless baby? Aren't you the one we raised in this palace? You ate and drank with us, and we provided you with so much wealth. Aren't you the Musa who is a fugitive, the killer of an Egyptian man, if memory does not betray me? It is said that killing is an act of disbelief. Therefore, you were a disbeliever when you killed. You are a fugitive from justice and you come to speak to me! What were you talking about Musa, I forget?"

Musa knew that Phir'oun was
سورة حلا

Surat Taha 11-24

فَلَمَّا أُنْبِئَهَا نُورًا وَفَسَّرَهَا ١١ إِنَّ أَنَا رَبُّكَ فَأَخْلُصْ طَائِلًا إِذَّ بَلَوْدَ الفَلْقِ ١٢ وَأَنَا آتِيْكَ فَأَنْعَمَ لَكُمْ لَمْ تَوَحَّدُوا ١٣ إِنَّ أَنَا أَللَّهُ لَلَّهُ ١٤ إِنَّ عِبَادَيْنَا لَا يَفْرُجُونَ عَنْهَا مَا نَذَّبَّةً ١٥ فَلَا تَقَلِّلْنَكُم مِّنْهَا مَا تَذَّبَّةَ ١٦ وَأَنَبِيَّهُ هُمْنَى قَدْ أَنْبِيَّتُهُمْ وَلَمْ يَكُنْ يَنْبِيْهِمْ ١٧ مَا أَنْبَيْتُهُمْ عَلَىٰ نَفْسِهِنَّ وَأَنْبِيَّهُ عَلَىٰ نَفْسِهٰلهَا ١٨ عِلْمًا أُكْلَى عَلَىٰ نَفْسِهِنَّ وَأَنْبَيْهِ عَلَىٰ نَفْسِهِنَّ ١٩ قَالَ يَلِىُّهُمُ الَّذِي يَتَسَكَّنُهُ يَقُولُ ٢٠ تَحْيَى ٢١ وَأَضْمَنُّكُم بَلْ إِلَىٰ جَاثِكُم تَحْيَى ٢٢ بِبَيْتٍ مِّنْ غَيْرِ سَوْدَةِ مَا أَحْكَمُهُ ٢٣ لِلرَّبِّيْكَ مِنْ عِلْمِيْنَا الْكَبِيرِ ٢٤ أَذْهَبْ إِلَىٰ فِرْعَوْنَ إِنَّهُ مَا طَغِينَ
20:11 But when he came to the fire, a voice was heard: "O Musa!"
20:12 "Verily I am thy Lord! therefore (in My presence) put off thy shoes: thou art in the sacred valley Tuwa.
20:13 I have chosen thee: listen, then, to the inspiration (sent to thee).
20:14 "Verily, I am Allah. There is no god but I: So serve thou Me (only), and establish regular prayer for celebrating My praise.
20:15 "Verily the Hour is coming - My design is to keep it hidden - for every soul to receive its reward by the measure of its endeavour.
20:16 Therefore let not such as believe not therein but follow their own lusts, divert thee therefrom, lest thou perish!"
20:17 "And what is that in the right hand, O Musa?"
20:18 He said, "It is my rod: on it I lean; with it I beat down fodder for my flocks; and in it I find other uses."
20:19 ((Allah)) said, "Throw it, O Musa!"
20:20 He threw it, and behold! It was a snake, active in motion.
20:21 ((Allah)) said, "Seize it, and fear not: We shall return it at once to its former condition."
20:22 "Now draw your hand close to your side: it shall come out white (and shining), without harm (or stain) - as another sign."
20:23 "In order that We may show thee (two) of Our greater signs."
20:24 "Go thou to Phir’oun, for he has indeed transgressed all bounds."
Wealth is Not Everything:

Allah gives us many examples of men like Phiroun in the Qur'an to warn us about their actions. As you have learned before, anything good comes from Allah and He can easily take it away. Phiroun thought he was superior because he possessed so much wealth and riches, but he failed to recognize that what he possessed belongs to Allah. And wealth is worthless and not blessed when it is not used for the sake of Allah. One should never be boastful about one's possessions in this world. A devout poor man who obeys Allah is better in the sight of Allah than a rich man who disobeys Allah and disbelieves in Him.

Wealth and Power Can Make People Tyrants:

Allah says in surat-ul-Alaq 96:6-7:

"Nay. Indeed man transgresses, as he sees himself rich and self sufficient".

When man lacks the belief in Allah, he will easily be fooled by Shaytan and by his own powers. Instead of thanking God for what he gave Him, he would deny Allah's gifts and think that he got what he has only because he is smart and strong. Some people become tyrants, like Phiroun did. Even when they see what proves them wrong, they will deny the truth and reject it. They do that because they strive to keep their positions and remain "powerful."
Chapter Review

1. Why did Allah want Musa to move his people from Egypt to Palestine?
2. What is the difference between the miracle Prophet Musa saw and what some magicians do in magic shows?

Activity Time

1. Draw a map of the Sinai Peninsula.
2. Write an essay about the important places in Sinai.

Lesson Review

1. How did Musa become a prophet of Allah?
2. What did Allah order Musa to do in Egypt?
3. Why was Musa fearful of returning to Egypt?
4. How did Pharaoh receive Musa's message?
Musa met Phir’oun in his palace and conveyed Allah’s message to him. He explained to him that this world has One Great Creator; Allah or God. And no one can claim that he or she is God. People should only worship the One True Creator. Musa’s talk was simple and clear, but Phir’oun refused to believe. Even worse, he tried to threaten and humiliate Musa. He asked Musa how he dared to worship Allah and not him! Phir’oun claimed that he was a god. The punishment for not worshipping Phir’oun was prison.
Tariq ibn Shihab reported that a man came to the Prophet and asked: “What is the best form of jihad?” The Prophet said: “A word of truth in front of an unjust leader.”
Prophet Musa's Miracles

Musa said: “Even if I would bring you something obvious and very convincing.” Phir’oun said, “Bring it forth, then, if you are truthful!”

So Musa “threw his stick, and behold, it was a serpent. And he drew out his hand, and behold, it was bright white to all!” (Surat-ush-Shu’araa’ 26:30-33)

After Prophet Musa had performed the two miracles, Phir’oun was terrified. He feared that his rule was in danger. He remembered the old prophecy he learned many years before that a man from the children of Isra’eeel would destroy his kingdom. So, he told his advisors: “These are two magicians who will strip you of your best traditions and drive you out of the country with their magic. What do you advise?” Phir’oun’s advisors told him to detain Musa and his brother Haroon while they called for the cleverest magicians in the country. Then they too, could show their skills of magic and change sticks into serpents. This way, they thought, they could reduce the influence of Musa’s miracles on the people.

Musa and Haroon were under arrest by Phir’oun’s order. He sent messengers all over the land to recruit the best magicians. Phir’oun offered each successful magician a big reward. The event was scheduled to happen on the usual festival day, which attracted people from all over the Egyptian empire. Phir’oun arranged for a
public contest between Musa and the magicians. Rumors were spread all over Egypt about Phir’oun’s many magicians and a single man who claimed to be a prophet.

Everyone was excited about watching this great contest. Before the contest began, Musa stood up and the whole crowd was quiet. He addressed the magicians: “Woe unto you! Do not invent lies against Allah. He would destroy you completely by a punishment. And surely, he who invents a lie (against Allah) will fail miserably.”

The Story of Qaroon

The Qur’an tells another story about a wealthy man called Qaroon, who lived in the times of Prophet Musa عليه السلام. He was from among the children of Isra’eel. As Qaroon became richer, he became very arrogant. He had magnificent treasures. The key to these treasures could not even be carried by a group of strong men. He refused to thank Allah and follow Prophet Musa. Therefore Allah destroyed all of his wealth and punished him. Qaroon is an example to those who forget Allah’s blessings and fail to remember that everything comes from Allah.

How can we avoid falling into similar traps such as the ones Qaroon and Phir’oun slipped into?

We need to totally obey Allah, thank Him for everything that happens in our lives, and be humble to Him.
Prophet Musa Prevails

Prophet Musa had spoken sincerely and made the magicians think and about what he said. But the magicians were fooled by greed and fame. They hoped to impress their people with their sihr, or magic, and expose Prophet Musa as a liar.

Prophet Musa asked the magicians to perform first. They threw their magical objects down on the ground. Their staffs and ropes took the shape of wriggling snakes. The crowd was amazed and Phir’oun and his men applauded loudly. Musa felt a little fear in his heart when he saw many snakes move and creep around him. “Don’t be afraid, you will prevail. Throw your staff and it will swallow all of their snakes,” Allah revealed to him. Then Musa threw his staff and it began to wriggle and it became a huge snake. The people stood up to witness the great miracle. Phir’oun and his men sat silently and watched as Musa’s huge snake swallowed all the other snakes. Musa bent to pick it up and it became a staff again.

Phir’oun’s Revenge

The crowd rose up like a great wave, shouting and screaming with excitement. They had never seen a wonder like this before! The magicians prostrated themselves to Allah, declaring, “We believe in the Lord of Musa and Haroon.”
Phir’oun became very angry. He claimed that the magicians and Musa had secretly plotted together against Phir’oun. He demanded that the magicians confess to their plan, threatening them with death. The magicians refused to denounce Allah and stuck to their sincere belief. Phir’oun threatened to cut off their hands and feet and crucify them on the trunks of palm trees.

The magicians were the knowledgeable people and scholars of the Egyptian society. They understood that Prophet Musa spoke the truth so they prostrated to Allah. The people of Egypt were afraid of Phir’oun. Therefore they abandoned the magicians and left them to be killed. Allah had given the people of Egypt clear signs that Prophet Musa was a truthful messenger of God but they chose to ignore his message. The people did nothing but stand and watch as the magicians were killed, but Allah punished these people later for being cowards.

While Phir’oun returned to his palace, he was overcome with anger and rage. He argued with his ministers and generals, hated them for no reason, and commanded them to get out of his presence. When he was left alone, he tried to think more calmly. He drank several cups of wine, but his anger did not decrease.

Then he called all his ministers and generals for a serious meeting. Phir’oun entered the meeting with a harsh face. It was obvious that he was not going to give up so eas-
ily. He had established a kingdom with him being a god to be worshipped by all Egyptians. Now Musa came to destroy all that he built because he came with the message that there is no god but Allah. This meant that Phir’oun was a liar, not a god.

**The False God**

Phir’oun asked his ministers whether he was a liar. Hamaan, who was one of his top ministers fell to Phir’oun’s knees and told him, “Who dared to accuse Phir’oun of lying?” Phir’oun turned to Hamaan and said: “O Hamaan build me a tower that I may arrive at the ways - the ways of the Heaven, and I may look upon the God of Musa but verily, I think him to be a liar.”

Phir’oun issued his command to build a tower that would reach the Heavens. Phir’oun ignored the rules of architecture. Hamaan knew that such a building was impossible to build, but he foolishly issued a command to build it immediately. Hamaan said: “However your majesty let me object to Phir’oun for the first time. You will never find anyone in the Heavens. There is no God but you.” Then Phir’oun said: “Oh Chiefs! I didn’t know that you have an ilah (a god) other than me.” Not only that, he also claimed that he was “the Highest God.”

**FAITH IN ACTION**

★ Always stand firm for truth and don’t allow power or wealth to deviate you away from faith and obedience of Allah.
سورة القصص
Surat ul-Qari’ah 113-126

وَجَاءَ السَّحِرُ فَقَالُوا قَالَ الَّذِينَ يَكْتُمُونَ الْقُرْآنَ إِنَّا لَعَلَّا أَجَرُّ أَنْ يُنَزِّدُنَّهُمْ أَنَّهُ تَلَاقَعَ رَجُلٌ مُّوسَى رَجُلًا عَظِيمٌ ۖ وَإِذَا سَأَلَهُ رَجُلٌ مِّنَ الْمُتَّقِينَ قَالَ اسْتَرِهِ وَسَوْءُ عَذَابٍ ۗ وَإِذَا سَأَلَهُ رَجُلٌ مِّنَ الْمُتَّقِينَ قَالَ عِنْصَالَّ كَأَنَّهُ لَقَبَتْهُ مَا بَلَّوْنَاهُ ۖ فَخَفَّطَهُ رَجُلٌ مَّا كَأَنَّهُ قَبَلَهُ ۗ فَأَصَبَّهُ وَانفِقُوا سَعْيًا ۗ وَبَلْ السَّحِيرُ سَجَدَينَ ۖ فَقَالَ الَّذِينَ يَكْتُمُونَ الْقُرْآنَ قَالُوا إِنَّا لَسَمِيعُونَ ۖ وَمَا رَجُلٌ مِّنَ الْمُتَّقِينَ قَالَ لَمْ نَجَابَ بَيْنَاهُمَا عَلَى صَبْرٍ وَفُوقًا مَّسِيحَ مُسْلِمٌ

B35
28:113 So there came the sorcerers to Phir'oun: They said, "of course we shall have a (suitable) reward if we win!"
28:114 He said: "Yea, (and more),- for you shall in that case be (raised to posts) nearest (to my person)."
28:115 They said: "O Musa! will you throw (first), or shall we have the (first) throw?"
28:116 Musa said: "You throw [first]." So when they threw, they bewitched the eyes of the people, and struck terror into them: for they showed a great (feat of) magic.
28:117 We revealed to Musa: "Throw [now] your rod": and behold! it swallows up straight away all the falsehoods which they fake!
28:118 Thus truth was confirmed, and all that they made did fail.
28:119 So the (sorcerers) were defeated there and then, and were made to look small.
28:120 But the sorcerers fell down and prostrated in adoration.
28:121 They said: "We believe in the Lord of the Worlds,-
28:122 'The Lord of Musa and Aaron.'"
28:123 Phir'oun said [in anger]: "You Believed in Him before I give you permission? Surely this is a trick which you have planned in the city to drive out its people: but soon you shall know (the consequences).
28:124 "Be sure I will cut off your hands and your feet on opposite sides, and I will cause you all to die on the cross."
28:125 They said: "[Then] We will be sent back to our Lord:
28:126 "But you simply would punish us because we believed in the Signs of our Lord when they came to us [with Musa]! Our Lord! shower us with perseverance, and take our souls to you as Muslims!"
Standing Up for Your Belief:
There is a great lesson to be learned from the magicians. They embraced Islam after they witnessed the sincerity of Musa and the clear signs from Allah. They knew the difference between Jābī’s magic and the mu’jizat ījārī’s miracle of Allah. Therefore, they sincerely believed that there was no God but Allah and that Musa was His messenger at that time. They insisted to stay as believers though Phir’oun had threatened them with death. We should have strong faith and belief just like those magicians. We live in a country where Muslims are the minority and face difficulties at times, but we should never turn towards disbelief, no matter what. We should always remember that Allah protects His believers in the end.

Miracles vs. Witchcraft:
Miracles, or mu’jizat, are extraordinary actions that happen with Allah’s help. They usually happen for a good cause like proving that prophets are true or to support the believers against evil people. The miracles that happened with Musa were to prove that Musa was a prophet and to support Musa against the evil of Phir’oun and his people.

Magic or witchcraft, on the other hand, is done by evil people to hurt or deceive others. However, those evil people cannot do witchcraft alone. They seek the help of unbeliever jinn. The jinn are created from fire, and most of them follow Shaytan as their leader. Jinn are invisible to mankind most of the time. Some jinn are Muslims but most of them are not. Prophet Muhammad spoke to groups of them and they followed him as Al-Qur’an confirmed in Surat Al-Jinn. They make things move, disappear, and change looks, among many other mysterious things.

Evil jinn help evil humans to do magic or witchcraft for bad purposes. The work of the magicians of Phir’oun was just an example. Shaytan and his evil jinn followers helped the magicians of Phir’oun to make their staffs and robes look as snakes, but they were not real snakes. Only Allah can make real snakes. When the magicians and their jinn helpers made people see their robes and staffs look as snakes, Allah enabled Musa to do the same, and the work of Allah then defeated the works of jinn and the magicians. This made the magicians of Phir’oun discover that their jinn helpers were defeated by Allah. Therefore, they submitted to Allah.
and followed Prophet Musa.

Not all magicians use the help of the jinn, some magic is done without their help. The art of producing illusions by the skillful hands is also called magic. Some skillful professionals do such stunts and make believe moves on their own without the interference of jinn. Others, still, seek the help of jinn to do their sophisticated magic.

Doing magic with the help of the jinn is Haram or prohibited in Islam, especially if it is done for an evil purpose. The Prophet forbade Muslims to approach witchcraft and considered it next to shirk, or disbelief. However, seeking the help of Muslim jinn to help possessed people and counter the evil work of witch-crafters is permissible according to many Muslim scholars.

**Faith in Action**

- Always follow sincere Muslim scholars and leaders.
- Always avoid following arrogant people who disbelieve and disobey Allah.
- Always avoid dealing with magic or being fooled by it.

**Hadeeth Shareef**

"Abandon the destructive sins: shirk, claiming partners with Allah, and sihr, whichcraft."

Abu Hurayrah reported that Prophet Muhammad said:
1. Prophet Musa was courageous by speaking the truth against Phir’oun. Write a story you learned about a man or a woman who stood for the truth against an arrogant and powerful leader.

2. Write a poem about the story you learned in this chapter.

1. Why did prophets need to perform miracles sometimes?
2. What is the difference between a miracle and magic?
3. Why do you think the magicians changed so fast from following Phir’oun to following Prophet Musa in worshipping Allah?
4. Why do you think the magicians chose death over obeying Phir’oun?

1. What miracles did Musa perform in front of Phir’oun?
2. What was Phir’oun’s reaction to Musa’s miracles?
3. Why did Phir’oun seek the greatest magicians from all over Egypt?
4. What happened at the event with Musa and the magicians?
5. How did the magicians react?
6. How did Phir’oun react to the magicians prostrating to Allah?
7. What does Islam say about magic and witchcraft? Support your answer with a hadeeth.
**Pre-reading Questions**

1. What was Phir'oun's plan against Musa and his people?
2. What happened to Phir'oun and his followers?
3. What lessons you draw from these events?

**Phir'oun Plans to Kill Prophet Musa**

Phir'oun was afraid that Musa would mislead the Egyptian people. He suggested to his ministers that Musa be killed. All the ministers agreed except one whose name is not mentioned in the Qur'an. The Qur'an only says that the man was a believer.

This believer spoke in the assembly where the idea of killing Musa had been introduced. He proved that it was not a good idea:

"Musa did not say more than that Allah, the True Creator, is his Lord. Later, he came with clear evidence that he was a messenger. There are two possibilities; either Musa is righteous or a liar. If he lies, he will be responsible for his lie. If he is righteous and we slay him, who would protect us from God's punishment. Musa does not deserve to be killed," the man argued.
This angered Phir’oun and his ministers. As usual, they threatened to harm the man, but he stood fast on his belief. However, Allah protected His believer.

Musa asked Phir’oun to release the children of Isra’eel from slavery. The Prophet wanted to move them from Egypt to Palestine. Phir’oun refused and called the Egyptian people and the children of Isra’eel, to a huge gathering. He reminded the people that he was their highest lord, who provided them with all their needs. He told them that Musa was just a poor man.

FAITH IN ACTION

* Always be the one who defends good and innocent people when others try to...
So the Egyptian people appealed to Musa and said,

"Oh Musa! Pray to your Lord for us because of His promise to You. If You will remove the punishment from us, we indeed shall believe in You, and we shall let the children of Isra’eeel go with You." (Surat-ul-A’raf 7:134)

Prophet Musa prayed to Allah and Allah stopped the suffering caused by the flood. Once again the people were able to cultivate their land and grow their crops. But when Prophet Musa asked them to fulfill their promise to believe in the True God and release the children of Isra’eeel, they refused.

Then Allah sent swarms of locusts, which ate whatever crops they had grown. The people hurried to Musa, asking him to pray to Allah to remove the locusts. They promised that they would send the children of Isra’eeel with him this time. The locusts left, but they, again, did not fulfill their promise.

Then another sign of God’s wrath came; the punishment of...
lice. It ate what they stored of wheat and other valuable crops. Again they sought Prophet Musa’s help and they repeated their promise. He prayed again, but the Egyptians still refused to believe and release the children of Isra’eeel.

Another punishment came to the Egyptians. The land suddenly was filled with frogs. They jumped on the food of the Egyptians, shared their beds, invaded their houses, and troubled them a lot. The Egyptians went to Musa again, promising him they would believe in Allah and release the children of Isra’eeel. He prayed to Allah and Allah took away the problem of the frogs, but they again broke their promise.

Later, the Nile water was changed into blood. When Musa and his people drank the water, it was ordinary water. On the other hand, if any Egyptian filled his cup with water, he discovered his cup full of blood. They hurried to Musa as usual, but as soon as everything returned to normal, they turned their backs on Allah.
Prophet Musa and his People Leave Egypt

Allah decided to put an end to Phir‘oun’s crimes after He had given him so many chances. Allah commanded Prophet Musa to leave Egypt with the children of Isra‘eel. So they prepared themselves to leave. This later became known as the “Exodus.” At night, Musa led his people towards the Red Sea, and in the morning they reached the beach. By then Phir‘oun discovered that Musa and the children of Isra‘eel had fled, so he led a huge army to stop them.

The Greatest Miracle

The children of Isra‘eel were impatient and nervous. Joshua (Yoosha’ Ibn Noon), said: “In front of us is this impassable barrier, the sea, and behind us the enemy; surely death cannot be avoided!” Musa replied,

"Nay, verily my Lord is with me and He will guide me!" [26:62]

These words filled the Children of Isra‘eel with hope. When they saw the army approaching quickly, some of them lost hope again and were willing to return back to slavery. At that moment Allah revealed to Prophet Musa:

"Strike the sea with your staff!"

Musa did as he was commanded.

A violent wind blew, in a moment the sea parted, with the waves standing like mountains on each side. Allah had made a path for them through the sea. Everyone was overcome with awe.

Musa led his people across. This miracle proved Musa’s claim that "Verily! My Lord is with me!" As they looked back, they saw Phir‘oun and his army getting near, about to take the same path across the parted sea which the children of Isra‘eel took. In great fear and panic, the children of Isra‘eel asked Musa to ask Allah to close the sea. But, Allah commanded Musa not to strike the sea with his staff again, because Allah’s command was already in action.

The End of Phir‘oun

Phir‘oun and his army had seen the miracle, how the sea had split, but being the pretender that he was, Phir‘oun turned to his men and said: "Look! The sea has opened at my command so that I may follow those rebels and arrest them!" They rushed across the split sea, and when they reached the middle of the path, Allah commanded the sea to return to its original form.

Phir‘oun realized his end had come so out of fear he declared:

"I believe that there is no god
worthy of worship except Allah in Whom the children of Israe’el believe, and I am of those who surrender to Him."

But Allah did not accept this declaration from the tyrant. The water closed over him, drowning him and his entire army. Later, the waves threw his corpse up to the seashore. The Egyptians saw him and knew that their false god whom they worshipped and obeyed for years was nothing but a wicked man. This false god could not keep death away from his own neck.
FAITH IN ACTION

★ Do your best to avoid sins and disobedience. And when you commit a sin, do not wait long before you repent. Make it your habit to be restless whenever you sin and immediately repent and seek the forgiveness of Allah.
10:90 We took the Children of Isra’eel across the sea: Phir’oun and his hosts followed them in arrogence and aggression. And when we almost drowned him he said: "I believe that there is no god except Him Whom the Children of Isra’eel believe in: I am of those who submit (to Allah in Islam)."

10:91 [It was said to him]: "Ah now!- But a little while ago, you disobeyed! and you did mischief (and violence)! 10:92 "This day We will keep your [dead] body, that you may be a lesson to those who come after you! but verily, many among mankind are heedless of Our Signs!"
1. Complete Trust in Allah:
When everyone was afraid of Phir’oun, Musa was not. He put his full trust in Allah and found nothing to be feared but Him. The Children of Isra’eeel thought that Phir’oun was going to capture and kill them on the beaches of the Red Sea. Only Musa had complete trust in Allah. He shouted, “Verily Allah is with me and He will guide me,” and this was exactly what happened. Prophet Muhammad said a similar thing to Abu Bakr when they were hiding from the pagans of Makkah in the cave of Tawr. Abu Bakr whispered, “Oh Prophet of Allah, if one of them would look into this cave they will see us.” Prophet Muhammad said with full confidence in Allah, “Do not worry, Allah is with us.” Strong believers put their complete trust in Allah and their faith in God never wavers.

2. The Danger of Late Tawbah (Repentance):
There is a very important lesson to draw from Phir’oun’s late repentance. He waited to the very last moment of his life and he was rejected by Allah. Allah grants plenty of time and opportunity to everybody to believe in Him. There is enough time to consider Allah’s messages and reminders, and finally, follow them. If a man wastes the time he has been allowed and attempts to ask forgiveness only at the moment of death, his repentance is worthless. At the moment of death, a person can clearly sense the reality and closeness of the Hereafter. This is an important warning to all those who believe in “living it up,” until they are old. Those who wait until they are old may reach the last moment of death when faith and repentance no longer have value. So don’t wait until you are old to wear hijab or start praying. Do it while you have your youth and health and Allah will grant you Paradise inshaAllah.

\[ Rameses II is thought to be the Phir’oun whom Allah drowned. His body is still preserved, as Allah promised. \]
Create with your classmates a model made of sand and other available materials which shows the split sea and the army of Phir’oun trying to apprehend Bani Isra’eel. At the end of the project you can demonstrate how the sea returned to its normal situation and made Phir’oun and his army drown in the Red Sea.

1. In what way are the stories of Musa and Prophet Muhammad with their enemies similar?

2. Why do you think Musa was not afraid of Phir’oun at the sea shore?

1. What punishments did Allah bring to Phir’oun and the Egyptians?

2. Did the Egyptians fulfill the promise of releasing the children of Isra’eel? Why?

3. What did Allah order Musa and the children of Isra’eel to do?

4. What kind of miracle happened when the children of Isra’eel reached the Red Sea?

5. What happened to Phir’oun and his men?

6. List three lessons that we can draw from the story you learned in this chapter.
In spite of Phir’oun’s death, he left a bad influence on the souls of the children of Isra’eel. He had made them used to submitting to someone other than Allah. Phir’oun had oppressed their souls and spoiled their nature so much that they began to disobey Musa.
Prophet Musa Leads the Children of Isra’eeel to Palestine

Allah had directed Prophet Musa to lead the Children of Isra’eeel to the Promised Land (Palestine) through the Sinai Peninsula.

While they were traveling, the children of Isra’eeel did not show complete obedience to their Lord. Despite all of Allah’s favors, they could not stay away from evil and continued to reject Allah’s laws. Although Phir’oun was dead, his influence upon their souls still remained. Their recovery needed a long period of time. Prophet Musa returned to his Lord, telling Him that he was responsible only for the actions of himself and his brother Haroon. He complained that he did not even enough control over his people’s attitudes. He also prayed to his Lord to judge between his people and himself.

Allah issued His judgment against that generation of the children of Isra’eeel who were corrupted by the Egyptians. They must wander in the wilderness of Sinai until that generation had produced another generation. The new generation could be more righteous and God-fearing.

The Wandering in Sinai Desert

The days of restless wandering began. The Children of Isra’eeel entered Sinai and could not find their way out of it to Palestine. They started walking to no destination, day and night, morning and evening. As they traveled, each day they would end at the point where they began. As they chose to be confused in terms of their faith in God, Allah punished them by making them get lost and confused in the Sinai Desert.
FAITH IN ACTION

⭐ Always have a sincere and firm Iman or faith in your creator. Be thankful and grateful to Him by worshipping and

Prophet Musa Speaks to God

Musa came to the same place where he had spoke to Allah for the first time. Allah instructed him to purify himself by fasting for thirty days, after which he was to go to Mount Sinai, where he would be given the divine law.

Musa fasted thirty days. Due to fasting, the odor of his breath became unpleasant. He disliked speaking to his Lord while he had the unpleasant smell of his mouth. Therefore, he ate a plant of the Earth and then his Lord said to him: "Why did you break your fast?" Musa said: "O my Lord, I disliked to speak to You with my mouth not having a pleasant smell." Allah said: "Do you not know, Musa, the odor of the faster's mouth is better scented to Me than the rose. Go back and fast ten days; then come back to Me." Musa did what Allah commanded.
Mount Sinai is the mountain where God spoke to Prophet Musa. That is, at least, what people in that area believe. This belief itself has drawn visitors for over a thousand years. Although no archeological evidence of Musa's presence on the mountain exists, there are many relics of faith throughout the eons. Nearing the summit, one can see an amphitheater where, locals believe, the 70 wise men waited while God spoke with Musa, then finally a small chapel and mosque are located at the top. It takes about 3 hours to climb the 7,498-foot peak following the Path of Musa, a stairway of nearly 4,000 steps.

The Children of Isra'eel Turn to Idol Worshipping

Prophet Musa had been gone for forty days and his people were becoming restless. They did not know that Allah had added ten extra days to Musa's stay. As-Samiri, or Samaritan, an evil man, suggested to the children of Isra'eel that they needed another guide. Musa, he claimed, had broken his promise. He said to them: "In order to find true guidance, you need a god, and I shall provide one for you."

So he collected all their gold jewelry, dug a hole in which he placed the gold in it, and lit a huge fire to melt it down. From the melted gold he made a golden calf. Some of Children of Isra' accepted the golden calf as their god. Prophet Haroon, Musa's brother, who acted as their leader in Musa's absence, felt very sad and spoke up:

"O my people! You have been deceived. Your Lord is the Most Beneficent. Follow and obey me."

They replied: "We shall stop worshipping this god only if Musa returns."

Those who had remained steadfast in belief separated themselves from the idol worshippers.
The Return of Prophet Musa

After forty days, Musa returned to his people carrying tablets of Allah’s revelations and guidance, the Tawrat. Upon his return, Musa saw his people worshipping the idol they made with their hands. They were also singing and dancing around that golden calf. Musa was shocked and angered by what he saw. He threw down the tablets of the law which he was carrying for them. He tugged Haroon’s beard and his hair, crying: “What held you back when you saw them going astray? Why did you not stop this corruption?”

Haroon replied: “O son of my mother, let go of my beard! The fold considered me weak and were about to kill me. So make not the enemies rejoice over me, nor put me among the people who are wrong-doers.”

When Musa understood Haroon’s helplessness, he began to handle the situation calmly and wisely. At least seventy people, along with Haroon, refused to worship the idol, but they did not support Haroon and nor did they exert enough effort to stop others from doing the awful act of idol worshipping.

Allah then ordered Musa to punish those who worshipped the idol. They were to line up and get killed by those who did not worship the idol. Then Allah forgave them all.
Some historians say that even those who did not worship the idol, but did nothing to stop it were to be killed too as a punishment for their passive attitudes.

Musa asked the Children of Isra’ to pray to Allah for forgiveness and repent for their sins. He chose seventy elders, all of whom did not worship the idol, to accompany him on a trip to Mount Sinai to seek Allah’s forgiveness on behalf of all the Children of Isra’. He ordered them:

"Rush towards Allah and repent for what you did and ask His forgiveness for your shortcomings."

Later, Prophet Musa ordered the Children of Isra’ to obey God and practice the Tawrat that was revealed to him. They told Musa عليه السلام that they would do that only if the required worship and laws were easy to do.

The Elders Accompany Musa to Mount Sinai

Musa returned to Mount Sinai with the seventy elders and there he communicated with Allah. He hoped that they would become strong believers when they heard him speak with Allah. The elders heard Musa speaking with his Lord. This was probably the last miracle that they would see. However, the seventy elders who heard the miracles were not yet
satisfied. They said to Musa:

"O Musa! We shall never believe in you until we see Allah plainly."
[Surat-ul-Baqarah 2:350]

Their stubborn demand was rewarded with punishing lightning bolts and a violent quake which resulted in their deaths.

Musa knew what had happened to the seventy elite and was filled with sadness. He prayed to his Lord, asking Him to forgive them, because they were unwise and rude. Allah forgave the elders and brought them back to life. Additionally, Allah raised one of the mountains above their head causing the Earth to shake under their feet. They all became frightened that the mountain would fall on them. Allah then ordered them to follow the Tawrat "strongly" and fully obey their Lord. They fell in prostration and promised God to do just that.

Wavering Faith

Even after all of that, most of Bani Isra’eeel kept on showing unacceptable behavior with God. Allah granted them great food like “al-mann” and “as-salwa.” “al-mann” was a sweet and nutritious food falling on them every morning like the falling of the snow in the winter time. “As-salwa,” on the other hand was a kind of bird like the dove but was easy to catch. When the Children of Isra’eeel became thirsty and lacked drinkable water, Allah ordered Musa to strike a rock with his staff. Miraculously, water gushed out from twelve places in the ground. Despite all these favors and blessings that Allah granted to the Children of Isra’eeel, most of them refused to show gratitude and sincere obedience to their Lord.
The Oasis of Feiran in Sinai is, according to locals, scholars, and legend, where Musa struck a rock with his staff, bringing forth a spring so his people could drink. Feiran is now the site of the largest oasis in all of Sinai. The heart of the oasis is a spectacular sprawl of palms that stretches over three miles in length. Maybe this is the reason why Feiran is called the "Pearl of Sinai."

Haroon and Musa Die

Prophet Haroon ( عليه السلام) died shortly before Prophet Musa ( عليه السلام). His people were still wandering in the wilderness when he died.

Abu Hurayrah narrated: "The Angel of Death was sent to Prophet Musa ( عليه السلام). Prophet Musa did not want to die until he felt that he had done his job with Bani Isra’eeel. The angel returned to his Lord and said: 'You have sent me to a slave who does not want to die.' Allah said: 'Return to him and tell him to put his hand on the back of an ox and for every hair that will come under it, he will be granted one extra year of life.' Prophet Musa ( عليه السلام) said: 'O Lord! What will happen after that?' Allah replied: 'Then death.' Musa said: 'Let it come now then!' Musa, however, requested Allah to let him die close to the Holy Land so that he would be at a distance of a stone's throw from it." Abu Hurayrah added: "Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said: 'If I were there, I would show you his grave below the red sand hill on the side of the road.' This story is reported in Saheeh-ul-Bukhari.

Musa ( عليه السلام), prophet of Allah, and the one to whom Allah spoke to directly, met his death with a happy soul. His faithful heart looked forward to the final return to his Lord.
سورة الأعراف
Surat-ul-A'raf 142-156
7:142 We appointed for Musa thirty nights, and completed (the period) with ten (more): thus was completed the term with his Lord, forty nights. And Musa had charged his brother Aaron (before he went up): 'Act for me among my people: Do right, and follow not the way of those who do mischief.'

7:143 When Musa came to the place appointed by Us, and his Lord addressed him, He said: "0 my Lord! show (yourself) to me, that I may look upon thee." Allah said: 'By no means canst thou see Me (direct); But look upon the mount; if it abide in its place, then shall thou see Me.' When his Lord manifested His glory on the Mount, He made it as dust. And Musa fell down in a swoon. When he recovered his senses he said: 'Glory be to Thee! To Thee I turn in repentance, and I am the first to believe.'

7:144 (Allah) said: "0 Musa! I have chosen thee above (other) men, by the mission I (have given thee) and the words I (have spoken to thee): take then the (revelation) which I give thee, and be of those who give thanks."

7:145 And We ordained laws for him in the tablets in all matters, both commanding and explaining all things, (and said): "Take and hold these with firmness, and enjoin thy people to hold fast by the best in the precepts: soon shall I show you the homes of the wicked,- (How they lie desolate)."

7:146 Those who believe arrogantly on the Earth in defiance of right- them will I turn away from My signs: Even if they see all the signs, they will not believe in them; and if they see the way of right conduct, they will not adopt it as the way; but if they see the way of evil, that is the way they will adopt. For they have rejected our signs, and failed to take warning from them.

7:147 Those who reject Our signs and the meeting in the Hereafter,- vain are their deeds: Can they expect to be rewarded except as they have wrought?

7:148 The people of Musa made, in his absence, out of their ornaments, the image of calf that produced a cow voice, (for worship): did they not see that it could neither speak to them, nor show them the way? They took it for worship and they did wrong.

7:149 When they repented, and saw that they had erred, they said: 'If our Lord have not mercy upon us and forgive us, we shall indeed be of those who perish.'

7:150 When Musa came back to his people, angry and grieved, he said: 'Evil it is that ye have done in my place in my absence: did ye make haste to bring on the Judgment of your Lord?' He put down the tablets, seized his brother by (the hair of) his head, and dragged him to him. Aaron said: 'Son of my mother! The people did indeed reckon me as naught, and went near to staving me! Make not the enemies rejoice over my misfortune, nor count thou me amongst the people of sin.'

7:151 Musa prayed: '0 my Lord! Forgive me and my brother! Admit us in your mercy! You are the Most Merciful of those who show mercy!'

7:152 Those who took the calf (as worship) will indeed be overwhelmed with wrath from their Lord, and with shame in this life: thus do We recompense those who invent (falsehoods).

7:153 But those who do wrong but repent thereafter and (truly) believe,- verily thy Lord is thereafter Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.

7:154 When the anger of Musa was appeased, he took up the tablets: in the writing thereon was guidance and mercy for such as fear their Lord.

7:155 And Musa chose seventy of his people for Our place of meeting: when they were seized with violent quaking, he prayed: '0 my Lord! If it had been Thy will Thou couldst have destroyed, long before, both them and me: wouldst Thou destroy us for the deeds of the foolish ones among us? This is no more than Thy trial: by it Thou causest whom Thou wilt to stray, and Thou leadiest whom Thou wilt into the right path, Thou art our Protector: so forgive us and give us Thy mercy; for Thou art the best of those who forgive.

7:156 'And ordain for us that which is good, in this life and in the Hereafter: for we have turned unto Thee.' He said: 'With My punishment I visit whom I will; but My mercy extendeth to all things. That (mercy) I shall ordain for those who do right, and practise regular charity, and those who believe in Our signs;"
Gratefulness to Allah

Allah blessed Bani Isra’eel with many great favors and gifts. Yet, many of them failed to show their gratefulness to Allah. They listened to the bad people among them and disobeyed Prophets Musa and Haroon. They also followed their desires and committed the sins that Allah warned them about.

Sincere Muslims should obey Allah and thank Him for every blessing Allah grants them. They worship, remember and obey Allah everyday. This is a thankful attitude which leads to Jannah. This attitude blesses what we have in dunya too. Allah says: “Your Lord declares to you that if you thank [Allah], I will bless you more.” [Surat Ibraheem 14:7]

Worshipping other than God

Rather than worshipping their creator alone, the Children of Isra’eel accepted the idea of worshipping a golden idol. This shows that many of them at that time glorified gold, jewelry and money. They elevated these worldly values and worshipped them as god. Many people now make the same mistake. Rather than obeying and glorifying Allah, who created them and gave them everything, they glorify, live and die for dunya and money. They also glorify rich and famous people and follow them even if they are evil. Some even call them idols. They worship gold, money, fancy homes and cars, and rich and famous people. They work hard to enjoy their lives and own more money. They follow the lifestyle of rich and famous people while they disobey Allah and refrain from worshipping Him. Their hearts are connected to dunya much more than to their creator. They love money, cars, actors, and actresses, more than masjid, Qur’an, prayers, prophets and righteous people. This is dangerous lifestyle and it leads to displeasure of Allah and punishment in this life and in Jahannam.

Protecting Ourselves from Hypocrites

Hypocrites can be found among believers. For example, Samiritan or As-Samiri was among the Children of Isra’eel. He was one of the reasons behind the deviation of the Children of Isra’eel. Hypocrites never openly express unbelief in their religion or in God. They usually pretend to be faithful, knowledgeable and smart. This way they keep their presence and positions in the society. This way they continue to influence people of weak faith and cause them to disobey Allah and lead a non-Muslim lifestyle. They are capable of affecting many naïve people. We should do our best to protect ourselves from insincere people and hypocrites, because their only mission is to lead people astray.
1. Why do you think the Children of Isra' accepted the idea of worshipping the calf idol after all the miracles God did for them?
2. What are the similarities and differences between the Israelites' worship of the idol and the Arabs' worship of idols during the time of Prophet Muhammad?
3. Why do you think the Children of Isra' were reluctant to obey Prophet Musa despite all the help he extended to them and the miracles Allah supported him with?

1. By now, you have learned the whole story of Prophet Musa. Write a poem about him.
2. Draw a painting showing one of these scenes:
   - The staff of Musa becoming a snake.
   - The staff of Musa causing, with the power of Allah, the split of the sea.
   - The staff of Musa causing, with the power of Allah, twelve springs to gush out of the rock.

Lesson Review

1. How did the Children of Isra' respond to Prophet Musa?
2. Why did Allah command Musa to go and stay for thirty days?
3. Who made the children of Isra'el worship the calf idol? Explain how this happened.
4. How did Musa react to his people worshipping the golden calf?
5. What happened to the seventy elders that Musa chose to listen to the Lord near Mount Sinai?
6. What lesson can you learn from the story of seventy elders and the raised mountain?
Surat-un-Nazi'at
1

CHAPTER
SEVEN
LESSON
ONE

WORDS OF WISDOM
Holy Qur'an

سورة النازعات
Surat-un-Nazi'at 1-14

Words of Wisdom:

1. "..."
2. "..."
3. "..."
4. "..."
5. "..."
6. "..."
7. "..."
8. "..."
9. "..."
10. "..."
11. "..."
12. "..."
13. "..."
14. "..."

B62
1. Wannazi’ati gharqa
2. Wannashitati nashta
3. Wassabihat sabha
4. Fassabiqati sabqa
5. Falmudabbirati amra
6. Yawma tarjuf-ur-rajifah
7. Tatba’uha-rradifah
8. Quloobuy-yawma-ithiw-wajifah
9. Absaruha khashi’ah
10. Yaqooloona a-inna lamardoodoon a fil-hafirah
11. A-itha kunna ithaman-nakhirah
12. Qaloo tilka ithan karratun khasirah
13. Fa-innama hiya zajratuw wahidah
14. Fa-itha hum bissahirah

UNDERSTOOD MEANING

[79:1] By the angels who pull out the souls of the wicked,
[79:2] And by those who gently draw out the souls of the good;
[79:3] And by those who swim along,
[79:4] Then those who are speeding ahead,
[79:5] Then those who manage the affairs in the world.
[79:6] The day when the Earth will shake the first time [in the Day of Judgment],
[79:7] It will be followed up by another quaking [when people are brought to life again].
[79:8] Hearts on that day shall shiver in anxiety;
[79:9] Their eyes shall be downcast.
[79:10] Are we really returning to life again [after we died]!?
[79:11] What! After we have become naught but rotten bones?
[79:12] They said: That is then a loss.
[79:13] But it shall be only a single blow [in the trumpet],
[79:14] When they shall find themselves all [alive again] above the Earth.
WORDS OF WISDOM
Holy Qur'an

Surat-un-Nazi'at at 15-26

سورة النازعات

سورة النازعات

قُلْ هَلْ أَنْبِكَ حَدِيثٌ مُّوسَىٰ?١٥٥١ إِذْ نَادَاهُ رَبُّهُ بِالْوَلَادَةِ الْقَنِينِ طَوِّرَهُ، أَنْهَى إِلَىُّ نِعْمَتِهِ، طَعَّنَ فَأَفْتَرَىٰ أَنْ يَعْلَمُهُ، ثُمَّ أَهْدَى إِلَىُّ رَبِّ فَخَذْنِيٰ أَنْ أَأْتِهَا، أَنْ أَقْرَأَهَا. إِلَّا أَنْ يَكُونَ اللَّهُ الْعَظِيمُ، فَخَذْنِيٰ فُجِّدْنِيٰ أَفْتَرَىٰ، ثُمَّ أَهْدَى إِلَىُّ رَبِّ فَخَذْنِيٰ أَنْ أَقْرَأَهَا. إِلَّا أَنْ يَكُونَ اللَّهُ الْعَظِيمُ، فَخَذْنِيٰ فُجِّدْنِيٰ أَفْتَرَىٰ، ثُمَّ أَهْدَى إِلَىُّ رَبِّ فَخَذْنِيٰ أَنْ أَقْرَأَهَا. إِلَّا أَنْ يَكُونَ اللَّهُ الْعَظِيمُ.
15. Hal ataka hadeethu moosa
16. Ith nadahu rabbhu biwad-il-muqaddasi tuwa
17. Ith-hab ila fir’awna innahu tagha
18. Faqul hal laka ila an tazakka
19. Wa’ahdiyaka ila rabbika fatakhsha
20. Faarah-ul-ayat-al-kubra
21. Fakaththaba wa’asa
22. Thumma adbara yas’a
23. Fahashara fanada
24. Faqala ana rabbukum-ul-a’la
25. Faakhathah-ullahu nakal-al-akhirati wal-oola
26. Inna fee thalika la’ibratal limay-yakhsha

[79:15] Has not the story of Moosa come to you?
[79:16] When his Lord called him in the holy valley, Towa,
[79:17] “Go to Pharaoh; surely he has become arrogant.
[79:18] Then say: have you any desire purify yourself?
[79:19] (If so) I will guide you to your Lord so that you
should [fear Him].
[79:20] So he showed him the greatest proof.
[79:21] But he rejected (the truth) and disobeyed.
[79:22] Then he turned his back hastily.
[79:23] Then he gathered (people) and called out.
[79:24] Then he said: I am your lord, the most high.
[79:25] So Allah took him for the punishment in the here-
after and the first life.
[79:26] Surely, this is a lesson for anyone who fears
[Allah].
27. A’antum ashaddu khalqan am-is-sama’o banaha
28. Rafa’a samkaha fasawwaha
29. Wa’aghtasha laylaha wa’akhraja duhaha
30. Wal-arda ba’da thalika dahaha
31. Akhraja minha ma’aha wamar’aha
32. Waljibala arsaha
33. Mata’al-lakum wali-an’amikum

[79:27] Are you stronger or are the heavens? He built them.
[79:28] He raised high its height, then he perfected them.
[79:29] He covered its night in darkness and brought out its foremon’s light.
[79:30] And the Earth, after that, He made round and expansive.
[79:31] He brought out from it its water and its plants.
[79:32] And the mountains He has fixed firmly,
[79:33] A gift for you and for your cattle.
WORDS OF WISDOM
Holy Qur'an

سورة النازعات
Surat-un-Nazi’at 34-46
TRANSLITERATION

34. Fa-itha ja’at-it-tammat-ul-kubra
35. Yawma yatathakkar-ul-insanu ma sa’a
36. Waburrizat-il-jaheemu limay-yara
37. Fa’amma man tagha
38. Wa’athar-al-hayat-ad-dunya
39. Fa-inn-al-jaheema hiyal ma’wa
40. Wa’ama man khafa maqama rabbiihi wanafa-an il-hawa
41. Fa-inn-al-jannata hiyal-ma’wa
42. Yas-aloonaka ‘anis-sa’ati ayyana mursaha
43. Feema anta min thikraha
44. Ilb rabbika muntahaha
45. Innama anta munthuru may-yakhshaha
46. Ka’annahum yawma yarawnaha lam ylbathoo illa
   ‘ashliyyatan aw duhaha

UNDERSTOOD MEANING

[79:34] But when the great catastrophe comes;
[79:35] That day man shall remember what he did [in life],
[79:36] And the hell shall appear for everyone to see
[79:37] Then, anyone who used to be arrogant,
[79:38] And preferred the life of this world,
[79:39] The hellfire shall be his home.
[79:40] And whoever feared to stand in front of his Lord
   and refrained from doing evil,
[79:41] Then surely Paradise will be his home.
[79:42] They ask you about the Day of Judgment, when will
   it come.
[79:43] You know nothing about its time.
[79:44] To your Lord it winds up.
[79:45] You are only a warner to whoever would fear it.
[79:46] On the day that they see it, it will be as if they
   stayed in their graves for only one night or one day.
Time Line

- **570 CE**
  - Prophet's Birth
- **595 CE**
  - Prophet's childhood
- **610 CE**
  - Marriage to Khadijah
- **610-622 CE**
  - Prophethood
  - The difficult times in Makkah

Madinah, general view
CHAPTER 1
All Arabia Attacked Madinah

CHAPTER 2
Muslims Under Siege:
The Battle of Al-Khandaq
Pre-reading Questions

1. What is a trench?
2. Where did the Battle of the Trench happen?
3. Why were there many tribes in Arabia against the Muslims?

Introduction

In this chapter and the following one, you will learn about a very important part of the Seerah, or life story of Prophet Muhammad. It is the story of Ghazwat-ul-Khandaq, or the Battle of the Trench, which happened during the month of Shawwal of the fifth year after Hijrah.
Evil Intentions

In a village north of Madinah there lived some tribes. When the Prophet ﷺ first came to the area he signed a good will agreement with them. Unfortunately, Bani An-Nadeer, one of these tribes, broke the agreement and tried to kill Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. They went against the advice of some of their wise elders, including Abdullah Ibn Salam, who believed in the Prophet and became a Muslim. Prophet Muhammad ﷺ ordered the tribe of Bani An-Nadeer to leave Madinah. Many of them left to a place called Khaybar. Others went farther north to Syria.

Some of the leaders of Bani An-

Nadeer wanted to take revenge against the Muslims. They began to plan ways of raiding the Muslims in Madinah. Huyayy ibn Akhtab, the leader of Bani An-Nadeer decided that the only way to defeat the Muslims was to do three things:

1. Have all the tribes in that part of Arabia united to raid and destroy the Muslims in Madinah.
2. Have Bani Quraythah, another tribe in Madinah, break their treaty with the Muslims and turn against them.
3. Have Al-Munafiqueen, or the hypocrites, also turn against Muslims in Madinah. These people pretended to become Muslims but in reality they remained disbelievers.

C3
Huyayy and twenty of his tribesmen went to Makkah to meet with the Quraysh and convince them to destroy the Muslims in Madinah once and for all. They promised the Quraysh that there would be many other tribes joining in the fight, including the Bani Quraythah. Bani Quraythah was a large tribe in Madinah. He also visited other tribes, including the tribe of Ghatafan, a huge tribe east of Madinah.

**Quraysh Decide to Attack Madinah**

The leaders of the Quraysh, Ghatafan and other tribes decided to join in the plan. Many tribes of Arabia became involved in the fighting plan against the Muslims. They supplied men, weapons and transportation for the fight. By the time the army was ready to march to Madinah, there were over ten thousand troops ready for battle.

When the Muslims in Madinah heard about the huge army marching towards them they began to panic. They had never fought an army that huge! The Prophetﷺ quickly called a meeting to discuss what they should do.
Muslims Prepare to Defend Themselves

Madinah had natural protection around part of it by palm trees and rocky land. Another part was protected by a wall made of the backs of houses built closely together. Only one large part still needed protection.

As you learned earlier, Salman Al-Farisi came from Persia, a land where they were very skilled in warfare. He came to the Prophet with a very smart plan. He suggested that the Muslims should dig a khandaq, or a trench, on one side of the city.

Digging the Trench

Prophet Muhammad agreed to Salman’s brilliant plan and the Muslims began to work on the trench. Muslims were divided into different crews with different jobs. Everyone had a job to do. Even the Prophet was working. He chose the hardest work of digging the trench.

Healthy Habit

Always work hard for your team and the Muslim community. Do that for the sake of Allah, alone!

To keep their spirits up while working the Prophet lifted his voice and recited nasheeds:

By God, if not for Him, we’d never have been guided, nor given charity nor prayed. So send down peace and make firm our stand*.

The others fought against us and when they wanted trouble, we resisted, we resisted.

The other men responded: We are the ones who have pledged ourselves to Muhammad, that we will stay forever faithful in Islam.*

* In Arabic these words rhyme and make a nice sounding poem.
And then the Prophet replied:

“O God, there’s no real good living but in the next life; so bless the immigrants (Al-Muhajireen) and the supporters (Al-Ansar).”

One day while digging, the Prophet struck a rock with his axe and sparks flew all over. The men working with him asked about the sparks. The Prophet replied that those sparks meant that one day Islam would rule the lands of the Persians and the Byzantines. Those two empires were the super powers at that time. Salman the Persian was happy with this prophecy: Islam would reach his homeland, Persia. This good news gave the Muslims encouragement to work even harder. After six days of very hard work, the trench was completed.

The Huge Army Approaches Madinah

The huge enemy army reached Uhud hoping that they would meet the Muslims there again as they had two years before. When they did not find the Muslims there, the leaders of the enemy army led their men towards Madinah. Imagine how the Muslims must have felt when they saw the huge army marching towards their city. The Muslims could see thousands of men, horses, and camels, and
they could hear the sounds of drums and war songs. The Muslims knew that if they lost the battle most of them would be killed and the rest would be slaves.

As the enemy army approached the city they prepared to attack. Suddenly, they noticed the huge trench surrounding the city. The enemy soldiers became confused at what they saw. They had never seen such a thing before! The trench was too wide for horses to jump and the archers hiding behind the trench could stop any men who tried to cross over.

The Enemies Get Confused

The battle took place during winter so it was very cold and winds blew hard at night. The Muslims were safe and warm inside their houses, while the enemy army only had flimsy tents to protect them. During the day the enemy army would try to come near the trench but they were driven back by the Muslim fighters and archers behind the trench. The plan was working very well for the Muslims.

The leaders of the enemy army realized that a siege would take a very long time. The Bani An-Nadeer leaders who came up with the plan to attack the Muslims started to get worried. They went to the leaders of Quraysh and other Arab tribes begging them to stay and keep up the attack against the Muslims. Huyayy promised the leaders he would get Bani Quraythah to attack the Muslims from inside Madinah. Rumors traveled around that Bani Quraythah, the allies of Muslims, might break their treaty with the Muslims. Also, the city of Madinah began running low on food and supplies. The Muslims started to panic.

DUA’A

What do you say when you are about to do a hard thing?

اللهُمَآ لاَ سَهۡلَ إِلاَّ مَا جَعَلْتُهُ سَهۡلًا وَأَنْتُ تَجَعَلُ الْحَزَنَ إِذَا أَشَبَّت سَهۡلًا

Allahumma La Sahla illa ma ja’altahu Sahla waanta taj'al-ul-hazna itha she'ta sahla.

Oh Allah nothing becomes easy unless you make it easy, and you make the difficult thing easy for me.
9. Ya ayyuhal-latheena amano-thkuroo ni'matallahi 'alaykum ith ja'atkum junoodun fa'arsalna alayhim reehaw-wajunoodal-lam tarawh a waken-allahu bima ta'maloona baseera
10. Ith ja'ookum min fawqikum wamin asfala minkum wa-ith zaghat-il-absaru wabalaghat-il-quloob-ul-hanajira watathunnoona bill ah-ith-thunoona
11. Hunaliik-abtuliyal-mu'minoona wazulziloo zilzalan shadeeda

[33:9] O you who believe! Remember the favor of Allah to you when armies came to you. We sent against them a strong wind and soldiers that you couldn’t see, and Allah Sees what you do.

[33:10] When they came upon you from above you and from below you, and when the eyes blurred [out of fear], and the hearts rose up to the throats, many of you began to have wrong thoughts of Allah.

[33:11] There the believers were tested and they were shaken severely.
Healthy Habits

1. Be positive even when you are faced with negative situations.
2. Be creative just like Salman the Persian!
3. Be patient because Allah always protects His believers.

Activity Time

Draw the map of Saudi Arabia and show Makkah and Madinah on the map.

Lesson Review

1. What was the name of the group that wanted to take revenge on the Muslims?
2. What was Bani An-Nadeer’s plan to defeat the Muslims?
3. How did Bani Quraythah convince the Quraysh to join them?
4. What was Salman Al-Farisi’s plan for defeating the disbelievers?
5. Why did Bani An-Nadeer want Bani Quraythah to join in the war against the Muslims?
Abu Sufyan, the leader of the Quraysh, sent Huyayy Ibn Akhtab secretly to meet with the chief of Bani Quraythah, Ka‘b ibn Asad. Huyayy tried to convince Ka‘b to attack the Muslims from the back when the time was right. He wanted the chief to break his treaty with Prophet Muhammad and betray the Muslims.

Huyayy promised protection of Bani Quraythah from the Muslims.

He also described how big his army was. Ka‘b ibn Asad finally agreed to Huyayy’s proposal. He thought that the Quraysh and the tribes had a bigger chance of destroying the Muslims. So he and the tribe of Bani Quraythah decided to support the Quraysh army.

The two leaders decided that Bani Quraythah would attack the
Muslims from behind the city on the same day as the enemy would attack the trench.

**Muslims Panic**

The Prophet and his companions quickly heard about the betrayal of Bani Quraythah. They were very shocked. The Muslims were successfully holding the enemy back at the front of the city, and they depended on Bani Quraythah to protect the back. Now that Bani Quraythah was blocking Muslims from entering their neighborhood the Muslims became worried. Leaders of Al-Aws and Al-Khazraj, the main tribes of Madinah, went to Bani Quraythah. They begged them to honor their treaty with the Muslims, but they refused. Bani Quraythah was warned that they would suffer a harsh punishment if they sided with the enemy. They insisted on their betrayal and began saying bad things about the Prophet. They also announced that they no longer had a treaty with the Muslims. The leaders of Al-Aws and Al-Khazraj went and reported to the Prophet what Bani Quraythah had declared. The Muslims were scared that the enemy army would be able to enter the city through the walls of Bani Quraythah.

To make things worse, Bani Quraythah cut off all food supplies to the Muslims. After a few days the Muslims began to feel the hunger.
When the Muslims were afraid of their enemies during the Battle of the Trench, they used to say this du’aa’:

اللهم استتر عوراتنا وآمن روعاتنا

Allahumma ustur awratina wa aamin raw’aatina

Oh, Allah, hide our weaknesses and grant us security!

The Enemy Prepares to Invade Madinah

The leaders of the enemy army were preparing to attack. The enemy soldiers began to dance and sing songs around their camps. They thought victory was not very far off. A small group of horsemen found a spot where the trench was narrow and attacked. Ali Ibn Abi Talib and other great Muslim fighters defeated them all. Everyday, the enemies would throw arrows at Muslims across the trench. They hit and injured a few Muslims including Sa’d Ibn Mu’ath, one of the great Muslim leaders.

One day the Prophet and the Sahabah were very busy attending to the attacks of the enemies. They couldn’t even pray Asr prayer at the beginning of the appointed time, as they usually did. They could only pray it after sunset. Rasoolullah was very angry that he and the Sahabah missed the time of Salat-ul-Asr.

The leaders of the enemy army planned to attack the city from the front and back. Abu Sufyan would lead the soldiers over the trench and Bani Quraythah would attack from the back of the city. The Muslims in Madinah became very fearful and worried. The hypocrites in the city tried to con-
vince people to run away but the Prophet and his companions remained very strong. They knew that even if they died they would win Paradise in the end!

Dividing the Enemy

During that difficult time, a man named Nu`aym ibn Mas`ood from the tribe of Ghatafan came to the Prophet. He told him that he was becoming a Muslim but no one knew about it. He was a good friend to Bani Quraythah and to the Quraysh and the tribes. Nu`aym offered his help to rasoolullah. The Prophet asked him to help divide Bani Quraythah and the enemies.

He told Bani Quraythah they shouldn’t attack the Muslims unless the tribes would promise to protect them even if they lost the war. He told them that the tribes were not serious about breaking into Madinah. The Quraysh, he said, most probably will go back to Makkah and leave you alone. So, he told the leaders of the tribe of Bani Quraythah tribe to ask the Quraysh to give some of their good fighters as a guarantee. Now Bani Quraythah began to hesitate about attacking the Muslims.
those men to Muhammad to prove that they are still with him,” he said.

Abu Sufyan sent a message to Bani Quraythah to verify Nu’aym’s story. He got a very cold response. Bani Quraythah answered, “We cannot fight this time. We also refuse to fight along with you unless you send us some warriors. You might return to your homelands and leave us defenseless.” When the Quraysh and the tribes heard this they said, “By God, Nu’aym was right.”

The Quraysh then sent a message to Bani Quraythah telling them that they would not send any hostages and ordered them to go out to battle. When Bani Quraythah heard this they said, “Nu’aym spoke the truth.”

Like Salman, Nu’aym had a great idea that helped the Muslims against their dangerous enemy. The Muslims had succeeded in dividing their enemies.

The Enemies become Confused

Then Nu’aym Ibn Mas’oud went to the enemy’s army at the front of the city. He told Abu Sufyan that the Bani Quraythah had broken the deal and gone back to the Muslim side. “They are going to ask you for some of your men as hostages. Later they will give

Nu’aym is my hero, he is my type of guy.
The Quraysh and the Tribes Lose the Battle

Meanwhile the Muslims spent their time praying to Allah. The Prophet prayed, “Oh Allah, shelter us and protect us from all dangers.” Allah answered the prayer by sending down a violent storm and an army of angels against the enemy army. Their tents and equipment were turned upside down. The freezing cold wind crushed their high spirits. Soon, the enemy army began to withdraw. While all this was going on, the Muslims were safe and protected in their city. After a one month siege, the fight finally ended. The Muslims had succeeded in defeating the biggest army they had ever faced. Allah protected the Muslims and their city from harm. Only six Muslims, including Sa’d Ibn Muath, were martyred. On the other side, ten enemy soldiers were killed.

It was Allah’s wisdom that very few people were killed in this battle. Allah and the Muslims want people to be guided to Islam, not to be killed.
**DU'A**

When you are afraid of someone or something say:

بُنِيَّ الله الذي لا يضُرُّ مع اسمه شيء في الأرض ولا في السَّماَء

وَهو السَّمِيع العَلِيم

*Bism-illah-il-lathl la yadhurru ma'-'asmihi shay'un fil ardi wala fis-samaa'i wahuw-as wa-howa as-Samee'o al-Aleem*

In the name of God, by whose name nothing whatsoever whether in Heaven or on Earth comes to harm, and it is Who hears and knows all things.

**Healthy Habits**

1. Keep your promise.

2. Always pray to Allah when faced with difficult situations.
Activity Time

With your classmates, create a model of the Battle of the Trench. In the model show Madinah, the trench, the enemy's army, and the Muslim army.

Think Critically

If you were an advisor to Muslims during the Battle of the Trench, what additional ideas would you offer to help in defending Madinah?

Lesson Review

1. Why did Bani Quraythah risk breaking the treaty and join the Quraysh and the other tribes in fighting the Muslims?

2. How were the Muslims depending on Bani Quraythah to protect the city?

3. Who helped the Muslims to spread disunity among the enemy's army? What did he do?

4. How did Allah answer the prayers of the Muslims?
UNIT D

WORSHIP WITH HEART

CHAPTER 1
Al-Khushoo': The Heart of Worship

CHAPTER 2
The Voluntary Prayers

CHAPTER 3
Salat-ud-Duha

CHAPTER 4
Salat-ul-Witr

CHAPTER 5
Salat-ul-Musafir

CHAPTER 6
Daily Thikr

CHAPTER 7
Hajj and Omrah

D1
D2
D10
D16
D22
D30
D40
D48
As Muslims we pray five times a day. Salah is an important part of our daily lives. However, we need to take time and ask ourselves, “Are we performing our prayers properly?” In prayer, a person should experience khushoo’. In this lesson you will learn about khushoo’ and its importance.
Bilal was playing basketball with his friends. He was in the middle of shooting a three pointer when suddenly, he heard his mother calling him. He did not know what his mother wanted so he called a timeout and went to listen to his mother. As soon as he reached the door, Bilal's mother asked him "Have you prayed Asr?" "No, I haven't," replied Bilal. Bilal could see the disappointment in her face as she said, 'What are you waiting for Bilal?' "Can I pray after I finish the game? There is only one more quarter left," Bilal pleaded. "No, the game can wait. Go pray right now. You are about to miss the Asr prayer time," demanded his mother.

Bilal was upset because he wanted to finish the game. So he quickly went to the bathroom to make wudoo'. Without realizing it, Bilal skipped some of the steps of wudoo' because he was in such a hurry to finish. He was also in a hurry to pray so that he could return to the game. He began the prayer without saying "Allah Akbar" properly. His mind was not on the prayer; he was thinking of the game instead. He could hear the loud voices of his friends outside.

Bilal's mind was busy outside the prayer so he forgot to say the second surah after reading Al Fatiha. He swiftly went into rukoo' and prayed the rest of the prayer in a jumble of confusion. After he finished his prayer, he began wondering if his prayer was really valid. He tried to remember the surah he had recited in his prayer, but he couldn't! He could not even remember one surah he had recited! This is when Bilal realized that he had made a big mistake. He remembered some ayaat in the Qur'an that talk about khushoo'.

قَدْ أَفْلَحَ الْمُؤْمِنُونَ

Successful indeed are the believers, [23:1]
After remembering these ayaat, Bilal was angry with himself. He was sad he missed khushoo’ during Salat-ul-Asr because of a basketball game. Bilal decided that he was going to make his salah all over again, this time with proper khushoo’. Bilal realized his salah was more important than the basketball game.

**Understanding khushoo’**

Salah is one of the five pillars of Islam and it is very important to every Muslim. A Muslim prays with his body, tongue and heart. Al-khushoo’ means having your heart and mind thoughtful of Allah during salah, dua’a or other kinds of worship. You feel khushoo’ in your heart and it gives you calmness, dignity and humility to Allah.

What makes a person enjoy khushoo’ is his love of Allah and his awareness that Allah is always watching. If your heart is busy with something else like games and entertainment, then you will miss khushoo’. And if khushoo’ is not present in your salah, then your prayer isn’t complete.

rasoolullah has warned us that Shaytan tries always to ruin our prayers. He distracts us during prayer by making us remember worldly matters. Shaytan is the number one enemy of Islam and Muslims. He promised to mislead and tempt the sons of Adam, saying,
“Then I will come to them from before them and behind them, from their right and from their left...” [7:17]

One of Shaytan’s most important plots is to distract people from salah by all possible means.

He takes away the joy of khushoo’ during salah and worship. He wants the believers to lose the reward and the benefits of the salah.

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**Hadeeth Shareef**

عَنْ عَثَامَةَ بْنِ عَفَّانِ رضي الله عنه قال: سَمِئَتُ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ مَا مِنْ أَمْرٍي مَّسَّهُ مُحَضْرَةُ صَلَاةٍ مُكْتُوبَةٍ فَيُحْسَنِ وَضُوءُهَا وَخَشْوَعُهَا وَرُكُوعُهَا إِلَّا كَفَارَةُ لَّمْ يَأْتِيَ وَذَلِكَ الدُّمَرُ كُلَّهُ

Uthman Ibn Affan (R) narrated that he heard Rasoolullah saying:

Any Muslim who observes an obligatory prayer perfecting the wudoo’, the khushoo’ and the rukoo’, Allah will forgive his or her sins, except Al-Kaba’ir*, or the major sins, and that is forever.

Reported in Muslim

* Al-Kaba’ir (major sins) can be only forgiven when the Muslim sincerely repents to Allah
Steps to Develop Khushoo’ During Salah

1. Have complete awareness during salah.

During salah you should empty your heart of any worldly matters that may distract you from prayer. Salah is not the time to think about a basketball game, a TV show or the food that is cooking in the kitchen. Sometimes your thoughts may wander, but you should try your best to concentrate on your salah. An ayah in the Qur’an reminds us:

وَمَا الْحَيَاةُ الْأَيَّامِ الْآخِرَةِ إِلاَّ لَبَسَتِ وَلَهَوُّ
وَالْبَدْرُ الأَخْرَى حُبُّ لِلذِّينَ يَقُولُونَ أَنَّا
تَقْصَّأُونَ

“And the life of this world is nothing but play and joy. But far better is the Hereafter for those who fear Allah, don’t you understand.” [6:32]

So, during salah the only thing you should concentrate on is salah. If anything else comes to mind try your best to block it out. Remember that Shaytan always tries to distract you. And you should not let Shaytan win!

2. Understand what you are saying during salah.

We say the entire salah in the Arabic language. Understanding what you are saying during salah is very important to having proper khushoo’. If you understand what you recite, then you will be able to connect your heart with the words. You should memorize the meanings of the different words that are said during prayer. This includes Allahu Akbar, Subhana Rabiyal Atheem, Subhana Rabiyal Aala, the tasleem, etc. Memorizing the meanings of surahs and dua’a that you frequently say during Salah will help you develop khushoo’.

3. Feel Allah’s greatness in your heart during salah.

We know that Allah is Al-Atheem (the Great). He owns and controls everything in this universe. He is Al-Muhaymin. We should then love, glorify and fear Allah. Glorifying Allah helps us increase our khushoo’ during salah.
4. Pray in a calm place.

We should always pray in a calm and peaceful place; a place that does not have much noise or eye distractions. You should avoid praying in places where there is loud noise or a lot of people talking. Also, it is not a good idea to pray near the TV when it is on or near children who are playing or screaming.

Looking at the floor while in salah will help in developing khushoo'. Eye distraction usually makes us think about what we see, causing us to lose focus on the prayer. Therefore, we should always pray in a place that has no distracting movements or objects in front of us. Rasoolullah ﷺ instructed us to look at the floor to where we place our heads in sujood. This way we do not get distracted by things or movements around us.

5. Pray when you are relaxed.

Some people pray or worship Allah when they are tired or hungry or need to use the bathroom. This is against the Sunnah of the Prophet. Rasoolullah ﷺ instructed us to pray when we are comfortable and relaxed. When we are comfortable we can attain khushoo’, but when we feel uncomfortable we lack khushoo’.

Finally, remember that khushoo’ is the heart of your prayer and worship. If you lose focus and concentration during salah or worship, it will not be as good as Allah wants it to be. Allah, during the Day of Judgment, who will ask us about the quality of our prayer. The Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said,

“The first action for which a servant of Allah will be held accountable on the Day of Resurrection will be his prayers. If they are in order, then he will have succeeded, but if they are lacking, then everything will be lacking.”
Dua'a

اللهـمَ إِني أَعوذ بِكَ مِن عِيْنِي لا يُنْفَعُّ، وَمِن قَلْبِي لا يُخْشَعُ، وَمِن نَفْسِي لا تُشَيِّعُ

Allahumma inna a`oothu bika min ilmin la yanfa`, wa min qalbin la yakhsha`, wa min nafsin la tashba`, wa min da’watin la yustajabu laha

O Allah I seek your protection from useless knowledge, a heart without khushoo', a body that doesn't get satisfied and a dua’a that you do not answer.
Reported in Muslim

Healthy Habit

Try to always pray and worship with khushoo’ in your heart.
Chapter Review

Activity One

Find a story about khushoo' in prayer and tell it to your family and class.

Think Critically

1. How can you tell if a person has khushoo' during prayer?
2. Shaytan doesn’t want you to have khushoo’ in your salah. Explain why.

Lesson Review

1. What did Bilal do wrong in his salah?
2. What is the first action we are going to be judged for during the Day of Judgment?
3. Explain khushoo’ and why it is important.
4. Who promised to try to take away khushoo’ from the believers?
5. How can we develop khushoo’ in our salah? Describe three ways to do that.
We all know the five obligatory prayers, or Salat-ul-Fard that every Muslim must pray. Apart from the Fard prayers, there are Salat-un-Nawafil or extra prayers that we should also pray. These prayers are not obligatory, but rasoolullah encouraged Muslims to pray them. Salat-un-Nawafil are comprised of two main types:

1. Salat-us-Sunnah
2. Salat-ul-Tatawwo', or voluntary prayers.
1 Sunnah Prayer

rasoolullah ﷺ used to do Sunnah prayers all the time. Scholar, or regular Sunnah prayers that have fixed times.

You have learned earlier about Salat-us-Sunnah and how the Prophet ﷺ used to do these all the time. He always encouraged Muslims to pray them on time. Read the following hadeeth to learn the different Sunnah prayers and what rewards you get if you perform them regularly.
Ummu Habeebah narrated that rasoolullah ﷺ said:

“Whoever, during the course of one day and night, prays twelve voluntary rak‘aats will have a house in Jannah built for him [or her]; four before Thuhr and two after it, two after Maghrib, two after Isha‘ and two before Fajr.”

Reported in Muslim, At-Tirmithi, Abu Dawood, Ahmad, and Ibn Majah

Salat-un-Nafl, which means the same thing; voluntary or optional prayers.

While some of the prayers known as Salat-ut-Tataawwo’ have fixed times, like Salat-ud-Duha, Salat-ul-Witr and Qiyam-ul-Layl, other voluntary prayers have no fixed time. You can pray almost at any time.

However, there are some times you should avoid praying:

1. After Salat-ul-Fajr until the sun rises up a little.
2. The few minutes before the Athan of Salat-uth-Thuhr.
3. After Salat-ul-Witr at night.
rasoolullah taught us that during the Day of Judgment, Allah will instruct Al-Mala'ikah, or the angels, to inspect the quality of our Fard prayers. If a person missed some of his Fard prayers or messed some of them up, Allah will ask the angels to add the voluntary prayers to his balance in order to help him out.

Healthy Habit

Always pray Salat-us-Sunnah and other voluntary prayers. Make sure you pray at least 12 Rak'aat of Sunnah and other Nawafil to get a palace in Jannah.
Abu Hurayrah narrated that Rasoolullah ﷺ said: Allah said:

"I will fight those who hurt my servants. The best worship I like my servant to do is the Fard prayers and worship. And my servant keeps doing the voluntary prayers until I love him. And when I love him I will help him as he listens, as he sees, as he uses his hands and as he walks with his feet. Additionally, whenever he asks me for something I will give it to him, and when he wants me to protect against something I will protect him.

Reported in Al-Bukhari

*Hadeeth Qudsi is a special hadeeth whose meaning was sent from Allah to Prophet Muhammad who in turn taught it to the Sahabah.*
Create a poster that shows Salat-us-Sunnah at different times as well as some of the Salat-ut-Tatawwo’.

1. Explain the difference between Salat-ul-Fard and Salat-us-Sunnah.

2. Explain the difference between the Sunnah Ratibah and Salat-ut-Tatawwo?

Lesson Review

1. What is Salat-ut-Tatawwo’?
2. What is the Sunnah Ratibah?
3. What is the reward for praying Sunnah regularly?
4. Name three of Salat-ut-Tatawwo’ that have fixed time.
5. List the times that are not good for Salat-ut-Tatawwo’.
CHAPTER THREE

Pre-reading Questions

1. What is Salat-ud-Duha?
2. Is it a Fard prayer or a voluntary prayer?
3. How should we pray Salat-ud-Duha?

Word Watch

Salat-ud-Duha: Duha Prayer
Sulama: Joint
Tasbeehah: Saying Subhan-Allah
Tahmeedah: Saying Al-Hamdu-illah
Tahleelah: Saying La-ilaha illallah

The Prophet ﷺ used to pray صلاة الصبحي Salat-ud-Duha every day. It is one kind of Salat-ul-Tatawwu’ that you learned about in the last chapter. Let’s learn about this important voluntary prayer!