



Majlis Ugama Islam Singapura

Friday Sermon

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Emulating The Prophet's Relationship With Allah

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي أَرْسَلَ رَسُولَهُ بِالْهُدَىٰ وَدِينِ الْحَقِّ بَشِيرًا وَنَذِيرًا
وَدَاعِيًا إِلَى اللَّهِ بِإِذْنِهِ وَسِرَاجًا مُنِيرًا وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ
وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولَهُ
وَصَفِيُّ اللَّهِ مِنْ خَلْقِهِ وَحَبِيبُهُ إِمَامُ الْأَنْبِيَاءِ وَسَيِّدُ الْمُرْسَلِينَ اَللَّهُمَّ
صَلِّ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ وَسَلِّمْ تَسْلِيمًا كَثِيرًا.
أَمَّا بَعْدُ فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تَقَاتِهِ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنْتُمْ
مُسْلِمُونَ

Blessed Friday Jemaah,

As we strive to increase our taqwa to Allah, let us reflect upon the journey of Rasulullah s.a.w. Let us strive to understand his efforts and his sunnah, to enable us to develop resilience in obeying Allah's commands, and abstaining from what Allah has prohibited upon us. Always reflect what Allah has revealed in the Quran, in Surah Al-Ahzab, verse 21:

لَقَدْ كَانَ لَكُمْ فِي رَسُولِ اللَّهِ أُسْوَةٌ حَسَنَةٌ لِّمَن كَانَ يَرْجُوا اللَّهَ وَالْيَوْمَ
الْآخِرَ وَذَكَرَ اللَّهَ كَثِيرًا ﴿٢١﴾

Which means: *“There has certainly been for you in the Messenger of Allah an excellent pattern for anyone whose hope is in Allah and the Last Day and [who] remembers Allah often.”*

Jemaah,

This verse is a firm reminder that if we truly hope for Allah’s love in this world and the hereafter, the example of Prophet Muhammad s.a.w. is the key to achieving it. And among his many merits and the beauty of his character (akhlak), is Rasulullah’s adab (manners) with His Creator. Yes! Often we hear about manners in interacting with other humankind, but the excellence and greatness of the values taught by Rasulullah s.a.w. starts with his excellent manners with The Creator, Allah s.w.t., who appointed him as His Messenger.

Rasulullah s.a.w was a person who was very careful to ensure that he did not incur Allah’s wrath. He was a person who loved Allah s.w.t. the most. His happiest moments were when he prayed to Allah in seclusion, away from the prying eyes of man. Even though Rasulullah was bestowed a special standing by Allah, and has been guaranteed a noble place in Paradise, it did not cause him to be neglectful in remembering Allah. And despite facing numerous trials and challenges while spreading

the message of Islam, the Prophet s.a.w. never whined nor forget about how blessed he was to be chosen as Allah's messenger.

It was narrated by Imam Al-Bukhari that the Prophet's wife, Saidatina Aisyah, often found him praying throughout the night, without taking a break, pushing himself until his feet were swollen. And Saidatina Aisyah asked him: *"Why do you do so? Didn't Allah guarantee to forgive all of your sins?"*. Rasulullah replied: *"Should I then not be a servant of Allah who is always grateful"*. [Hadith reported by Imam Al-Bukhari]

Subhanallah jemaah! Indeed this was the adab of Rasulullah s.a.w. with Allah, the Creator. Our beloved messenger never forgot his Lord when he was bestowed such honour and nobility. In fact, it made him increase his worship as a sign of thankfulness and gratitude to Allah, for the honour bestowed upon him.

And so, we should also act as such. The more Allah showers us with His blessings, the more acts of worship we should perform, and the deeper our sense of gratitude and thankfulness toward Allah should be. This was the character of Rasulullah s.a.w. toward Allah s.w.t. Allah grants us sustenance (rizk), this life, family, happiness, our body, health, iman (faith), peace, and many more. But how often do we take the time to reflect and

realise the countless blessings He has showered upon us? How have we shown our gratitude to Allah? How often do we pray and prostrate in gratitude, whispering “*Alhamdulillah*” with a heart that truly understands and realises the countless blessing He has bestowed upon us?

Beloved Jemaah,

In today’s post-modern world, it is easy for us to be caught up in the race for material goods. Just think about it – we easily feel bored with our smartphone after a year and feel that we need the latest model. We are not satisfied with the clothes that we have. We want new furniture, better household gadgets, a new car and so on, even though what we already have is still good.

I am not saying that Islam stops us from achieving a comfortable life. No, not at all. However, in chasing a better life, do not be caught up in the race that it makes us ungrateful and lose the sense of feeling that what we have is sufficient, or *qanaah*. When these two is lost from our hearts, then we will lose our direction. We will lose the sense of being serene and at peace with what we have. We will never be happy with what we already have. And in the end, it can cause us to be depressed and stressed out.

Hence, Rasulullah s.a.w. taught us a supplication:

رَبِّ قَنِّعْنِي بِمَا رَزَقْتَنِي وَ بَارِكْ لِي فِيهِ وَ اخْلُفْ عَلَيَّ كُلَّ غَائِبَةٍ لِي بِخَيْرٍ

Which means: “O my Lord, make me sufficient with the sustenance you have given me, and grant me barakah with it, and replace what has been lost with something better.” [Hadith reported by Al-Hakim]

Friday Jemaah,

The Prophet’s manners of being grateful to Allah s.w.t. does not only strengthen our relationship with Allah s.w.t. It will also positively affect our mental and emotional health. We need to educate our children and us to become grateful people, who never fail to thank Allah.

More importantly, we need to change our attitude toward ibadah (worship). When we worship Allah, it should not be done to simply fulfil an obligation, but it should also be done as a sign of our gratitude to Him. Every time we bow to Allah, every time we lay our forehead to the ground in prostration, every fast we perform, and every other act of worship that we do should be done because of our love for Allah. We are grateful to Allah s.w.t. and we hope that the endless bounty He has given us is filled with His barakah, and will not make us neglectful of Him.

May Allah s.w.t. grant us love for Him, and the love of performing ibadah. And may we be placed among those whom Allah forgives from all sins. Amin.

بَارِكْ اللَّهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ، وَنَفَعِنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ
الآيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ، وَتَقَبَّلْ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتَهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ
الْعَلِيمُ، أَقُولُ قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِي وَلَكُمْ، وَلِسَائِرِ
الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ، وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ فَيَا
فَوْزَ الْمُسْتَغْفِرِينَ وَيَا نَجَاةَ التَّائِبِينَ.