



INTRODUCTION

Recap the foundation of BIRR being BELIEF IN ALLAH, THE LAST DAY, THE ANGELS, THE BOOK AND THE PROPHETS

Continuing with the manifestation of this belief/foundation on our behaviours. The first manifestation is ethical.

...And give away wealth despite their love for it to

1. Family
2. Orphans
3. Needy
4. Travellers
5. Those who ask
6. Those enslaved in debt

THE FOCUS THIS LESSON IS ON SAAILEEL
(Those who ask)



ELABORATE

Three narrations to discuss - also focus on the attachment (30 rights of a mu'min)

1. Strive to acquire a high position in Janna.
Remember the more useful a person is to another human being the higher his position in Janna. At times even the saying of one sentence becomes the source of becoming closer to Allah. Never consider kindness to another to be insignificant for it will be these that will be useful on a day when nothing much will be of any use."
Imam Sajjad (pbuh)
2. "When one of my servants performs a good act, I award him Janna in exchange " Dawood (pbuh) asked Allah: "Ya Allah! What is that good act?"
The revelation came: "It is making another happy even if it be by offering him a date"

3. There was a man called Sadiq Halwani who was once approached by his friend in Masjidul Haram to lend him two dinars. Sadiq told him he would give him the money after he had completed his tawaf. As he was just about to complete his tawaf, Imam Ja'fer As-Sadiq (pbuh) arrived for tawaf. Imam put his hand on Sadiq's shoulder and began tawaf. Sadiq says that although he had completed his tawaf he accompanied Imam. His friend was sitting in a corner and making signs at Sadiq. Imam asked Sadiq why the man was trying to call his attention. Sadiq replied: "...He is waiting for me so that after I complete tawaf I can help arrange a loan for him. As you put your hand on my shoulder I did not wish to leave you."
Imam removed his hand immediately from his shoulder and told him: "Go to meet his need..."
Sadiq fulfilled his word to his friend. Next day he went to visit the Imam. Imam said: If one strives to meet the need of another it is more worthy a deed than freeing 1000 slaves...."



30 RESPONSIBILITIES

In relationship with mu'mineen there are 30 responsibilities which are incumbent upon one mu'min towards another. The Prophet (pbuh) has said: "Every mu'min has 30 obligations towards another mu'min which cannot be absolved until he/she fulfils them or is forgiven for them"

1. Forgiving their mistakes
2. Mercy towards them when they are in a strange land or situation
3. Guard their secrets
4. Give them a hand when about to fall
5. Accept their apologies
6. Discourage gheeba about them
7. Persist in giving them good advice
8. Treasure their friendship
9. Fulfil their trust
10. Visit them when ill
11. Being with them at their time of death
12. Accepting their invitations
13. Returning their favours in kind
14. Thanking them for their favours
15. Being grateful for their assistance
16. Protecting their honour and property
17. Helping them meet their needs
18. Making an effort to solve their problems
19. Guiding them to what they have lost
20. Answering their greeting
21. Taking them at their word
22. Accepting their gifts
23. Confirming them if they swear to something
24. Inclining towards them
25. Helping them when they are being unjust (by turning them away from it)
26. Helping them when they are victims of injustice
27. Refraining from feeling bored with them
28. Not forsaking them in times of trouble
29. Whatever good you like to like for them
30. Whatever evil you dislike to dislike for them



30 RESPONSIBILITIES

- The Prophet (pbuh) has said: "Whenever you see one of the gardens of Janna open before you, benefit from it". The people asked: "Ya Rasulallah! Where is this garden of Janna?" He replied: "I mean friendship with a mu'min who has eiman in his Rabb"

When asked to define a good friend, the Prophet (pbuh) said: "He is the one whose very sight makes you remember Allah, whose conversation increases your knowledge and whose deeds remind you of the world in the Hereafter" A friend is a very important person in one's life. He has a great effect on our thoughts and actions. The Prophet (pbuh) has said: "The behaviour of everyone will be according to the beliefs and principles of his friend".

- Qualities one should look for in a friend- knowledge, reliability and good akhlaq. Imam Ali (pbuh) has said: "The best of companions (friends) are those who have knowledge and patience." "A friend who is reliable is an adornment at the times of happiness and a security in times of difficulty". There is a Spanish saying which says: "If you go to the wolves, it is howling which you will learn from them."

- Imam Ja'fer As-Sadiq (pbuh) has said: "Avoid friendship with three types of people:
 - A traitor because on one day he will deceive others in order to benefit you and on another day he will deceive you to benefit others.
 - A tyrant because if he oppresses others for your sake, one day he will oppress you...
 - A rumour monger (one who gossips) because if he gossips about others in front of you then one day he will gossip about you before others."
- Imam Ja'fer As-Sadiq (pbuh) said: "A friend is one who fulfils the conditions below:
 - What he feels towards you and what he says about you must be the same.
 - He should consider your good things as his good things and your bad things as his bad things. Similarly he should consider your honour as his honour and your disgrace to be his disgrace.
 - If his financial position changes for the better or he acquires a high position his attitude towards you should not change.
 - He should not fail to assist you to the maximum extent of his capability.
 - He should not abandon you and leave you alone when you are in trouble."
- Imam Ja'far Sadiq (pbuh) says: "My most beloved friend is he who points out my faults to me."