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with
Ustazah
'Alimatunnisa

ALLAH HEARS & SEES ALL

Getting to Know
As-Samee & Al Baseer





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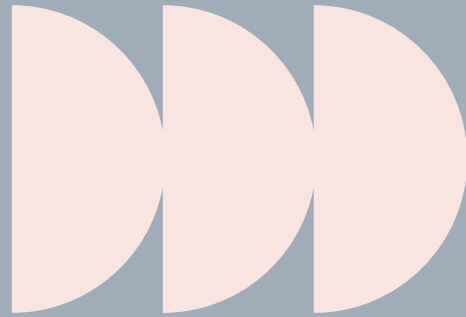
Ways we can internalise Al-Baseer in our lives



FEELING HIS PRESENCE



- It is very important for us to learn the 99 names of Allah SWT so we can feel His presence in our daily lives.
- Feelings come from the heart but sometimes the heart may not grasp things unless we hear or see something confirming what we feel. Our senses play an important role in helping us feel with our hearts.
- According to scholars of the Creed, 'Iman' is placed in the heart.
- And senses are like Allah SWT's "soldiers" that help us in knowing Him. They are the doors of our hearts. With our senses, we see, hear and say things that remind us and others of Allah SWT.



Our senses
are our
MEANS
to get to
Allah SWT



AS- SAMEE'



The All-Hearing

HE WHO HEARS ALL

- Humans can never comprehend the ‘Samee’-ness’ of Allah SWT. We can hear and see but we can never know how perfectly Allah SWT hears and sees.
- سَمِيعٌ is for the one who listens, but Allah is السَّمِيعُ. There is a magnificence to His Name.
- Our hearing cannot be compared to Allah SWT’s hearing, not even like the comparison of the sky and the earth, because it is even beyond that! SubhanAllah.
- For example: We can’t exactly hear the sound of the ants communicating unless we are using the right equipment. And even when we can hear, we can’t understand!
- As-Samee’ doesn’t only hear; He listens and comprehends everything. There is no such thing as selective hearing with Allah SWT - He listens to everything and responds to them. SubhanAllah.

HE HEARS ALL PRAISES

- The Musyrikins (Polytheists) worshipped idols alongside Allah SWT because they thought Allah SWT need "secretaries" to help hear the different problems of many people. :/
- Which is why when we don't understand the true meaning of As-Samee', we might fall into kufr (disbelief) because we might compare and limit Allah SWT's Hearing to ours.
- In our Solah, we have to internalise this fact during our standing in I'tidal: سَمِعَ اللَّهُ لِمَنْ حَمِدَهُ Sami'allaahu liman hamidah (Allah hears whoever praises Him), to which we respond with رَبَّنَا وَلَكَ الْحَمْدُ Rabbana wa lakal-hamd (Our Lord, and for You is praise).
- We are encouraged to pause during I'tidal and internalise how Allah SWT listens to every single praise for Him.

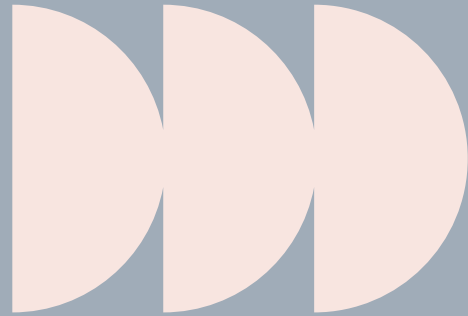
* رَبَّنَا وَلَكَ الْحَمْدُ حَمْدًا
كَثِيرًا طَيِّبًا مُبَارَكًا فِيهِ *

“Rabbanaa wa lakal-hamd, hamdan
katheeran tayyiban mubaarakan feeh”

‘Our Lord, all praise is due only to You, praise
which is abundant, excellent and blessed.’

A man came panting and entered the row of worshippers and said: Praise be to Allah, much praised and blessed. When the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) finished the prayer he said: Who amongst you uttered these words? The people remained silent. He (the Prophet again said): Who amongst you uttered these words? He said nothing wrong. Then a man said: I came and had a difficulty in breathing, so I uttered them. He replied: I saw twelve angels (some narration states over 30) facing one another as to who will take them up (to Allah).

(Sahih Muslim 600)



*Before we ask from
Him in our Sujud,
Allah SWT
reminds us that
He is all-Hearing
in our I'tidal!*



HIS OTHER CREATIONS



Why can't we listen to their communication?

AN-NAML, THE ANTS



وَحُشِرَ لِسُلَيْمَانَ جُنُودُهُ مِنَ الْجِنِّ وَالْإِنْسِ وَالطَّيْرِ فَهُمْ يُوزَعُونَ ﴿١٧﴾

Solomon's forces of jinn, humans, and birds were rallied for him, perfectly organized.

حَتَّىٰ إِذَا أَتَوْا عَلَىٰ وَادِ النَّمْلِ قَالَتْ نَمْلَةٌ يَا أَيُّهَا النَّمْلُ ادْخُلُوا مَسَاكِنَكُمْ لَا يَحْطِمَنَّكُمْ سُلَيْمَانُ وَجُنُودُهُ، وَهُمْ لَا يَشْعُرُونَ ﴿١٨﴾

And when they came across a valley of ants, an ant warned, "O ants! Go quickly into your homes so Solomon and his armies do not crush you, unknowingly."

فَنَبَسَّ ضَاحِكًا مِّنْ قَوْلِهَا وَقَالَ رَبِّ أَوْزِعْنِي أَنْ أَشْكُرَ نِعْمَتَكَ الَّتِي أَنْعَمْتَ عَلَيَّ وَعَلَىٰ وَالِدَيَّ وَأَنْ أَعْمَلَ صَالِحًا تَرْضَاهُ وَأَدْخِلْنِي بِرَحْمَتِكَ فِي عِبَادِكَ الصَّالِحِينَ ﴿١٩﴾

So Solomon smiled in amusement at her words, and prayed, "My Lord! Inspire me to 'always' be thankful for Your favours which You have blessed me and my parents with, and to do good deeds that please you. Admit me, by Your mercy, into 'the company of' Your righteous servants."

COMMUNITIES OF ALLAH

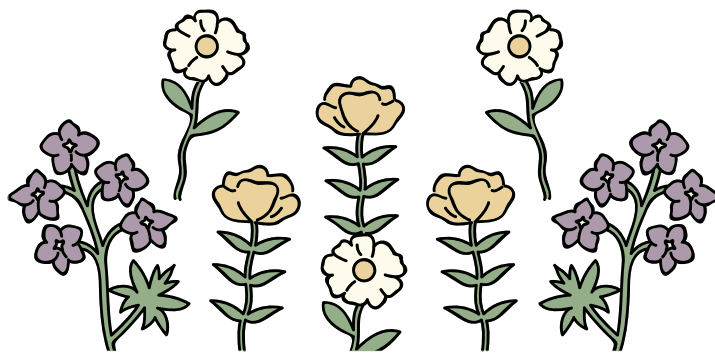
- The awe that we feel for Prophet Sulaiman AS's abilities - the amazement of Allah SWT is way beyond this! He is the One that blessed Prophet Sulaiman with the ability to speak with other creations, and even this is just a tiny portion of His Magnificence.
- If we were to look at the growth of trees or plants, their roots have to be dug and pushed to the ground. All these produce sounds that we can't hear!
- Another example of sounds that we cannot hear: when trees communicate with each other when they sense danger.
- We have to remember that there exist other communities other than our human community! We are simply a speck of dust in Allah's Universe.



What other communities of the creation of Allah SWT can you think of?

MERCY IN NOT HEARING

- In every of Allah SWT's Creations, there is Mercy (Rahmah) in them.
- If Allah SWT had lifted the veil from us to be able to listen to all the sounds of His creations around us, we would become insane!
- If we go to a graveyard, we usually hear silence. But the reality is that there are things that are happening underneath: eg the questioning of the Angels, the punishments in the grave etc.
- Our limitation from hearing everything is in fact part of His Mercy for us. He would never give us what can hurt us.



WHAT LIES IN THE HEART



How important are intentions?

WHISPERS OF THE HEART



- Allah SWT is As-Samee' (All-Hearing). He hears all the bad thoughts and gossip that others make about us and protects us from listening to them.
- Allah hears and listens to the whispers of our hearts, and responds to them in His ways.
- Sometimes, we don't even have to utter our thoughts. If they pass through our hearts, As-Samee' listens to them and He responds. SubhanAllah.
- We have to celebrate and honour the guests of our hearts. When someone passes through our thoughts and heart, we should rush to make du'a for them because we never know if they are in need of it!

KNOWLEDGE-SEEKING



Abu Darda reported: The Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, said, “Whoever travels a path in search of knowledge, Allah will make him traverse a path to Paradise. Verily, the angels lower their wings in pleasure for the seeker of knowledge. The inhabitants of the heavens and earth, even the fish in the depths of the water, seek forgiveness for the scholar. The virtue of the scholar over the worshiper is like the superiority of the moon over the stars. Verily, the scholars are the inheritors of the Prophets. The Prophets do not leave behind gold or silver coins, but rather they only leave behind knowledge. Whoever takes it has taken hold of an abundant fortune.”

(Sunan al-Tirmidhī 2682)

THE PLACE OF INTENTION



- Allah SWT makes others make du'a for us in our times of difficulty. Before we even realised what we want and need, He already knows and has responded. Ma Sha Allah.
- Allah SWT understands the language of our hearts, even if we have difficulty expressing them in words.
- ***Fight in the cause of Allah, and know that Allah is All-Hearing, All-Knowing. (Al-Baqarah 2:244)***
- Why is As-Samee' and Al-'Alim used in a verse about battle? Because people who fight in the battle of Allah may have intentions other than for Allah SWT.
- You may be doing the exact same worship together, but the heart and intentions confirms if the act of worship is accepted by Allah SWT or not.

THE POWER OF HEARING



What we listen to leaves an impact

HEARING COMES FIRST

- Although Allah SWT is the One that allows thoughts to come to us, bad thoughts come from our Nafs (desires) that have not been tamed.
- *The higher the level of our Nafs is, the cleaner our thoughts will be.*
- If a child is raised in a positive, God-conscious environment where Quran is often recited, he will think of positive things and are not exposed to much wrong, as compared to a child that is raised in a negative and vulgar environment.
- When Allah SWT talks about the development of the baby in the womb, hearing is mentioned first:

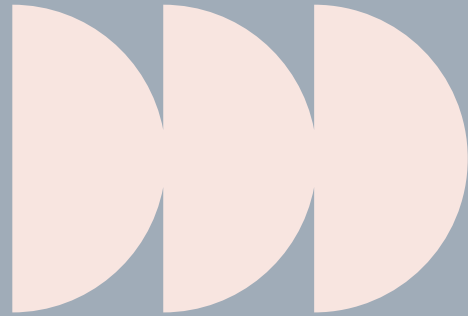
وَاللَّهُ أَخْرَجَكُمْ مِنْ بُطُونِ أُمَّهَاتِكُمْ لَا تَعْلَمُونَ شَيْئًا وَجَعَلَ لَكُمُ السَّمْعَ
وَالْأَبْصَرَ وَالْأَفْئِدَةَ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَشْكُرُونَ

And Allah brought you out of the wombs of your mothers while you knew nothing, and gave you hearing, sight, and intellect so perhaps you would be thankful.

(An-Nahl 16:78)

PROTECT OUR EARS

- The previous verse is a testament to how powerful the sense of hearing is. Whatever we listen to has an impact on the heart!
- 50% of what makes a film good is really good audio. Even if we have a high-quality video but a bad audio quality, people would turn off the video.
- How much are we protecting our sense of hearing then and how aware are we that Allah SWT perfectly hears everything?
- It's very important to remember our intentions if we want to internalise the name of As-Samee' in our lives.
- Hence, if a bad fleeting thought comes to us, we should immediately seek Istighfar and push it away.



*What we
hear is
more powerful
than what
we see!*



SPEAK GOOD WORDS ONLY

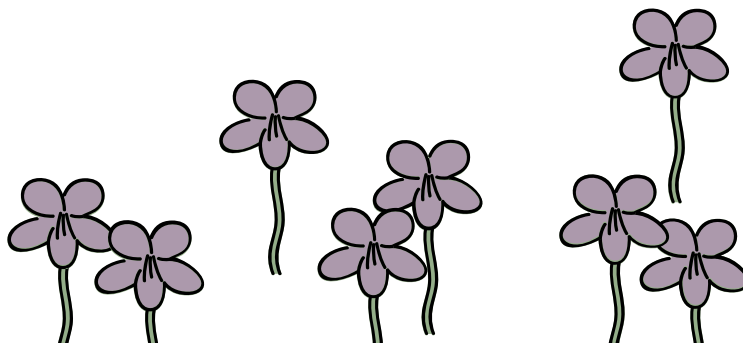
- It is important to look into what our heart says because Allah SWT listens to what our hearts say.
- We need to monitor what our heart and tongue speak.

﴿ وَقَضَىٰ رَبُّكَ أَلَّا تَعْبُدُوا إِلَّا إِيَّاهُ وَبِالْوَالِدَيْنِ إِحْسَانًا إِمَّا يَبُلُغَنَّ عِنْدَكَ الْكِبَرَ أَحَدُهُمَا أَوْ كِلَاهُمَا فَلَا تَقُلْ لَهُمَا آفٍ وَلَا نَهْرَهُمَا وَقُلْ لَهُمَا قَوْلًا كَرِيمًا ﴿٢٣﴾ ﴾

For your Lord has decreed that you worship none but Him. And honour your parents. If one or both of them reach old age in your care, never say to them 'even' 'ugh,' nor yell at them. Rather, address them respectfully.

(Al-Isra' 17:23)

- We are accountable for each and every sound that comes out from our month, even an "uff"!

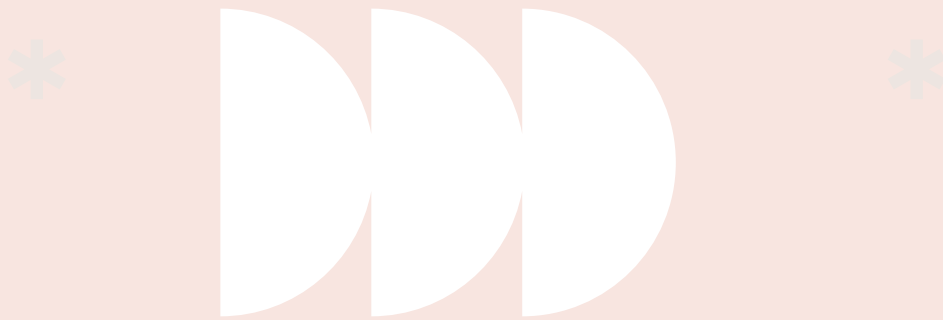


DANGER OF THE TONGUE

On the authority of Muadh bin Jabal (may Allah be please with him) who said:

I said, 'O Messenger of Allah, tell me of an act which will take me into Paradise and will keep me away from the Hellfire.' He (peace be upon him) said, 'You have asked me about a great matter, yet it is easy for him for whom Allah makes it easy. Worship Allah without associating any partners with Him; establish the prayer; pay the Zakah; fast in Ramadan; and make the pilgrimage to the House.'

"Then he (peace be upon him) said, 'Shall I not guide you towards the means of goodness? Fasting is a shield, charity wipes away sin as water extinguishes fire, and the praying of a man in the depths of the night.' Then he (peace be upon him) recited: '[Those] who forsake their beds, to invoke their Lord in fear and hope, and they spend (charity in Allah's cause) out of what We have bestowed on them. No person knows what is kept hidden for them of joy as a reward for what they used to do' [as-Sajdah, 16-17].



"Then he (peace be upon him) said, 'Shall I not inform you of the head of the matter, its pillar and its peak?' I said, 'Yes, O Messenger of Allah.' He (peace be upon him) said, 'The head of the matter is Islam, its pillar is the prayer and its peak is jihad.'

Then he (peace be upon him) said, 'Shall I not tell you of the foundation of all of that?' I said, 'Yes, O Messenger of Allah.' So he took hold of his tongue and said, 'Restrain this.' I said, 'O Prophet of Allah, will we be taken to account for what we say with it?'

He (peace be upon him) said, 'May your mother be bereaved of you, O Muadh!'

Is there anything that throws people into the Hellfire upon their faces, or on their noses, except the harvests of their tongues?'

(Tirmidhi)

DO WE TALK TOO MUCH?

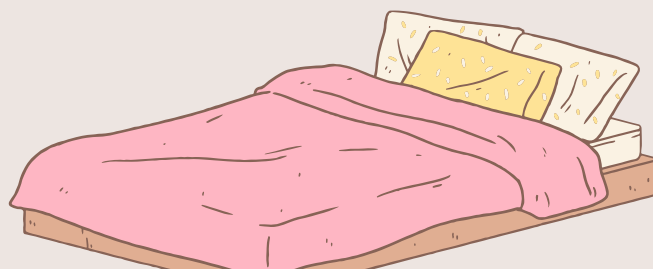


- Sayyidina Abu Bakar RA used to place stones in his mouth to hold his tongue from speaking words that are not beneficial because of the emphasis that Rasulullah SAW used to put on guarding the tongue.



Can you think of other ways that we can guard our tongue?

- If we find that our du'as are not answered, perhaps we need to check if we have been talking or complaining too much. :/
- If we want to improve our Iman, we should practise fasting of the stomach, the tongue, socialising and sleeping too much.



AL- BASEER



The All-Seeing

OUR SENSE OF SIGHT

- Al-Baseer is All-Seeing while Ar-Raqeeb is The Ever-Watchful.
- Our sight is even more limited than our hearing. For example, we can listen to something outside of the room we are in even though we can't see the source of the sound.
- We can't see things without light, but we can listen in the dark. We can't even see what's behind us!
- There are many details that make up the function of each of our senses. The reason for blindness or deafness is that some of these details are disconnected or are not fully formed.
- When we learn about the anatomy of our body, we will feel amazed at the creation of Allah SWT and realised how weak and dependent we are.

ALL IN THE DETAILS

- Even with all the amazing details in our eyes, we still can't see in the dark and we will also be blinded by too much light. SubhanAllah.
- We don't just need light; we need the perfect amount of light to see clearly. Not too much nor too little.
- And on top of that, are the things we see even accurate?
- Our hearing and sight are imperfect because humans are meant to be imperfect. But there is mercy and wisdom in these imperfections.
- Similarly to our hearing, Allah SWT veil us from seeing everything to protect us too.

HOW TO BE WATCHFUL



Ways we can internalise Al-Baseer in our lives

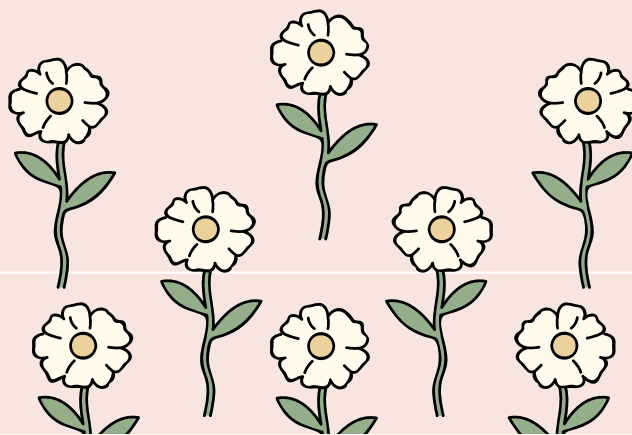
USE OUR SENSES FOR GOOD

- In order for us to show our gratitude for the senses that He has blessed us with, we should use them in ways that will reach Him.
- For those with special needs, Allah SWT amplifies the other senses for them.
- When we see something beautiful, we should link it back to Allah SWT. Everything is for us to use as a means to reach Allah SWT.

لَا تُدْرِكُهُ الْأَبْصَارُ وَهُوَ يُدْرِكُ الْأَبْصَارَ وَهُوَ اللَّطِيفُ الْخَبِيرُ ﴿١٠٣﴾

No vision can encompass Him, but He encompasses all vision. For He is the Most Subtle, All-Aware.

(Al-An'am 6:103)



UNDER HIS WATCH



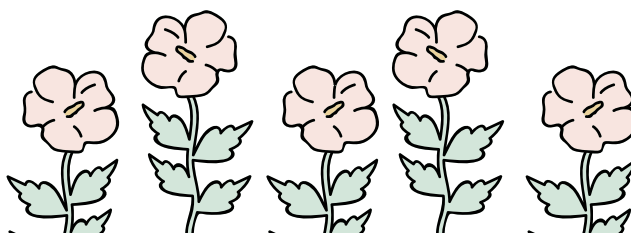
- We can feel when someone is staring at us, but when it comes to the Watchful Eyes of Allah SWT, it is not too much that it drives us insane. Ma Sha Allah.
- The Watchfulness of Allah SWT comes when we need it, such as in times when we feel alone and need company. We also feel it when we are about to do something not good.
- It is human to forget that Allah SWT is watching us all the time.
- Sayyidina Umar RA advised us to be aware of what's in our hearts and not give heed to what people think of our external us. Allah SWT is the One that looks into our hearts.

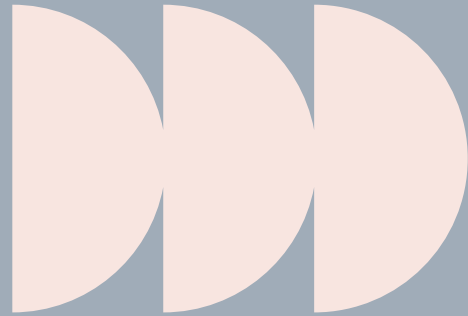
OUR APPEARANCES

- We need to take care of our inner appearance more than our external appearance. We have to think about what Allah SWT think about us, not what people think about us.
- We live in a time of social media, where people showcase lies and ‘perfection’. No one wants to show the ugly and imperfections in their lives. Bu what matters to Allah SWT is how we are with Him, not how people think of us.
- *When Allah SWT sees good in us, He will make others see the good in us too.*
- Obeying Allah SWT in private also bears fruit. It’s important to have private acts of worship that only us and Allah SWT know because it would be so sweet and intimate. It is also a test of our sincerity.

A PRIVATE HEARING

- In the Court of Allah in Akhirah, the hearing of the believers will be done in private. This should encourage to increase in our private acts of worship In Sha Allah!
- When we hear things about others that don't concern us, we should not spread it around.
- ***The servant (who conceals) the faults of others in this world, Allah would conceal his faults on the Day of Resurrection. (Muslim)***
- Sometimes we show the pretence that we are merciful in public, but we taunt, gossip and harbour bitterness about others in private. :(But Allah SWT is consistently merciful, fair and kind!
- Some scholars of Dhikr use drums to accompany their Dhikr as it helps to shut the noise in their hearts so that it will be easier for them to remember Allah SWT.





*May we use our
senses to reach*

Allah SWT

<3

