#### 5 January 2023



your curated weekly spiritual booster delivered straight to your Inbox

Say yes to the things that help your soul breathe.
They are your "spiritual oxygen" and you need it in order to live.

Assalammualaikum my Champions,

If you've ever trekked, gone for a walk in the forest, or been in an

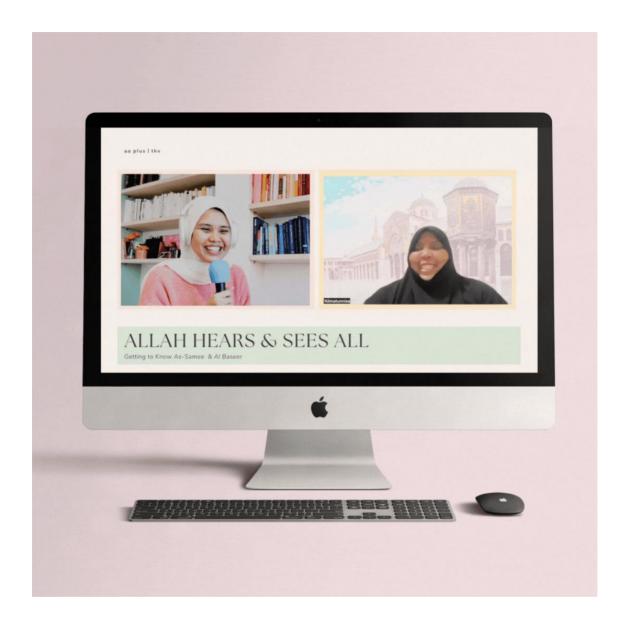
environment where the air is fresh and crisp as opposed to the hustle and bustle of the city, you can immediately notice the difference in how you breathe. You cannot help but take a deep inhale, and your lungs are thanking you for this welcome burst of oxygen instead of the normal pollution!

Similarly, when we only feed our souls with "worldly pollutants" and neglect it by not giving them their fair share of "spiritual oxygen", we are spiritually suffocating ourselves. Everything that Allah SWT has made Wajib (obligatory) for us is actually done out of His Mercy because He knows exactly what our souls need to "breathe".

But don't we want our souls to soar? Why should we just be "minimal Muslims" when we can be "thriving Muslims"? So why aren't we strengthening our souls by giving them a constant supply of good, pure "spiritual oxygen"? Why do we weaken them by polluting them with sins instead?

Champs, today I would like to invite you to think about what are some of the "spiritual oxygen" in your life. Some of mine would be anything and everything that revolves around the Quran, the time and work I invest in AA Plus, good companions and teachers who are always reminding me of Allah (like yourself!), and protecting my morning hours so that I can end my nights well. Whatever your "spiritual oxygen" may be, may you inhale lots of it this year so that In Sha Allah, your soul can breathe, and your heart can beat, only and always for His sake. Amin!

# get excited for



Alhamdulillah Alhamdulillah I am beyond proud to share that our very first TKV Video lesson is now LIVE! I sat down with Ustazah 'Alimatunnisa to learn more about 2 of Allah's Beautiful Names, as-Samee and al-Baseer, the All-Hearing and All-Seeing, and this episode healed every part of me! Some of the topics we covered include Allah's majestic, but yet subtle and gentle presence in our lives, how our senses are one of the many means we can reach Allah SWT, how Allah SWT doesn't "selectively" listen like us, but He truly listens and understands completely and absolutely, how there is

Rahmah (Mercy) even in the limitations of our hearing and seeing (because can you imagine if we are able to hear or see jinns and syaitan? OMG) and many, many more! I hope you'll enjoy the lesson thoroughly because it healed every part of me.

Watch the TKV Video Lesson Here

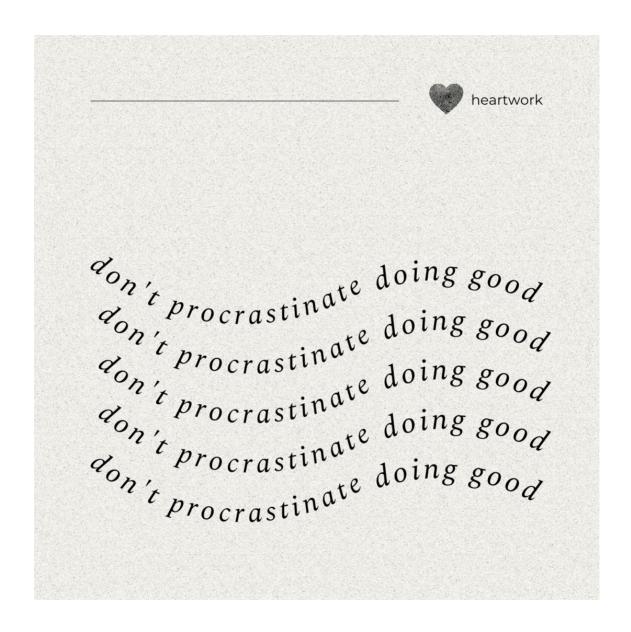
#### Read the PDF Notes Here



I've terribly missed our Study Dates, and I cannot wait to hang out with all of you again this Sunday, In Sha Allah, to discuss and reflect upon our new TKV lesson! As the full lesson is more than an hour long (I hope you'll savour every moment!), my team and I will focus on extracting the main highlights and key points of the Class specially for the Study Date. Do carve out some time and join us - our AA Plus sessions can definitely be your weekly dose of "spiritual oxygen"!

Join Our Study Date Here!

#### heartwork that heals



Disclaimer: This is a reminder first and foremost to myself. Allah SWT is so generously merciful that He gives us multiple chances and countless opportunities to do good. But sometimes, we take this for granted and delay in carrying out our worship. For example, if a thought comes to us about giving to charity, do we wait until our pay is in, or do we give right at this moment, even if it's but a smaller

amount? Or perhaps we've been meaning to drop a text to a loved one. But do we procrastinate until we eventually forget about it completely, or do we honour the guest of our hearts and send them a dua immediately? Also, let's think about this: if we don't want our reward to be delayed, then we shouldn't put off our worship too, right? So Champs, here's a reminder to carry out any act of good that you've been procrastinating. Say Bismillah, and go do it!

#### a visual reminder



To start off 2023, I thought a new wallpaper is in order and one of the things I really wanted to remind myself this year is that I can do hard things because I have Allah with me. The reality is... this Dunia is a test. But it is a test that In Sha Allah, we can all successfully go through, only if we follow His Guidance, hold on to Him, and heed His Words. I am also hoping that we can all bloom in our own ways, and in more ways than one this year, hence the flowers in the wallpaper! May this visual reminder give you a gentle hug whenever you need one. ♥

**Download Wallpaper Here** 

### muslim meme



I am sure I am not the only one who feels mighty excited to pray again after our period - that first sujood always feels soooooooo satisfying! It somewhat feels like coming back home after a long "holiday"! I also have a whole "fresh-from-Ghusl" prayer routine: I'll wash my prayer garments, iron them if I can, spray on some Attar, burn some Bukhoor, and to end it all off, I will try to stay as long as I can on the prayer mat after prayer. Ahhhhh, isn't it a blessing to be able to pray?  $\checkmark$ 

## to ponder

Are you painstakingly climbing up the ladder of life? Or moving around gratefully within your present space?

I was thinking about how one of society's definitions of success is to "climb up the corporate ladder" and I immediately thought, "Ladders are scary, why would anyone want to climb one unless necessary?". And it me reflect on the unhealthy obsession of wanting more, craving more, and needing more of the material things because what if this pursuit of more is making us neglect the blessings that are already in front of us? This is not to say that we should not work hard nor give our best shot in everything that we do in life - rather, to sincerely ask ourselves, "Why am I doing this? Is this for Allah,

or for my Nafs?" One of my elders used to advice me, "Aida, when you do get to meet Allah on the Day of Judgement, He would not ask how much salary you made, nor how big your house is nor what car you drove. Instead, you would be questioned on how you used your time, your intellect, your health, your wealth and the ways in which you shared the blessings He has given you." This always puts things in perspective for me, so I hope it will give you some food for thought too.

With that, I hope you guys have enjoyed Closer!

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