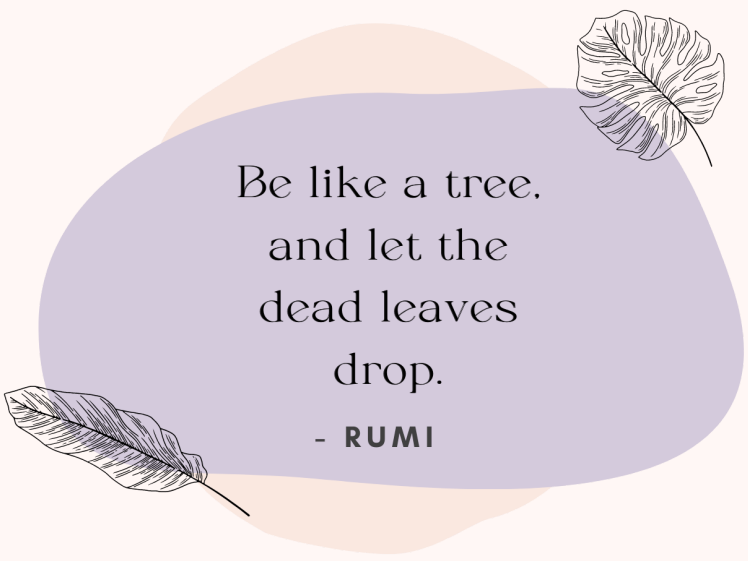


بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

6th June 2022

closer

your curated weekly spiritual booster



Be like a tree,
and let the
dead leaves
drop.

- RUMI

Assalamualaikum Champs!

I know this is not my first Closer email to you but I still feel the same nervous-excitement as when I was writing the first edition. I love, love, love writing Closer for you and seeing that this is actually my 98th Closer for AA Plus (!!!), I thought this is a good time to reminisce. I went back to read through our Closer archives and had a huge smile on my face as I saw how on one hand, it has changed, but also how it has stayed true to the essence and spirit of what I imagined a Closer email

would be like.

One of my biggest intentions for Closer was for all of us to come out of our Inbox after reading it, feeling closer to our

Rabb. That was how the name came about as well - and I am a witness to His Promise that we will always get exactly what we intended for (sometimes more) because I always feel extremely near to Him when I write Closer for you. I pray it has been the same for you when you read it on your end as well. :)

Since we are starting somewhat anew for Closer - our first Monday-Closer! - I thought it deserves a facelift. And so off I went thinking this little re-design would take me no more than a few hours of work, but this is currently my 3rd day in a row working on it. I also had to sign up for an online course on how to publish newsletters, and figure out HTML codes and other "fun-techy" stuff. Only Allah knows how many times I wanted to throw in the towel and just revert back to the old Closer design. "Why change something that is working?" my nafs argued.

But I re-read my intentions: "Ya Allah, allow the Closer emails to reflect the beauty of Your Deen and allow me to write it as beautifully as I can for Your Pleasure!" and a few seconds later, He made me come across Rumi's quote: Be like a tree and let the dead leaves drop. So here I am, letting my fear, laziness and excuses drop so that not only a new Closer re-design will bloom, but a better and wiser Aida will flourish as well! Amin!

The Tadarus Circles




THE TADARUS CIRCLES:

ASIA: MON / 9PM SG | ROTW: TUES / 9PM UK

I'm excited and also super grateful that **we are re-starting our Tadarus Circles tonight**, In Sha Allah! My soul has terribly missed these Quran sessions and I'm looking forward to listening to more beautiful recitations and reflections from all of you! This will also be our 3rd round of Khatam (completion) together, so let's make this our best one yet, ok Champs? And if you have never been to our Tadarus Circles, but your heart is curious, come this week and just tune in, even with your camera off! Your soul will thank you for it!

[Join The Tadarus Circle Here](#)

A Beautiful Dua



Ya Allah,
allow me to set my
heart above on
Heavenly things
instead of lowly
earthly things.

When the word ‘priority’ came into the English language in the 1400s, it was actually **singular**. Meaning, by definition, the idea was to only have ONE priority. But all of that that changed in the 1900s, when it became normal for one to say ‘priorities’ - plural - and this blew my mind! Our priority (singular) as a believer, is to only worship Allah SWT. But we forget this and get distracted, and then we remember again and this cycle will not end till we breathe our last - which is why this Dua has been on repeat for me. Priority, not priorities, Champs!

#WMPTM



*my Prophet SAW
taught me to
love honey*

aa plus

In this week's #WhatMyProphetTaughtMe, I bring to you one of my favourite things in the world - HONEY 🍯 ! When I learned that Rasulullah SAW loves it as well, my heart did a little bee dance! Ibn

`Abbas narrates that Rasulallah ﷺ said, "**Healing is in three things:** cupping, **a gulp of honey** or branding with fire, but I forbid my followers to use cauterization (branding with fire)." (*Bukhari*) So Champs, don't forget to take a spoonful of pure, raw, real, honey today with the intention of following Rasulallah's ﷺ Sunnah! May Allah SWT bless all of us with good health too, Amin!

Note To Self

NOTE

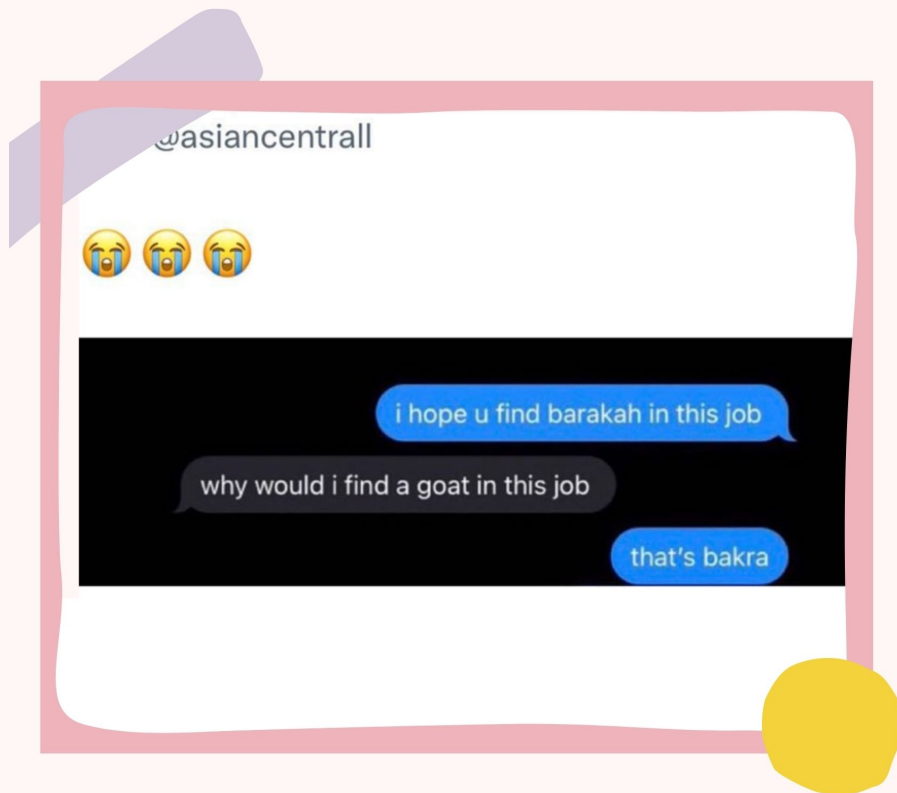
TO myself DATE today

Put your phone
down, so you can
pick up your life.

This was what I wrote the week I decided to delete and go off Social Media and I am grateful to report that I feel extremely lighter now. I can now say I have regained a better control of my time, my energy, my attention and most importantly, my sanity. One of my closest and

dearest told me that in this day and age, **it is considered a luxury to be able to go offline, to be able to finish a book, to not know things that should not concern you in the first place, to sleep on time** and by that definition, then I am living a pretty luxurious life right now 😂😂 because Alhamdulillah, I've been able to do all that ever since I've put my phone down. If you've been waiting for a sign to do the same, consider this it!

Muslim Meme



This cracked me up big time! (Thank you to the Champ who shared this with me, you know who you are! :P) Also, baqarah is actually cow, not goat, which makes this meme even funnier! On that note, I pray that all of you Champs will be blessed with an abundance of Barakah in

your Monday and in your week, and that He frees up your time and grant you ease to join us later for Tadarus tonight (or Tuesday, if you are in ROTW) because we are reading and reflecting upon THE Surah Baqarah 😂😂😂! Amin!

To Ponder



Presence **is**
productivity.

I have always wondered who defined and set the standards for productivity. Have you ever thought about this? Because so many of us are beating ourselves up for not being "productive enough" without actually pondering whether these standards of productivity are man-made or set by our Creator Himself? This is why I am excited to start this month's TKV on "You Are Worthy" (*first class drops this Thursday, Champs! Make sure you check your Inbox for my email then!*) because we are going to be learning the standards and definitions of important concepts that are set by Allah SWT Himself.

But back to productivity - **I've recently realised how presence IS productivity! How giving your utmost attention and being 100% here in the now is actually PEAK Productivity.** This was a huge shift for me as I grew up with the "multi-tasking is gold" mentality. Unfortunately, now, we are not only multi-tasking, but we are also "multi-peopleing" as we are not only thinking about what we have to do, but we are also thinking about what other people are doing. How do we expect ourselves to be productive when we are preoccupied with pointless stuff all the time? 🤔

ps:

*Click Here for some
Divine Love from His Blessed Book*

*& come to
Tadarus
Circle for
more gems*



*With that, I hope you've
enjoyed this week's
Closer. See you on
Thursday for another
"party" in your inbox,
In Sha Allah!*

hda

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Because you signed up to become an AA Plus member.

Our mailing address is:

The AA Team
Rue Idriss
Tangier 90 000
Morocco