## 19 Aug 2021



your curated weekly spiritual booster delivered straight to your Inbox

our relationship
WITH ALLAH SWT IS
not just something
TO BE ENDURED.
it's something
TO BE ENJOYED!

Assalammualaikum my Champions,

I have to come clean and say this week has been tough. I've been restless, anxious, overwhelmed and my emotions have been a whirlwind. I'm embracing all of that as we speak, but sometimes, the

"productive-and-always-on-the-go" side of me is getting annoyed, a tad bit frustrated. "How long more are you gonna mope around, Aida?"

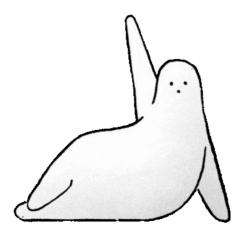
Unfortunately, these topsy-turvy feelings of mine are also affecting my spirituality; I find myself procrastinating to pray and get so distracted reciting the Quran. It was weighing heavy on me, so I decided to sit myself down and just started reciting all of His Beautiful Names that we've been learning on TKV. I called out His Names, exhausted and to a point, desperate, and I repeated that process over and over again.

Suddenly, a thought came over me. "Aida, isn't it beautiful that you *get to* call all of His Names whenever and wherever you want? Isn't it magical that He chose you amongst millions to sit here so that you *get to* speak to Him? You get to, Aida! Not because you have to, but you get to!"

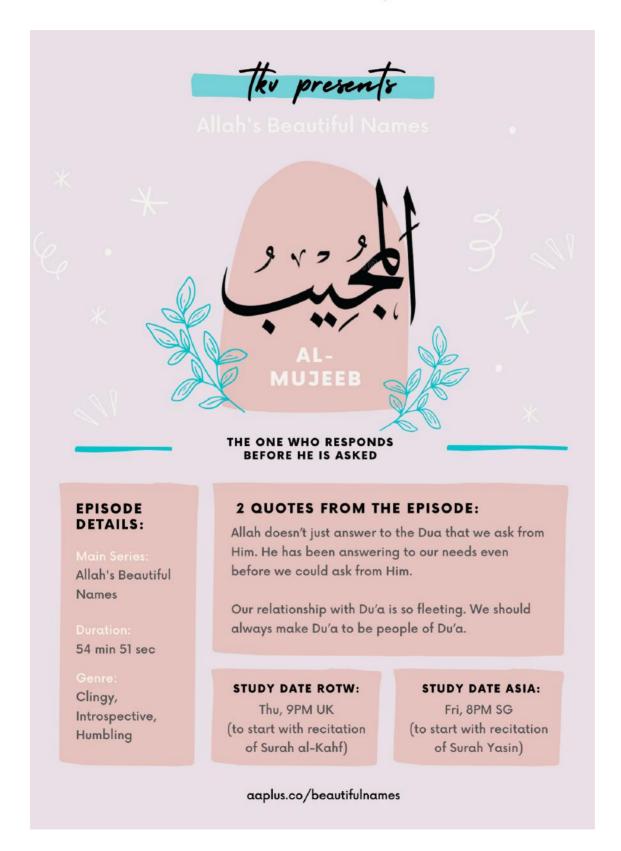
I then smiled, realising, why do I treat my relationship with Allah SWT and the worship that I get to do as something to be endured when it should be enjoyed! As a Muslim, we should be smiling, grateful, full of light, and easy-going and I have not been *any* of that this week!

So, I told myself, "You gotta chill babe. Take it a day at a time. Eat that ice cream. Touch that grass. Breathe that air. Wear that cute dress. Stay longer in that Sujood. Recite passionately with the Quran. Live!Because in you cherishing your life, you are worshipping and thanking Him! So enjoy life as Allah SWT has blessed you with it! Spend every minute in awe of this gift of life that He gave you!"

And I'm happy to report, that this is me currently writing this letter to you:



This week on an plus



In this final episode of this blessed series, we will be talking about Al-

Mujeeb, The One Who Responds Before He is Asked! If you want to "up your Dua game", this Name is for you! Ustazah 'Alima reminds us how we should always be detailed in our Du'as to Him, because Allah SWT likes it when we are very specific. We'll also be learning about the Adab of making Dua, how Dua is integral in all aspects of our lives, but above all, how we should remember that He responds to our needs <u>even before</u> our inclination to ask from Him appears in our heart. #goosebumps

Listen to the Class Here

Join the Study Date Here

a beautiful Dua

Ya Allah, please help the suffering Ummah around the world. End their pain, ease their affairs, and forgive us for not doing enough for our brothers and sisters.

aaplus.co

#abeautifuldua

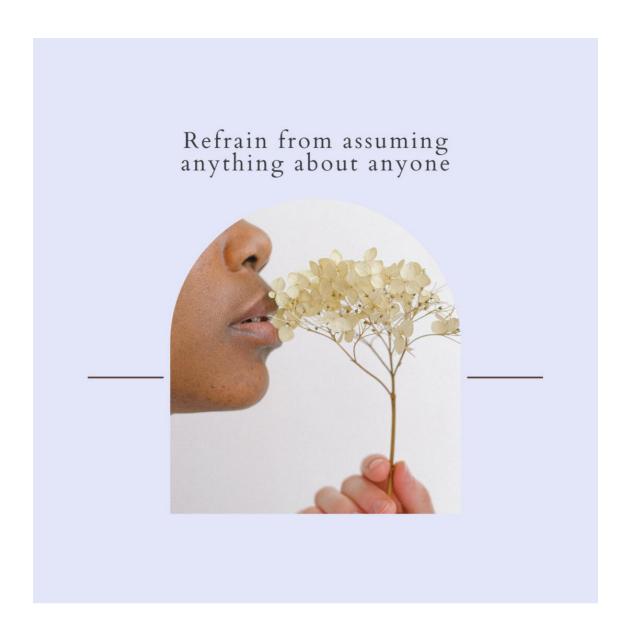
I believe part of the reason I've been feeling a million and one things lately is because of what's been going on all around the world. I'm sure I'm not the only one who feel so incredibly helpless, thinking that there's nothing we can do to help our brothers and sisters who are going through a massive crisis from all across the world. But Dua is our biggest and most effective weapon, so let's not be disheartened! That is Syaitan's trick - he wants us to walk in the path of despair, but we will march forth in the path of Dua instead!

share with Allah



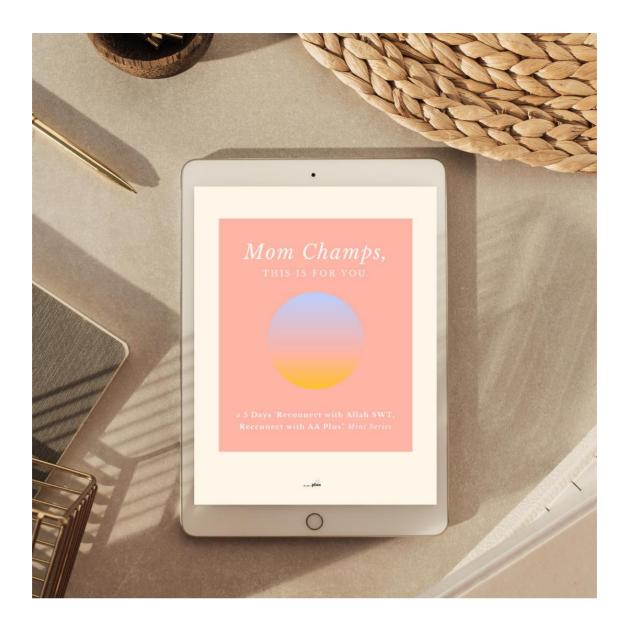
I remember one of our baby champs, Fatin, asking this beautiful question during our Tadarus session and it has not left my mind since! Whether we came back to Him through a moment of difficulty, intense pain, or utter joy, those moments of us pulling closer to Him was special, because Allah created and crafted it just for us! I'll never forget my "moment" with Allah SWT. Till today, it's still extremely vivid in my memory. I can even feel the night air of that particular second, the heat of my tears rolling down my cheeks, and the desperate prayer I pleaded to Him. I'll forever be grateful to Allah SWT for that special moment.

a good deed to try



Taking a snippet from my Love Letter this week: "let's not be one of those who have a lot to say about lives they've never lived. Instead, let us be one of those who always practice and spread kindness because that's how our lives should be lived! So the next time we see, hear or smell something amiss, instead of passing or even thinking of a rude judgement, replace it with a prayer instead. Instead of assuming, offer help instead. Instead of ignoring, try to smile instead."

specially curated for you



Mom-Champs, we have a gift for you! My team and I have such deep respect and admiration to all of the heart work you're doing, day in and day out, be it for your family or for your spirituality, that we decided to compile a curation of AA Plus content and goodies into a PDF that you can browse through at your own convenience! I know that sometimes it gets very overwhelming and you may not have attended or listened to any of the lessons for a while, but stop! No more mom-guilt! This publication is a curation of some of the AA Plus content that we think you might like, distilled to its essence so that you can listen / watch / read it even with a baby in tow! PS: My fav part is the love notes that the other mom-champs have written for you! #sotouching PPS:

Non-mom-champs are welcome to enjoy the PDF too!

Read 'For Mom-Champs' PDF Here

Muslim Meme



LOL YES. But also, it made me realise that in order to represent all of us Muslims in this Meme, they probably have to put every single flag in the world out there! (But for this time, I'll "park" myself with the Malaysian and Moroccan flag! :P)

Something to Ponder

Be God-Centred. Not Self-Centred.



I am still processing how profound this quote is. It reminded me of what some of you Champs were saying in the last Study Date: "let's all be ex-people pleasers, but be God-pleaser instead!" If I can practice this even for 5% more in my life, what a difference it will make! Knowing that Allah SWT is my core, the reason for my existence, my very purpose, my "Why" ... Subhanallah, that shift in mindset can power us through anything! I'd like to end this week's Closer praying that we will all be more "God-centred" and not "self-centred", that we see Allah SWT through every breath that we take, and that we cherish our relationship with Him always, Amin!



## ending it with His Words

## Quran 9:41

'O believers!' March forth whether it is easy or difficult for you, and strive with your wealth and your lives in the cause of Allah. That is best for you, if only you knew.

Don't give up! Small steps at a time!

Good things are coming!

(If you are in need of some soulfood, join us @ our weekly Quran Tadarus!)

With that, I hope you guys have enjoyed Closer.



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Because you signed up to become an AA Plus member.

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