

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
In the name of Allah, the most Gracious, the most Merciful

23 February 2023



Closer

by aa

your curated weekly spiritual booster delivered straight to your Inbox

Maybe you are
searching among the
branches for what only
appears in the **roots**.

Rumi

Assalammualaikum my Champions,

(and a special welcome to our new Baby Champs ❤️ !)

There is this beautiful tree that I always admire outside my window, it's majestic branches bring comfort to me and looking at its leaves dancing against the summer sun always brings me much joy. However, since it's currently Winter, not much of that has remained.

Because the tree is now down to its bare skeletal, I was forced to look deeper to find its beauty. And that's when I saw its roots.

Still anchoring itself strong.

Quietly. Consistently.

Working hard behind the scenes.

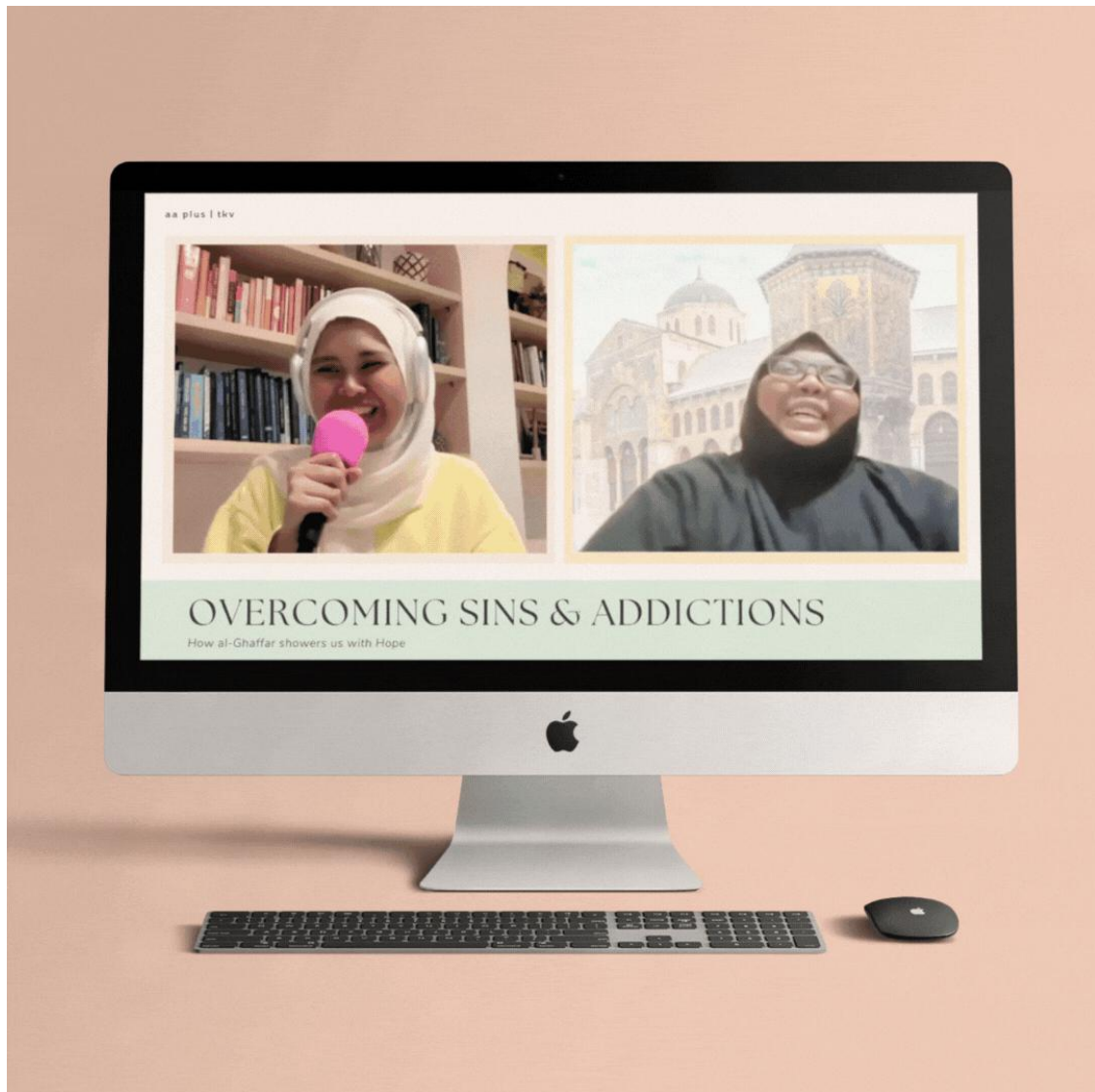
Everyone talks about the flowers and the fruits, but the roots are mighty important too.

And perhaps that's what I have been doing in my life - too focused on the gloss of the Dunia, that I do not take the time to go deeper, to take care and strengthen my roots of Deen. This explains why when the winds of tests and struggles hit me, I **break**.

But imagine if we all went deeper and let the love of Allah SWT take root in our hearts, wouldn't we stand strong and beautifully?

I pray may we never neglect our spiritual roots and work hard to go **deeper** with our faith, staying grounded in our roles as His servants despite the million and one ways the Dunia will try to stretch and pull us apart. And if you are only starting to "plant" and grow your roots, remember that a strikingly big Oak Tree was also once a small nut, but it was patient and held its ground. :) So you got this, Champ!

get excited for



Considering this week's TKV topic on **"Overcoming Sins and Addictions"** was a rather heavy topic, I am ever so grateful that Ustazah 'Alimatunnisa really leaned into the theme of "Hope" and how she focused on al-Ghaffar as one of Allah's Beautiful Names for us to hold on to for strength and courage to fight through our darkest moments. Obedience to Him requires constant work, but Ustazah shares some very practical advice in this lesson for us to constantly fill our hearts with deeds that bring us closer to Him, as that in itself acts as a guard / protection against blindly following our desires. The

conversation got pretty emotional too - by the end of it, both of us were just truly in awe by how forgiving Allah SWT is, and that as believers, we should never despair as **"the buffet of obedience to Allah SWT is endless!"** (If you are wondering what exactly is this "buffet" - Ustazah and I spoke about this in Class, so do tune in! 😊)

[Watch The Video Lesson Here!](#)

[Read \(our beautiful\) PDF Notes from the Lesson Here](#)

OVERCOMING SINS & ADDICTION:
HOW AL-GHAFFAR SHOWERS US WITH HOPE

Champs, join me for a "watch party" this Sunday at 9pm SG / 1pm UK
In Sha Allah, as we go through the key highlights from this week's TKV and draw lessons and share reflections **together**. This will definitely be a great early Syaban activity for our hearts and souls!

[Join our Study Date Here!](#)

[Add Study Date to your GCal](#)

save the date



AHHHHHH I cannot wait for our very first **Champs Led Seerah Party** that's happening next Monday and Tuesday In Sha Allah! I am inviting everyone ESPECIALLY those who think that Battles are the most irrelevant part of the Seerah for them. (*Confession: I used to be one of them!*) But let's be honest for a minute - we all go through versions of our own "battles" and what better way to triumph in our own day-to-day strivings than to take timeless lessons and gems from our most beloved Rasulullah ﷺ and his best Companions?

Join the Seerah Party Here!

[Add Seerah Party to your GCal \(Monday Session\)](#)

[Add Seerah Party to your GCal \(Tuesday Session\)](#)

a beautiful dua

Ya Allah,
I leave my eyes to You,
my ears to You, my
tongue to You, and my
hands to You. Ya Allah,
keep me safe and bring
me away from things
that displeases You.

aaplus.co

#abeautifuldua

I am in love with this Dua that Ustazah 'Alima shared during this week's TKV. Instead of being a puppet to the Dunia, wouldn't we

be much better off surrendering all of our selves to the Most Merciful,
Most Compassionate? May the senses and blessings Allah SWT has
gifted us always be used in obedience and not in sin, Amin!

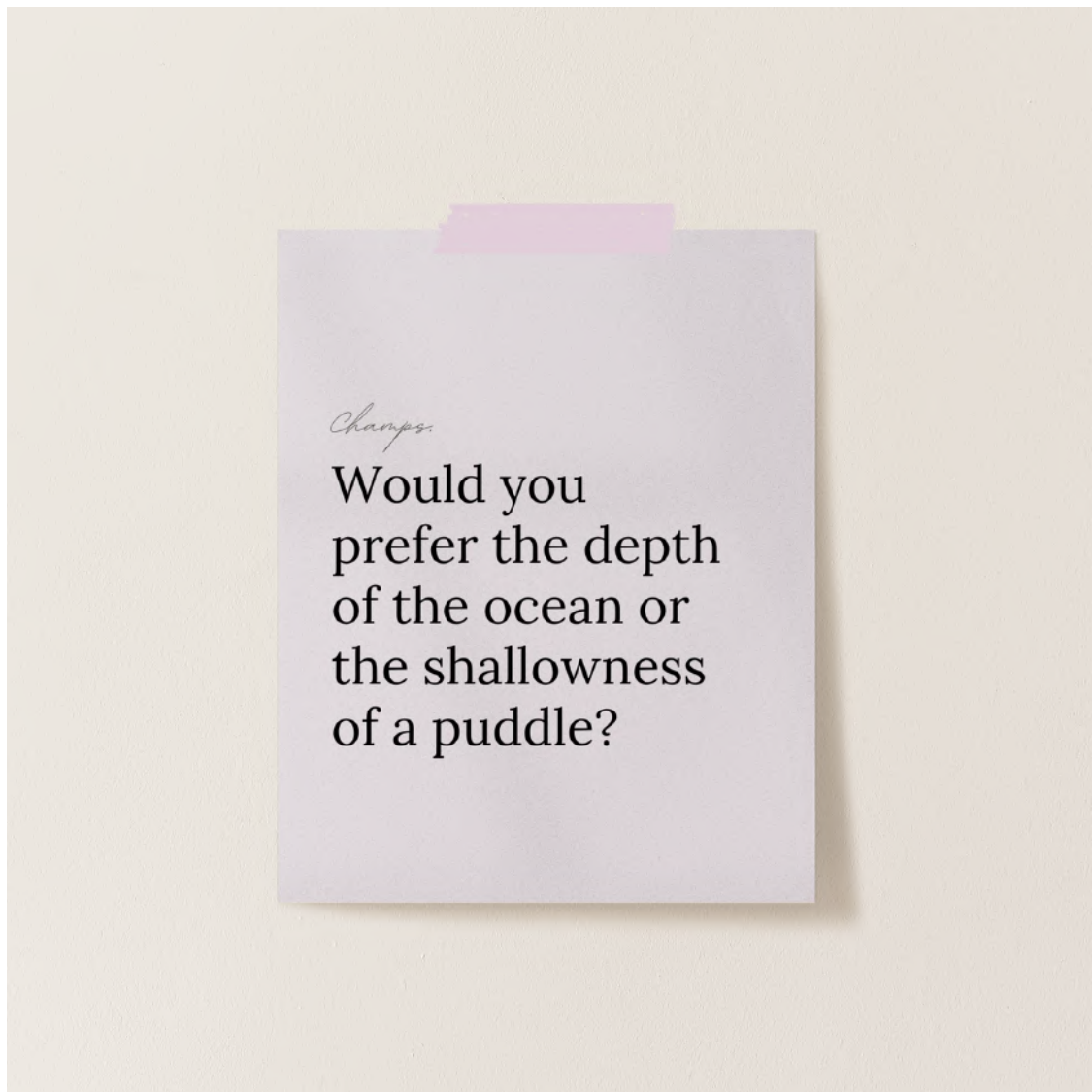
muslim meme



No, but seriously, I feel like my cats Noor and Khair are ALWAYS judging me and making sure I stay "on track". They leap to sit on my lap when I read the Quran and literally leave the room when I switch

on my TV. They are always close to me when I am on AA Plus Calls (you'll see them sometimes too in our [TKV Video Lessons!](#)) but retreat when I'm not doing anything productive LOL. Are your cats the same?

to ponder



Where I live in Tangier, we are blessed to have some of the most stunning spots to admire the Mediterranean Ocean, and every time I am there, I can't help but think, beneath the depth of this seemingly

calm and beautiful ocean, lies great power, energy, precious pearls and a whole community of sea creatures just to name a few! Every bit of the ocean forces me to remember and glorify Allah SWT. It possesses profound beauty because it stays true to its Creator. Now compare this to a puddle - don't we all just simply skip over it? Some of us even ignore it altogether! Its shallowness bears no significance and creates no inspiration within us whatsoever. To me, the depth of the ocean and the shallowness of a puddle represents our lives with Allah SWT versus our lives **without** Him. Which one would we rather be?

P.S:

March

M	T	W	T	F	S	S	
		1 Intro Email Drops!	2 Closer Email	3	4	5 EVENT Reviving Tired Hearts: Enlivening the blessed nights of Ramadan	
6	7	8	9 Closer Email NEW TKV! + Study Date asia	10 Study Date rotw	11	12 EVENT Champs Decluttering Party: Getting Ramadan Ready!	
13 asia Solah Retreat! (Part 1)	14 rotw Solah Retreat! (Part 1)	15	16 Closer Email	17 asia Solah Retreat! (Part 2)	18 rotw Solah Retreat! (Part 2)	19 EVENT Ramadan Orientation + "Check In!"	
20	21	AA Plus Ramadan Program					26
AA Plus Ramadan Program						31	

Reviving Tired Hearts: Enlivening The Nights of Ramadan

Sunday, 5th March
9pm SG | 5pm GST | 1pm UK | 7am CT

Champs Decluttering Party

Sunday, 12th March
9pm SG | 5pm GST | 1pm UK | 7am CT

Ramadan Orientation + Check-In!

Sunday, 19th March
9pm SG | 8pm WIB | 1pm UK | 8am CT

Study Date Asia

Thursday, 9th March | 9pm SG | 8pm WIB | 5pm GST

Study Date ROTW

Friday, 10th March | 8pm UK | 2pm CT

Solah Retreat Part 1

Asia: Monday, 13th March, 9pm SG
ROTW: Tuesday, 14th March, 8pm UK

Solah Retreat Part 2

Asia: Friday, 17th March, 9pm SG
ROTW: Saturday, 18th March, 8pm UK

We are less than a month away to our most favourite month of the year (!!!) In Sha Allah, and I wanted to share with you guys our March Calendar a little earlier this time round so that you can prep and take whatever steps necessary for you to join as many AA Plus activities next month, In Sha Allah! If you are a Baby Champ or this is your first time spending Ramadan with us, I am SOOOOO EXCITED for you! I

promise you it will be fun! :) As you can see from the Calendar, our intention is to ready ourselves for the blessed month mentally, physically and spiritually. May Allah SWT allow us to meet Ramadan with sincere hearts and good health, Amin!

I hope you guys have enjoyed Closer! I'll see you for our [date](#) soon!

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X
a.

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Because you signed up to become an AA Plus member.