

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

23 December 2021



# Closer

by aa

*your curated weekly spiritual booster delivered straight to your Inbox*

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*trust what*  
ALLAH SHOWS.  
*trust what*  
ALLAH REMOVES.  
*trust what*  
ALLAH GIVES.

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Assalamualaikum my Champions,

I pray you are well and that you are being gentle and kind with yourself today. The past few days have been difficult but a new day is here and I am determined to make the best out of it. One of the ways I'm trying to do that is **to seek solace in the truth that Allah SWT knows**

## **exactly what He's doing, even though I do not.**

I have learned to trust Him and that is one of the biggest gifts I've given myself this year. To just, let go and **really** let God. To give myself the space and the permission to be vulnerable in front of Him and to surrender. And to just let Him carry me through, because I trust Him.

There is a beautiful Hadith Qudsi that I hold on to that has helped me get to this stage of trust: Rasulullah SAW said, "Allah the Most High said, **'I am as My servant thinks of Me.** I am with him when he mentions Me. If he mentions Me to himself, I mention him to Myself; and if he mentions Me in an assembly, I mention him in an assembly greater than it. If he draws near to Me a hand's length, I draw near to him an arm's length. **And if he comes to Me walking, I go to him at speed.**" (Bukhari)

The first time I learned about this Hadith, I remember crying. I only need to take a step, and Allah will come to me at speed? I mean, what does this tell us? That our Rabb is Ever-Loving, Ever-Gentle, Ever-Generous, Ever-Compassionate. And so knowing all of His Names especially al-Wadud, al-Latif, al-Karim, ar-Rahman and ar-Rahim has really helped in building this trust that I have with Allah SWT.

**How can I not trust Him when He loves me more than I love myself?** So no matter how difficult, I will strive to trust His plans. I will strive to trust what He's showing me, what He's removing for me, and what He's giving me. And the beautiful thing about having this trust is the sense of peace that comes with it. And what a blessing it is to feel this calmness embrace your heart amidst the fleetingness of this world!

PS: Some lessons that have helped me increase my trust in Him is this lesson on [al-Muhaimin](#) (actually the entire [series of Allah's Names](#)) and [the Sujood episode](#) of [the Solah Series](#)!

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*This week on aa plus*



*Asia Study Date: Thursday 23 Dec, 8.45pm SG / Malaysia  
ROTW Study Date: Sunday 26 Dec, 7pm UK*

**PSA: This is one of my fav Classes on AA Plus!** I believe that as believers, we are all automatically placed in positions where we can be of service and so learning about the trait of Selflessness, and how to serve with joy without burning out is so, so important! In this episode, Ustazah Farhana Munshi and I discussed the trait of preferring others over the Self. Selflessness is a trait that is the exact opposite of the concept of Self-Love that the modern world propagates to us, but what does the Quran and the Seerah say about this? I remember feeling so inspired and recharged after this episode, so I urge you all to come to the Study Date this week so that we can learn together! ❤️

[Listen To The Episode Here](#)

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**Join Study Date Here**

**Read PDF Notes Here**

*Tip: If you find it difficult to attend the Study Date or to listen to the Class on your own, try starting with the PDF Notes!*

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# 2021 GRAD SHOW

27 December, 8.45 pm SG  
[aaplus.co/zoom](https://aaplus.co/zoom)

In Sha Allah, we will be having our Grad Show on Monday, 27th December at 8.45pm SG / 12.45pm UK. I hope you will be able to carve out some space in your heart and schedule to join us in celebrating... **you.** :) I am witness to some of your beautiful growths this year and I just want to say, how proud I am of all of you. Truly, sincerely proud of how far all of you have come in bettering yourself and trying to be the best Muslimah that you can be. So please allow my team and I to show some recognition and appreciation to all of you via the Grad Show ok? We'll have performances, games, a mini award show, and a chance to think about our intentions for the coming year,

In Sha Allah! PS: Don't forget to download your Zoom Backdrop for the Call below ok?

[Download Zoom Wallpaper for Grad Show Here](#)

*a beautiful Dua*

Ya Allah, grant  
me the courage to  
rebuild myself  
and the strength  
to better myself  
for You.

aaplus.co

#abeautifuldua

This Dua is inspired by another Dua that we all make everyday: "***iyya kanak budu wa iyya kanasta'in***". In You we worship, and only in

You we seek / beg for help. (PS: We did a [Tafsir of this Ayah here](#), and it's honestly bomb.com). As I think about all of the things I want to achieve and the intentions I want to set for the coming year, the only One who can help me attain any of it is Allah SWT Himself. In fact, without His Help, I cannot do anything whatsoever. Someone asked me how do I manage to write a Tuesday Love Letter and a Closer email every week without fail, and my immediate thought was, "**Allah.**" So Champs, whatever it is that you'd like to do, may you never forget that it is only possible with the help of Allah.

*"Iyya kanak budu wa iyya kanasta'in"*

*champs wall of art*





*Artwork by Nur Amalia, Bruneian Champ, done during Joy Room this year*

As I was clearing our AA Plus Inbox a couple of days, Allah moved me to click an email by our darling Champ, Amalia. Her email was titled "*Malia's Joy Room Artwork*" with a heart shape and it brought such a smile to my face that I wanted to share it with you guys this week. For context, sometime this year, we had another Champ, Athirah, who is a trained and certified Art Therapist to host a Joy Room for us. She prompted us to create an artwork that best describes what a Champ looks like for us, and the image above was Malia's. Here's her explanation: "the flower represents what a "champ" to me looks like. Like flowers, if we don't take care of ourselves, we're going to wilt. Water, sunlight (nur/noor/cahaya), oxygen, things we need to survive. To me, these elements represent love, self-care, knowledge, reassurance. I drew the moon because I only meet AA plus sisters at night, when I'm mostly available, and I mainly reflect at night too. The moon too symbolises the Islamic faith and I think that bit of coincidence is nice. The overall feeling the drawing gives me is peacefulness? Because that's what I want to achieve. Inner-peace." And peace, is definitely what I felt when I look at Malia's art. :)

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*in case you missed it*





Ladies, just a heads up that we will be opening AA Plus for registration **for one week only** on the 28th of Dec (next Tuesday) In Sha Allah, so if you know of a loved one who might benefit from joining us, feel free to share the news with them. There will be monthly plans (\$19/month) and yearly plans (\$190/year) available and we'd more than love to welcome friends of our Champs! A number of you have also expressed interest to sponsor sisters on AA Plus - if you are keen in doing so, simply reply to this email and my team will assist you in doing this beautiful deed for a special sister out there. ❤️❤️

**Registration Opens on the 28th of December**

# Muslim Meme



Sorry guys, no meme this week because I just wanted to show you this photo of my sister and I when we were kids! 😂😂 A piece of good news to come out from this week is that my parents were finally able to cross the borders from Singapore to Malaysia to see my Grandma after 2 whole years of not seeing one another! My Grandma lives alone so this whole time was tough for her (Alhamdulillah for good neighbours who takes care of her!) and her reaction to my parents coming back was priceless! Because my dad is now back at our **kampung**, he's been sending old photos of us when we were kids because we spent a lot of our childhood in my grandparents' village. This was one such photo! Wow, I wonder if I can pull off that Hijab style now. ✌️😂

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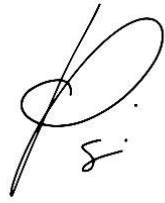
Something to Ponder

Our prayers still  
reach Him even when  
they are short, weak  
or poorly worded.



Some days, when I'm really exhausted, most of my words don't make any sense. I remember muttering to Karim some gibberish the other night and he just looked at me and shook his head. 😂 But this "miscommunication" is never the case with our Creator and us. He understands everything, even things we can't say because we are just so overwhelmed and frustrated. We learned last week during the Study Date on [Gratitude](#) to turn our complaints into duas and this spiritual hack is so amazing, I pray may our lips be moist with nothing but gratitudes and duas! So Champs, may we take comfort in the fact that our prayers will reach Allah SWT no matter how "unpolished" or short or mumbled it is. He reads our hearts, and knows what we need even without us telling Him, so us making the Dua is not because He doesn't know. But us making the Dua is so that we realise how dependent we are to Him, and how needy we should be with Him. ❤️

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ending it with His Words

### Quran 29:41

The parable of those who take protectors other than Allah is that of a spider spinning a shelter. And the flimsiest of all shelters is certainly that of a spider, if only they knew.

Seek Protection only  
from Allah SWT

His Protection covers  
all aspects, 24/7

*(If you are in need of some soulcare, join us @ [our weekly Quran Tadarus!](#))*

*With that, I hope you guys have enjoyed Closer.*

fin  
X  
a.

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Because you signed up to become an AA Plus member.

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