## بِسْمِ اللهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِيْمِ In the name of Allah, the most Gracious, the most Merciful

# 27 May 2021



your curated weekly spiritual booster delivered straight to your Inbox

# perfect place TO BEGIN AGAIN

# Assalammualaikum my Champions,

How are you? :) I pray you are well, and had a joyous and meaningful Eid with your loved ones, In Sha Allah. I have missed writing to you, and when I was thinking about what I wanted to share with you today, my heart immediately thought about one very important lesson I've learned as of late - which is that expecting ourselves to be the same as our Ramadan Self will always lead to disappointment, so be grateful that Allah SWT allowed us to taste the sweetness of faith instead.

How many of us lament, "I did so much in Ramadan. But now.... it's so hard to keep the momentum going"? But here's the thing Champs - Ramadan is a special, sacred month. It is a blessed gift that Allah SWT has given us, and no other months compare to it, which is why we are <code>supposed</code> to be a different person in Ramadan as compared to who we are outside of Ramadan. \*\*That\* is the "barakah" of Ramadan - the ability to read the Quran for hours, to wake up for Tahajjud, to go about your day productively, even without food, water and sleep.

But expecting yourself to be the same person that you were in Ramadan? That's a bit unrealistic.

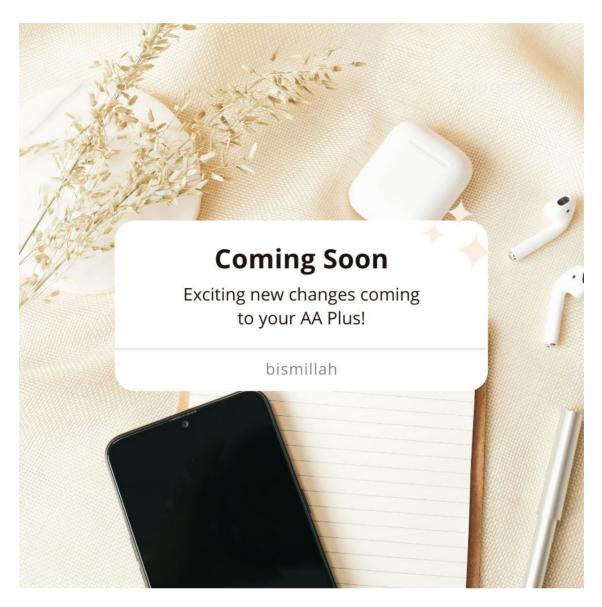
That is not to say you give up altogether, and use it as an excuse. Rather, be grateful that Allah SWT has allowed us to have a sneak peek of what we are actually capable of! Be grateful that Allah SWT has allowed us to feel the tranquillity, the peace, the joy, and the sweetness of being able to live our day to day being *so* close to Him, that we now crave it, and want to strive hard for it.

So Champs, don't sigh and beat yourself up when you reminisce about your Ramadan Self. That is not what Syawal is for! This month of Syawal is a month to celebrate our hard work in Ramadan, so pat yourself on your back, be grateful and thank Allah SWT for He has allowed you to experience a meaningful Ramadan.

And then continue to do your best to show your gratitude to your Rabb by showing up, every day, and giving your best, for His sake. ♥

Next week on an plus

You got this, Champ!



During our short break, my team and I went back to the drawing board to renew our intentions for AA Plus, plan for the second half of 2021, and discussed how we can better your experience on AA Plus. I cannot wait to share all of the new changes on June's Intro email so keep a lookout for it next Tuesday, In Sha Allah!

Intro Email Drops Tue, 1st of June

a beautiful Dua

Ya Allah, Ya Latif, You are the Subtly Gentle, so be gentle in Your moulding of me till I become Your servant whom You are pleased with.

aaplus.co

#abeautifuldua

I don't know about you, Champs, but sometimes change is scary. It's scary because there is an element of uncertainty, you are often pushed out of your comfort zone, and you have no idea what to expect. But change is the only constant in life, and change is necessary for growth, so I always pray for Allah SWT to be gentle in His moulding of me, so that I can become His servant whom He will be pleased with. And in that, it's also a much needed reminder for me to be gentle with myself too, as I go through that very change.





Something I'm guilty of doing is "excluding" Allah SWT in my plans. :( Although time and time again, He has reminded me that I plan, and we plan, and Allah also plans, and He is the best of planners. Now I do my best to share with Him about what I'm excited about, and although He already know what it is, the act of telling Him all of this just makes me feel closer to Him. Like Allah SWT is my BFF.

Muslim Meme



Her reply is gold. 😂 😂 😂

Something to Ponder

# FAITH IT TILL YOU MAKE IT



The original "fake it till you make it" never sat well with me. When I asked myself what is the one thing I need so that I "make it", the answer came naturally: Allah SWT. I need Allah SWT, always and forever, and my idea of "making it", is to make it to Jannah. Which is why "faith it till you make it" makes perfect sense to me! Just today I was thinking to myself, "I don't think I can stay sane and find peace in this crazy world without Islam" - my faith is the one thing that anchors me. So as and when we find ourselves struggling to make sense of it all, remember Champs, "faith it till you make it"!

And may we all make it to the highest of Jannah, Amin!#neighboursinjannahalways



# ending it with His Words

# Quran 21:19-20 And those nearest to Him are not too proud to worship Him, nor do they tire. They glorify Him day and night, never wavering. Do not be too proud to worship Him Do not tire to worship Him

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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