

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

29 December 2022



Closer

by aa

your curated weekly spiritual booster delivered straight to your Inbox

The One who spreads the vast blue sky, paints the glorious sunsets, and created Jannah, **fashioned you to perfection** too.

Assalamualaikum my Champions,

How are you feeling towards the end of the year? Are you taking it easy

and enjoying some quiet and having a good rest? Or are you abuzz, already excitedly planning for the new year? Personally, I am swinging between these two states, Alhamdulillah, and one of the things that have been keeping me busy is playing host to my sisters, who are currently visiting.

A few days ago, I took them to see the glorious sunset in one of the most breathtaking places in Tangier and my youngest sister exclaimed, "Aren't we so privileged to not only witness beautiful sunsets every day, but to also be created by the same God who 'paints' these stunning views? Isn't it amazing to be alive, beautiful and blessed? **Isn't it great to be Allah's?**" She said it with so much awe that I couldn't help but smile and nod in agreement alongside her.

"We truly are so, so, so blessed, Alhamdulillah. Allah has been so, so, so, so good to us," I replied. As we continued to sit in silence watching the sunset, I actually thought of all of you and wondered how the sunset looked at ***your*** own side of the world.

Champs, as we are nearing the finishing line of this year, I challenge you to make time to witness a Sunset. Because not only have I never met a Sunset I never liked 🤔, but watching the sunset is like your reward for surviving another day! And when you marvel at its beauty, remember that you, yes you (!!!), are fashioned by the same Rabb. **And just as how Allah SWT flawlessly timed the Sun to set and rise each day, He does the same with how our lives peak and dips as well. So trust Him. :)**

PS: If you do manage to catch a Sunset (or a Sunrise!) before the year ends, do send me a photo! And include the entire AA Plus family in your prayers as well ok?

get excited for



GUYSSSSSSSSSS! The last episode of Woman Up for the year is **HERE** and this latest episode is all sorts of feels! I sat down with my teammate Ida, whom many of you must know by now (she's the gentle soul who's been replying to all of your emails and also the one in charge of doing up all of our PDF Notes for our TKV Lessons!) and we looked back at some of the different ways we both have personally "Woman-Up"*ed* this year. We spoke about the importance of having a "vision" for our Akhirah goals, the power of setting mindful

intentions, our "dance" with loneliness this year, the constant jihad of living in this day and age (i.e the desire for more, the addiction of consumption etc) and the importance of getting to know who we via the route of getting closer to our Rabb. This was such a healing conversation, I couldn't help but smile every so often as I was editing the episode! If you are in need of a "BFF conversation", this episode might be your perfect companion! PS: Share with me how you "Woman-Up"*ed* this year as well! I'm sure all of you blossomed and grew quite a fair bit this year, Ma Sha Allah!

[Watch the latest episode of Woman Up!](#)

a beautiful dua

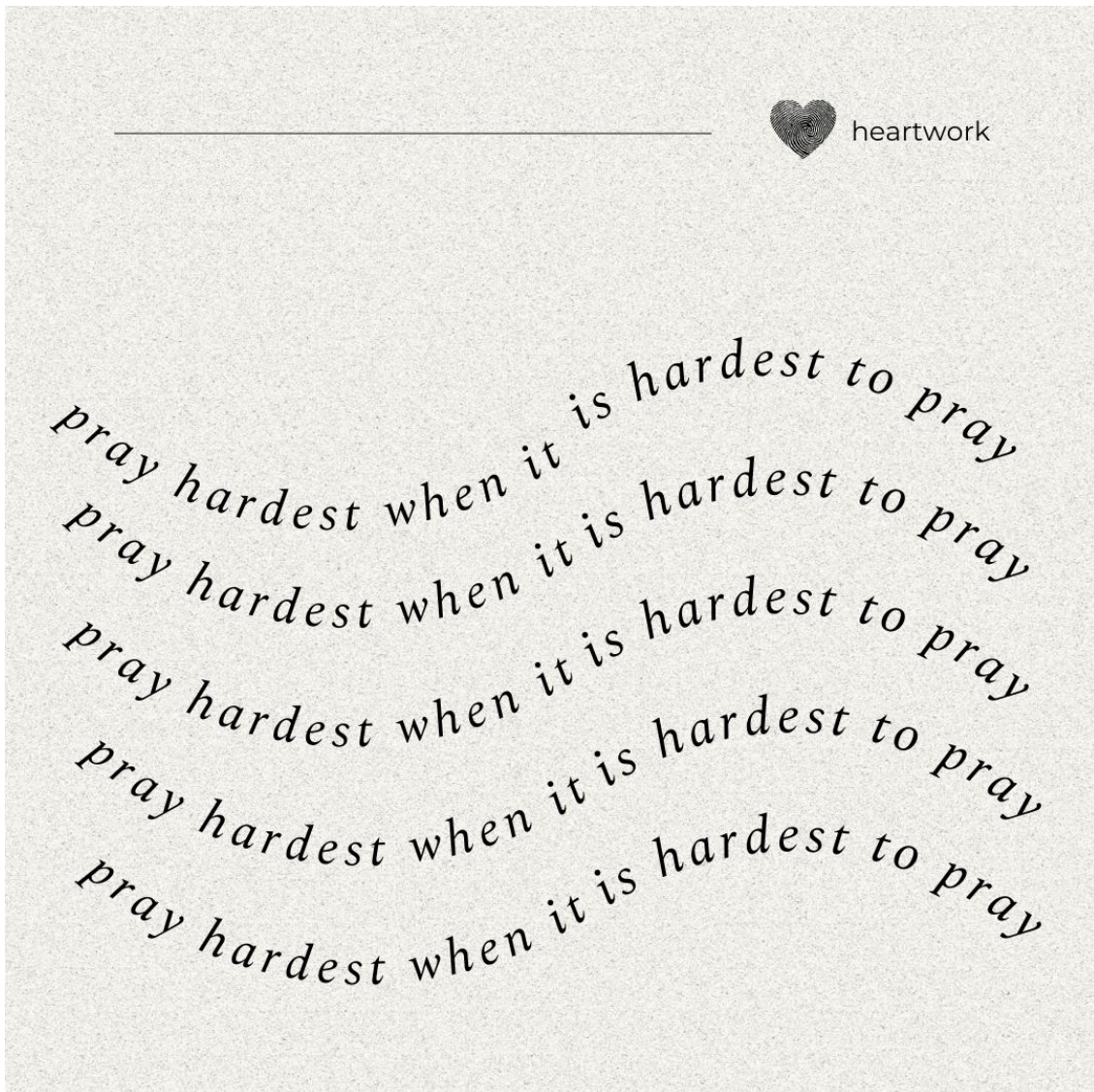
Ya Allah,
allow me to be
content with
things I do not
have.

aaplus.co

#abeautifuldua

In the latest [Woman Up](#) episode, Ida mentioned something very beautiful when we were speaking about the importance of contentment. She said (non-verbatim), "A lot of us are grateful when we get the things that we want, but having contentment with the things we don't have is also equally necessary!" I absolutely love this reflection and have been including it in my Dua - "Ya Allah, allow me to have deep contentment in the current season of my life, for all the things I already have, and also all the things that I don't. :)" ❤️ This truly helps put things into perspective, as only Allah SWT knows with utmost Wisdom what we need and what we don't.

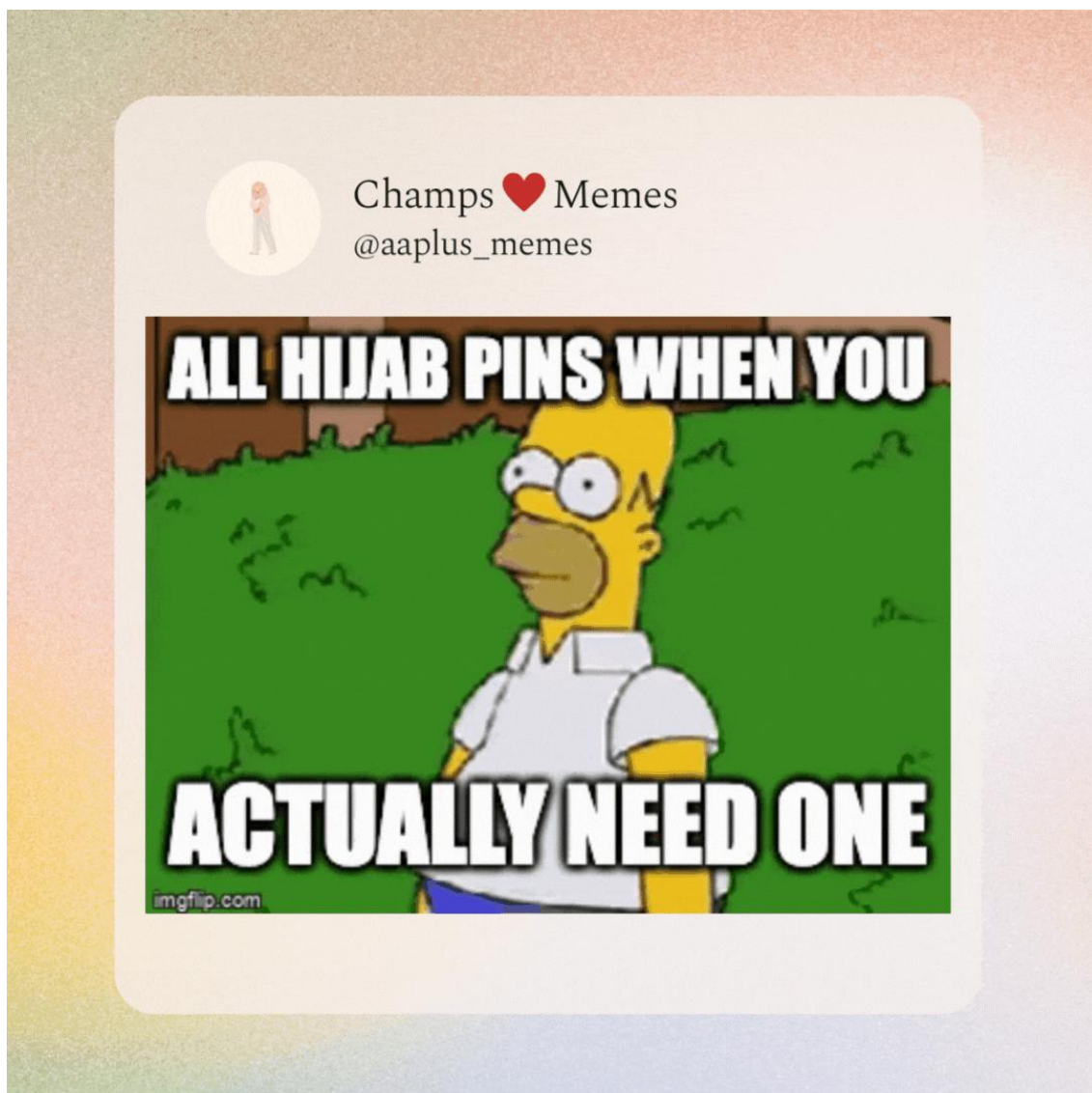
heartwork that heals



I once saw a very beautiful scene unfolding in front of me - a mother was hugging her daughter, who was about 5 years old, tightly, after they finished praying Fajr prayers. The loving mother said to her little girl, "I am so proud of you! I know you were tired and sleepy, but you woke up, and still prayed and talked to Allah. **Even when it's hard to pray, try anyways. Because Allah loves it when we try.**" At that moment, I felt like the lady was talking to me! Because I truly needed to hear those words! So Champs, it is ***especially*** when it is

hard to pray that we have to pray the hardest. May we never hesitate to run to Him, especially when we feel like we are crawling through life!

muslim meme



I am sure many of you can relate to this one! This has happened to me so many times that I now only wear instant shawls LOL. This can also apply to hair ties, socks, nail clippers and the like!

to ponder

Champs

Some very public blessings are a result of some very private duas. There's always a deeper story.

One of the biggest lessons I have learned this year is the power of making consistent and sincere duas in private. We all know this, to a certain degree, but sometimes, when envy blinds us, we forget that some very public blessings are a result of Allah SWT answering some very private duas. To the public eye, someone might seem "lucky" or "privileged", but we may never know the ceaseless sincere prayers that she has made between herself and her Rabb, the hard **and** heart work she has done for His sake, nor the tears she has cried asking for it. So

Champs, the next time we see someone else's blessings, let's focus on the One who gave them those blessings instead! And to remember that Allah SWT will never run out of gifts to shower upon us. May we always be from the people who privately and earnestly prays, Amin!

With that, I hope you guys have enjoyed this final Closer for 2022. I look forward to writing and curating more Closer emails for all of you in 2023 In Sha Allah. PS: Keep a lookout for January's Intro Email in your Inbox this Sunday, Champs!

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