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

#### 8 December 2022



your curated weekly spiritual booster delivered straight to your Inbox

# Allah SWT has been so, so good to us. Shouldn't our Akhlak then be a living proof of His Loving Grace?

Assalammualaikum my Champions,

Recently, a friend of mine reached out to me and asked me with

utmost sincerity and genuine care, "Aida, how have you been? How are you really?" I answered her with a smile and said, "Honestly, Allah SWT has been so, so, so good to me. I am honestly doing very well, Alhamdulillah." When she heard my answer, she immediately pulled me for a hug, saying, "Oh Alhamdulillah! You are so right, Allah SWT indeed has been so, so, so good to us! How lucky we are to be His servants!"

This precious moment between my friend and I has been replaying in my mind and I realised that the only reason why we both shared that beautiful interaction together was again, *because* Allah SWT is so, so, good to us. He is truly al-Karim, the Most Generous even to the ones who don't deserve His Generosity!

I pondered further: if Allah SWT has been so, so good to me, then am I living my life as proof of His Love, Guidance and Mercy towards me? How is my character? How is my speech? How is my attitude? How is my behaviour? Is my Akhlak a good representation of His Kindness towards me?

Champs, I pray may we never forget that **we have been chosen by Him** to be His Khalifahs in this Dunia. Even the angels wondered, and they asked "will You place in it (this world) someone who will spread corruption and shed blood while we glorify Your praises and proclaim Your holiness?" (2:30) - Allah SWT simply replied, "I know and you know not."

And Allah SWT definitely know of our highest potential, our abilities to have the best state of hearts, our capabilities to have beautiful character, and be a champion of this Deen!

If we don't quite yet, just remember this: we have a loving God, He has chosen us and that He will always be so, so, so good to us!:)

## get excited for



I am counting down the days to this Sunday because I am incredibly stoked to host you Champs for our AA Plus Recap Party of 2022, In Sha Allah! Working on this event has made my team and I shed

some tears, laugh in abundance, but overall, incredibly grateful for all of the Classes, Events, and Sessions that we had together this year. It's easy to forget about all of our hard *and* heart work together for 2022, but when we sit down and trace back to Day 1 of this year, Ma Sha Allah, it's clear as day that our Rabb has truly been generous with all of us here at AA Plus! Please try to carve out some time to join us this Sunday as we recap all of the important and inspiring moments of 2022 - I promise you it will be a fun and meaningful one!

Join Our \*Wajib\* Recap Party Here 😂 😂!

## gems from the 114



I was reminded of an intention I made years back of how I wanted AA Plus to centre around the Quran, which is why this new section of Closer on "Gems from The 114" is very, very dear to me! (FYI: It's the 114 because there are 114 Surahs in the Quran ♥) This week, I wanted to share with you an Ayah that we discussed very recently in our previous Tadarus session - an Ayah that I personally feel has hugged my struggling soul so much! Allah SWT mentioned in Surah at-Tawba, Ayah 102, about the group of people who failed to march with Rasulullah in the Battle of Tabuk (because of procrastination, lack of willpower + determination etc) and how even though "they have mixed goodness with evil" and have struggled to do the right thing, Allah SWT, in all of His Loving Kindness, reminded us that "it is right to hope that Allah will turn to them in mercy". I felt incredibly

understood, seen and comforted by my Rabb through this verse, and it made me want to work even harder to fight the Nafs! All because Allah SWT reminded us to always have hope in His Mercy. And hope is a powerful tool, something that the devil definitely does not want us to have!

Catch Replay of Juzuk 11's Tadarus Circle

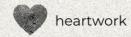
### wholesome screenshots



#### Since 50% of my phone is filled with Memes and

Screenshots (the *other* 50% are pictures of my cats ), I have decided to share some of the more wholesome screenshots with you guys on Closer! This first one is on the most adorable story ever - I mean, how sweet and romantic is it that this elderly convert couple has decided to name themselves Muhammad and Khadijah??? Now that truly is #couplegoals! But on a more serious note, I also screenshotted this because it taught me something important: the door of Guidance is open to anyone, and it can come at any time that He wills! Ma Sha Allah, truly He is the most Subtle of all Planners! PS: If you too have a wholesome screenshot on your phone, do share them!

heartwork that heals



Mood your heart with gratitude hood your heart with gratitude of your heart with gratitude

Whenever I can feel my heart swaying and in need of an "Iman Boost", the fastest and quickest way to "bounce back" is to flood my heart and my thoughts with gratitude. It works wonders every single time! And when I mean "flood", I truly mean listing down every single blessing in my life, both the big and the small and then gushing about it as I try to remember all of them. It has taken a lot of practice to get here, yes, but gratitude <code>is</code> a muscle that requires constant "training". The more we flex the gratitude muscle, the stronger we will be in times of adversity. So here's a challenge for you, Champs: at the top of your head, share 10 of the things you are most grateful for. Go on & flush out and flood out that bad thought with your Top 10 Gratitude List!

## muslim meme



Legit this is how I sometimes get my "morning workout" in! LOL! I used to blame my iPhone interface because honestly, their "snooze" button is BIGGER than their "stop alarm" button & but I have now taken accountability and have accepted the fact that I am 100% at fault! Gotta remember the modern day adage: "you snooze, you loose!"

## to ponder



I used to wonder why anyone would want to be partners in crime - I mean, isn't partnership meant to spur and support one another to success? And not pulling each other down on the path of sin? So I thought a better term would be "partners in worship" because, in Islam, having good company is extremely important!

Rasulullah even advised us in a Hadith "A man follows the religion of his friend; so each one should consider whom he makes his friend." Subhanallah. So Champs, who are your partners in worship? Partners that keeps you on track, and on the Path? Mine is

definitely all of you, Alhamdulillah! I pray may Allah SWT always keep us close to the ones whose hearts are most connected to Him, Amin!

#### PA:

I've been really honoured to connect with some of you one-on-one through your replies to the Closer emails, so please keep them coming! Also, please do not hesitate to reach out to my team and I. We'll do our best to be of service to you and to help out in any way we can. You are definitely not alone ok?

With that, I hope you guys have enjoyed Closer!

tin Xa.