



**AsSalam Alaykum!**



TEXASDAWAH CONVENTION



*Learn it! Live it!*

TEXASDAWAH CONVENTION



TEXASDAWAH CONVENTION



TEXASDAWAH CONVENTION

*Learn it! Live it!*



TEXASDAWAH CONVENTION



TEXASDAWAHCONVENTION *Learn it! Live it!*

# The Muslim Identity

Islam and the building of Character

**Muhammad Bashir Shala**



# “IDENTITY”



- **Webster Dictionary: “the *distinguishing* character or personality of an individual”**
- **Character:**
  - Behavior
  - Appearance
  - Distinguishing Characteristics of Personality



# “IDENTITY”



- **Self-defining attributes**
  - **Race/Ethnicity (White, Black, Asian, etc)**
  - **National Origin (Indo-Paki, Arab, etc)**
  - **Gender (Feminism)**
  - **Religion**

**We define our Identity based on what we believe is our most important and distinguishing character!**



# Muslim Identity



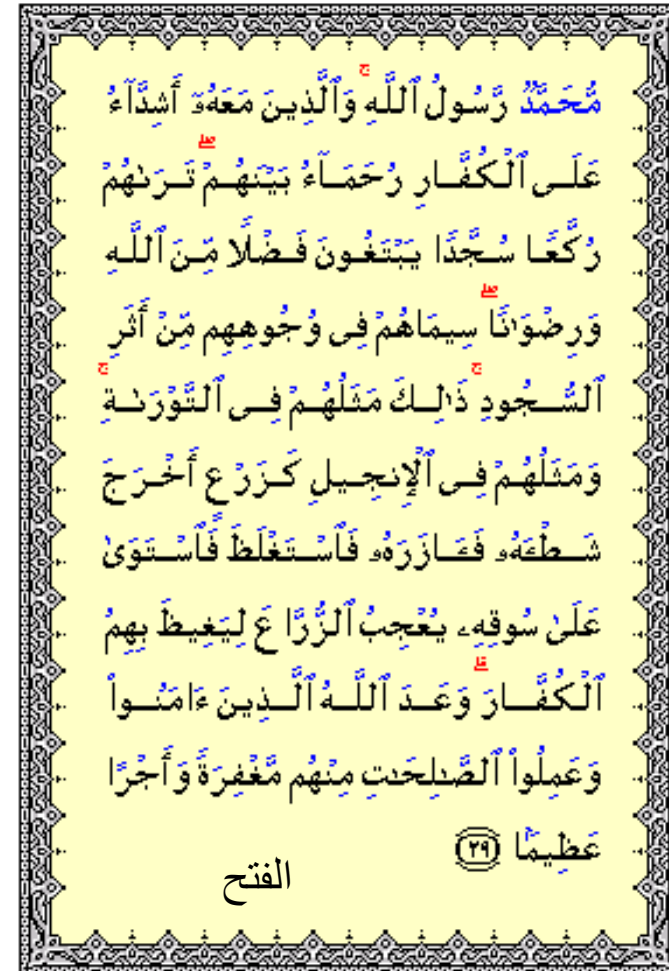
- **Can religion form a certain character or personality?**
- **Is there a distinguished Islamic Character?**
- **How can religion form a certain character?**



# Muslim Identity

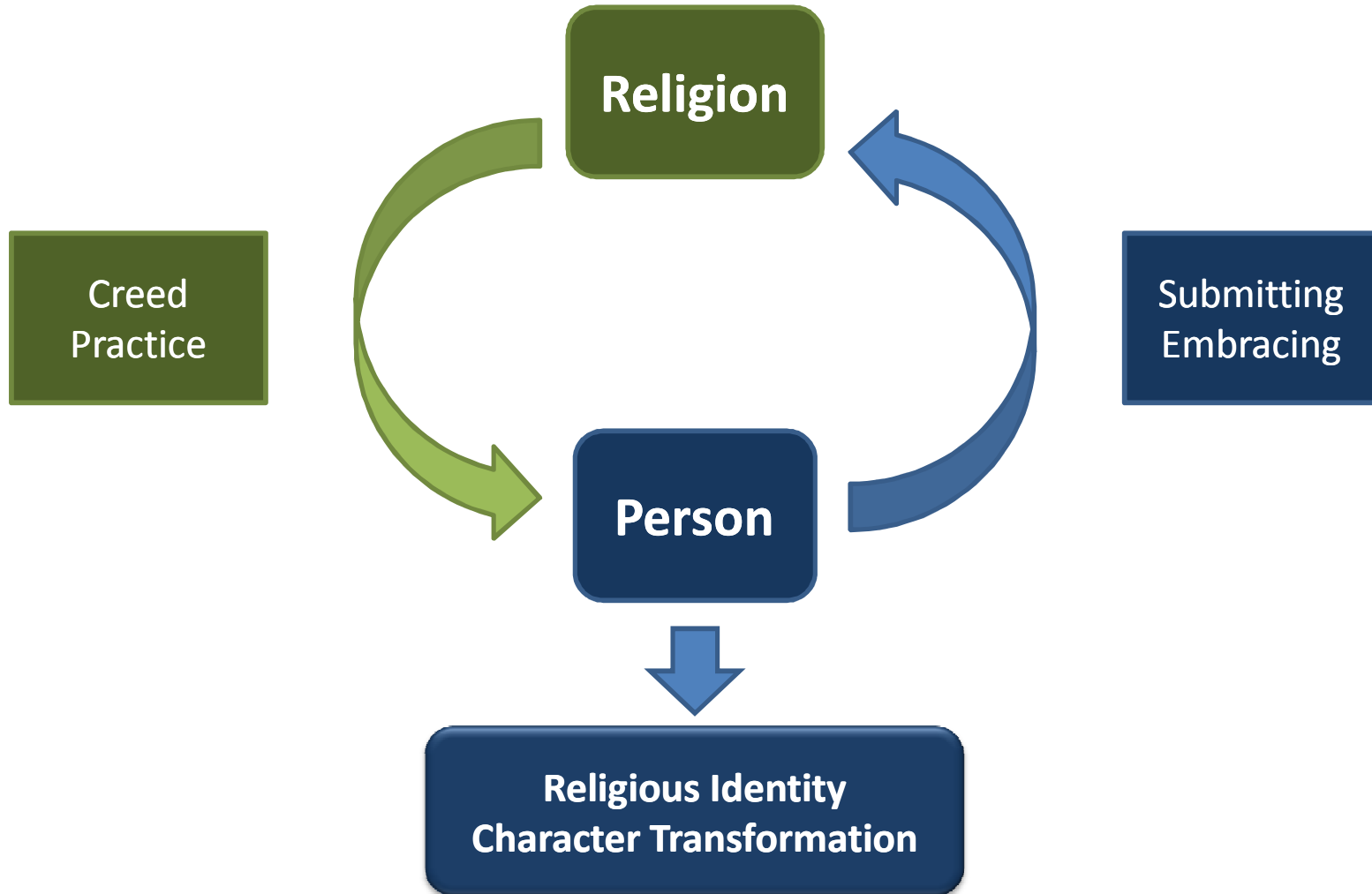


Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم is the Messenger of Allah. And those who are with him are severe against disbelievers, and merciful among themselves. You see them bowing and falling down prostrate (in prayer), seeking Bounty from Allah and (His) Good Pleasure. The mark of them (i.e. of their Faith) is on their faces from the traces of prostration (during prayers). .....



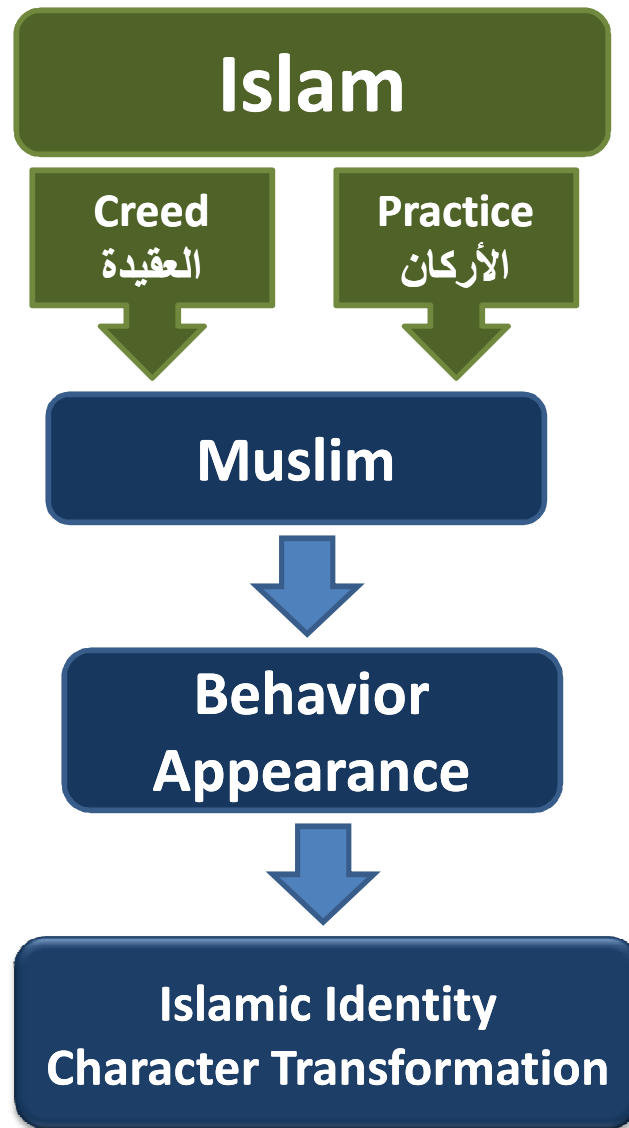


# Religion and Character





# Religion and Character







# Building Character through Creed



- **Aqeedah (Creed)**
  - **Tawheed Uloohiyah**
    - Allah is One in His rights to be worshiped alone
  - **Tawheed Ruboobiyah and Asmaa'**
    - Allah is One and Unique in His Lordship
    - Allah is One and Unique in His Names and Attributes





# Building Character through Creed



- **Tawheed Uloohiyah**
  - Allah is One in His rights to be worshiped alone

**Servitude**

**Dedication**

**Submission**

**Dignity**

**Humbleness**



# Building Character through Creed



- Tawheed Ruboobiyah and Asmaa’
  - Allah is One and Unique in His Lordship, His Names and Attributes.

**Independence**

**Strength**

**Dignity**



# Building Character through Worship



Salah

Zakah

Sawm

Hajj



# Building Character through Worship

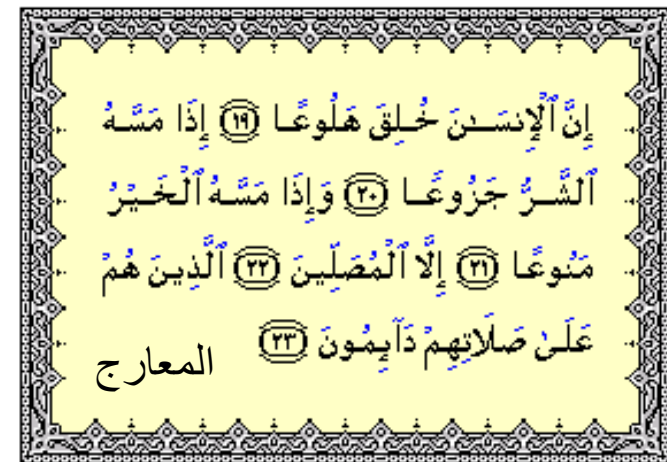


Salah

Strength

Dignity

Verily, man was created very impatient;  
Irritable (discontented, panicking) when evil  
touches him;  
And niggardly when good touches him.  
Except those who are devoted to *Salah*  
(prayers).  
Those who remain constant in their *Salah*  
(prayers);





# Building Character through Worship



Salah

Cleanliness

**Wudu: Ablution**

**Ghusl: Shower, Bath**

**Perfume (for Men)**

**Siwak: Dental hygien**

أخرج ابن ماجة عن ابن عباس رضي الله عنهما قال : قال رسول  
الله : (( إن هذا يوم عيد جعله الله للمسلمين فمن جاء إلى الجمعة  
فليغتسل، وإن كان عنده طيب فليمس منه، وعليكم بالسواك ))



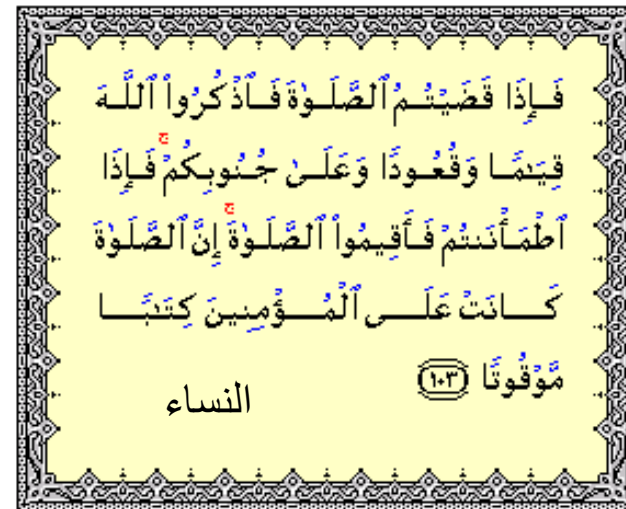
# Building Character through Worship



## Salah

When you have finished *As-Salah* (the congregational prayer), remember Allah standing, sitting down, and (lying down) on your sides, but when you are free from danger, perform *As-Salah*. **Verily, *As-Salah* (the prayer) is enjoined on the believers at fixed hours.**

## Punctuality





# Building Character through Worship



Salah

Being Considerate of Others

عن جابر أن رسول الله قال: ((مَنْ أَكَلَ البَصَلَ والثومَ والكراثَ فلا يقربنَّ مسجدنا؛  
فإنَّ الملائكة تتأذى مما يتأذى منه بنو آدم)) أخرجه مسلم

عن أبي سعيد الخدري قال: اعتكف رسول الله في المسجد، فسمعهم يجهرون  
بالقراءة، فكشف الستر فقال: ((ألا إنَّ كلَّكم منا ج ربّه، فلا يؤذِينَّ بعضكم بعضاً،  
ولا يرفع بعضكم على بعضٍ في الصلاة)) أخرجه أحمد وأبو داود.





# Building Character through Worship



**Salah**

**Leadership  
Following Leaders**

**Humbleness/Humility**

**Commitment  
Dedication**



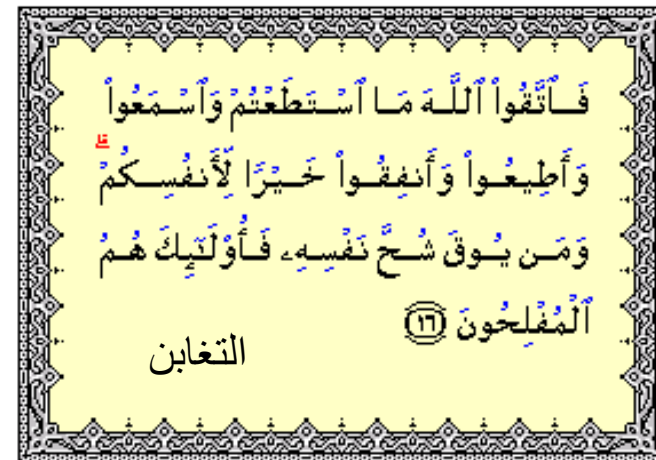
# Building Character through Worship



Zakah

Generosity

So keep your duty to Allah and fear Him as much as you can; listen and obey, and spend in charity; that is better for yourselves. And whosoever is saved from his own covetousness, then they are the successful ones.





# Building Character through Worship

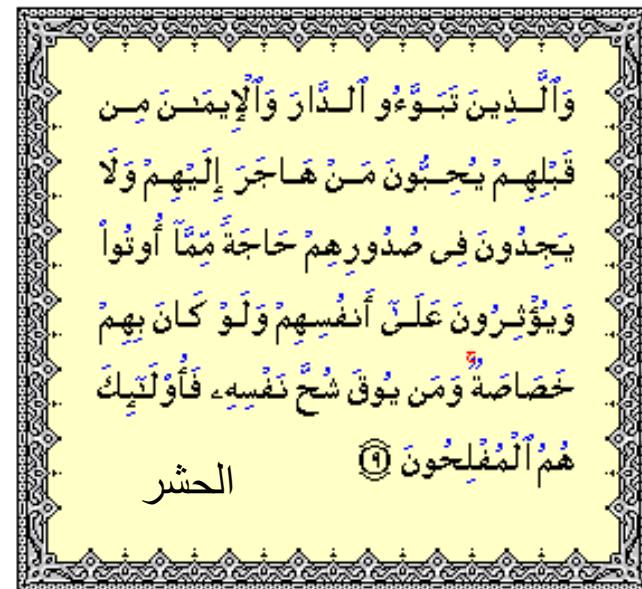


## Zakah

And (it is also for) those who, before them, had homes (in Al-Madinah) and had adopted the Faith, love those who emigrate to them, and have no jealousy in their breasts for that which they have been given, and give them preference over themselves even though they were in need of that.

And whosoever is saved from his own covetousness, such are they who will be the successful.

## Selflessness





# Building Character through Worship



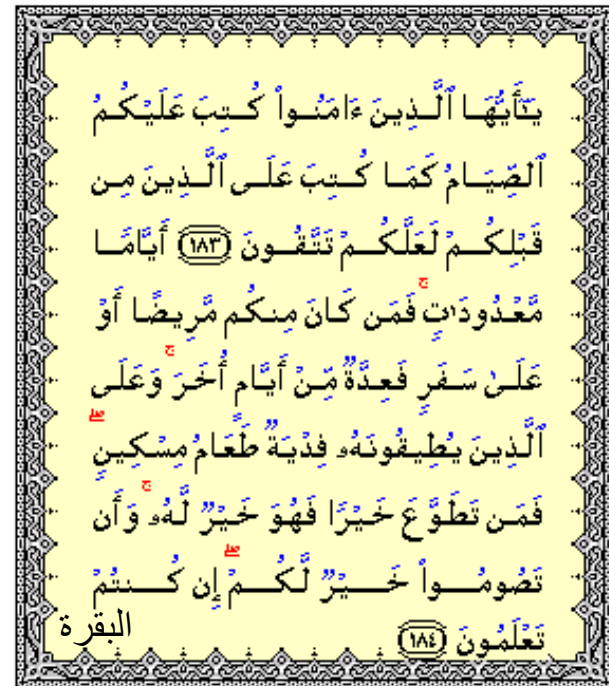
## Sawm

## Patience

## Endurance

**O you who believe! Observing *As-Sawm* (the fasting) is prescribed for you as it was prescribed for those before you, that you may become the pious .**

**for a fixed number of days, but if any of you is ill or on a journey, the same number (should be made up) from other days. And as for those who can fast with difficulty, they have (a choice either to fast or) to feed a poor person. But whoever does good of his own accord, it is better for him. And that you fast is better for you if only you know.**





# Building Character through Worship

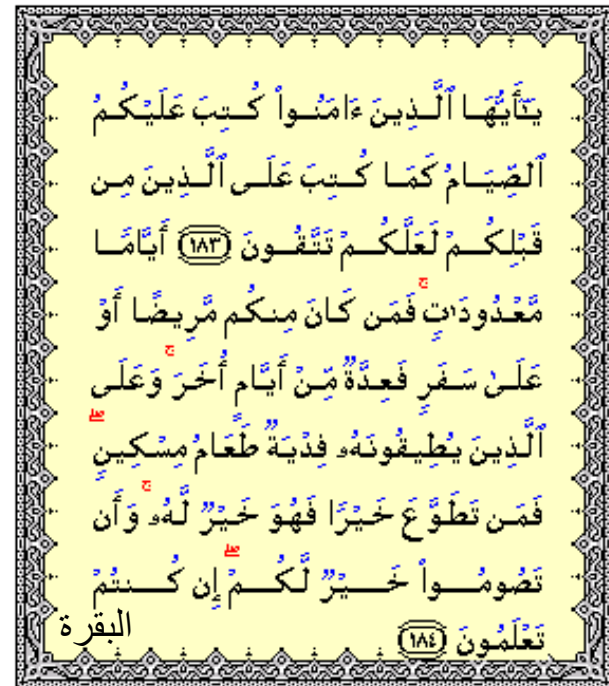


## Sawm

## Self-Control

**O you who believe! Observing *As-Sawm* (the fasting) is prescribed for you as it was prescribed for those before you, that you may become the pious .**

**for a fixed number of days, but if any of you is ill or on a journey, the same number (should be made up) from other days. And as for those who can fast with difficulty, they have (a choice either to fast or) to feed a poor person. But whoever does good of his own accord, it is better for him. And that you fast is better for you if only you know.**





# Building Character through Worship



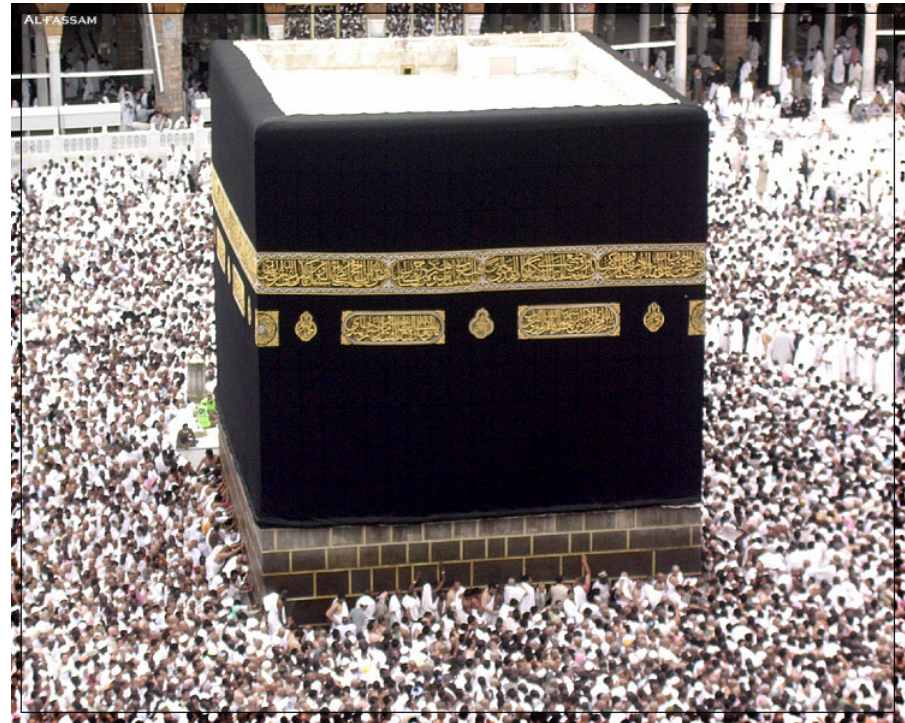
Hajj

Equality

Humbleness

Belonging to  
Ummah

Endurance





# Building Character through Worship

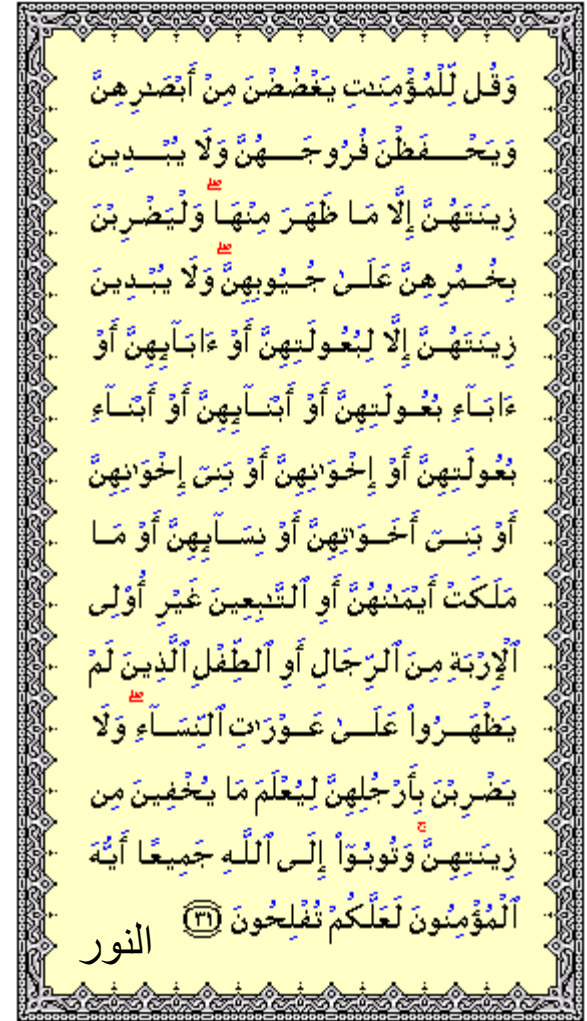


## Dress Code

And tell the believing women to lower their gaze (from looking at forbidden things), and protect their private parts (from illegal sexual acts) and not to show off their adornment except only that which is apparent, and to draw their veils all over their folds (faces, necks and bosoms) and not to reveal their adornment except to their husbands, or their father....

And let them not stamp their feet so as to reveal what they hide of their adornment. And all of you beg Allah to forgive you all, O believers, that you may be successful.

## Modesty





# Muslim Identity



**Punctuality**

**Selflessness**

**Self-Control**

**Endurance**

**Leadership  
Following Leaders**

**Generosity**

**Independence**

**Strength**

**Cleanliness**

**Patience**

**Dignity**

**Humbleness**

**Commitment  
Dedication**

**Modesty**

**Being Considerate of Others**





# Muslim Identity



- **Character**
  - Absorb Islamic teaching into our personality
- **Behavior**
  - Act according to Islamic morals and ethics
- **Appearance**
  - The Islamic “look” in modesty and cleanliness



**Islam**

**Creed**  
العقيدة

**Practice**  
الأركان

**Muslim**

**Behavior**  
**Appearance**

**Islamic Identity**  
**Character Transformation**

**Representing Islam**  
**(Da'wah)**

**Living Islam**  
**(Application)**



# Muslim Identity



- **We need to identify ourselves as Muslims, first and foremost.**
- **We need to reflect Islam in our character, behavior and appearance.**
- **Our Islamic Identity is the living example for Da'wah to Islam**



# Muslim Identity



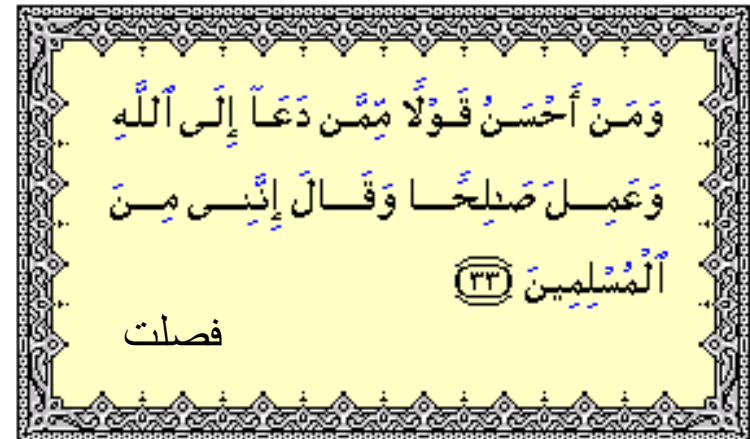
**Islam...**

**Love it!**

**Live it!**

# Deploying the Muslim Identity and Character in Da'wah

*And who is better in speech  
than he who invites to Allah,  
and does righteous deeds, and  
says: "I am one of the  
Muslims."*





# Manners of Da'wah



- **First: Arm yourself!**
  - **Piety (Taqwa)**
  - **Knowledge (Ilm)**
  - **Sincerity (Ikhlas)**

**Commitment  
Dedication**



# Manners of Da'wah



- Use wisdom and gentle advice

Invite to the Way of your Lord with wisdom and fair preaching, and argue with them in a way that is better. Truly, your Lord knows best who has gone astray from His Path, and He is the Best Aware of those who are guided.



Humbleness

Being Considerate of Others



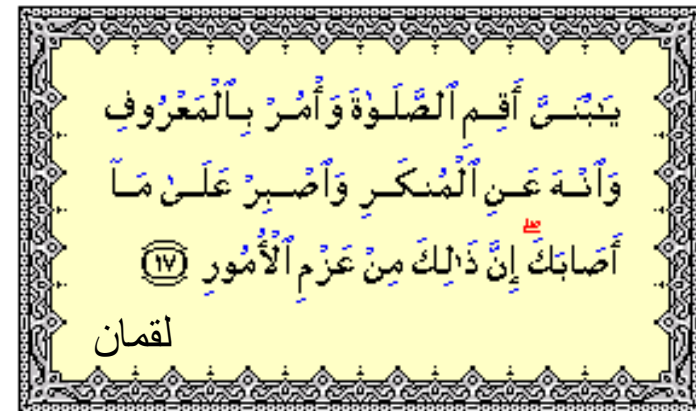
# Manners of Da'wah



- **Patience: Be prepared to endure harm**

**"O my son! Perform As-Salat, enjoin good, and forbid evil, and bear with patience whatever befalls you.**

**Verily, these are some of the important commandments.**



**Endurance**

**Strength**





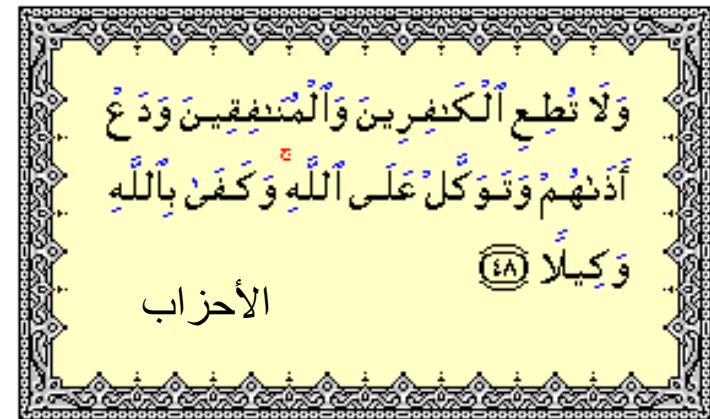
# Manners of Da'wah



- Rely on Allah and trust in Him

And obey not (the behests) of the Unbelievers and the Hypocrites, and heed not their annoyances, but put your trust in Allah. For enough is Allah as a Disposer of affairs.

Independence



Strength

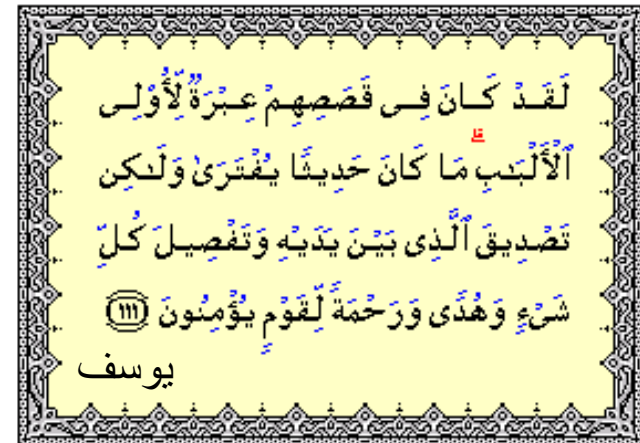


# Manners of Da'wah



- Inspire guidance from the Stories of the Quran and Seerah

Indeed in their stories, there is a lesson for men of understanding. It is not a forged statement but a confirmation of which were before it and a detailed explanation of everything and a guide and a Mercy for the people who believe.



**Commitment  
Dedication**

**Strength**

**Endurance**

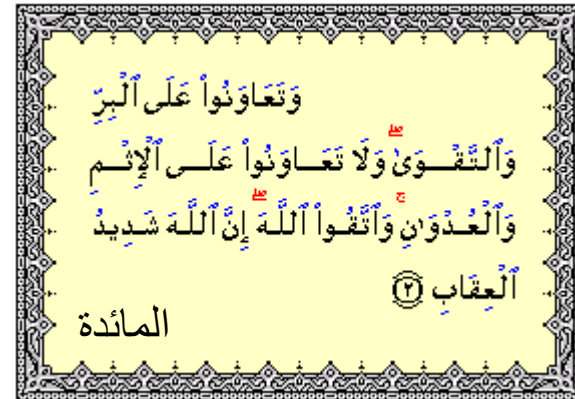


# Manners of Da'wah



- **Work with others in cooperation**

Help you one another in *Al-Birr* and *At-Taqwa* (virtue, righteousness and piety); but do not help one another in sin and transgression. And fear Allah. Verily, Allah is Severe in punishment.



**Leadership**  
**Following Leaders**



# Manners of Da'wah



- Be a good example!
- Accept advice and criticism!
- Selflessness, focus on the goal!
- Start with the closest circle to you!

And admonish your nearest kinsmen!

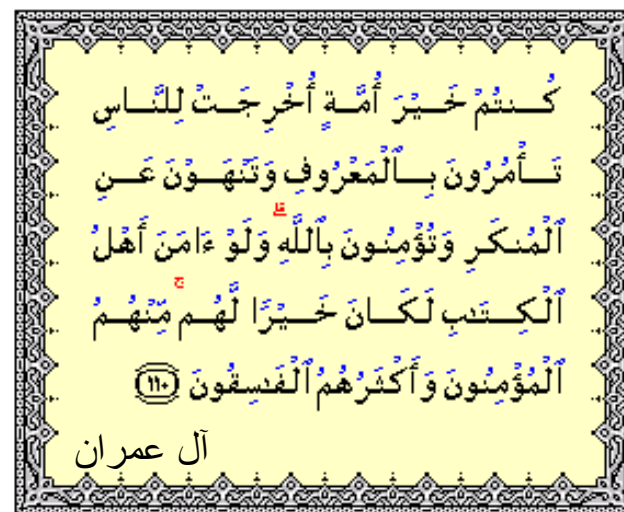




# “The Best of People”



*“You are the best of peoples ever raised up for mankind; you enjoin Al-Ma‘ruf (Good) and forbid Al-Munkar (Evil), and you believe in Allah.....”*





# Muslim Identity



**Islam...**  
**Learn it!**  
**Love it!**  
**Live it!**



# Da'wah Challenges



- **What stops people from engaging in Da'wah?**
  - **Fear of Mockery**
  - **Fear of being harmed**
  - **Fear of losing friends/Social isolation**
  - **Depending on “others” to do the job**

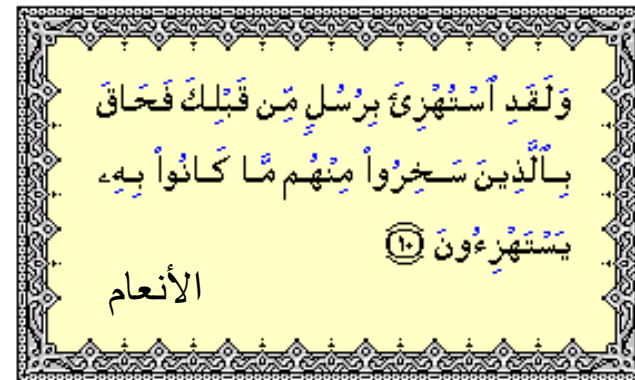


# Da'wah Challenges



- **Fear of Mockery**

And indeed (many) Messengers before you were mocked at, but their scoffers were surrounded by the very thing that they used to mock at.





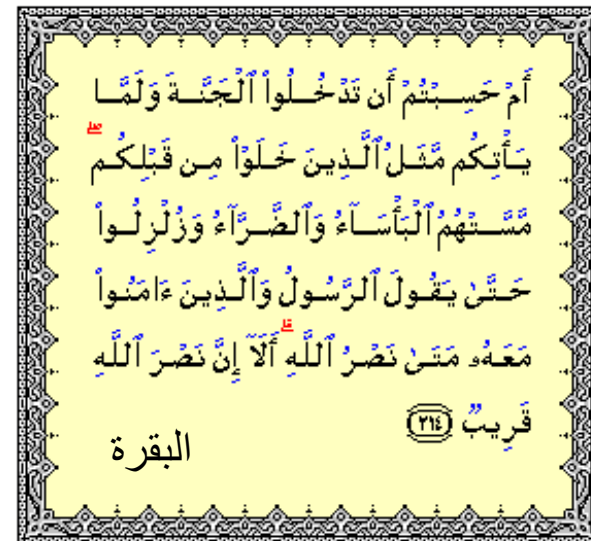


# Da'wah Challenges



- **Fear of being harmed**

Or think you that you will enter Paradise without such (trials) as came to those who passed away before you? They were afflicted with severe poverty and ailments and were so shaken that even the Messenger and those who believed along with him said, "When (will come) the Help of Allah?" Yes! Certainly, the Help of Allah is near!





# Da'wah Challenges



- **Fear of losing friends/Social isolation**
  - **Father of Ibrahim**
  - **Son of Nooh**
  - **Quraysh's Siege against Muslims (embargo)**



# Da'wah Challenges



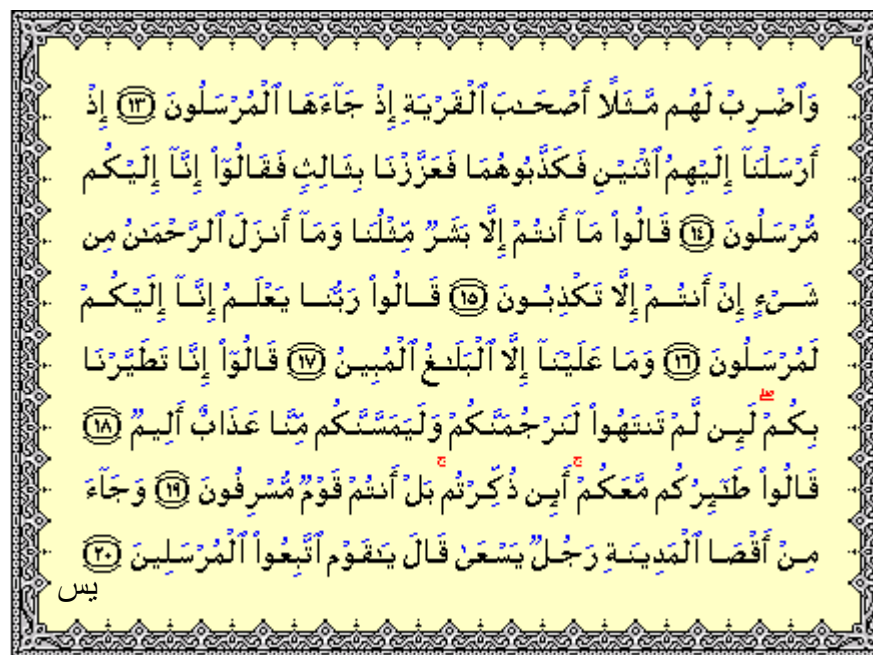
- Depending on “others” to do the job

And put forward to them a similitude: the (story of the) dwellers of the town, when there came Messengers to them.

When We sent to them two Messengers, they belied them both; so We reinforced them with a third, and they said: "Verily we have been sent to you as Messengers."

They (people of the town) said: "You are only human beings like ourselves, and the Most Gracious (Allah) has revealed nothing. You are only telling lies." .....

.....And there came a man running from the farthest part of the town. He said: "O my people! Obey the Messengers.

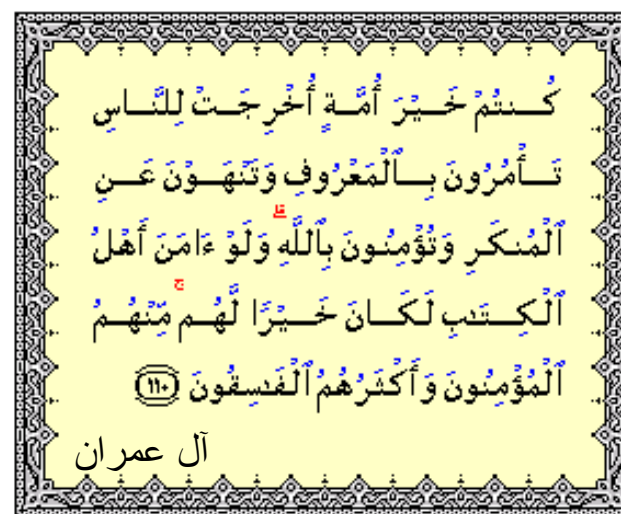




# “The Best of People”



*“You are the best of peoples ever raised up for mankind; you enjoin Al-Ma‘ruf (Good) and forbid Al-Munkar (Evil), and you believe in Allah.....”*





# Muslim Identity



**Islam...**  
**Learn it!**  
**Love it!**  
**Live it!**  
**Spread it!**