

Chapter 3

The Guide

Lesson 1

If You Get Lost



Key focus:

What do we know about Allah **y**?



Vocabulary:

Intercede (v): to persuade someone to save someone else from punishment.



Get Ready, Get Set...

If you were out on a trip with your family but you accidentally got lost, what would you do? How could you get help?

Talk with your partner: Has this ever happened to you? How did you feel for those few minutes before you found your family?





GO...

It's a horrible feeling when we realise we are lost.

We know that Allah ﷻ has given us a map for life: the Shar'iah. And we have a compass that lets us know when we are straying from the path: a heart clean from sins.

But sometimes in life, when we become forgetful of Allah ﷻ, we can lose sight of the map and the compass doesn't help us. It is at these times that we are really lost.

There is an ayah in the Qur'an that can always help us like an emergency life jacket. It can keep us afloat when life seems to be a vast and wild ocean. This is called *Ayat Al Kursi*, or The Verse of the Throne.



Amazing Ayaat!

"Allah is He besides Whom there is no god, the Living, the Everlasting; no tiredness ever seizes Him, nor does He rest. Everything in the heavens and the earth belongs to Him; and who can intercede with Him without His permission? He knows what is ahead of all people and what they have left behind, while they have none of His knowledge except what He allows, His throne extends over the heavens and the earth, and He never tires in their safekeeping. He is the Most High, the Great." Surat Al

Baqara 2:255

﴿اللَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ الْحَيُّ الْقَيُّومُ لَا تَأْخُذُهُ سِنَّةٌ وَلَا نَوْمٌ لَهُ مَا فِي السَّمَوَاتِ وَمَا فِي الْأَرْضِ مَنْ ذَا الَّذِي يَشْفَعُ عِنْدَهُ إِلَّا بِإِذْنِهِ يَعْلَمُ مَا بَيْنَ أَيْدِيهِمْ وَمَا خَلْفَهُمْ وَلَا يُحِيطُونَ بِشَيْءٍ مِّنْ عِلْمِهِ إِلَّا بِمَا شَاءَ وَسِعَ كُرْسِيُّهُ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ وَلَا يَئُودُهُ حِفْظُهُمَا وَهُوَ الْعَلِيُّ الْعَظِيمُ﴾
سورة البقرة 2:255

In this beautiful verse, Allah ﷻ reminds us that He is always watching over us. Nothing can happen without Him knowing about it. He knows both what has already happened in our lives and what will happen in the future.

Nobody can keep a secret from Allah ﷻ. He sees the good and bad things we do. Remembering this, we are motivated to make good choices and to work hard to please Him.

Allah ﷻ will also see if someone does wrong to us. So we do not need to get too stressed and upset, as He will make sure there is justice. Nobody can escape punishment for wrongdoings, and no good deed will go unrewarded, even if nobody but Allah ﷻ knows you did it.

This verse can ease our stress and worries. When we remember that Allah ﷻ is in control of everything and will always do the best for us, our fears and anxieties seem less scary.

Ayat Al Kursi, as it is known, also reminds us that Allah ﷻ is the One who protects us and keeps us safe on our journey through life. One of Allah's ﷻ beautiful names is Al Hadi, the Guide.

And Allah invites to the Home of Peace and guides whom He wills to the Straight Path. Surat Yunus 10: 25)

﴿وَاللَّهُ يَدْعُو إِلَى دَارِ السَّلَامِ وَيَهْدِي مَنْ يَشَاءُ إِلَى صِرَاطٍ مُسْتَقِيمٍ﴾ سورة يونس 25:10

When life seems confusing and difficult, Allah ﷻ reminds us that He is the one who can guide us to safety and eternal happiness. Allah ﷻ offers His guidance to all people, but it is our choice to accept this guidance.

Verily, We (Allah) show him the Way, whether he be grateful or ungrateful.

Surat Al Insan 76:3

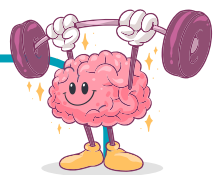
﴿إِنَّا هَدَيْنَاهُ السَّبِيلَ إِمَّا شَاكِرًا وَإِمَّا كَفُورًا﴾ سورة الإنسان 3:76

Now Consider This:

- Do you want to accept Allah's ﷻ guidance?
- What do you need to do to accept Allah's ﷻ guidance?
- Are you doing these things?

Train Your Brain!

Make it a habit to recite Ayat Al Kursi after every prayer and before sleeping.





Show What You Know!

What does a guide do? Make a list of ideas. Then, next to each idea write about how you think Allah ^y does this in your life.

What Does a Guide Do?

Shows someone the way

How Does Allah Guide Me?

Allah shows us how to live through the Qur'an and the life of the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ

Lesson 2

The Training



Key focus:

How can trusting Allah **Y** in times of difficulty help us to become better people?



Vocabulary:

Boycott (v): to refuse to participate in something in order to show disapproval of it.



Get Ready, Get Set...

Find someone you trust in your class. One of you should be blindfolded. The other will then give instructions for the blindfolded partner to walk through an obstacle course. Now swap roles and play again.

Now Consider This:

- How did it feel to be blindfolded? Did you need to trust your partner?





GO...

Following a path without being able to see what is in front of you is frightening. You need a guide and you need to trust that guide fully.

Imagine now that you were walking blindfolded through a forest, not following an existing path but making your own. The branches would scratch your arms and the grass would tangle around your legs.



The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) was tasked with a dangerous mission: to show the worshippers of idols that their religion was wrong. After three years of secret preaching, the sermon on Mount Safa started a new phase for the Muslims. The Prophet (ﷺ) began to teach in open about the religion. The Quraysh responded with hostility and violence. The weak, like Bilal Ibn Rabah, were tortured by their masters, and the sons of the wealthy families, like Mus'ab Ibn Umair, were punished by their families. This led more than eighty Muslims to make a hijrah, or migrate, to Abyssinia in East Africa where they lived peacefully for ten years under the rule of the Christian king, the Negus.

The Quraysh offered the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) money and power if he would agree to stop calling people to believe that there was only one god. When the Prophet (ﷺ) refused, a plot was made to kill him. He was very nearly strangled whilst he was praying near the Ka'abah.

But Allah ﷻ strengthened the Muslims by bringing two leaders of the Quraysh to follow Islam: Hamza Ibn Abdul Muttalib and Umar Ibn Al Khattab. This made the Quraysh change their tactic. They decided to **boycott** the Muslims and those non-Muslims who supported them. They refused to trade with them. This was a time of near starvation.

During all this turmoil and hardship, at no time did the Prophet (ﷺ) and Companions consider giving up. At no time did they doubt the truth of the message. At no time did they respond to bad treatment with violence.

They were not alone or blindfolded as they cut a path through the savage forest. They had the Greatest Guide: Allah ﷻ. All this hardship was training for the Prophet (ﷺ) and his followers. They were learning patience, self-discipline and to rely on Allah ﷻ alone. It was training for their hearts to learn taqwa.

Now Consider This:

- What made the Prophet (ﷺ) and his Companions so determined to live according to their faith and invite others to worship Allah ﷻ?
- What gave them the strength and patience?

The Muslims were blessed that the Prophet (ﷺ) was receiving regular revelation from Allah ﷻ. It was clear to them that Allah ﷻ was watching them and would protect them and grant them victory.

In Surat Al Muffaffin, Allah ﷻ warns the people who make fun of the Muslims:

"The bad people used to laugh at those who believed. They winked at each other whenever they passed by, then hurried back to their associates to laugh and joke, and whenever they saw them they would say, 'for sure these are the ones who got it all wrong!'"

Surat Al Mutaaffifin 83:29-32

﴿إِنَّ الَّذِينَ أَجْرَمُوا كَانُوا مِنَ الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا يَضْحَكُونَ ﴿٢٩﴾ وَإِذَا مَرُّوا بِهِمْ يَتَغَامَزُونَ ﴿٣٠﴾ وَإِذَا انْقَلَبُوا إِلَىٰ أَهْلِهِمْ انْقَلَبُوا فَكِهِينَ ﴿٣١﴾ وَإِذَا رَأَوْهُمْ قَالُوا إِنَّ هَٰؤُلَاءِ لَضَالُّونَ ﴿٣٢﴾﴾
سورة المطففين 32-29:83

The Muslims memorised these verses of Surah Al Mutaaffifeen and use them to remind these cheating criminals that there would be consequences for their actions in the next life.

The Prophet (ﷺ) had full trust in Allah ﷻ. He trusted that a day would come soon when he would be able to establish Allah's ﷻ religion of justice and peace in the harsh desert society.

Now Consider This:

- Have you ever had a difficult time? What did you learn from this experience? How did Allah ﷻ help you in the end?



Amazing Ayaat!

“And certainly, We shall test you with something of fear, hunger, loss of wealth, lives and fruits, but give good news to the patient, who, when afflicted with calamity, say: ‘Truly, to Allah we belong and truly, to Him we shall return.’ They are blessed and will be forgiven from their Lord, and they receive His Mercy, and they are the guided ones” Surat Al Baqara 2:155-157

﴿وَلَنَبْلُوَنَّكُمْ بِشَيْءٍ مِّنَ الْخَوْفِ وَالْجُوعِ وَنَقْصٍ مِّنَ الْأَمْوَالِ وَالْأَنْفُسِ وَالثَّمَرَاتِ وَبَشِّرِ الصَّابِرِينَ ﴿١٥٥﴾ الَّذِينَ إِذَا أَصَابَتْهُمُ مُصِيبَةٌ قَالُوا إِنَّا لِلَّهِ وَإِنَّا إِلَيْهِ رَاجِعُونَ ﴿١٥٦﴾ أُولَٰئِكَ عَلَيْهِمْ صَلَوَاتٌ مِّن رَّبِّهِمْ وَرَحْمَةٌ وَأُولَٰئِكَ هُمُ الْمُهْتَدُونَ ﴿١٥٧﴾﴾ سورة البقرة 2:155-157



Show what You know!

Hardships teach us to be better people.

On the left hand side, write a list of the problems that faced the Prophet (ﷺ) and the Muslims in Makkah.

Now write next to each hardship the good characteristics that the Muslims developed through that experience.

Hardship

Good characteristics



Lesson 3

You Never Walk Alone



Key focus:

How can we get help when life gets tough?



Vocabulary:

Insignificance (n): small and not noticeable.



Get Ready, Get Set...

You are going to play tag, with a twist! One person will be 'it' and their task is to try and tag you. If you are tagged, you will also become 'it'. You will be safe from tagging if you hold the hand of a classmate. Before you hold hands, you should call out "Help me, brother", or "Help me, sister."



GO...

We have learned that sometimes following the path of Allah ﷻ causes other people to make our lives difficult. At these times, we must not be shy to ask for help.

Now Consider This:

- Who should we ask for help first? Who else can help us?

The Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) had people around him who offered him support. His beloved wife, Khadijah, offered him emotional support and the wealth that she had earned as a businesswoman. The Prophet's (ﷺ) uncle, Abu Talib, had offered him protection from the violence of the Quraysh. But, in the tenth year of Prophethood, Abu Talib died. Three days later Khadijah also passed away. The Prophet (ﷺ) was heartbroken.

In the same year, the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) started to spread the message of Islam to the towns and tribes outside of Makkah. He took a trip to Ta'if and spent ten days delivering the message, but nobody responded. He was driven out of Ta'if by rock-throwing and jeering children. With blood flowing down his legs, he stopped in an orchard to rest. He made a dua to Allah ﷻ:

"O Allah! To You alone I complain about my helplessness, my poverty and my insignificance in the eyes of the people. You are the Most Merciful. You are the Lord of the helpless and the weak. O my Lord! You would not leave me in the hands of a distant relative who would sullenly frown at me or an enemy who has control over me. If You are not angry with me, there is nothing for me to worry about."

One of Allah ﷻ's beautiful names is *Al Mujib* – the Responder to Prayers. Allah ﷻ heard His Messenger's (ﷺ) dua. On the way back to Makkah, the angel Jibril appeared and asked the Prophet (ﷺ) if he would like Makkah to be crushed between two mountains, killing all the people there. The Prophet (ﷺ) did not want them to be killed, and he replied, **"Maybe one of their children will come to worship Allah and associate no gods with Him."**

While we should ask for help from people when we need it, we must not forget that it is Allah ﷻ alone who has the power to help us.

"And when My servants ask you, O Muhammad, concerning Me-indeed I am near. I respond to the invocation of every supplicant when he calls upon Me." Surat Al Baqara 2:186)

﴿وَإِذَا سَأَلَكَ عِبَادِي عَنِّي فَإِنِّي قَرِيبٌ أُجِيبُ دَعْوَةَ الدَّاعِ إِذَا دَعَانِ فَلْيَسْتَجِيبُوا لِي

وَلْيُؤْمِنُوا بِي لَعَلَّهُمْ يَرْشُدُونَ﴾ سورة البقرة 2:186

Allah ﷻ loves us to make duas. When we regularly make dua for any need, big or small, it shows that we are always aware of Allah ﷻ. Making dua is like asking Allah ﷻ to hold our hand as we cut a path through the forest. Allah ﷻ, Al Hadi, the Guide, hears every call for help from His lost travellers and those whose path has become hard.

One of the Companions tells us a story: "One day I was riding behind the Prophet (ﷺ) when he said, 'Young man, I will teach you some words. Be mindful of Allah, and He will take care of you. Be mindful of Him, and you shall find Him at your side. If you ask, ask of Allah. If you need help, seek it from Allah. Know that if the whole world were to gather together in order to help you, they would not be able to help you except if Allah had written so. And if the whole world were to gather together in order to harm you, they would not harm you except if Allah had written so. The pens have been lifted, and the pages are dry.'" (At-Tirmidhi)

Amazing Ayaat!

"And whoever fears Allah—He will make for him a way out and will provide for him from where he does not expect."

Surat At-Talaq 65:2-3

﴿...وَمَنْ يَتَّقِ اللَّهَ يَجْعَلْ لَهُ مَخْرَجًا ۖ وَيَرْزُقْهُ مِنْ حَيْثُ لَا يَحْتَسِبُ...﴾ سورة الطلاق 3-2:65



Show What You Know!

In silence, think of all the things you need help with. Maybe it is something that you will ask a person to help you with as well, such as completing your homework. Maybe there are some bigger things you need help with too, such as making friends. Make a list in your workbook.

Now raise your hands for dua and silently ask Allah ﷻ to help you. Remember that you are talking to your Creator. Be polite. Praise Allah ﷻ and send prayers of peace upon the Prophet (ﷺ). Then open your heart and ask Allah ﷻ for every kind of help you need, no matter how big or small.

