

واشكروا لي ولا تكفروا

Be Grateful to Me and Don't Be Ungrateful

16 شوال 1437

21.7.16

The strength of gratitude

When Allah bestows any blessing upon you, use it to please Him. This is gratitude.

The grateful person is content and happy with whatever situation Allah places him in.

قوة الشكر

الشكر طريق سهل للنجاح

Gratitude is the easy way to success

If the head of any organization is appreciative of his employees, they will be motivated to do work harder and better. If he demotivated them, by criticism and complaints all the time, then they will be disheartened. If the wife always appreciates her husband, where he does something she likes, or not, he will be successful in his career. The saying that behind every successful man there is great woman can be rephrased as an appreciative woman!

Our problem is that we judge people according to what we want. Don't expect everyone to be like you, they are all a test; appreciate humanity. Allah chose the relatives and friends that you have. If you are not appreciative, you may get someone worse! You are tested with shukr with whatever you are given. Shukr shows submission, it makes society quiet and content. Accept what comes to you and be grateful.

الشكر طريق الإبداع

Gratitude is the way to creativity and invention

When you appreciate someone, you give them free space. Otherwise, you make them pressured and restrained.

الشكر طريق السعادة

Gratitude is the way to happiness

When you appreciate people, even though they make mistakes, this will encourage them to repent. It changes the behaviour of people, specially children. People need acceptance, and find rejection difficult to handle. Accept everyone, and appreciate them, with their faults and mistakes.

الشكر طريق الإستقرار

Gratitude is the way to emotional balance

The person who us appreciated is at peace, not anxious and afraid. If the emotions are not settled at an early age, it can lead to feelings of insecurity later in life, which can cause violent behaviour and aggression. Appreciation brings stability.

الشكر علاج المشاكل اليومية

Gratitude is the cure for the issues of daily life

Appreciate yourself, don't compare yourself with others, don't try to be someone else. Accept and appreciate your own body and mind, or it will lead to an inner struggle. Appreciate everything in your life. Appreciate your facial features, your body shape, your hair....the list goes on.

Shukr needs a lot of patience. It is an essential element in life, not something extra. We need to spread shukr in the society.

وَمِنْ رَحْمَتِهِ جَعَلَ لَكُمُ اللَّيْلَ وَالنَّهَارَ لِتَسْكُنُوا فِيهِ
وَلِتَبْتَغُوا مِنْ فَضْلِهِ وَلِعَلَّكُمْ تَشْكُرُونَ

القصاص ٧٣

And out of His mercy He made for you the night and the day that you may rest therein and [by day] seek from His bounty and [that] perhaps you will be grateful.

28:73

The slave must be very sensitive to the blessings, like a very precise weighing scale. When you recognize a blessing, a siren must immediately ring in your head →

→ quickly be grateful!! This is how you must break your apathy. When you have something, you get used to it, and take it for granted, and you see the faults in it more than the blessing. Day and night are things to be grateful for. Anything new sounds and looks attractive and glamorous. Don't take any blessing for granted. The day is for work and seeking the favours of Allah, and the night is for rest and comfort. When you see day and night coming, all the time, routinely, in succession, you get blinded to their blessings. So you need to refresh your gratitude.

And of His signs is that He sends the winds as bringers of good tidings and to let you taste His mercy and so the ships may sail at His command and so you may seek of His bounty, and perhaps you will be grateful.

30:46

وَمِنْ آيَاتِهِ أَنْ يُرْسِلَ الرِّيَّاحَ مُبَشِّرَاتٍ وَلِيَذِيقَكُمْ مِنْ رَحْمَتِهِ وَلِتَجْرِيَ الْفُلُكُ بِأَمْرِهِ وَلِتَبْتَغُوا مِنْ فَضْلِهِ وَلِعَلَّكُمْ تَشْكُرُونَ

الروم ٤٦

The ayah is a sign leading to the unseen. One of the signs of Allah is the wind, carrying the glad tidings of imminent rain. This makes people rejoice for the goodness which will follow, and builds up the shukr. This is similar to the baby. You get news of the pregnancy, and the baby grows in the womb for 9 months, while the excitement in the family grows, as does the gratitude.

When Allah brings rain, the clouds first form and gather, then the rain comes. This is the mercy of Allah. The earth becomes green after the rain, blooms and flourishes. When you taste this mercy of Allah, you long for the special mercy which Allah reserves for the believing slave, the one who does good deeds for the sake of Allah. So we long for the mercy to increase, after we have a taste of it. The wind is like an ambassador of the rain, the king.

To increase the expectation and excitement by giving snippets of news of an impending new product is very successful marketing strategy.

وَلَقَدْ ءَاتَيْنَا لُقْمَانَ الْحِكْمَةَ أَنْ اشْكُرْ لِلَّهِ وَمَنْ يَشْكُرْ فَإِنَّمَا يَشْكُرُ لِنَفْسِهِ ۗ وَمَنْ كَفَرَ فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ غَنِيٌّ حَمِيدٌ ﴿١٢﴾

And We had certainly given Luqman wisdom [and said], "Be grateful to Allah ." And whoever is grateful is grateful for [the [benefit of] himself]. And whoever denies [His favor] - then indeed, Allah is Free of need and Praiseworthy.

31:12

Allah is the One who gives wisdom. This is something that cannot be learned. If you are given this gift, you should be grateful to Allah. Wisdom is a quality, which is intangible. The shukr will benefit you, not Allah, making you happy and healthy. If you complain, your mind is depressed. Be grateful, and the missing blessing will come back to you. If you are

ungrateful, Allah is Most Rich, He doesn't need your shukr. Allah gives you a chance to increase in blessings by your gratitude.

And We have enjoined upon man [care] for his parents. His mother carried him, [increasing her] in weakness upon weakness, and his weaning is in two years. Be grateful to Me and to your parents; to Me is the [final] destination.

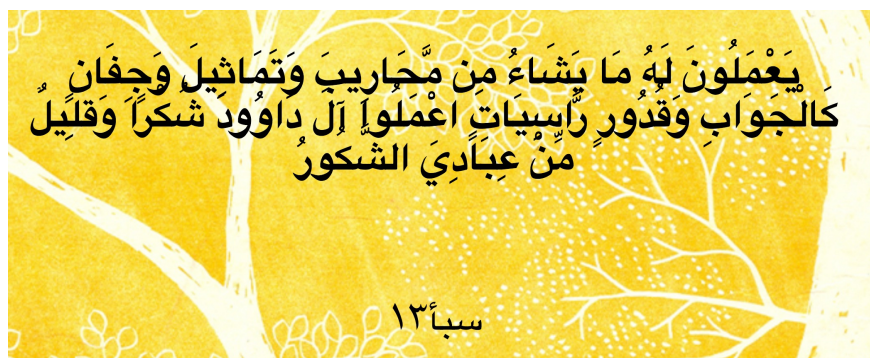
31:14

وَوَصَّيْنَا الْإِنْسَانَ بِوَالِدَيْهِ حَمَلَتْهُ أُمُّهُ وَهْنًا عَلَيَّ
وَهْنٍ وَفِصَالَهُ فِي عَامَيْنِ أَنِ اشْكُرْ لِي وَلِوَالِدَيْكَ
إِلَى الْمَصِيرِ

لقمان

١٤

Allah mentions the parents many times in the Qura'an, so that you appreciate them. They play a great role in your life. This is an advice from Allah, because most people don't appreciate their parents. The mother carries you in her womb, this is a hardship, discomfort and painful, then she nurses you. Allah chooses your parents for you. You must behave well with them, do ihsan with them. When you appreciate your parents, you will appreciate others on your life too.



They made for him what he willed of elevated chambers, statues, bowls like reservoirs, and stationary kettles. [We said], "Work, O family of David, in gratitude." And few of My servants are grateful.

34:13

It is your responsibility to be grateful, and you will be accountable for it. Sulayman loved horses, so when some

purebred horses were brought to them, he was so distracted by them, that he forgot to pray. He was so disturbed by his action, that he killed the horses. So Allah rewarded him by bestowing more blessings on him. The jinn were subjected to Sulayman, and they worked for him, serving him.

And not alike are the two bodies of water. One is fresh and sweet, palatable for drinking, and one is salty and bitter. And from each you eat tender meat and extract ornaments which you wear, and you see the ships plowing through [them] that you might seek of His bounty; and perhaps you will be grateful.

35:12

وَمَا يَسْتَوِي الْبَحْرَانِ هَذَا عَذْبٌ فُرَاتٌ سَائِغٌ شَرَابُهُ وَهَذَا
مِلْحٌ أجاجٌ وَمِنْ كُلِّ تَكْلُونٍ لَحْمًا طريًا وَيَسْتَخْرِجُونَ حليَّةً
تلبسونها وترى الفلك فيه مواخرٍ لتبتغوا من فضله
ولعلكم تشكرون

فاطر ١٢

Allah made different kinds of water in two different seas. One is sweet, easy to drink, with no harmful elements or minerals, and the other is salty. Both are beneficial in their own ways. In the same way, there are different types of people, sweet and bitter. We must appreciate both. Both sweet and salty water have different kinds of fish, and even pearls. The salt water acts as a preservative for dead animals, getting rid of the stench. If it weren't for the oceans, the earth would rot.

There is benefit in everything, and we must be grateful for everything.