Theme 12 - Be ever hopeful of Allah's kindness

الرَّجَا

Learning objectives:

- To learn how splendid and vast Allah's kindness is.
- To be always hopeful that Allah will forgive if we seek his forgiveness.
- To understand that Allah is the most merciful but we have to turn to Him in order to attract His grace.

In this theme, you will learn:

Hope is expecting a positive outcome, being confident of getting good results, have faith in winning and being victorious. Hope is achieved by trying one's best and not giving up easily. The opposite of hope is despair which means hopelessness and gloom, it leads to being miserable. This is why no one should despair of Allah's kindness. It is human nature to sin and Allah is most Forgiving and most Kind but the sin must not be repeated again.

قَالَ الله تَعَالَى: ﴿قُلْ يَا عِبَادِيَ الَّذِينَ أَسْرَفُوا عَلَى أَنْفُسِهِمْ لا تَقْنَطُوا مِنْ رَحْمَةِ اللهِ إِنَّ اللهَ يَغْفِرُ الذُّنُوبَ جَمِيعاً إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ﴾ [الزمر :53] وقال تعالى: ﴿وَرَحْمَتِي وَسِعَتْ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ﴾ [الأعراف:156].

Allah ﷻ says: “Say: “My servants who wronged themselves, don’t be hopeless of Allah’s Kindness; Allah forgives all the sins, He is the Forgiver, the Kind” (39:53). “My kindness embraces everything” (7:156).

[1]عن عبادة بن الصامتِ قَالَ: قَالَ رَسُول الله: «مَنْ شَهِدَ أَنَّ لا إلهَ إلا اللهُ وَحْدَهُ لا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَنَّ مُحَمداً عَبْدهُ ورَسُولُهُ، وَأَنَّ عِيسى عَبْدُ اللهِ وَرَسُولُهُ وَكَلِمَتُهُ أَلْقَاهَا إِلَى مَرْيَمَ ورُوحٌ مِنْهُ، وَأَنَّ الجَنَّةَ حَقٌّ، وَالنَّارَحَقٌّ، أَدْخَلَهُ اللهُ الجَنَّةَ عَلَى مَا كَانَ مِنَ العَمَلِ» مُتَّفَقٌ عَلَيهِ.

1. ‘Ubadah bin As-Samit ﷺ reported: The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said, “The one who bears witness that there is no true god except Allah, He is alone and has no partner, Muhammad is His servant and Messenger, that Jesus is His servant and Messenger, and His Word which He communicated to Mary and His spirit which He sent to her; paradise is true and hell is true; Then Allah will take him into paradise no matter what deeds he did.”

[2] عن عمر بن الخطاب قَالَ: قدِم رَسُول الله بسَبْيٍ فَإِذَا امْرَأَةٌ مِنَ السَّبْيِ تَسْعَى، إِذْ وَجَدَتْ صَبياً في السَّبْيِ أَخَذَتْهُ فَأَلْزَقَتهُ بِبَطْنِهَا فَأَرضَعَتْهُ، فَقَالَ رَسُول الله: «أَتَرَوْنَ هذِهِ المَرْأَةَ طَارِحَةً وَلَدَها في النَّارِ؟» قُلْنَا: لا وَاللهِ. فَقَالَ: «للهُ أَرْحَمُ بِعِبَادِهِ مِنْ هذِهِ بِوَلَدِهَا» مُتَّفَقٌ عَلَيهِ.

2. ‘Umar bin Al-Khattab ﷺ reported: Some prisoners were brought before the Messenger of Allah ﷺ amongst them was a woman anxiously looking for something. When she saw a child among

the prisoners, she rushed to the child and grabbed it, pressed it against her breasts and gave it milk. Upon seeing this motherly care the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said, "Do you think this woman would ever throw her child in fire?" We said, "By Allah, she would never throw him in fire." The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said, "Allah is more kind to his people than this woman is to her child."

[3] عن أَبي هريرة قَالَ: قَالَ رَسُول الله: «لَمَّا خَلَقَ الله الخَلْقَ كَتَبَ في كِتَابٍ، فَهُوَ عِنْدَهُ فَوقَ العَرْشِ: إنَّ رَحْمَتِي تَغْلِبُ غَضَبي» مُتَّفَقٌ عَلَيهِ.

3. Abu Hurairah ﷺ reported: I heard the Messenger of Allah ﷺ saying, "After Allah had created all the creatures, he wrote on the board that was hanging from the throne "My kindness has overcome my anger."

[4] عن أَبي هريرة قَالَ: سَمِعْتُ رَسُول الله يقول: « جَعَلَ الله الرَّحْمَةَ مِئَةَ جُزْءٍ، فَأَمْسَكَ عِنْدَهُ تِسْعَةً وَتِسْعِينَ، وَأَنْزَلَ في الأَرْضِ جُزْءاً وَاحِداً، فَمِنْ ذلِكَ الجُزءِ يَتَرَاحَمُ الخَلائِقُ، حَتَّى تَرْفَعَ الدَّابّةُ حَافِرهَا عَنْ وَلَدِهَا خَشْيَةَ أَنْ تُصِيبَهُ» مُتَّفَقٌ عَلَيهِ.

4. Abu Hurairah ﷺ reported: The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said, "Allah divided kindness into one hundred parts; He kept ninety-nine parts, and sent down one part to earth. It is through this one part that creatures deal compassionately with one another, so much so that an animal lifts its hoof over its young lest it should hurt it."

[5] عن أَبي هريرة قَالَ: قَالَ رَسُول الله: «والَّذِي نَفْسِي بِيَدِهِ، لَوْ لَمْ تُذْنِبُوا، لَذَهَبَ الله بِكُمْ، وَلجَاءَ بِقَومٍ يُذْنِبُونَ، فَيَسْتَغْفِرُونَ الله تَعَالَى، فَيَغْفِرُلَهُمْ» رواه مسلم.

5. Abu Hurairah ﷺ reported: The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said, "By the One in whose hand my soul is, were you not to commit sins, Allah would replace you with a people who would commit sins and then they would seek forgiveness from Allah; and Allah would forgive them."

[6] عن معاذ بن جبل قَالَ: كُنْتُ رِدْفَ النَّبيِّ عَلَى حِمَارٍ، فَقَالَ: «يَا مُعَاذُ، هَلْ تَدْرِي مَا حَقُّ الله عَلَى عِبَادِهِ؟ وَمَا حَقُّ العِبَادِ عَلَى الله؟» قُلْتُ: اللهُ وَرَسُولُهُ أَعْلَمُ. قَالَ: «فإنَّ حَقَّ اللهِ عَلَى العِبَادِ أَنْ يَعْبُدُوهُ، وَلا يُشْرِكُوا بِهِ شَيئاً، وَحَقَّ العِبَادِ عَلَى اللهِ أَنْ لا يُعَذِّبَ مَنْ لا يُشْرِكُ بِهِ شَيئاً» فقلتُ: يَا رَسُول الله، أفَلا أُبَشِّرُ النَّاسَ؟ قَالَ: «لا تُبَشِّرْهُمْ فَيَتَّكِلُوا» مُتَّفَقٌ عَلَيهِ.

6. Mu'adh bin Jabal ﷺ reported: I was riding on a donkey with the Prophet ﷺ. He ﷺ said, "O Mu'adh, do you know what right does Allah have over His servants, and what right the servants have over Allah?" I said: "Allah and His Messenger know better." The Messenger ﷺ said, "Allah's right is that the servants should worship Him alone and associate nothing with Him; and His servants' right is that He should not punish those who do not commit shirk." Mu'adh added: I said to the Messenger of Allah:

"Shall I give the glad tidings to people?" He ﷺ said, "Do not tell them this good news yet for they will depend on it alone."

[7] عن ابن عمر قَالَ: سَمِعْتُ رسولَ الله يقول: «يُدْنَى المُؤْمِنُ يَوْمَ القِيَامَة مِنْ رَبِّهِ حَتَّى يَضَعَ كَنَفَهُ عَلَيهِ، فَيُقَرِّرُهُ بذُنُوبِهِ، فيقولُ: أتعرِفُ ذَنْبَ كَذَا؟ أتعرفُ ذَنْبَ كَذَا؟ فيقول: رَبِّ أعْرِفُ، قَالَ: فَإِنِّي قَدْ سَتَرْتُهَا عَلَيْكَ في الدُّنْيا، وَأنَا أغْفِرُهَا لَكَ اليَومَ، فَيُعْطَى صَحيفَةَ حَسَنَاتِهِ» مُتَّفَقٌ عَلَيهِ.

7. Ibn 'Umar ﷺ reported: I heard the Messenger of Allah ﷺ saying, "A believer will be brought very close to his Lord on the Day of Judgment. Allah will make him confess his sins by saying: 'Do you remember (doing) this sin and this sin?' He will reply: 'My Lord, I remember.' Then He will say: 'I covered it up for you in the worldly life and today I forgive you.' Then the record of his good deeds will be handed to him."

Commentary: This hadith emphasises the mercy and forgiveness that Allah extends to His sincere servants. It serves as a reminder that no matter the magnitude of our sins, repentance, and seeking forgiveness from Allah can lead to ultimate absolution and salvation. It also highlights the importance of acknowledging our past mistakes and taking accountability for our actions.

Activities:

- Design a poster about forgiveness.
- Discuss why we shouldn't give up hope.
- Show a special kindness to someone this week.

- Keep a diary for the week and record all the good deeds that you have done.

In this theme you have learnt:

- To seek and ask for Allah's forgiveness at all times and never despair.
- Only 1% of Allah's kindness is shared amongst all of humanity.
- Allah's kindness is much greater than that of a mother to her child.
- Paradise is real and Hell is real.
- Allah's right upon His servants is that they should worship Him alone and associate nothing with Him.
- We should show kindness and then we will be shown kindness.