Theme 20 - Allah loves the peacemakers

الإِصْلاَحُ بَيْنَ النَّاسِ

Learning objectives:

- To learn that making peace between two groups is a good deed.
- To learn how the Prophet ﷺ made peace between people.
- To learn that it is good to make up with people you have fallen out with.

In this theme, you will learn:

Peace is the absence of hostility, violence and fighting. Peace is characterised by a caring behaviour, equality and a sense of safety. A peacemaker is a person or group that stops wars or conflicts. Peace making must not be delayed in order to avoid damage or further conflict.

قالَ تَعَالَى: ﴿وَالصُّلْحُ خَيْرٌ﴾ [النساء :128]. وَقالَ تَعَالَى: ﴿فَاتَّقُوا اللهَ وَأَصْلِحُوا ذَاتَ بَيْنِكُمْ﴾ [الأنفال :1]. وَقالَ تَعَالَى: ﴿إِنَّمَا الْمُؤْمِنُونَ إِخْوَةٌ فَأَصْلِحُوا بَيْنَ أَخَوَيْكُمْ﴾ [الحجرات :10].

Allah ﷻ says: “Reconciliation is the best policy.” (4:128). Allah ﷻ says: “Fear Allah and make peace among yourselves” (8:1). Allah ﷻ says: “The believers are brothers,a so make peace between your two brothers” (49:10).

[1] عن أَبي هريرة قَالَ: قَالَ رَسُول الله: «كُلُّ سُلامَى مِنَ النَّاسِ عَلَيهِ صَدَقَةٌ، كُلَّ يَوْمٍ تَطْلُعُ فِيهِ الشَّمْسُ: تَعْدِلُ بَيْنَ الاثْنَينِ صَدَقَةٌ، وَتُعينُ الرَّجُلَ في دَابَّتِهِ فَتَحْمِلُهُ عَلَيْهَا، أَوْ تَرْفَعُ لَهُ عَلَيْهَا مَتَاعَهُ صَدَقَةٌ، وَالكَلِمَةُ الطَّيِّبَةُ صَدَقَةٌ، وَبِكُلِّ خَطْوَةٍ تَمشِيهَا إِلَى الصَّلاةِ صَدَقَةٌ، وَتُميطُ الأَذى عَنِ الطَّرِيقِ صَدَقَةٌ» مُتَّفَقٌ عَلَيهِ.

1. Abu Hurairah ﷺ reported: The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said, “For each day the sun rises, every human joint must give charity: making a fair judgment and creating peace between two people is charity; helping a person to mount a ride and load his baggage is charity; saying pleasant things is charity; every step one towards the Masjid is charity; and removing harmful objects from the path is charity.”

Commentary: This hadith teaches us about the importance of doing good deeds, even small ones. The Prophet said that every day the sun rises, every joint of man needs to give charity. This means that we should be constantly looking for opportunities to do good deeds, even if they are small.

[2] عن أُمِّ كُلْثُوم بنت عُقْبَة قَالَتْ: سمِعتُ رسول الله يَقُولُ: «لَيْسَ الكَذَّابُ الَّذِي يُصْلِحُ بَيْنَ النَّاسِ فَيَنْمِي خَيراً، أَوْ يقُولُ خَيْراً» مُتَّفَقٌ عَلَيهِ.

2. Umm Kulthum bint ‘Uqbah ﷺ reported: The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said, “The person who makes peace between two parties is not a liar, when he nurtures goodness or says something good.”

Commentary: This hadith teaches us about the importance of reconciliation and peacemaking. It teaches us that it is important to be kind and compassionate to others. When we reconcile two people, we are helping them to overcome their differences and to come together in peace. This is a very kind and compassionate act, and it is something that we should strive to do.

[3] عن عائشة قَالَتْ: سَمِعَ رسولُ الله صَوْتَ خُصُومٍ بِالبَابِ عَالِيةً أَصْوَاتُهُمَا، وَإِذَا أَحَدُهُمَا يَسْتَوْضِعُ الآخَرَ يَسْتَرْفِقُهُ في شَيءٍ، وَهُوَ يَقُولُ: والله لا أَفْعَلُ، فَخَرجَ عَلَيْهِمَا رسولُ اللهِ فَقَالَ: «أَيْنَ المُتَأَلِّي عَلَى اللهِ لا يَفْعَلُ المَعْرُوفَ؟»، فَقَالَ: أَنَا يَا رسولَ اللهِ، فَلَهُ أَيُّ ذلِكَ أَحَبَّ.

مُتَّفَقٌ عَلَيهِ.

3. ‘Aisha ﷺ reported: The Messenger of Allah ﷺ heard two people arguing outside, their voices were loud. One pleaded for leniency with him and reduce the debt. The other man replied “By Allah, I will not do so.” Upon hearing this, the Messenger came out and challenged them. “Where is the person who swore by Allah that he will not do good?” The angry man came forward and apologised and said “I was the one who said that but I will let him do as he wishes now.”

[4] عن سهل بن سَعد الساعِدِيّ أنَّ رَسُول الله بَلَغَهُ أنَّ بَني عَمرو بن عَوْفٍ كَانَ بَيْنَهُمْ شَرٌّ، فَخَرَجَ رسولُ الله يُصْلِحُ بَينَهُمْ في أُنَاس مَعَهُ، فَحُبِسَ رَسُول الله وَحَانَتِ الصَّلاة، فَجَاءَ بِلالٌ إِلَى أَبي بكر رضي الله عنهما، فَقَالَ: يَا أَبا بَكْر، إنَّ رَسُول الله قَدْ حُبِسَ وَحَانَتِ الصَّلاةُ فَهَلْ لَكَ أنْ تَؤُمَّ النَّاس؟ قَالَ: نَعَمْ، إنْ شِئْتَ، فَأَقَامَ بِلالٌ الصَّلاةَ، وتَقَدَّمَ أَبُو بَكْر. مُتَّفَقٌ عَلَيهِ.

4. Sahl bin Sa'd As-Sa'idi ﷺ reported: One day the Messenger ﷺ heard that the tribe of Amr bin Auf were fighting with each other. He ﷺ immediately went to them with a group of people. He ﷺ made peace amongst them, since the Prophet ﷺ was late for Salah, Bilal asked Abu Bakr if he would lead the prayer and Abu Bakr agreed."

Activities:

- Role-play: How will you make your two friends who have fallen out with each other, become friends again?
- Discuss the importance of a peacemaker in Islam (i.e. to reconcile parties) – what sort of person do you have to be, to be a good Peacemaker?
- List the qualities needed to be a Peacemaker.
- Discuss the Prophet ﷺ as 'the Greatest Peacemaker'. Read a hadith and study his characteristics. How did he deal with situations?
- Discuss people in history who have been peacemakers, both

Muslim and non-Muslim (e.g. Yasser Arafat, Malcolm X, Nelson Mandela, Martin Luther King and Mahatma Gandhi).

In this theme you have learnt:

- Allah loves the peacemaker.
- Make things right between you and others.
- When there is conflict learn to compromise, help to make peace.
- You must make peace immediately.
- Wars and conflict start when one group of people want their views imposed on others.
- We should tolerate people with different views, beliefs and culture.