



In The Name Of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

المعهد الإسلامي في تورنتو

Islamic Institute of Toronto

Education for Virtuous Living

STAYING CONNECTED – A PERSONAL NOTE TO YOUTH

SHAIKH MUSLEH KHAN

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Assalaamu Alaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa barakatuh!

It's that time of the year again! From hot summer days to sleeping in and family outings, to back to school shopping, choosing classes and reconnecting with friends:

It's back to school!

For most of you, this means a complete readjustment in your daily routine. Appointments, work schedules, baby sitting all have to function around school schedules. On the other hand, students will be reintroduced to an environment where their faith is put to the test and the pressures of fitting in become overwhelming for them and for all of us.

Regular classes and prayers in the Masjid also become limited. Most of us are simply too busy with day-to-day responsibilities, and there's just not enough time.

Here are 5 things I pray will help students get through the week efficiently and more importantly, help them stay connected to Allah throughout the year.

1. **The Masjid.** Think of it like a charge portal for your electronic devices. Each time we connect ourselves to the Masjid we recharge our Emaan. If you don't charge your phone regularly, eventually the battery loses life and become useless. Such is the case of a believer. If he/she does not have a regular connection with the Masjid, our Emaan begins to weaken and in many instances, our spiritual battery is lost. The Prophet (s) once said: " If you see a man committed to the Mosque, then affirm his faith : (Tirmithi-2671 hadith Hassan)
2. **Quran, Quran, Quran.** We will never truly comprehend the power and influence of the Quran. The spiritual upliftment it brings to our hearts and lives is incomparable to anything we will ever experience. We all must have a daily routine and recite the Quran, even if it is a small portion. It will help drown out the constant bombardment of tests and trials you confront on a daily basis and at the same time give you a sense of control and clarity to protect your faith. In reference to the ultimate blessing of reading Quran, Allah mentions: "Perhaps you may attain His Mercy " 7:204



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3. Choose wise **companionship**. The Prophet (s) once said: “ A person follows the religion of his friends, so each one should consider whom he makes as his friends “ (Abu Dawood)
This narration also includes daily habits and routines and is not restricted to religious behaviours. Your friends will encourage you and define you. So, choose wisely if you wish to be amongst the righteous and accepted in the sight of Allah.
4. **Prayer**: no matter how difficult and challenging life becomes, prayer will always resolve the struggles which humans are otherwise unable to. So find time for the scheduled prayers. It's the first thing that Allah will ask about on Yaumul Qiyaamah (Day of Judgement).
5. Can you forget your **parents**? They are your rock in life. Keep close to them and although you may not like what they say to you sometimes, be respectful and patient, they only want the best for you.

I pray for your stability, happiness and protection. Have a wonderful year, students!

Musleh Khan

Instructor & Lecturer, Islamic Institute of Toronto