

# 7 GO FORWARD WITH ALLAH'S BLESSING

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In the name of Allah, the Merciful, the Compassionate.

Praise be to Allah. There is no God other than Allah—One with no associate. He hears; He knows; He is faithful to His promises; He fulfills His words.

I witness that Isa Al-Masih is the Word of Allah. We believe in Him and trust Him and take refuge in Him. We live because of His mercy. Because of His love we are saved from sin and disobedience. And by His divine power we overcome evil and Satan.

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## **IN THIS LESSON YOU WILL STUDY THE FOLLOWING:**

- Follow Our Master Isa Al-Masih
- Confidential Conversation with Allah (Munajat Allah)
- Share the Blessings of Al-Masih with Others
- Be Willing to Suffer for the Glory of Allah
- Receive Power from Allah's Holy Spirit

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## **FOLLOW OUR MASTER ISA AL-MASIH**

As for what follows, I would like you to know, my friend, that the goal of these studies is for you to become a follower of our Master Isa Al-Masih. My desire is for you to stay culturally Muslim. But at the same time, I want you to have a personal relationship with Allah through our Master Isa Al-Masih. I want you to give Him all your allegiance because He is your Lord and Savior.

Because you believe in the redemption of Al-Masih, your sins have been forgiven. Allah has pardoned you for your disobedience. Your heart has been purified and cleansed because Isa sacrificed His precious blood for you. Therefore, although you live in the same circumstances as before, you are a new person both inside and outside. I would like to help you grow in this grace and advance continually. So I am going to offer you some advice that you should follow.

## **CONFIDENTIAL CONVERSATION WITH ALLAH (MUNAJAT ALLAH)**

In communion with Allah, we come close to the Creator, almighty and glorious. We talk with Him in quietness and submission. Therefore, my friend, you should open your heart to Him and tell Him your thoughts. Thank Him for Al-Masih and for His sacrifice on your behalf. Thank Him for health, family, friends, school, joy, and all things. Tell Him about your problems, your hopes and dreams. Tell Him even the things you do not want to share with your family or friends. Have confidence that He will hear you and help you, for He has said:

“Ask, and you will receive; seek, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you . . . If you ask me for anything in my name, I will do it.”

Allah is your Heavenly Father who loves you. You can talk with Him and have communion with Him at any time. Talk with Him simply, with respect, using the words you are accustomed to. We draw great spiritual power from talking with Allah. It is an important weapon we can use against Satan, and it causes miracles to happen. However, communion with Allah also means that Allah speaks to us. He whispers to us words of guidance, comfort, and encouragement. Perhaps it is an inaudible voice; perhaps it is a pure thought that sheds light on our path; or maybe it is words from Allah's Book.

You should notice, my friend, that for this beautiful, divine relationship to continue, your heart must be clean from any hatred, lust, or sin. Al-Masih's redemption always has the power to cleanse you from any evil. So if you fall into sin, immediately ask Allah to forgive you, and sincerely turn away from your wrongdoing. Make an honest decision that with Allah's help you will never repeat it. The blood of Al-Masih that was shed on the cross has the power to cleanse your heart and your spirit.

I would like to give you some advice concerning this confidential communion with Allah.

**1. Have a specific time for communion with Allah every day.**

We need to eat every day. If we miss a meal, we get hungry. If we do not eat for several days, we die. Our spiritual life also needs spiritual food regularly. We obtain this food at the time of speaking with and listening to Allah. Therefore, you should have this communion with Allah every day, perhaps in the morning before you face life's responsibilities. But if it is not possible in the morning, any other time will do – noon, evening, or night. The important thing is that you have a specific time every day. You need to feel that your soul has been fed in Allah's presence, your heart has been comforted, and your spirit strengthened. Then continue in the same spirit of close relationship with Him the rest of the day.

**2. Choose a specific place for communion with Allah.**

If you cannot find a room by yourself, try to have communion with Allah even in the presence of others, or while you are walking.

**3. Have a specific goal for communion with Allah.**

The goal should be to enjoy your time being in the presence of Allah, and talking with Him. Do not let your mind wander. Do not let responsibilities steal your attention. Be completely in the spirit of worship. Expect Allah Almighty to give you a spiritual blessing. If you do not expect anything, you will receive nothing.

**4. Read Allah's Word.**

When you write to me I will tell you how you can get your own copy of Allah's Holy Book. This is Allah's Word. If you read and obey Allah's Word and live for Him every day of your life, He will guide you and lead you. He will keep you for eternal life. Read His Word regularly. Read it every day with an open heart. Ask Allah to enlighten your mind and heart to understand His Word. Read with a spirit of submission and a humble heart. Enjoy and desire to know the truth. Respond and react with what you read. Obey Allah's Word. Apply its principles to your life, especially in your relations with others. *Your word is a lamp to guide me and a light for my path.*

Study Allah's Word like someone who is hungry, searching for food. Study it like someone who is thirsty, searching for water. Allah's Word is spiritual food and life-giving water. Listen attentively because Allah himself, glorious and almighty, is speaking.

The word of Allah is alive and active, sharper than any double-edged sword. It cuts all the way through . . . It judges the desires and thoughts of man's heart.

When you read a verse that talks about a gift or a blessing that Allah has given you, stop and thank Him. When you read a verse that talks about a weak point in your spiritual or social life, stop and ask Allah to grant you victory over that. Try to commit to memory as many verses as you can.

All Scripture is inspired by Allah and is useful for teaching the truth, rebuking error, correcting faults, and giving instruction for right living, so that the person who serves Allah may be fully qualified and equipped to do every kind of good deed.

## **SHARE THE BLESSINGS OF AL-MASIH WITH OTHERS**

Al-Masih, glory be to Him, has commanded us to extend His invitation to others so that they can believe in Him and put their confidence in Him. Our love for others, such as family and friends, moves us to do that. It is selfish to hide the blessing that Allah has given us and not share it with others. You, my friend, have found a treasure—new life and glorious victory. So help your friend or brother discover this great treasure also. You must invite others to believe.

At the same time, do not offend others. Do not try to prove to them that they are wrong and you are right. You live in a culture whose traditions you should respect. Perhaps your society does not like the fact that you have changed. Perhaps it does not accept freedom of choice. However, you must respect and love the people among whom you live even if you do not agree with them. It is your duty to offer them the message of love and peace that has filled your heart with light so that they too may obtain eternal life.

Please extend this invitation to them with compassion, forgiveness, and patience. Be wise, balanced, courageous and gracious. Your new life should have the impact and purity necessary to attract others to believe in Al-Masih. Let your actions speak for your faith in Al-Masih even louder than your words.

Start by sharing these things with a friend or relative that you trust. Tell him what has happened to you. Tell him about the change Al-Masih has brought into your life. Ask Allah to give you the right words and

thoughts to persuade your friend that he too needs Isa to be his Master, King, Redeemer, Lord and Savior.

## **BE WILLING TO SUFFER FOR THE GLORY OF ALLAH**

My friend, you also need to be ready to face difficulties. In lesson six we talked about our master Joseph. What was the result of his courageous resistance to sin? What happened when he refused to commit fornication? He was put in jail. This was a painful trial for a pure, young man. Perhaps you will meet with persecution. Your colleagues may persecute you because you are honest. It may be that your family will hurt you or treat you unkindly because you follow the truth. Your friends may criticize you because you love Isa. However, Allah Almighty who helped Joseph when he was in prison will stretch out His hand to help you in your difficult situation. If you stay true to Him and keep your faith in Isa, He will give you power to be victorious.

Paul met with great persecution because he was a believer in Al-Masih. He said:

“I have worked...I have been in prison...whipped...and near death. Five times I was given the thirty-nine lashes by the Jews; the Romans whipped me three times and once I was stoned. I have been in three shipwrecks, and once I spent twenty-four hours in the water. In my many travels I have been in danger from floods and from robbers, in danger from fellow Jews and from Gentiles; there have been dangers in the cities, dangers in the wilds, dangers on the high seas, and dangers from false friends. There has been work and toil; often I have gone without sleep; I have been hungry and thirsty; I have often been without enough food, shelter, or clothing... Allah...knows that I am not lying. When I was in Damascus, the governor under King Aretas placed guards at the city gates to arrest me. But I was let down in a basket through an opening in the wall and escaped from him.”

Our Lord Isa, who sacrificed Himself for us, deserves that we sacrifice all for Him, even our life. Allah’s heart is full of love and compassion for you. He knows everything about you. He knows your pain and your suffering. He sees you even if you are in prison because of your faith. He

sees you even if you are all alone because you have been rejected. He comforts you. He fills your loneliness with peace and joy. He fills you with His presence and love. He gives you patience. He sends divine joy, not human joy which is based on circumstances. His divine joy is based on the cross of Al-Masih because Al-Masih gave His life for you, and you believed in His sacrifice. It is a joy that fills your heart with true happiness, even if you are suffering. He fills your heart with love even for the people who have made you suffer and who have persecuted you.

Perhaps those who have made you suffer are close to you. Perhaps those who have persecuted you are members of your family that you live with and whom you trust. Maybe they are friends or neighbors. Allah sees all of that, and He knows that you have been falsely accused. He says to you: *I have heard your prayer and have seen your tears.*

## RECEIVE POWER FROM ALLAH'S HOLY SPIRIT

Al-Masih, glory be to Him, has provided unlimited and unfailing power for you to receive. You remember we said in lesson six that the Holy Spirit is already working in your heart and life. He is working to help you gain victory in different situations. There is a beautiful and deeper experience in which Allah releases the Holy Spirit in you without measure so that you will be filled with His power. Al-Masih said: *But when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, you will be filled with power, and you will be witnesses for me.*

How can you be filled with the Holy Spirit? You must ask Allah with faith in your heart. You will know when it happens, because He will fill you with joy that you have never before experienced. You will know, because while you are in communion with Allah, you will pray in a language you have never spoken before. Perhaps you will not understand what language it is. Then you will really know what fullness of joy in Allah's presence means. It is a glorious experience.

My dear friend, the Holy Spirit will be a power in your life that will never be defeated. He will comfort you; He will stand by you; and He will help you in the face of troubles and persecution. He will help you lead others to this new life. So, go forward with Allah's blessing.

Your friend,

Sheikh Abdullah

# TO HELP YOU LEARN

Please complete the following statements in Part A. Then answer the questions in Part B. You may write in your book or on separate paper. After you complete this assignment, you may compare your answers with the correct answers provided in the section called *To Help You Learn – Answers* toward the back of this book.

Completing this part of lesson seven called *To Help You Learn* will help you remember the important truths of this lesson.

## A. COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING

1. I am a Muslim by upbringing and culture, but my sins have been forgiven because I \_\_\_\_\_.
2. In communion with Allah, I can talk to Him because He is my \_\_\_\_\_.
3. My new life should attract others to \_\_\_\_\_.
4. My family and friends need Isa, glory be to Him, to be their \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Go back to the lesson, study this verse, memorize it, and then write it here from memory: “All Scripture is inspired by Allah and is useful for \_\_\_\_\_”

## B. ANSWER BRIEFLY

1. You may face difficulties because you believe in Isa. There are two things that will help you in your spiritual life to gain power and victory. What are they?
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_
2. What would you do if you fell into sin?  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Allah's Book is inspired by Allah. How is it useful to you?

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4. How does the Holy Spirit help you spiritually?

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5. What are some of the things that motivate you to invite others to believe in Isa?

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