



Towards the Top

Winter Series 2018 – Class #8

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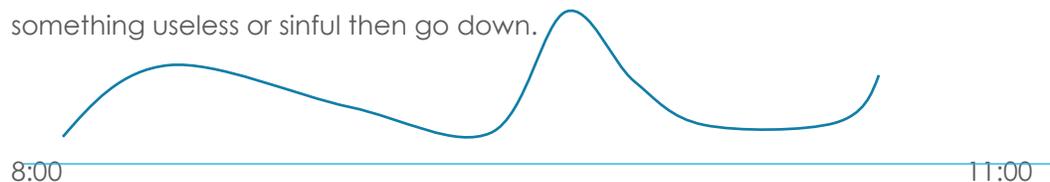


Introduction

- If a person has much inner-drive and determination but takes the wrong steps then it can lead to wasting time and even moving backwards.
- It's important to assess ourselves
 1. Make a table with the following and record it for the next 1 to 2 days:

Start Time	End Time	Action

2. Then make a graph from your start time to end time and wherever you're doing much good such as helping others or rewarding actions then go up but if doing something useless or sinful then go down.



3. Make a to do list of all that you're doing and when completed strike it off:
 1. ~~Visiting~~
 2. Grocery
 3. Cooking
 4. Reading
 5. Listening to lecture

Make the Right Move

- **Learning the aqeedah/tawheed is priority over other matters:** we always need to increase our faith whether it's through the Quran or through belief in the pillars of faith. The first level that will take a person higher is tawheed and the first step that will take a person lower is shirk. The



Companions would come to the faith before the Quran and if the Companions needed to increase in faith, so what about us? Subhan Allah.

- **Select the easier choice over the harder one.** The deen is easy and the Prophet (pbuh) would encourage to make matters easy and select the easier way.
- **Taking care of actions of the heart are priority over actions of the limb.** Our heart needs to go to the top before our body because if our heart goes then automatically our body will go up with it. Allah (ﷻ) doesn't look at our appearance and wealth but at our hearts.
- **To be occupied with knowledge is priority over other voluntary deeds.** To seek knowledge is greater than voluntary prayer or fasting. The virtue of a scholar is greater than the virtue of a worshipper, just as the moon is greater than the stars. Ali' bin Abi Talib (رضي الله عنه) said 'the scholar is greater in merit than the one fasting, praying at night and struggling for Allah', subhan Allah. Therefore we need to thank Allah (ﷻ) for the opportunity to seek knowledge, alhamdulillah.
- Make the following your priority:
 1. Aqeedah
 2. Making matters easy
 3. Actions of the heart
 4. Seeking knowledge

Three types of Actions:

1. Essentials (الضروريات): something we have to do such as obligatory prayers
 2. Needs (الحاجيات): something we need such as a mobile
 3. Accessories (التحسينات): something which makes things better, it's more related to beautification.
- Sometimes a person is spending too much time on beautifying then doing the essentials.
 - If a person does the essentials then he goes on to the needs and then accessories.
 - For example, it's essential to pray our prayers before a need which we have. Except in the case if we're hungry or need to answer the call of nature then we should eat and then pray.
 - Voluntaries are good but a person needs to think of the essentials first. We need to be dutiful to our parents, pray, and eat and then we think of the voluntaries.
 - If a person can build a masjid or create a book or magazine educating others about the deen then the book is better because will educate a person and lead them to pray in the masjid.
 - If there are two harms: then selecting the harm which cause less loss is priority over selecting the harm which causes more loss.



- When selecting two good things then it's better to select the deed which benefits more people than selecting a deed which benefits less. For example, if one deed benefits 10 people while another benefits 200, then select the one benefitting 200.
- Deeds which benefit the rights of more people are greater in priority than deeds which only benefit the rights of one individual.
- Anything which has a deadline is more of a priority than something which doesn't have a deadline.
- To have time to sit with others is more priority than to sit individually.
- Showing ihsan to the one who's doing good is more priority than showing ihsan to the one doing bad.
- Giving attention to the one with needs is more priority than one without needs.

How do we apply what we learned and change for the better?

- Make faith a priority and increase in knowledge

May Allah (ﷻ) guide us to the best of deeds and manners and keep us way from the worst of deeds and manners. Ameen.