



Nurturing Believers

Parenting Advice for Muslim Mothers

Connecting with Allah ﷻ Through *Dua* During Ramadan (Part 2)

How to Explain: How do we Ask Allah?

Allah ﷻ is الْخَالِق (Al-Khaaliq), The Creator

Allah ﷻ is الْمَالِك (Al-Maalik), The Owner

Allah ﷻ is الرَّبَّ (Al-Rabb), the Master

So it makes perfect sense that whenever we need something, we ask Allah ﷻ for it. After all, when we need some money to buy a toy, we ask our parents for it and not our sister, because the money belongs to our parents, and not to our sister. Even if our sister wanted to give us money, she would have to get it from our parents first.

Because Allah ﷻ is the Master of the Universe, and even the master of the hearts of people, everything in the Universe will be set in motion by Allah ﷻ to fulfil our wish if Allah ﷻ decides to fulfil it. The strawberry plant will sprout the biggest, sweetest strawberries, the farmer will pluck them and take them to the market-place to sell while they are still fresh, the purchaser from the ice-cream factory will pick them up right away, at the factory someone will have the new idea to add chocolate chips into strawberry ice-cream (everyone will think it's strange but they'll do it anyway!), once the ice-cream is ready it will be packed in tubs and supplied to your local grocery store. One day, your mama will pass by the ice-cream freezer and notice this new flavor and decide to try it out (even though she likes neither strawberries nor chocolate!), all because that day YOU asked Allah ﷻ for strawberry- chocolate chip ice-cream. And because Allah ﷻ knew that you would ask for it that day, He made all necessary arrangements for it beforehand.



Asking Allah ﷻ for what we want is called making *dua*.

We can make *dua* ANYTIME and ANYWHERE- while sitting, standing, in the car, or in the midst of playing. In the *masjid*, in the shop, or in our homes. When our parents are taking a nap or in the middle of our night, because while people sometimes don't want to be disturbed with requests, Allah ﷻ is always happy to hear our *duas* (in fact the best time to make *dua* is late at night!)

We can make *dua* for ANYTHING- for ice-cream and toys, to be healthy and wealthy, to become kind and respectful and to stop feeling angry all the time, for our mama to forgive us for breaking her favorite vase, for Jannah and all the fun to be had there. For ANYTHING!

We can make *dua* for ANYONE- for ourselves, our parents and grandparents, our brothers and sisters. For our neighbors and the security guard who stays up all night keeping watch under our building. For Muslim children who have lost their parents in war and for poor people so they don't go to bed hungry. For those who are alive that Allah ﷻ makes them good Muslims, and for those who have passed away that Allah ﷻ give them *Jannah*.



But we must remember something very important!!!

While Allah ﷻ can fulfil all our requests instantly, sometimes we want something that is not good for us, even if we are convinced that it is. We may want candy but it will give us a toothache, we may want a whole tub of ice-cream but it will make our throat sore. We may want to play video games all night but without enough sleep we will fall sick. We may want to visit a certain friend but if we are with him we will surely get into trouble. We may want to get good grades in school without studying, but then we will never learn the importance of hard work. We may want a loved one to get well, but it is better for them to go to *Jannah*. We want there to be a storm tomorrow so we get a holiday from school, but so many people who live in huts will lose their homes if our *dua* is accepted.

So while we must make *dua* for EVERYTHING, ALL THE TIME, because Allah ﷻ is the Owner and Master of everything, if our request is not fulfilled we must not get disappointed. We must be sure that Allah ﷻ loves us and cares for us many, many, many times more than even our loving and caring mothers. So if He is not accepting our *dua*, it must be because it is not good for us, or for someone else, but He knows what we want, and will give us something even better, when the time is right. While people get tired of our repeated requests, Allah ﷻ loves it when we make *dua* to Him. And the more *dua* we make the more He loves us, and more He gives. **(Here, discuss with your children possible situations in which what we want could be bad for us; situations based on personal experience would be best).**

(To be continued...)