

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ ذِي الْجَلَالِ وَالْإِكْرَامِ، وَالطَّوْلِ وَالْإِنْعَامِ، حُثْنَا
عَلَى التَّعَاوُنِ وَحَسَنِ الْأَخْلَاقِ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ
وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، الْمَلِكُ الْبَرُّ السَّلَامُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا
وَنَبِيَّنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُ اللَّهِ وَرَسُولُهُ، فَاللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ
عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا وَنَبِيِّنَا مُحَمَّدٍ، وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ،
وَعَلَى مَنْ تَبِعَهُمْ بِإِحْسَانٍ إِلَى يَوْمِ الدِّينِ.

Often we are given seemingly impossible, unimaginable tasks to perform and challenges in life, they can be personal, financial, physical, emotional, spiritual or cultural. How we overcome them defines us.

Allah ﷻ spoke to Musa ﷺ and gave him a tasks to confront Pharoah.

“Go to Pharaoh. Indeed, he has transgressed.

My Lord, expand for me my breast. And ease for me my task.

And untie the knot from my tongue.

That they may understand my speech.” (20:24-28)

Musa ﷺ doesn't abandon the task that his Lord has given him, rather he asks for Allah's assistance, first and foremost. Then Musa ﷺ does something profound, that we often overlook:

“And appoint for me a minister from my family. Aaron, my brother.

Increase through him my strength.

And let him share my task.

That we may exalt You much.

And remember You much.

Indeed, You are of us ever Seeing.

[Allah] said, “You have been granted your request, O Moses.” (20:29-36)

- What does Musa عليه السلام do? He asks for a Companion which tells us exactly what a *TRUE friend* is. Often times we try to ride the waves of life alone, or we depend too much on our friends. But just like everything else in this religion, the middle ground is needed. Look at the qualities that Musa عليه السلام recommended for a **CLOSE COMPANION:**

“And appoint for me a minister from my family. Aaron, my brother.

Selective, Quality, Qualified, Skill

- You only truly know those who you spend time with, dine, travel, deal with one another to see their worth.

“Increase, through him, my strength”

- Our friends should make us stronger human beings. They should be someone that we trust will help us when we are at our low points and that we won't feel self-conscious with when seeking help.

“And let him share my task”

- Often we do things alone, or lay all the burden on others. True friends should be people that are Capable and Willing to *Share* in our tasks. That enhance, enable and empower us. They should be people we can trust to bounce ideas off of and to help us along the way.

“That we may exalt You much and remember you much.

Indeed, You are of us ever Seeing.”

- Musa عليه السلام ends his request with the most important point—the purpose of companionship and friendship. He asks Allah سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ وَبِحَمْدِهِ to grant Him his brother as his companion so that they would **EXALT HIM AND REMEMBER HIM.**
- In essence, he is asking that his companion bring Him **CLOSER TO GOD**, encourages him to remember **GOD**, and that in this companionship they **NEVER FORGET THAT ALLAH سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ وَبِحَمْدِهِ IS WATCHING THEM.**
- This is the most essential part of any friendship. True friendship should bring us closer to God, never farther. The companionship should encourage us to do more good for the sake of Allah سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ وَبِحَمْدِهِ, never distract us from it.
- And throughout these friendships, in good and bad moments, **WE SHOULD NEVER FORGET THAT ALLAH سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ وَبِحَمْدِهِ IS ALWAYS WATCHING US AND CAN SEE OUR EVERY MOVE.**