

MIFTAAH SEMINAR

ETIQUETTES OF A SEEKER



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SESSION 1

Introduction

- This class will outline the ways that we should receive knowledge.

الأدب وسيلة إلى كل فضيلة و ذريعة إلى كل شريعة

Having adab (etiquettes) is the means of attaining all virtue and it is a pathway to all action.

- Yahya bin Muadh says: The one who inculcates the etiquettes that Allah SWT wants them to inculcate will become of those who Allah loves.
- Abdullah bin Mubarak said: We are more dependent on a small amount of etiquettes than we are dependent on a lot of knowledge.
 - Having a small amount of etiquettes is much more beneficial than having a large amount of knowledge.
- One scholar says: Etiquettes have to do with how you are externally and internally. A person who is ill mannered internally will be punished by Allah privately. Anyone who is ill mannered externally will be punished by Allah publicly.

- Abdullah bin Mubarak said: A person who is careless about etiquettes will be deprived of following the sunnah. A person who is careless with sunnah will be deprived of the obligatory actions. A person who is careless with obligatory actions may end up being deprived of the recognition of Allah SWT.
 - Whenever we do something good, it is only because Allah SWT has blessed us and allowed us to do that act.
- If you are aware and present minded about the etiquettes of a good deed, that is a sign that your deed is accepted.

Etiquette #1 - Cleansing our Hearts

- The first etiquettes are etiquettes which are within oneself.
- Cleansing the heart of impurities (arrogance, jealousy, etc.) is essential for gaining knowledge.
 - In order to receive pure knowledge, our hearts must be pure.
- It is almost impossible for the noor (light) of Allah SWT to enter a heart that has things in it that Allah SWT hates.
 - A person might have a lot of knowledge but that knowledge will not benefit them.
- When we are faced with a sin, we should think that this may harm us in our pursuit of knowledge and this should cause us to refrain from the sin.
 - This is how we can start cleansing our hearts.
- Even small sins should bother us because it can affect our knowledge.
- We must make sure our vessel (heart) is clean so that we can receive knowledge and so that the knowledge can be impactful in our lives.

وعن أبي أمامة - رضي الله عنه - أن رجلا سأل رسول الله - صلى الله عليه وسلم - : ما الإيمان ؟ قال : " إذا سرتك حسنتك وساءتك سيئتك، فأنت مؤمن " قال : يا رسول الله ، فما الإثم ؟ قال : " إذا حاك في نفسك شيء فدعه " رواه أحمد

Abu Umamah reported: A man asked the Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, "What is faith?" He said, "If you are happy with your good deeds and saddened by your evil deeds, then you are a believer." The man said, "O Messenger of Allah, what is sin?" He said, "If something waivers in your soul, then you should leave it."

