

# RAMADAN

## IMMERSION



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### The Best Type of Worship

#### Path of Hardship

- **Belief:** The hardest type of worship is the best.
- **Reason:** It is most distant from personal desire, embodying the essence of worship and training the ego
- **Philosophy:** Reward is proportional to hardship.
- There is more reward in hardship but we don't need to choose the harder option
  - Eg: In the winter, if we have the option to use warmer water for wudhu then we should use warmer water rather than cold water. But, if we have cold water only, then using the cold water for wudhu in winter it becomes more rewarding.

#### Path of abstinence and renunciation

- You assume the point of worship is to be void of all materialism
- You assume you should only be connected to Allah and nothing else
- the best worship involves renouncing worldly concerns and focusing completely on Allah

#### Types:

- Commoners: see abstinence as the ultimate goal
- Elite: use abstinence as a means to focus the heart on God-constant remembrance and reliance on him.

#### Path of Service to Others

- **Belief:** beneficial acts to others are the best forms of worship
- **Examples:** serving the poor, fulfilling others' needs, and providing support through wealth or influence

- **Philosophy:** acts of service are deemed superior due to their lasting impact and alignment with the prophets' missions.
- **Support:** they cite hadiths highlighting the virtue of serving and benefiting others:
  - The Prophet SAW said to Ali R: "By Allah, if a single person is guided by Allah through you, it will be better for you than red camels"
  - The Prophet said: "Whoever calls to guidance, then he receives the reward similar to the reward of whoever follows him, without that diminishing anything from their rewards."

This path is noble but ignores other virtues such as seeking knowledge

### **Contextual Worship**

- You focus your ibadah on the situation you're in
- You should focus on what is time specific before you do what isn't time specific.
  - Eg: During hajj, don't seek knowledge, Fulfill the commandments of hajj first.

The best path is the last path to take.