Dear Ustaza,

Asalaamu alaikum wah rahmatula

I pray that Allah swt is keeping you the best of health. I was absent from class today because of a few problems. However I listened online and as usual learned very many things Alhamdulillah. There are few things which I wanted to share with you.

Todays lesson; speech

Just recently we studied in surah Tauba that there was category of Munafiq whom were hard to detect because of their expertise in their work.One of the reasons was that they had excellent communication skills. They spoke so well that they were able to easily convince people with Imaan and deviate them.

I have a friend who works for Allah. She takes her job very seriously and is very good at it alhamdulillah. She has everything organised brilliantly and is truly passionate about it. Sometime back she was facing a few problems, the problems worsened with time. It became so bad that she was on the verge of leaving her duties.

However the reason behind it was that the people she worked with did not take her seriously and would not consider the position she held and so ignored what she would have to say. She said, she was no good at speaking that's why she would be ignored. But I don't believe there was anything wrong with her speech but the problem may be with the people whom didn't want to listen.

It made me think that you don't have to be a brilliant speaker or someone with exceptional communication skills or someone who can speak to a huge audience with confidence to truly love Allah. It is what is inside the heart which matters. What good is that confidence if on the inside you are hollow of emotions.

Affects of Mera Jeena Mera Marna.

I thought that most of the things were impossible to achieve because there was so much to intake it became tremendously overwhelming. But Alhamdulillah I have managed to start many things and have been implementing upon them ever since. The planners and to do list's have been etremely helpful in reminding me, what I still need to implement.

Things that I implemented soon after starting Taleem Al-Quran;

- Could not find time to do my work after getting home, so I started waking at four o'clock in the moring to complete it.
- Started praying tahajjud with the thought that I get up at that time.
- Started praying morning invocations along with Tahajjud
- Do tilawat straight after tahajjud.... generally my life is so much more organised since I started tahajjud. So many more great things came into my life since I started Tahjjud.
- Started praying chaaste as soon as I get to Alhuda
- Started listening to tilawat on the way to Alhuda and revising my lesson when required

Things that I started with Mera Jeen Mera Marna;

- I am now managing my time a little better as well as my expenditure.
- I waste less time than before, council myself to get up when I have work to do and am feeling lazy
- I have started praying my salat slower helping me to gain concentration better than before
- I have started speaking less and think more about what I need to say at what time
- I have cut down on geebath and have made a mutual understanding with family about removing geebath from our home entirely

- I now manage my husbands haqq better
- Spend nore time on childrens tarbiyahh
- I analyze my akhlaaq much more... I have started speaking to myself much more..... asking myself questions about what I'm about to do
- I think more carefully about the result my actions will have
- Made a traveling planner including what I do during school journeys, long journeys, market journeys etc
- Think carefully about my purification and wudu. I now clean my nose and ears properly
- Stopped tying my hair high up in ponies or buns. I rubb my eyes in the morning, I HAVE STOPPED PLUCKING MY EYEBROWS
- I have stopped standing whilst eating or drinking (was very difficult to do).
- Started eating more vegetables

There are many more things that I aiming to to but it will take some time. Some things which are next on my list;

- Not to be harsh with my children at all times
- Miswak
- Phone realtives whom I haven't spoken to for a long time
- Check carefully haram and halal food.... need more focus on this area.
- Over eating and junk food (very difficult) but I must say that not standing and eating has helped me cut down on half of the things that I ate.
- Memorize surah's to make my salat better
- Start nabees in the morning
- NOT TO EAT FOR LAZZATH
- This list is very long so I will stop here!

Ustaza do you notice how all my pending things relate to eating.... that's where shaytaan has made me firm.... I must work on breaking it InshaAllah.

Alhamdulillah your strategies for this subject have worked tremendously on me, as for the first time I have changed my lifestyle, my old habits which seemed impossible. May Allah keep you well so that we can all keep learning InshaAllah.

Wassalaam Farzana Iqbal