TAQWA

Taqwa is something very special in Islam.

The Prophet (saw) was asked, what are the qualities of the people of paradise? He replied, 'taqwa and good character.' (Tirmidhī)

This means that people of paradise have taqwa, so it must be a very great way of being.



Having taqwa means being aware of Allah and so acting in a way that He wants us to. That means knowing that Allah is near you and is watching you and listening to you at every moment of your day! And because you know that, you behave in the best way.

ALI: Like when I behave extra good when Nani comes over, because I know she is watching me?

Migo: Haha, cheeky boots. Yes, just like that, except we do it for Allah. Even though we can't see Allah there, like we see Nani, we have to remember that He is seeing everything.



Allah knows everything and He controls absolutely everything. Just like you want to be good for your nani, because she is kind to you and does things to look after you, taqwa is being good for Allah because we love Him and we wouldn't want to do anything that He doesn't like.

So having taqwa is to:

Not do things Allah doesn't like. Do things Allah does like.



ALI: How can I get better at it? How can I have more taqwa, Migo?

Migo: Well, my chocolate biscuit, you can do a few things that make you more aware of Allah. You can do more dhikr (see Dhikr chapter Migo & Ali A-Z of Islam), and you can learn more about Allah; who He is, what He is like, what He does. You can learn his 99 different names, and what they mean for us (see Allah chapter).

Also, you can think about Allah's magnificence by looking at things in nature, like the mountains, trees, oceans and all the many different strange creatures and their different abilities. Think how amazing they are and that they are created by Allah.



ALI: Like the octopus! It can do amazing things to change itself very quickly if something happens.

Migo: Exactly! Allah gave it the ability to do that and when we think about that, we are thinking about Allah and His greatness. It's increasing our taqwa!



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