

We know that Allah created us and everything in the Universe.

Why did He create us? 1



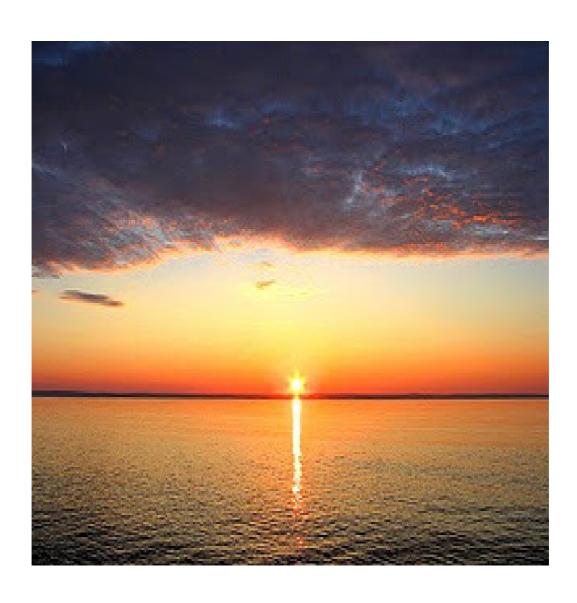
¹ Refer to Soorah adh Dhaariyaat (the 51st Soorah) aayah 56



He created us to worship Him.

Allah does not need us to worship Him.

If nobody prays to Allah, it does not harm Him.





When we worship Him, it helps us.

When we remember Allah, it makes our hearts feel peaceful and happy.

When we do not remember Him, we do not feel calm. ²



² Refer to Soorah ar Ra'd (the 13th Soorah) aayah 28 Author: Nasser ibn Najam



But how should we worship Him?

How should we pray?

What words should we say when we want to worship Him?

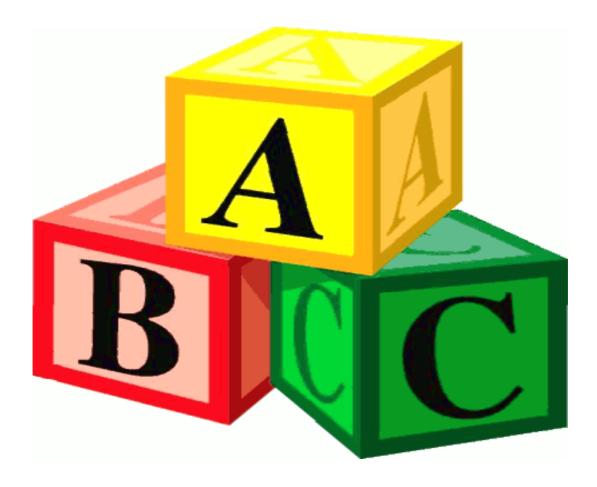
How do we know what Allah wants us to do?



Will He speak to us and tell us?



When our mother or father want us to do something, they tell us.



When our teacher wants us to do something, he or she speaks to us.



Allah does not speak to me or you to tell us what He wants us to do.

Allah speaks to special people to tell them what to do.

Or He sends information down to those people.

Then they can tell other people what Allah wants us to do.





Those people to whom Allah speaks are special. They are honest people and kind people. Allah chose them.



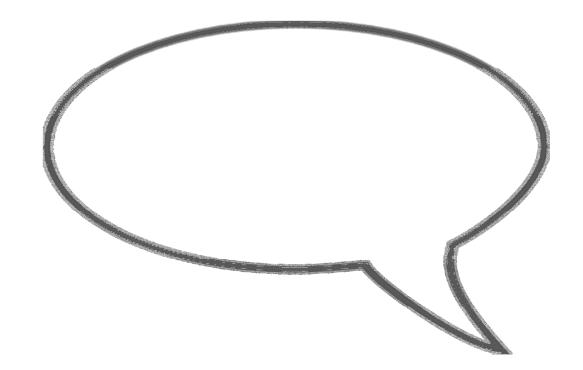
They are called Prophets.



Prophets worship only Allah.

They are kind to people around them.

They tell other people what Allah wants from us.



In this way, we find out what Allah wants us to do.



There are lots of people nowadays who say that Allah speaks to them.

These people are not telling the Truth.



They want to play a trick on us.



All the Prophets to whom Allah spoke were born a long, long time ago.

They lived over a thousand years ago.

Some were alive even longer ago than that.

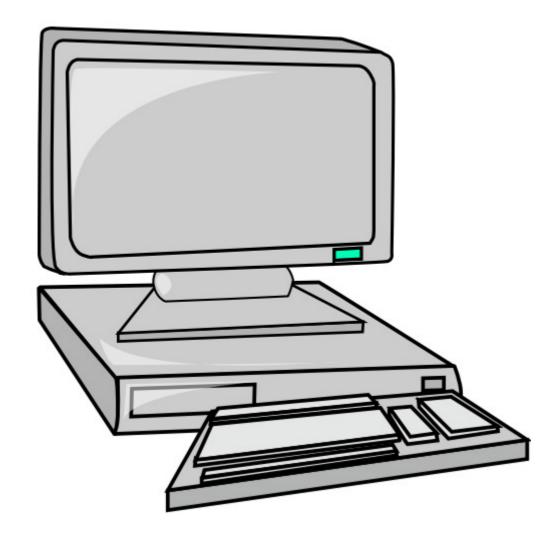




The last of those prophets brought us the Religion from Allah that we have to follow now.

How then do we know what Allah told him?

They did not have computers or emails in those days.





When your mother has to go out and she wants to leave a message for your father, what does she do?

She can tell you to tell your father.

Or she can write it down so that he can read it later on.



When people write things down, other people can read them.



All those many years ago, when Allah told the last Prophet what to do, he could then tell his friends.

They would learn it by heart; some of them would write it down.



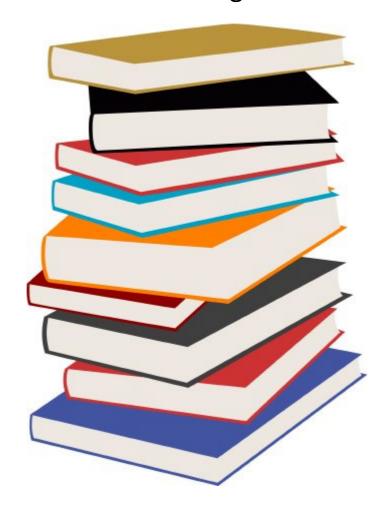
They could write down what the Prophet said and did, just like your mother can write down what you did today.



Can we find out what was written down then, even though it was a long time ago?

Yes, we can.

People have helped to look after what was written down all that time ago.





So all that time ago, the people learned by heart or wrote out that information for other people.

And then *they* passed it onto the people they taught.



And each time, clever people checked that there were no mistakes being made.



So now we can see what Allah told that last Prophet to do, even though the Prophet died over a thousand years ago.

We can read what the last Prophet said and did.

In this way, we find out what Allah wants us to do.



O Allah, help us to do what you want us to do.



Key points for teachers:

Worship done correctly benefits the person who does it; Allah is in no need of it. However He is pleased with the person doing worship for Him alone in the correct manner.

Remembrance of Allah brings about tranquillity of the heart.

Worship is not done according to whims and desires – there are set ways laid out in the Qur-aan and authentic hadeeths to tell us how to worship Allah.

Revelation came down to Prophets.

Allah chooses people to be Prophets; they do not choose themselves.

They fulfilled the task given to them by Allah, that of conveying Allah's commands to the people.

Revelation has stopped with the death of the final Prophet sall Allaahu 'alaihi wa sallam.

Anyone who claims Prophethood in our time is a liar – except for 'Eesaa (Jesus) 'alahissalam who will return before the end of time. But he has not appeared yet.

The Revelation – whether it be the Qur-aan or the Sunnah – has been preserved from generation to generation.

A person has to learn from the Religion that which is required from him or her.

Scholars teach us our Religion, using the Qur-an and the authentic hadeeths and the understanding of the Companions as the reference points which are to be referred back to.

A person must check the authenticity of hadeeths which he or she comes across because there are statements which have been attributed to the last Prophet *sall Allaahu 'alaihi wa sallam* that he did not really say.

The scholars of hadeeth have explained which hadeeths are authentic – i.e. the Prophet sall Allaahu 'alaihi wa sallam did actually say them.



Possible discussion points:

- 1) Does Allah speak to you?
- 2) Does Allah speak to me?
- 3) How do we know what Allah wants us to do?
- 4) How do we know what Allah told the Prophets to do?
- 5) Do we need to find out what Allah wants us to do?
- 6) Have you ever met a Prophet?
- 7) Do people sometimes try to trick other people?