Put your trust in Allah and depend on Him (At-Tawakkul)

WE will discuss the following concepts:

- 1- Difference between Tawakkul and It-Tikal
- 2- We are ordered by Allah to depend on Him and put our trust in Him
- 3- Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) put his trust in Allah
- 4- Specific situations in which Tawakkul is important and necessary
- 5- The benefits of Tawakkul.

Difference between Tawakkul and It-Tikal

Tawakkul means that we work hard and do our job, then put our trust in Allah and accept His will. In contrast, It-Tikal means that we are lazy, passive, do not work or do ur job, then claim that we put our trust in Allah and depend on Him.

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) explained this difference when he told his companion Mo'adh that anyone who worships Allah alone with no partners, Allah will not punish him for his sins and mistakes. When Mo'adh asked Allah's messenger: Should I not then tell the people about this good news, the prophet (PBUH) said: No, otherwise, they may stop working and depend on that promise) Muslim. A similar Hadeeth is also related by Abou Horaira in Muslim.

We are ordered to depend on Allah and put our trust in Him

The Qur'an tells the believers to put their trust in Allah after they have done their job and discharged their responsibilities:

To Allah do belong the unseen (secrets) of the heavens and the earth, and to Him goeth back every affair (for decision): then worship Him, and put thy trust in Him: and thy Lord is not unmindful of aught that ye do.

Hud 11: 123

The key word here is worship Allah, then put your trust in Him. In other words, we have to do our rituals of worship, and we have to obey Allah and live our life as He commanded, and do good. When we have done our job then we put our trust in Allah.

A similar verse explaining the same concept is :

So obey Allah, and obey His Messenger: but if ye turn back, the duty of Our Messenger is but to proclaim (the Message) clearly and openly.

At-Taghabun 64:12

Allah! There is no god but He: and on Allah, therefore, let the Believers put their trust.

At-Taghabun 64:13

Our job here is to obey Allah and obey Allah's messenger. Fulfilling our duty enables us to put our trust in Allah. Without due obedience to Allah and His messenger we cannot claim to depend on Allah and we cannot claim that indeed we trust Him.

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) put his trust in Allah

The Qur'an came down ordering the Prophet to work hard and to be conscious of Allah and not obey those who reject faith and the hypocrites, and to follow all that is revealed to him from his Lord. Then he can put his trust in Allah, for he has done his duty:

O Prophet! fear Allah, and hearken not to the Unbelievers and the Hypocrites: verily Allah is full of knowledge and wisdom.

Al-Ahzab 33: 1

But follow that which comes to thee by inspiration from thy Lord: for Allah is well-acquainted with (all) that ye do.

Al-Ahzab 33:2

And put thy trust in Allah, and enough is Allah as a Disposer of affairs. Al-Ahzab 33 : 3

The Qur'an also describes Allah's messenger as a person who cares deeply about his people, and who does not want them to suffer if they disobey Allah and reject His message. He tries his best to guide his people to Allah, and is kind and forgiving. There are however limits to what the Prophet can do. When he has done his job to the best of his ability, yet his people remain stubborn and disobedient, then he can rest assured in the comfort of knowing that Allah is the best one to depend on and put our trust in Him. This way we do not loose faith or despair:

Now hath come unto you a Messenger from amongst yourselves: it grieves him that ye should perish: ardently anxious is he over you: to the Believers is he most kind and merciful.

At-Tawba 9: 128

But if they turn away, say: "Allah sufficeth me; there is no god but He: on Him is my trust, - He the Lord of the Throne (of Glory) Supreme!"

At-Tawba 9: 129

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) in his Dua'a used to say:

(O Allah to You I submit in Islam, and in You I do believe, and in You I put my trust, and to You I do turn with obedience and devotion)

Bokhari

Situations in which Tawakkul is necessary

- 1- When facing adversity and difficult situations
- 2- When in fear
- 3- When embarking on an important decision
- 4- When seeking God's protection against Satan
- 5- When seeking Allah's pleasure and looking for His reward

Facing adversity and difficult situations

The Qur'an teaches us to put our trust in Allah, and to realize that no harm will occur to us except what Allah has willed, and to put our trust in Him: Say: "Nothing will happen to us except what Allah has decreed for us: He is our Protector": and on Allah let the Believers put their trust.

At-Tawba 9:51

And:

If indeed thou ask them who it is that created the heavens and the earth, they would be sure to say, "Allah." Say: "See ye then the things that ye invoke besides Allah; can they, if Allah wills some Penalty for me, remove His Penalty? Or if He wills some Grace for me, can they keep back His Grace?" Say: "Sufficient is Allah for me! in Him trust those who put their trust."

Az-Zumar 39: 38

When in fear

Men said to them: "A great army is gathering against you, so fear them": but it (only) increased their Faith; they said: "For us Allah sufficeth, and He is the best disposer of affairs."

Al-Imran 3: 173

When making an important decision

It is part of the Mercy of Allah that thou dost deal gently with them. Wert thou severe or harsh-hearted, they would have broken away from about thee: so pass over (their faults), and ask for (Allah's) forgiveness for them; and consult them in affairs (of moment). Then, when thou hast taken a decision, put thy trust in Allah. For Allah loves those who put their trust (in Him).

Al-Imran 3 : 159

Seeking Allah's protection against Satan

"As for My servants, no authority shalt thou have over them: "Enough is thy Lord for a Disposer of affairs.

Al-Isra'a 17:65

And:

When thou does read the Qur-an, seek Allah's protection from Satan the Rejected One.

An-Nahl 16:98

No authority has he over those who believe and put their trust in their Lord. An-Nahl 16: 99

Seeking Allah's pleasure and looking forward for His reward

Whatever ye are given (here) is (but) a convenience of this Life: but that which is with Allah is better and more lasting: (it is) for those who believe and put their trust in their Lord;

Ash-Shura' 42: 36

The benefits of Tawakkul

- 1- A feeling of contentment and security for we have done our job and put our trust in Allah
- 2- The ability to cope with adversity and difficulty
- 3- Being provided with sustenance
- 4- Gaining Allah's pleasure and entering His paradise

A feeling of contentment and peace because we have done our job, and now it is in the hands of God whom we trust

We know that Allah controls everything and we trust His judgment and will. We have done our job, and now we can accept whatever God wills for us. It is a great feeling to be content and secure and at peace. The Qur'an describes Allah's reward for those who guard against evil and put their trusts in Allah:

And for those who fear Allah, He (ever) prepares a way out, At-Talaq 65: 2

And He provides for him from (sources) he never could imagine. And if anyone puts his trust in Allah, sufficient is (Allah) for him. For Allah will surely accomplish His purpose: verily, for all things has Allah appointed a due proportion.

At-Talaq 65: 3

We learn that Allah rewards the righteous and those who put their trust in Him in several ways:

- Allah will deliver him out of every difficulty
- Allah will provide for him in ways that he never expected
- Allah is sufficient as a guardian and protector
- Everything runs its course and according to a plan> Allah has full control. We do not have to worry.

Allah will give us the ability to cope with difficult situations

The Qur'an explains that if we do our job and avoid what Allah has told us to avoid, and patiently persevere, then Allah will reward us both in this life as well as in the Hereafter:

To those who leave their homes in the cause of Allah, after suffering oppression, We will assuredly give a goodly home in this world: but truly the reward of the Hereafter will be greater. If they only realised (this)!

An-Nahl 16:41

(They are) those who persevere in patience, and put their trust on their Lord. An-Nahl 16: 42

Without strong faith we will not be able to restrain our vain desires, nor persevere and be patient in the face of difficulty, tests and trials. We have confirmed our faith by our patience and sacrifice and by willing to trust Allah's judgment and accept His will and decree for us. Therefore, we are rewarded for our faith and our behavior.

Our trust in Allah gives us provision and sustenance

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said:

(If you trust Allah as He should be trusted, He would provide for you as He provides for the birds: they are hungry and empty in the morning, but by the end of the day, they become full and well fed)

Termedhi, Ibn Majja & Ahmad

Tawakkul allows to enter paradise

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said:

(I was shown my nation and with them seventy thousand who will enter paradise with no accountability and no suffering). When asked who are those people? He said: (They are the ones who do not seek false remedies, and do not believe in omens and who put their trust in their Lord) Bokhari & Muslim .

Summary AT-TAWAKKUL (PUTTING OUR TRUST IN ALLAH)

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1- The difference between Tawakkul and Ittikal:

Tawkkul means we do our job and work hard, then put our trust in Allah and depend on Him. It-Tikkal means we are passive and do not work or do our job, then claim that we depend on Allah.

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) told Moa'dh that if human beings worship Allah and serve Him alone, then He would not punish them. When Moa'dh asked: shall I tell others so they may feel good and happy? The Prophet said: (No, otherwise they may stop working) Muslim.

"And consult them in your mutual affairs, then when you make a decision and start your work put your trust in Allah, for Allah loves those who put their trust in Him "Al-Imran 3: 159

2- Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) put his trust in Allah

"Now there has come to you a messenger from amongst yourselves: it grieves him that you should suffer, ardently anxious is he over you. To the believers he is most kind and merciful. But if they turn away say: "Allah suffices for me, there is no god but He, I put my trust in Him, He is the Lord of the throne supreme "At-Tawba 9: 128 & 129

3- Situations in which Tawakkul is necessary

- * When faced with difficulty and adversity:
- "Say: "Nothing will happen to us except what Allah has decreed for us. He is our protector, and on Allah let the believers put their trust "At-Tawba 9:51
- When making an important decision :
- "So when you have taken a decision, and started to work, put your trust in Allah "Al-Imran 3: 159
- When in fear:

"Those who men said to them: "A great army has gathered against you, so fear them" It only increased their faith and they said: "Allah is sufficient for us, for He is the best one to put our trust in Him "Al-Imran 3: 173

- Seeking protection in Allah from Satan:
- "You Satan have no authority over My servants, sufficient is your Lord as a guardian and One to depend on "Al-Isra'a 17:65
- Seeking Allah's pleasure and looking to His reward:
- "Whatever you are given here is but the enjoyment in this life, but that which is with Allah is better and more lasting: it is for those who believe and put their trust in their Lord" Ash-Shura' 42: 36

4- The benefits of Tawakkul

- A feeling of contentment and security for we have done our job and put our trust in Allah
- The ability to cope with adversity and difficult situations
- Being provided with sustenance: Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said: (If you put your trust in Allah, he would provide sustenance for you like the birds that wake up hungry in the morning, but become full by the end of the day) Termedhi, Ibn Majja & Ahmad
- Tawakkul allows us to enter paradise