

## The Deeds most beloved to Allah BS Foad, MD 2018

Ibn Masoud (may Allah be pleased with him) asked the Prophet (PBUH): **What are the deeds most beloved to Allah?** He said: **(Prayer at the proper time)**. He asked: What next? He said: **(Being good to your parents)**. He was asked: What next? He said: **(Jihad (striving) in the way of Allah)** Bokhari & Muslim.

**(1) Asking question in order to learn and understand:** “Therefore ask those who possess the knowledge if you do not know” An-Nahl (The Bees) 16: 43; Faith based on knowledge and proper understanding is strong faith that can withstand tests & trials: “So that those endowed with knowledge may understand that this Qur’an is the truth from your Lord, therefore they will believe in it, and that their hearts may submit, and surely Allah will guide those who believe to a straight path” Al-Hajj (Pilgrimage) 22: 54.

**(2) Doing righteous good deeds that bring us closer to Allah: 1-Prayer at its proper time: Prayer connects us to Allah,** as we recite the Qur’an, Allah’s own words. We also call on Allah, seeking His help and guidance, knowing that Allah hears and responds to our prayers. **Prayer has been ordained on all God’s prophets:** “I am indeed Allah, there is no god but I, therefore worship Me and establish regular prayer for My remembrance” Ta Ha 20: 14; “And He made me blessed wherever I am, and I have been commanded to establish regular prayer and to give charity as long as I am alive” Mariam (Mary) 19: 31; “Recite what is being revealed to you of the Book, and establish regular prayers, for prayer restrains from shameful deeds and sin” Al-Ankabut (The Spider) 29: 45. **Prayer at night and in the early morning is special and rewarded:** “And the recitation of the Qur’an at Dawn prayer, for the Dawn prayer is witnessed (by the Angels) Al-Isra’a (Night Journey) 17: 78. Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said: (Feed the hungry, and spread the greetings, and pray at night when others are asleep, you will enter paradise in peace) Ibn Hibban. “The righteous will be in the midst of gardens and springs. They are delighted with what their Lord gives to them, because before that they used to do good. They were in the habit of sleeping little at night, and in the hours of early morning they were seeking God’s forgiveness” Adh-Dhareyat (Winds that scatter) 51: 15-18 **2-Being good to our parents:** “Your Lord decreed that you worship none but Him, and that you are good and kind to your parents. If they reach old age, one of them or both of them, and they are in your company, never repulse them or say a word of contempt to them; rather talk to them in a kind honorable manner; and lower to them the wing of humility and say: “My Lord have mercy on them as they cherished me when I was young” Al-Isra’an (Night Journey) 17: 23 & 24; Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was asked: Who is most deserving of my company? He said: (Your mother). He was asked: Who next? He said: (Your mother). He was asked: Who next? He said: (Your mother). He was asked: Who next? He said: (Then your father); “We advised man to be good to his parents: his mother bore him in difficulty, after difficulty; and his bearing and weaning lasts 30 months” Al-Ahqaf 46: 15; The Prophet (PBUH) was asked by a man: I want to go out in Jihad with you. He asked: (Is your mother alive?). He said: yes. The Prophet said: (Go back and be kind and good to her). He was asked two more times, and each time the Prophet told him to go back and be good to your mother. Then he said: (Go back and stay with her, for paradise is there) Nesa’ee, Ibn Majja & Ahmad. We should pray and seek God’s forgiveness on their behalf after they die.

**3-Jihad in the way of Allah: Jihad takes several forms: Jihad with our souls to control our vain desires; Jihad to resist the temptations of Satan and obey Allah; Jihad to correct misinformation about Islam; and Jihad in fighting to defend our country against aggression.** “He said: My Lord prison is more beloved to me than that to which they invite me to do” Youseff (Joseph) 12: 33; “Patiently persevere and keep company with those who call on their Lord by morning and by night, and do not let your eyes wander beyond them seeking the glitter of this life” Al-Kahf (The Cave) 18: 28; “As to the person who feared his position standing before his Lord, and controlled his vain desires, indeed paradise is his abode” An-Naze’at 79: 40 & 41; “Satan makes them promises, and creates in them false hopes, but Satan’s promises are nothing but deception” An-Nesa’a 4: 120; “As for My servants no authority shall you have over them; enough is your Lord for a disposer of affairs” Al-Isra’a 17: 65; “You will be tested in your possessions and your souls, and you will hear much that will grieve you from those who were given divine revelations before you, but if you guard against evil, and patiently persevere, that requires resolve” Al-Imran 3: 187; “And fight in the cause of Allah those who fight you, but commit no aggression” Al-Baqara 2: 190.