

Choosing friends who help us return to Allah

Friendship quietly changes what feels normal. Good company does not require perfect people, but it should make truth easier to remember.

CENTREPIECE Surah al-Furqan 25:27-29, Sahih al-Bukhari 5534

FIRST KHUTBAH

1. Companionship shapes the road before the destination

The Quran describes a person on the Last Day grieving over a close friend who led them away from revelation (al-Furqan 25:27-29). Influence usually works slowly, through repeated jokes, assumptions and invitations.

Source: Quran 25:27-29

2. Good company leaves something good on you

The Prophet (peace be upon him) compared good company to a seller of musk and harmful company to a blacksmith's furnace (Bukhari 5534). Even without buying anything, a person leaves carrying a fragrance or smoke.

Source: Bukhari 5534

3. Be the friend you are searching for

A good friend does not monitor every fault. They make prayer easier, keep confidences, tell the truth with care and leave room for growth. Before judging your circle, ask what people regularly carry away from being with you.

SECOND KHUTBAH

Include online company in the reminder. A person may spend more time with voices on a screen than with friends in a room. The heart is still being accompanied.

Suggested closing: O Allah, surround us with people who remind us of You with wisdom and mercy. Make us loyal friends who protect one another's faith, dignity and future.

ONE ACTION FOR THIS WEEK

Strengthen one friendship built around something pleasing to Allah, and reduce one repeated influence that makes disobedience feel ordinary.

PREPARATION NOTES

1. Read every cited verse or hadith in full before using it.
2. Add one example your own congregation will recognise.
3. Check questions of fiqh and recognised disagreement with a qualified local scholar.

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