

Jumu'ah, the weekly gathering

The Quran calls a whole surah by its name. Why Jumu'ah is the central gathering of the Muslim week, and how to arrive ready.

CENTREPIECE Surah al-Jumu'ah 62:9

FIRST KHUTBAH

1. The command to hasten

When the call is made for the Friday prayer, Allah commands believers to proceed to His remembrance and leave trade (al-Jumu'ah 62:9). This means giving the prayer priority, not running without calm. The angels record those who arrive, then close their books when the imam comes out (Bukhari 929).

2. Ghusl, miswak, perfume, best clothes

The Sunnah encourages ghusl, cleanliness, perfume for men, and arriving without disturbing people (Bukhari 880, 883). These preparations give the day its proper weight. They are acts of worship, not a reason to measure another worshipper by clothing or scent.

3. The hour of acceptance

The Prophet (peace be upon him) said: there is an hour on Friday in which no Muslim asks Allah for anything except He grants it (Muslim 852). Many scholars place it after Asr, before Maghrib. Spend that hour in dua. Most do not.

SECOND KHUTBAH

Return to the centrepiece and gather the message around one honest change connected to jumu'ah, the weekly gathering.

Suggested closing: Next Friday, arrive thirty minutes earlier than last week. Use the difference for dua and Quran.

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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