

Sound Vision May 3 2019

Assalamu alaikum:

Ramadan, which begins in barely a few days, is a month for winners. Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, said “Whoever prays at night in Ramadan out of faith and the hope of reward, all his (or her) previous sins will be forgiven” (Agreed upon).

But we might end up losing if we don't start off by being mindful of how we want to spend our time in and benefit from Ramadan. The Prophet said, “Many people who fast get nothing from their fast except hunger and thirst, and many people who pray at night get nothing from it except wakefulness” (Darimi).

It all depends on your plans. So please be mindful and maximize every moment by planning.

While Ramadan is about building a strong connection to God, it is also about community.

“Many Muslims who do not attend the mosque year-round come almost nightly during the month of Ramadan. Every night the mosque is filled with prayers, food, socializing and fundraisers. In truth, almost every Muslim will attest to reading more Quran and praying more in that one month than they do throughout the entire year. It's a team effort that picks up, even if temporarily, the weakest member,” notes Imam Omar Suleiman in a recent article on CNN explaining why Ramadan matters so much to us.

During the blessed month, Muslims and Masjids open their doors to neighbors and friends so they can get a taste of Ramadan. But in our enthusiasm to share our faith, we must not forget that there are 103 million single people age 18 and older in the United States, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, which includes Muslims as well.

Some are students, others are divorcees, as well as widows and widowers. Others still are converts. There are also those who are single by choice. They must not become isolated. This doesn't only lead to loneliness. It can also affect faith.

This weekend, as we gear up for another Ramadan, make it a priority to reach into the community, drawing out those who may be isolated and lonely. Make a Muslim living on their own a Taraweeh buddy; call and text reminders about prayer; invite them to your home our out to a restaurant for Iftar. In other words, be generous with not just your money, but your time and heart as well, as the Prophet was the most generous person, but he was most generous in Ramadan (Bukhari, Muslim).

Ramadan Mubarak! May Allah bless this month for all of us and make us stronger than ever through it.

Peace,

Sound Vision Team

What not to do in Ramadan



Dr. Zaher Sahloul

This is a short list of trends and practices that are counterproductive to the essence and purpose of fasting. You have the whole month to cleanse yourself from them.

Taking Care of single Muslims this Ramadan



Samana Siddiqui

It is imperative to reach out to single Muslims respectfully and consistently, especially in Ramadan, a time known for family togetherness and communal spirit. Here are five ways to do that.

Checklist for Ramadan's first 10 day



Samana Siddiqui

This brief checklist offers ways to make the most of the first 10 days of the blessed month to maximize every moment.