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May Allah have mercy on him.

Pictures from the Lives of the Companions is a book about people who learned Islam from Prophet Muhammad ﷺ and followed his teachings. These ten stories teach us about loving Allah, studying the Qur'an, speaking the truth, helping people, patience and good manners. Tawheed means worshipping Allah alone. These lessons are taught upon The Qur'aan & Sunnah as Understood by the Salaf (Pious Predecessors) of this Ummah.

21. Abdullah ibn Abbas

Umar ibn Al-Khattab said: "He is young but has the wisdom of older people. He has a tongue that asks and a heart that understands." (Suwar min Hayat as-Sahabah, p. 176; PDF p. 172.)

Abdullah ibn Abbas was a young cousin of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. He loved being near the Prophet so he could learn from him. Although he was a child, he listened carefully and wanted to understand the Qur'an. The Prophet ﷺ made dua for Allah to teach him the religion and help him understand the Qur'an. Abdullah helped the Prophet with small tasks and learned from the way he prayed and lived. After the Prophet ﷺ passed away, Abdullah continued learning from the older Companions. He visited them to hear what they had learned. Sometimes he waited patiently outside their homes rather than disturb them. He did not think he was too important to ask for knowledge. With time he became known for his deep understanding of the Qur'an and his wise explanations. Umar ibn Al-Khattab respected Abdullah's knowledge even though Abdullah was younger than many of the other Companions. He invited him to gatherings where important verses and matters were discussed. Abdullah used what he learned to explain Islam to others and to answer difficult matters with care.

Moral of the Story: Knowledge grows through patience, listening and respect. Abdullah teaches us to love the Qur'an, learn from people of knowledge and use what we learn wisely. (Story source: Suwar min Hayat as-Sahabah, pp. 176–188.)



22. An-Nu'man ibn Muqarrin Al-Muzani

Abdullah ibn Mas'ud said: "Faith has its homes and hypocrisy has its homes. The home of the family of Muqarrin is among the homes of faith." (Suwar min Hayat as-Sahabah, p. 189; PDF p. 185.)

An-Nu'man ibn Muqarrin was from the tribe of Muzaynah. He and his brothers heard about Prophet Muhammad ﷺ and the call to worship Allah alone. Their family accepted Islam and travelled to meet the Prophet. They were pleased to become Muslims and wanted to support their new community. An-Nu'man learned to obey Allah and serve the Muslims. After the Prophet ﷺ passed away, he remained faithful and took on important duties. During the time of Umar ibn Al-Khattab, Muslim forces faced a very difficult struggle against the Persian army. Umar trusted An-Nu'man to lead the Muslims at Nihawand. Before the struggle, An-Nu'man reminded the Muslims to be patient, stay together and ask Allah for help. He made dua and led with courage. The Muslims later achieved victory but An-Nu'man did not return from the battle. The Companions remembered his faith and the service he gave to the Muslim community.

Moral of the Story: Faith is shown through good actions, trust and service. An-Nu'man teaches us to keep our promises, be brave during difficulty and ask Allah for help. (Story source: Suwar min Hayat as-Sahabah, pp. 189–196.)



23. Suhayb Ar-Rumi

Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said: “You have made a successful trade, Abu Yahya. You have made a successful trade.” (Suwar min Hayat as-Sahabah, p. 197; PDF p. 193.)

Suhayb was born into an Arab family but he spent many years among the Romans after being taken away from his home as a child. This is why people called him Ar-Rumi. When he was older he reached Makkah and worked hard to earn a living. He heard about Islam and accepted the message of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. Suhayb faced difficulty because he was a Muslim. When he wished to leave Makkah for Madinah, some people tried to stop him because he had earned money there. Suhayb agreed to leave his wealth behind so he could go and join the Prophet ﷺ. For him, being able to follow his religion was worth more than his possessions. When Suhayb reached the Muslims, the Prophet ﷺ welcomed him with words about his successful trade. Suhayb had given up worldly wealth for something much greater. He continued to be a faithful Companion and remained close to the Muslim community. When Umar was seriously ill, Suhayb was trusted to lead the people in prayer.

Moral of the Story: Faith is more valuable than money. Suhayb teaches us to put our religion first, be patient through hardship and trust Allah when we give up something for His sake. (Story source: Suwar min Hayat as-Sahabah, pp. 197–204.)

24. Abu Ad-Darda

Abdur-Rahman ibn Awf said: “Abu Ad-Darda pushed worldly life away from himself with both hands and his chest.” (Suwar min Hayat as-Sahabah, p. 205; PDF p. 201.)

Abu Ad-Darda was once a busy trader in Madinah. After becoming Muslim, he began thinking about how he spent his days. He wanted to give more time to the Qur'an, worship and learning the religion. He understood that wealth could be useful but it must not take over a person's heart. Abu Ad-Darda became close to the Companions and learned carefully from Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. His friend Salman Al-Farisi helped him understand that worship should be balanced with the rights of his body and family. Abu Ad-Darda learned that caring for the people around us is also an important part of Islam. Later he travelled to Syria and spent time teaching people the Qur'an and the religion. Many students gathered to learn from him. He reminded Muslims not to become proud because of possessions or forget the Hereafter. He cared more about pleasing Allah and sharing knowledge than about collecting wealth.

Moral of the Story: Money should not be the most important thing in our lives. Abu Ad-Darda teaches us to learn the Qur'an, care for our family and make time for worship and helping others. (Story source: Suwar min Hayat as-Sahabah, pp. 205–215.)



25. Zayd ibn Harithah

Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said: “By Allah, Zayd ibn Harithah was fit to lead and he was among the people I loved most.” (Suwar min Hayat as-Sahabah, p. 216; PDF p. 212.)

Zayd ibn Harithah was separated from his family when he was young and later lived in the home of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. The Prophet treated him with kindness and care. When Zayd’s father and uncle found him, they came to take him home. The Prophet allowed Zayd to choose freely. Zayd chose to stay with the Prophet because of the love and good treatment he had received. People once called Zayd by a name that made him seem like the Prophet’s son. The Qur’an later taught Muslims to call people by their real fathers’ names. Zayd was therefore known by his true father, Harithah. He was loved and respected as a Companion of the Prophet ﷺ. (Qur’an 33:5.) Zayd accepted Islam early and supported the Prophet in many difficult times. He carried out important duties and was trusted with leadership. The Prophet ﷺ praised him for being able to lead and for his strong faith. During the expedition to Mu’tah, Zayd carried the Muslims’ banner and his life came to an end while serving the community.

Moral of the Story: A person is honoured through faith, kindness and good character. Zayd teaches us loyalty, gratitude and the importance of treating others with care. (Story source: Suwar min Hayat as-Sahabah, pp. 216–223.)



26. Usamah ibn Zayd

Umar ibn Al-Khattab told his son: “Usamah’s father was dearer to the Messenger of Allah than your father and Usamah was dearer to him than you.” (Suwar min Hayat as-Sahabah, p. 224; PDF p. 220.)

Usamah was the son of Zayd ibn Harithah and Umm Ayman. He grew up close to Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. The Prophet cared deeply for him and showed him kindness from the time he was a child. Usamah and Al-Hasan ibn Ali were among the young people the Prophet held with love and made dua for. As Usamah grew older, he learned to be responsible and serve Islam. The Prophet ﷺ trusted him with the leadership of an important group even though he was younger than many of its members. Some people were surprised by his age but the Prophet made clear that Usamah was suitable for this duty. After the Prophet passed away, Abu Bakr kept the plan in place and showed confidence in Usamah. Umar ibn Al-Khattab also honored Usamah because he knew how much the Prophet ﷺ had loved Usamah and his father. Usamah did not need a famous family title or great age to be trusted. He had learned faith and responsibility from those around him.

Moral of the Story: Young people can be trusted when they learn responsibility and good manners.

Usamah teaches us to respect others for their character rather than their age or position. (Story source: Suwar min Hayat as-Sahabah, pp. 224–231.)



27. Sa'eed ibn Zayd

Zayd ibn Amr, the father of Sa'eed, made this dua: "O Allah, if I have been kept from this good, do not keep my son Sa'eed from it." (Suwar min Hayat as-Sahabah, p. 232; PDF p. 228.)

Sa'eed ibn Zayd was the son of Zayd ibn Amr. Before Islam came, his father refused to worship idols and searched for the religion of Prophet Ibrahim. He wanted to worship Allah alone. Zayd hoped that his son would be able to follow the truth even though he himself did not live to meet the Messenger of Allah ﷺ. Sa'eed accepted Islam early. His wife was Fatimah bint Al-Khattab, the sister of Umar. Both Sa'eed and Fatimah believed in Allah and learned the Qur'an even when it was difficult to be Muslim in Makkah. Their home was connected to the events that led Umar to listen to the Qur'an and accept Islam. Sa'eed stayed faithful and was known among the Companions for his good character. He was counted among those given good news of Paradise. Later in life, someone accused him unfairly in a disagreement about land. Sa'eed denied doing wrong and placed his trust in Allah. He remained concerned about truth and justice rather than taking something that belonged to another person.

Moral of the Story: Worship Allah alone and stand by the truth. Sa'eed teaches us to keep our faith, stay honest and trust Allah when others misunderstand us. (Story source: Suwar min Hayat as-Sahabah, pp. 232–238.)



28. Umair ibn Sa'd – During His Childhood

Umar ibn Al-Khattab said: “Umair ibn Sa'd is a person unlike any other.” (Suwar min Hayat as-Sahabah, p. 239; PDF p. 235.)

Umair ibn Sa'd lost his father while he was young. His mother later married Al-Jallas ibn Suwayd. Al-Jallas cared for Umair and treated him kindly. Umair loved and respected him. When Umair accepted Islam, his faith became the most important part of his life. One day Umair heard Al-Jallas say something very wrong about Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. Umair felt sad because the man had been good to him. Even so, he knew he should not hide words that went against the truth. Umair told the Prophet ﷺ what he had heard. Al-Jallas first denied saying it. Then Allah revealed a verse showing the truth of what had happened. (Qur'an 9:74.) Al-Jallas recognized his mistake and turned back to Allah in repentance. Umair had spoken honestly although it was difficult. The events showed that being kind to family and speaking the truth are both important. A Muslim must not hide what is right just because the situation is uncomfortable.

Moral of the Story: Tell the truth with courage and respect. Umair teaches us to stay faithful to Allah even when we face a hard choice with someone close to us. (Story source: Suwar min Hayat as-Sahabah, pp. 239–246.)



29. Umair ibn Sa'd – During His Adulthood

Umar ibn Al-Khattab said: “I wish I had men like Umair ibn Sa'd to help me with the affairs of the Muslims.” (Suwar min Hayat as-Sahabah, p. 247; PDF p. 243.)

When Umair ibn Sa'd grew older, Umar ibn Al-Khattab appointed him to care for people in Homs. Umair took this duty seriously. He lived simply and did not use his position to become rich. He tried to treat people fairly and spend his time doing what was right. Some people complained to Umar about Umair. They said he met them late in the morning, did not receive visitors at night, stayed away for one day each month and sometimes became overcome with sadness. Umar asked Umair to explain. Umair said he helped his family with work at home before meeting people. He kept the night for worship and had only one set of clothes, which he washed once each month. His sadness came from remembering a painful event he had seen before accepting Islam. Umar understood that Umair was honest and had done his best. When support was offered to him, Umair preferred to give it to people who needed it. Umar was pleased with his fairness and his simple way of life. Umair cared about doing his duty rather than being praised.

Moral of the Story: Leadership means serving people honestly. Umair teaches us to be fair, help our families and use what we have to care for others. (Story source: Suwar min Hayat as-Sahabah, pp. 247–254.)



30. Abdur-Rahman ibn Awf

Prophet Muhammad ﷺ made this dua for him: “May Allah bless what you give and may Allah bless what you keep.” (Suwar min Hayat as-Sahabah, p. 255; PDF p. 251.)

Abdur-Rahman ibn Awf was among the first people to accept Islam. He stayed close to Prophet Muhammad ﷺ and remained faithful during the difficult years. When he migrated to Madinah, he had left much of his wealth behind. The Prophet ﷺ joined him in brotherhood with Sa’d ibn Ar-Rabi, who offered to share his possessions. Abdur-Rahman thanked Sa’d for his kindness and asked to be shown the marketplace. He worked hard as a trader and Allah gave him success. Although his wealth grew, he did not forget the Muslims who needed help. He gave generously and helped people during difficult times. He supported the Muslim community with his wealth and took part in its important events. He was also one of the trusted Companions selected by Umar to help choose the next leader after him. Abdur-Rahman thought often about the Hereafter. Even when he had plenty of food and comfort, he remembered the sacrifices of Companions who had lived with very little.

Moral of the Story: Earning money honestly is good when we use it to help others and remember Allah. Abdur-Rahman teaches us generosity, hard work, gratitude and care for the Hereafter. (Story source: Suwar min Hayat as-Sahabah, pp. 255–263.)