

The Power of Good Company

Allah has angels whose job it is to roam around the earth, looking for certain gatherings of friends. Who are they searching for? They are searching for people who are doing *dhikr*, or remembering. And what are these people remembering? They are remembering Allah.

The angels will surround friends who remember Allah together. When they gather around in a great big circle and still more angels are coming, they will start piling up onto each other until they reach the lowest heaven! The angels will only leave once the friends go their separate ways.

Then the angels will go to Allah, Who will ask them, "What do my slaves say?" The angels will tell Allah that they heard the people remembering Him, so Allah will say, "Have they seen Me?" The angels will reply, "No, by Allah. O Lord, they haven't seen you at all." Then Allah will ask the angels, "How would it be if they saw Me?" They will say that if they saw Him, their worship and remembrance would be even better and sincere!

Then Allah will ask, "What do they ask Me?" The angels will reply, "They ask You for Paradise." And Allah will ask, "And have they seen it?" The angels will say, no, they haven't. To which Allah will ask, "How would it be if they saw it?" The angels will reply that they would crave it even more eagerly!

Then Allah will ask, "From what do they seek My protection?" The angels will reply, "From Hell." Then Allah will ask, "And have they seen it?" To which the angels will say, of course, they haven't seen it. Allah will ask, and what would it be like if they had? The angels will say, they would fear it even more!

Then Allah will say: **“I make you witnesses that I have forgiven them.”**

From amongst the angels, one of them would say, well, there was a person who hadn't really meant to be there. He just happened to be passing by and joined them. What about him?

Allah will say, well, they were all together, so He will not let that one person be deprived of a reward



What does the word *dhikr* mean?

- a. Angel
- b. Remembrance
- c. Friend



What is the beautiful gift Allah will give to all of those people just for remembering Him?

- a. A new iPhone
- b. A pet lizard
- c. His forgiveness

What will happen to the person who accidentally joins this gathering?

- a. He will be punished for not coming with good intentions.
- b. Allah will forgive him too, just because He is cool like that.
- c. Nothing will happen to him.

From this hadith, what can we learn about the kinds of people we should try to hang out with?