Name: ..... Date: .....

Destiny and my choice

Lesson 8 · belief in qadar

📖 **The story: Destiny and my choice**
Read together, part by part.

Part 1 – “It’s already decided anyway”

Hamza is sixteen and has an electricity exam tomorrow. He is lying on the sofa with his phone. “Aren’t you going to study?” asks his uncle Karim. Hamza shrugs. “Allah already knows whether I’ll pass. It’s already decided.” Uncle Karim puts his newspaper down. “May I tell you a story?” Hamza sighs, but nods. “A man once came to the Prophet. He asked: shall I tie up my camel and then trust in Allah, or shall I leave it loose and trust in Allah? The Prophet said: tie it, and trust in Allah.” Hamza looks up from his phone.

⭐ **Tie your camel, then trust in Allah.**

exam = a big test · **tie up** = fasten with a rope

Part 2 – Allah knows, and you choose

“Allah knows everything,” says Uncle Karim. “The past, the present and the future. Nothing happens without His will. That is called qadar, destiny. But Allah also gave us free choice. You choose whether you study or not. That is why you are responsible for what you do.” Hamza thinks. “So Allah knows what I will choose, but He doesn’t choose in my place?” “That is how many scholars put it. Knowing is not the same as forcing. A good teacher can predict who will pass, but he doesn’t sit the exam for you.” Hamza puts his phone away. He takes his course book out of his backpack.

⭐ **Allah knows everything, but you are responsible for your choices.**

destiny = everything Allah knows and wills · **responsible** = you have to answer for what you did

Part 3 – After the exam

Two weeks later Hamza gets his marks: twelve out of twenty. Not great, but he passed. His friend Mehdi studied hard and still failed. He is angry and sad. “Why me?” he says. Hamza doesn’t really know what to say. He remembers what Uncle Karim also said: “Do your best. And what happens after that, accept it with patience. Maybe there is something good in it that you don’t see yet.” He says it to Mehdi, in his own words. Together they agree to practise every Wednesday for the resit. In August Mehdi passes with fifteen out of twenty.

⭐ **Do your best, and accept the outcome with patience.**

fail = not pass · **resit** = a second chance for an exam

💬 **Let’s talk:** When do people use “it’s already decided” as an excuse? What is the difference with trusting in Allah?

💡 **Did you know? – Tawakkul: trusting in Allah**

- Believing in qadar is the sixth pillar of faith.
- Tawakkul means: you do everything you can, and you leave the outcome to Allah.
- In hard times Muslims say: Qaddarallahu wa ma sha’a fa‘al, Allah has decreed it and He does what He wills (Muslim).

📖 **Hadith**

At-Tirmidhi

اعْقِلْهَا وَتَوَكَّلْ

I’qilhaa wa tawakkal.

“Tie it and trust in Allah.”

Destiny and my choice

Lesson 8 · questions and writing

✔ Questions

Tick the correct answer.

1. Which exam does Hamza have tomorrow?

- ◯ French
- ◯ electricity

2. What does Hamza do instead of studying?

- ◯ sit on his phone
- ◯ play football

3. What did the Prophet say about the camel?

- ◯ tie it and trust
- ◯ let it go

4. What is destiny called?

- ◯ qibla
- ◯ qadar

5. How much does Hamza get out of twenty?

- ◯ eight
- ◯ twelve

6. When does Mehdi pass?

- ◯ in December
- ◯ in August

☆ **Remember this:** Do your best, then trust in Allah.

✍ Think and write

Answer in a few sentences.

1. What is the difference between trusting in Allah and doing nothing?

2. What would you say to Mehdi when he failed?

Puzzles

Lesson 8 · Destiny and my choice

🔤 Word search

Find the words: from left to right and from top to bottom.

D	E	T	C	E	C	E	W	C	D	H
I	I	N	M	I	I	Z	O	L	T	Z
E	D	E	C	I	D	E	D	A	E	M
P	A	T	I	E	N	C	E	T	I	L
T	E	E	H	E	I	T	M	C	M	C
P	I	M	T	A	W	A	K	K	U	L
C	A	M	E	L	C	H	O	I	C	E
E	I	I	Q	A	D	A	R	K	E	K
C	N	U	E	X	A	M	W	K	Z	U
M	E	H	D	I	E	U	N	C	L	E
H	A	M	Z	A	R	R	C	A	H	A

☐ TAWAKKUL ☐ PATIENCE ☐ DECIDED ☐ CHOICE ☐ QADAR ☐ CAMEL ☐ HAMZA

☐ UNCLE ☐ MEHDI ☐ EXAM

🔍 Spot the 7 differences

Something is missing, bigger, smaller, turned or moved.

