

Value Five Before Five

The Prophet sallallāhu alayhi wasallam said, “Value five before five; your youth before your old age, your health before your sickness, your wealth before your poverty, your free-time before your preoccupation and your life before your death.”(Hākim, Bayhaqi)

1. Youth Before Old Age

One of the blessings we take for granted is our youth. When we are young, we are capable of doing so many things for the sake of Allāh, but often we see that our youth is wasted in other activities.

It is a trick of shaytān to make us delay good deeds for later. It is common to hear young people claim that they will start practising Islām when they get older. We should always be mindful of the fact that there is no guarantee that we will even be alive tomorrow. More importantly, it is our youth which will mould the rest of our life!

2. Health Before Sickness

As with our youth, we often take our health for granted also. Health is a great blessing from Allāh. When we are in good health, we are able to carry out many commands of Allāh with ease, however, we remain neglectful and waste this blessing. Unfortunately, It is only when we fall ill, we realise the value of good health!

3. Wealth Before Poverty

Wealth is another blessing granted to us by Allāh. Through wealth we are able to fulfil our basic needs. We are able to spend in charity to help those in need and assist in many good avenues though spending in the path of Allāh. We should value every penny and avoid wasting our wealth on unnecessary items.

4. Free Time Before Preoccupation

Islām always encourages us to make the most of our time and to spend as much of it as possible in the pleasure of Allāh. We should utilise our time to do as much good as we can, because before we know it, this time will have passed. Time is that blessing and asset which will never return once gone. Each moment that passes, part of life has passed! Allāh has declared in the Qur’ān, “(I swear) By time. Verily, man is in loss, except those who believed and did good deeds and encouraged each other to follow the truth and encouraged each other to observe patience.” (Surah Al-Asr)

5. Life Before Death

The last thing that we have been advised to value is our life before our death. As long as we are alive, we have the chance and opportunity to please Allāh, repent over our wrong doings and seek Allāh’s forgiveness. Once our life ends, we will not be able to do the slightest of good deeds. There will be no second chance, where we can return to this world and live a better life. Therefore, we should savour every moment and use it to our best advantage in pleasing Allāh and achieve his love and gain entry into Jannah.