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TWO BROTHERS Once there lived two brothers who lost their parents at an early age. They worked together on their family farm. Some years later, the elder married and had a family with 2 children, while the other was still single. They worked hard together in the day and at the end of each day they shared their produce equally. One day while the single brother was working in the fields, he thought to himself, "It's not right that we share equally everything. I'm alone and my needs are simple. My brother has a big family. He needs much more." With that in mind he took a sack full of grains and slowly went to his brothers barn and places the sack quietly. He did so every night. Meanwhile, the married brother thought to himself, "It's not right that we share everything equally. After all, I'm married and I have my wife and children to look after me in years to come. My brother has no family and no one can take care of his future. He really should have a bigger share." So each night he took a bag of grain and put it into his brothers barn quietly. This went on and both men were puzzled for years because their grain never dwindled. Then one night, on the way to each others barn, the two brothers coincidentally met and they found out what was happening all these years! They dropped their bags, cried and embraced one another with tears of happiness. Moral: love for your brother what you love for yourself. Assalamu'alaikum. ----- The story of two brothers This is the story that changed my perception. It's about two siblings, both are brothers. Both are poor and orphans. They live in the remains of the ancestral home of their parents. Their parents are humble servants of Allah. They brought up these two brothers to rely on the Almighty Allah all the time. The elder brother, prayed every day for Allah to change his fate. He asked Allah for a beautiful and rich wife. He asked Allah to make him wealthy through his wife. Unlike his elder brother, the little brother is very lowly educated but humble. He can't even memorize a simple du'a so before his father's death, he had asked his father to write a du'a on a piece of paper for him to read when making du'a to Allah. The elder brother eventually married a wealthy woman and became rich. He was even richer when he entered the business field. Soon after he was beginning to forget Allah, delaying salah, rarely read the Quran, but never miss to ask more wealth from Allah. Miraculously, Allah granted what he asked for and this made him to think he is special. Mean time, the little brother's life has remained unchanged. He was modest, with weakness like an illiterate man, had a moderate career, continue to maintain his parent's home. The elder brother knew that his little brother is very diligent in prayer but his lives not changing. So one day, while visiting the elder brother said to the little brother with pride: "You have to pray harder. Look at me, Allah answers all my prayers. This is because I'm close with Allah and you're not close enough to Allah. You read du'a from that little paper, not making du'a, you can't even memorize a simple du'a. This is not very great." However the little brother just smiled. He loved to be criticized by his own brother. He took it constructively. The little brother continued to live moderately, in his family home and continued to read the du'a from the little paper given by his father. But his life has remained unchanged. One day, the little brother fell sick and passed away. After the funeral, the elder brother went to check his brother personal belongings. There he saw the little paper his little brother used to refer to make the du'a. He was curious to know what actually he was reading all this while. Upon reading it, he cried and sobbed heavily. It was written on the little paper "O Allah, please answer all my brother's du'a". He can't believe it, this was the du'a the little brother used to recite every day in his prayers. He began to realize that he was wrong to think that he is special. Actually Allah answered not his prayer but his younger brother's prayer. He began to compare himself and his late little brother. His little brother remained faithful to Allah and he did not ask anything for himself. But he never supplicated anything for his little brother. All he is able to do now is to cry over his mistake. Let's us ponder a little, our du'a which accepted and answered by Allah all this while will not necessarily due to our service to Allah. It could be someone else du'a that Allah answered. It could be our parent's du'a or our siblings. Definitely, it is our beloved Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) du'a that Allah answered our prayers. Don't forget to make du'a for your parents, your siblings and your brothers and sisters in Islam. This is the month Allah will answer our prayers, inshallah. So don't miss the opportunity. -----

-- The above story just a fiction but there is a message hopefully you will carry inshallah. Salam alaykum; thanks about sharing this great and teaching story. Hopely it puts us all thinking. Townie, You are actively involve at TTI. I pray for Allah to open your heart and show you guidance. You have to start from the basic in order to understand Islam. You first need to know to whom actually Muslims are worshipping, Allah! Who is Allah? He is God. What is concept of God according to Islam? If you yet to know who is Allah (God), it is useless point to talk about whether God is listening to you supplication or not. I've answers to your questions, but it is useless at this point. I don't want to disappoint you either, once you have complete believe in Allah then you will believe what He had sent down to men, Holy Qur'an. There are verses from the Qur'an which we are guided to supplicate with patient and which also guarantees that our prayers will be answered. [Holy Qur'an, Chapter 2 Verse 45] And your Lord says, "Call upon Me; I will respond to you." Indeed, those who disdain My worship will enter Hell [rendered] contemptible. [Holy Qur'an, Chapter 40 Verse 60] Allah did answered most of my prayers. Having said that, some of my prayers are not answered. Why not answered? As mentioned earlier, you first have to clear your faith with Allah. If you have faith then the rest will not be difficult to accept even if your supplication is not answered. So the question here is why our prayers are not being answered? Who are you in the first place? What have you done for you to be so special in front of God? These are the questions I will ask myself when God did not answer my prayers. I'm not saint or righteous people. Needless to ask why, Allah is not answering my prayers. It also depend what are you asking? You can't just supplicate as you like, you must know what you supplicate. We sometime do supplicate wrong thing which we believe it is right thing, but due to His loves on us God does not answer. Sometime, He does answer but He delayed it to give us something better than we ask. Sometime God does not answer, many of my prayers are not answered, these will be answered once I'm in heaven, inshallah. Allah is Most Merciful. He does listen and listening. Most important things is He listen to your prayers but if He does not answer to your prayers there must be reasons for it. Why? Because you don't know what God knows. Allah says in the Qur'an: and perhaps you love a thing and it is bad for you. And Allah Knows, while you know not. [Holy Qur'an, Chapter 2 Verse 216] So when you supplicate if God does not answered you, there can be many reasons, some of them are as per the following: - He delayed it for you because it may harm you or someone else if accepted. - He wants to give better one than what you ask - You asked something is haram (forbidden) in Islam. Example you can't ask for a whore from God, no religion will accept such a request. - You have sineth yourself and yet to repent. So repent and repent then supplicate. Not answered, repent and supplicate. - You are asking from a false god, then your prayers will never be answered Finally, our Prophet (blessings and peace be upon him) said: "There's not a Muslim on Earth who prays to Allah, except that Allah will [either] answer his prayer for him, keep something bad away from him [because of his prayer] or save it and replace it for him with a reward that is equal to it on the Day of Judgment, unless he asks for something sinful or breaking the ties of kinship." [Riyad Al-Saliheen, hadeeth no. 1501] I believe the above will not satisfy you, I can understand your position, I was in your position some ten year ago too. Even a rocket scientist will not be able to satisfy me then about Islam. You will never believe until you know the true God to worship. Allah knows best. Salam alaykum; thanks about sharing this great and teaching story. Hopely it puts us all thinking. I should apologise to you if my translation into English was poor. I received in another language, I find it good to share. Townie, You are actively involve at TTI. I pray for Allah to open your heart and show you guidance. You have to start from the basic in order to understand Islam. You first need to know to whom actually Muslims are worshipping, Allah! Who is Allah? He is God. What is concept of God according to Islam? If you yet to know who is Allah (God), it is useless point to talk about whether God is listening to you supplication or not. I've answers to your questions, but it is useless at this point. I don't want to disappoint you either, once you have complete believe in Allah then you will believe what He had sent down to men, Holy Qur'an. There are verses from the Qur'an which we are guided to supplicate with patient and which also guarantees that our prayers will be answered. Nay, seek (Allah's) help with patient perseverance and prayer: It is indeed hard, except to those who bring a lowly spirit, [Holy Qur'an, Chapter 2 Verse 45] And your Lord says, "Call upon Me; I will respond to you." Indeed, those who disdain My worship will enter Hell [rendered] contemptible. [Holy Qur'an, Chapter 40 Verse 60] Allah did answered most of my prayers. Having said that, some of my prayers are not answered. Why not answered? As mentioned earlier, you first have to clear your faith with Allah. If you have faith then the rest will not be difficult to accept even if your supplication is not answered. So the question here is why our prayers are not being answered? Who are you in the first place? What have you done for you to be so special in front of God? These are the questions I will ask myself when God did not answer my prayers. 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Assalamu 'alaikum JazakAllahu khayr for sharing this, brother. :mashallah: I hadn't thought of it this clearly. Could explain a few things! Hudu and Budu were brothers and traditionalists as well, they do not believe in the oneness of ALLAH neither do they believe in trinity because they were neither Muslims nor Christians. The island where they lived since infancy the people there worship stones and big trees, the community loved each other and lived in total peace, until Christian and Muslim Missionaries began to enter the island with their doctrines, Hudu became a Muslim and Budu became a Christian, after their conversion the two brothers began to see themselves as different people, each of them feel better and superior than themselves and the others in their community, they also began to see their people as fools because of their believe in trees and stones. A time came when the two brothers did not even want to be close to each other and they tend to isolate themselves from their people except for those who want to come to their new religion. After some few years the two brothers had followers and the unexpected began to befall them, the community became divided and each began to feel better and superior than the other, one day.... To be continued. LESSON: Unfortunately some us have allowed our religion, our sect, our denominations to divide us but the question is, if we have found something good does that mean that good thing should separate or divide us. Any sect, any religion, any denomination that separate a brother from a brother or sister from a sister or a human from human has a question mark because even the LORD our GOD sent his messengers not because we are good but because we are sinners and most importantly not because he want to divide us but because HE want all of us to inherit His kingdom. More times it is not being a Muslim or being a christian by mouth that matters but our character and lifestyle alone tells our GOD and others whether we are true or not, let the good character and lifestyle dominate and your religion will dominate In sha ALLAHU, OH ALLAH, do not let us be your followers by mouth but your followers by the rules and regulations and especially by the laws. Ameen. Last updated2 March 2022This story is one of a collection of stories from RE Today. Each story is available as a one-page pdf downloadable at the point of sale, free of charge. Each story is accompanied by Key Questions for pupils, or Activities for working with the story in the classroom; main themes covered by each story are identified. THEMES: generosity; charity; giving Creative Commons "Sharealike"Select overall rating(no rating)Your rating is required to reflect your happiness.Write a reviewUpdate existing reviewIt's good to leave some feedback.Something went wrong, please try again later. 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