

Rewind and reflect

Episode 1

THE
OTHER
SIDE



Summary

Episode 1 explores the Barzakh, intermediate realm between this life and the hereafter. It explains that people aren't simply "gone" but continue to exist in a lifelike state, waiting for the Day of Judgment. Each soul's experience in the Barzakh depends on the good or bad deeds they did while alive. This episode challenges viewers to reflect on their own actions and encourages them to strive for righteousness, offering both a reminder to be mindful of our actions on this earth and a message of hope for what lies beyond this world. We should reflect on the state of our souls and strive to be amongst the righteous in the Barzakh.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Gather family and friends.
2. Watch **The Other Side, Episode 1**.
3. Read through this guide and discuss the questions provided.
4. Reflect, and grow together in faith.
5. Repeat for **all 30 episodes**.

Barzakh

The intermediate realm between this life and the hereafter, where the soul resides after death until the Day of Judgment.

Discussion questions

- 1 How does reflecting on the Barzakh affect the choices you make every day?
- 2 Ibrahim ibn Adham took a man to the graveyard instead of the city center. What lesson does this story teach us about keeping the end in mind and focusing on what truly matters?
- 3 Uthman ibn Affan is said to have wept more at the sight of a grave than when reflecting on Paradise or Hell. Why do you think the grave moved him so deeply, and what does that reveal about our own understanding of life and the afterlife?

Application

Imagine walking among the silent graves, each one bearing the memory of a life once lived. How would standing there, while reflecting upon the Barzakh affect your heart, and what reflections might it stir about your own journey and relationship with Allah?

References

Uthman reported: The Prophet ﷺ said, "Verily, the grave is the first stage of the hereafter. If one is saved from it, whatever comes after will be easier for him. If one is not saved from it, whatever comes after will be harder for him. I have never seen anything more frightening than the grave."
[Sunan at-Tirmidhi #2308]

HISTORICAL FIGURES/EVENTS

Ibrahim ibn Adham

Ibrahim ibn Adham was an early Muslim ascetic who famously abandoned a life of luxury to devote himself to worship and service. He is said to have originated from Balkh (modern-day Afghanistan) and became a model of piety, humility, and detachment from worldly desires. His story continues to inspire Muslims seeking a deeper spiritual connection with Allah.

Storyline connection

In Episode 1, we see Anwar grappling with the heartbreak of losing his brother. How can understanding the reality of the Barzakh—where souls continue their journey—help us cope with the pain of losing a loved one?

Activity

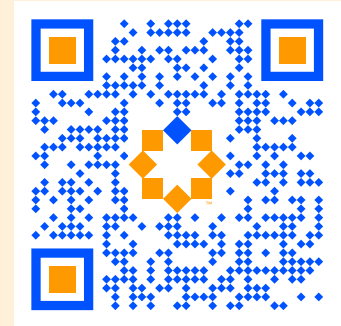
The Prophet ﷺ encouraged us to visit the grave as a means of detaching from this world and remembering the hereafter [*Sahih Muslim*]. Plan to visit your local graveyard as a family and reflect together.

Parent tip

When discussing this topic with children, focus on the idea that meeting Allah is a beautiful and joyous reunion, like finally seeing a loved one after a long time apart. Explain that this life is a journey where we try our best to be kind, do good deeds, and prepare for that special day. Reassure them that Allah is the Most Loving and the Most Merciful, and He wants us to live in a way that brings us happiness in this world and the next.

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