8424 - She wants to be a good Muslim

the question

I want to become a real good muslim, how do I start off? I do not mean to say that I am a bad muslim right now. But I do not read all five Salats or cover myself the proper Islamic way either. So how do I start?

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

Real Islam means adhering to the rulings of Islam, one of the most important of which is salaah (prayer), which is the “pillar of the religion” and is the first thing for which a person will be questioned about when he is brought to account on the Day of Resurrection. Prayer is the covenant that distinguishes the believers from the kaafirs, and whoever neglects a prayer is committing an act of kufr.

Therefore what you have to do is to pray regularly on time, and not miss any of the prayers. Then you must adhere to the other rulings of Islam, which include hijaab. What will help the Muslim to do that is to read Qur’aan regularly, and read the seerah (biography) of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) and stories of righteous people. We advise you to choose righteous friends from among the Muslim women, because this will help you, if Allaah wills, to adhere firmly to the religion of Allaah.

You should also check yourself, in obedience to the words of Allaah (interpretation of the meaning):

“O you who believe! Fear Allaah and keep your duty to Him. And let every person look to what he has sent forth for the morrow, and fear Allaah…”

[al-Hashr 59:18]

Here Allaah commands us twice to fear Him (taqwa), and in between these two commands, He commands us to check ourselves. So look and see what you have sent forth for the Day of Judgement in the way of good deeds and abstaining from evil deeds. This checking is an important means of changing oneself, and the Day of Resurrection will be difficult and long, and will make the faces look horrible (from their extreme dislike of it) (cf. Al-Insaan 76:10). So look at what you have prepared in the way of good deeds and try to do more of them and be sincere in doing them. Give up sin, for it is the worst thing that one can prepare for that Day. Make sure that you go into the Hereafter with the best that you have. And do not forget to make du'aa' and ask Allaah to guide you to the Straight Path and help you to remain steadfast in it.

We ask Allaah to grant us and you strength and guidance, and a good end. May Allaah bless our Prophet Muhammad.