

Basics of Islam Course



Lesson 3

Learning Objectives



1. Understand the importance of Tawheed
2. Explain the 3 categories of Tawheed
3. Know what is Shirk, it's dangers and types.

“There is no envy except in two: a person who Allah has given wealth and he spends it in the right way, and a person whom Allah has given wisdom (i.e. religious knowledge) and he gives His decisions accordingly and teaches it to the others. ”

[Sahih Bukhari - 1409]

Tawheed (Monotheism)



WHY IS THIS TOPIC SO IMPORTANT?

The main reason we have been created

The main purpose the Prophets were sent.

The main reason Divine Scriptures were revealed.

WHAT IS TAWHEED?



- Linguistically: means oneness, uniqueness or to make something one
- Islamic meaning: Believing that Allah is **ONE** (with no partners), **UNIQUE** and to single Allah out alone in the following categories:
 1. His Lordship
 2. His Divinity (worship)
 3. His Names and Attributes

Tawheed of Allah's LORDSHIP



1. TAWHEED OF ALLAH'S LORDSHIP

- To single out Allah alone with the actions of creating (everything), owning (everything) and controlling (everything).
- The disbelievers of old accepted this aspect of Tawheed in general terms, and even some of the disbelievers of the current day.
- They believed in Tawheed of Allah's Lordship but were still classed as disbelievers. What does this show?



1. TAWHEED OF ALLAH'S LORDSHIP

TASK:

We just mentioned that Tawheed of Allah's Lordship means that Allah is the only One Who creates, owns and controls. Then explain the following:

I can create a picture

This is changing or converting something from one state to another, not bringing something into existence from nothing

I can own a house

This is a limited & restricted possession. The Ownership of Allah is an absolute and **complete** ownership

I am in control of my wealth

Again, limited & restricted type of control. The Control of Allah is **complete** & all encompassing.

1. TAWHEED OF ALLAH'S LORDSHIP

- Read the following verses in your own time:
- [al-'Ankaboot 29:61]
- [al-'Ankaboot 29:63]
- [al-Zukhruf 43:87]



Tawheed of Allah's DIVINITY



2. TAWHEED OF ALLAH'S DIVINITY



- To single out Allah alone with the all acts of worship.
- Devoting all acts of worship, both inward and outward, in word and deed, to Allaah Alone, and not worshipping anything or anyone other than Allaah.
- We find many people of the past and present failing in this aspect of Tawheed.
- It was the main struggle the Prophets had with their nations.

2. TAWHEED OF ALLAH'S DIVINITY

Whoever violates this type of Tawheed, then they are a disbeliever even if they accept and believe in 1) Tawheed of Allah's Lordship and 3) Tawheed of Allah's names and attributes.



2. TAWHEED OF ALLAH'S DIVINITY

TASK:

1. How do you think people went astray in this aspect of Tawheed i.e who or what did they worship besides Allah?

They worshipped idols, asked dead people for help etc

2. Why do you think they did this?! What did they claim?

They claimed their forefathers did this and that the idols or pious dead people were ways of communicating with Allah.

Tawheed of Allah's NAMES & ATTRIBUTES



3. TAWHEED OF ALLAH'S NAMES AND ATTRIBUTES

To affirm the names and attributes Allah and believing there is **nothing like Allah** in these names and attributes. Therefore this category of Tawheed is based on **TWO** principles:

اللَّهُمَّ

3. TAWHEED OF ALLAH'S NAMES AND ATTRIBUTES

TWO IMPORTANT PRINCIPLES

1. Affirm whatever names and attributes Allah has given Himself **exactly how they are** without distorting them, twisting their meanings, denying their reality or discussing **'how'** they are.
2. To believe the names and attributes of Allah are **not similar in any way to names and attributes of the creation**. Surah 42, Ayah 11

This category of Tawheed is where the groups of this nation have gone astray.

3. TAWHEED OF ALLAH'S NAMES AND ATTRIBUTES

TASK

Using the TWO principles from the previous slide, provide answers to the following statements:

1. Allah describes Himself as Loving. One says, I am loving to my spouse.
2. Allah says He is Merciful, I am merciful to my children.

RECAP OF 3 CATEGORIES OF TAWHEED

1. TAWHEED OF HIS **LORDSHIP** MEANS...
2. TAWHEED OF HIS **DIVINITY** MEANS...
3. TAWHEED OF HIS **NAMES AND ATTRIBUTES** MEANS...

ALL THESE CATEGORIES OF TAWHEED ARE FOUND IN ONE AYAH

“**Lord** of the heavens and the earth and whatever is between them - so **worship** Him and have patience for His worship. Do you know of **any similarity to Him?**”
(Surah19:65)

The Opposite of Tawheed



SHIRK

What is Shirk?

- Ascribing a partner or rival to Allaah in Lordship, worship or in His names and attributes.
- When you violate any of the categories of Tawheed you are committing Shirk.
- It's the biggest sin in Islam & an unforgiveable one.

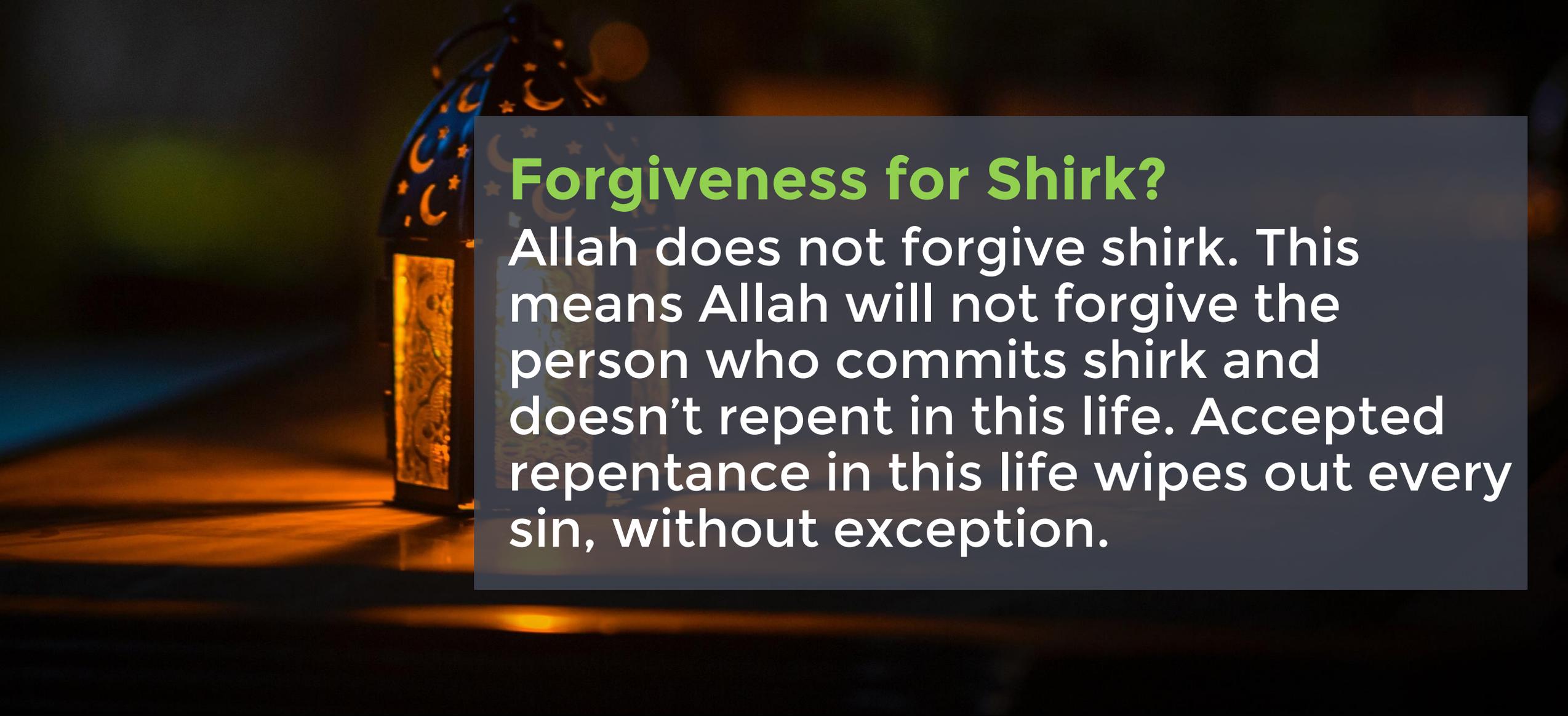
Danger of Shirk

“Verily, Allaah forgives not that partners should be set up with Him (in worship), but He forgives except that (anything else) to whom He wills; and whoever sets up partners with Allaah in worship, he has indeed invented a tremendous sin”
[Surah 4:48]

Paradise Forbidden!

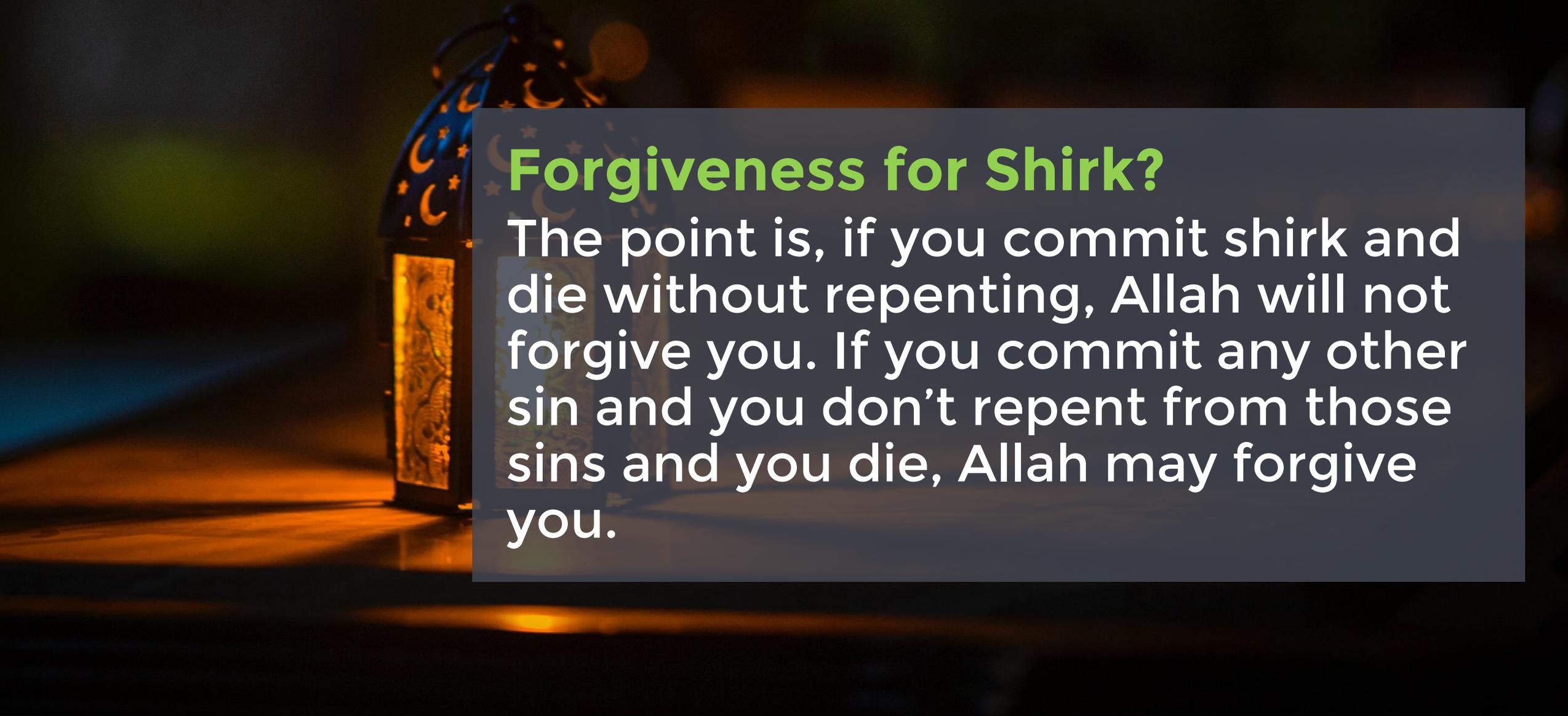
“They have certainly disbelieved who say, “Allah is the Messiah, the son of Mary” while the Messiah has said, “O Children of Israel, worship Allah, my Lord and your Lord.” Verily, whosoever sets up partners (in worship) with Allaah, then Allaah has forbidden Paradise to him, and the Fire will be his abode. And there are not for the wrongdoers any helpers.”

[Surah5:72]



Forgiveness for Shirk?

Allah does not forgive shirk. This means Allah will not forgive the person who commits shirk and doesn't repent in this life. Accepted repentance in this life wipes out every sin, without exception.



Forgiveness for Shirk?

The point is, if you commit shirk and die without repenting, Allah will not forgive you. If you commit any other sin and you don't repent from those sins and you die, Allah may forgive you.

Types of Shirk

- Actions or beliefs of Shirk can fall into two types. MINOR SHIRK and MAJOR SHIRK
- The texts of the Qur'aan and Sunnah indicate that some forms of Shirk can take a person outside of Islam and sometimes does not.

Types of Shirk

- Whatever the case, we must beware of shirk altogether.
- We will now look at some examples of major and minor shirk.

CAN YOU GIVE EXAMPLES OF MAJOR SHIRK?

**Worshipping idols,
graves or any creation**

**Asking the dead, angels or
jinn for help.**

**Believing someone or something else
gives life and death or can control the
affairs of this life along with Allah.**

**Believing there are some people who
know the Unseen as well as Allah.**

MINOR SHIRK

This includes everything that may lead to major shirk, or which is described in the texts as being shirk, but does not reach the extent of being major shirk.

Someone involved in magic spells or charms

Believing objects can protect you from evil or bring benefit, such as amulets, talismans, rabbits foot, touch wood and the like. WHY is this Shirk?

Performing acts of worship to show others - showing off. WHY is this Shirk?

What if I commit shirk without knowing?

The Prophet ﷺ sought refuge from shirk and taught us a wonderful du'a to protect ourselves:

'O Allah, I seek refuge in You lest I commit shirk with You knowingly, and I seek Your forgiveness for what I do unknowingly'.

TRY TO LEARN THIS DUA OR AT LEAST SAY IT OFTEN

FURTHER READING

For further reading on
Tawheed & Shirk refer
to pages 207 - 232 in
*'Explanations of
Important Lessons for
Every Muslim'*

