

The Tower That Fell Twice



Samer put a red block on a yellow one, then added a blue one and a green one. The tower grew tall, leaned to the right and fell: clack, clack, clack!



“I don’t want these blocks!” Samer said, pushing one away. Dad sat on the rug.
“I can see that you are angry. We can pause, then ask: what will we change?”



Samer drank some water and came back. He gathered the blocks and placed the biggest one at the bottom. He built again, but the base was still only one block wide.



He added the fourth block. The tower leaned and fell a second time. This time, Samer did not push the blocks away. He looked at the bottom and saw that all the weight had rested on one block.



“The big block was not enough by itself,” Samer said. “I want a wider base.” Dad placed two blocks apart. “Can you show me where the third one should go?” He left the block in Samer’s hands.



Samer moved the blocks together and made a wide square base, then built a smaller layer on top. The tower was shorter and wider. “I didn’t build the same tower,” he said. “I built one that knows how to stand!”

Change One Thing

Question: Why did the tower fall in the first two attempts? What did Samer change?

Safe activity: Use large, age-appropriate blocks. Try a one-block base, then a wider base. Notice the difference with a grown-up.

For the grown-up: Name the feeling, allow a pause, then ask: What is one thing we will change? Model only part of the action and return the task to the child. Prevent throwing and avoid small parts.

Original fiction inspired by “Until the Self Grows Steady,” physical PDF pages 43 and 52. No direct Qur’an or hadith quotation appears in the child text.