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## Responsibility 8: Taking Part in Religious Gatherings

The next responsibility is to take part in gatherings in which the merits of Imam al-Mahdi (ajtf) are mentioned or in which his noble ancestors are remembered. We must be present in such gatherings and through our presence, offer a spiritual gift to these great personalities and make such programs dynamic as this is one of the signs of true love for our Imam.

A companion narrated that Imam Muhammad b. ‘Ali al-Baqir (as) said:

أَتَخْلُونَ وَتَتَحَدَّثُونَ وَتَقُولُونَ مَا شِئْتُمْ؟ فَقُلْتُ: أَيَّ وَاللَّهِ... فَقَالَ ۞: أَمَا وَاللَّهِ  
لَوَدِدْتُ أَنِّي مَعَكُمْ فِي بَعْضِ تِلْكَ الْمَوَاطِنِ أَمَا وَاللَّهِ إِنِّي لِأُحِبُّ رِيحَكُمْ وَ  
أَرْوَاحَكُمْ وَأَنْكُمْ عَلَى دِينِ اللَّهِ وَدِينِ مَلَائِكَتِهِ فَأَعِينُوا بَوْرِعَ وَاجْتِهَادِ

“Do you seclude yourselves and speak to one another about whatever pleases you (in regards to the teachings of Allah)?” I replied: “Yes, by Allah.” The Imam replied: “I swear by Allah that surely I would love to be with you in some of these gatherings.

Surely, by Allah I love the pleasant aroma that emanates from you (by holding such gatherings) and I love your souls! Surely you are all on the religion of Allah and the religion of His Angels so help (one another) to observe piety and struggle (in these regards).”<sup>1</sup>

1. al-Kafi, vol. 2, pg. 187, no. 5

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