Many, many years ago, Allaah sent Messengers to the people. These Messengers were very good men who used to worship only Allaah. Allaah told the Messengers to go and tell the people that they should worship only Allaah and that they should never worship anything else - and that’s exactly what they all did.

One of these Messengers was called Ibraaheem `alayhissalaam. At the time that Allaah sent Ibraaheem `alayhissalaam to the people, there lived a very bad king who did not worship Allaah.

Ibraaheem `alayhissalaam said to the bad king that Allaah, his Lord, gives life and He gives death. He told him this to show the bad king that it was Allaah who made everything alive and He is the One who makes things die. This means that all the people should worship only Allaah and no-one else. The bad king did not believe in Allaah, he thought that he was the best, so he said:

I give life and I give death!
He pretended that he could give life to people and he could make them die. Of course he couldn't really. No-one can make anything alive except Allaah and no-one can make anything die without Allaah letting it die. So then Ibraaheem `alayhissalaam said something else to the bad king, and this time the bad king couldn't answer him; he knew Ibraaheem `alayhissalaam was right!

Every morning the Sun rises in the East. This means it rises up from the same place every morning. Have you ever seen it come up? It will carry on doing that every morning until the world is about to end. So Ibraaheem `alayhissalaam said to the bad king that Allaah makes the Sun rise up from the East and told him to make it rise from the West. He was telling him to make the Sun rise up from a different place altogether! Of course the bad king couldn't do anything to make the Sun rise from the West no matter how hard he tried, because he was just a man and no-one else apart from Allaah can do that.
The bad king couldn’t make dead things alive and he couldn’t make living things die, nor could he make the Sun rise from the West! So how could he be a god? Why should anyone worship him? There was no reason to worship this king at all.

Only Allaah can make people alive and let them die; only He can make the Sun rise from wherever He wants it to rise. He is the only One who made everything and gave us everything we need. Allaah did all this and no-one else, so this means we should only worship Him and no-one else at all.

How much can you remember?

- Who is the only One who can bring things to life and make things die?
- Who is the only One who can make the Sun rise from the East?
- Who can make the Sun rise from the West?
- Who is the only One we should all worship?

Now colour in the picture of the Sunrise on the last page.

You can find this true story in the Qur~aan in Sooratul-Baqarah, aayah number 258. Why don’t you try and find it, or ask a grown-up to help you?

This story was written by Madeehah bint Nafees Ahmad and was checked by Aboo Talhah Daawood Burbank rahimahullaah.