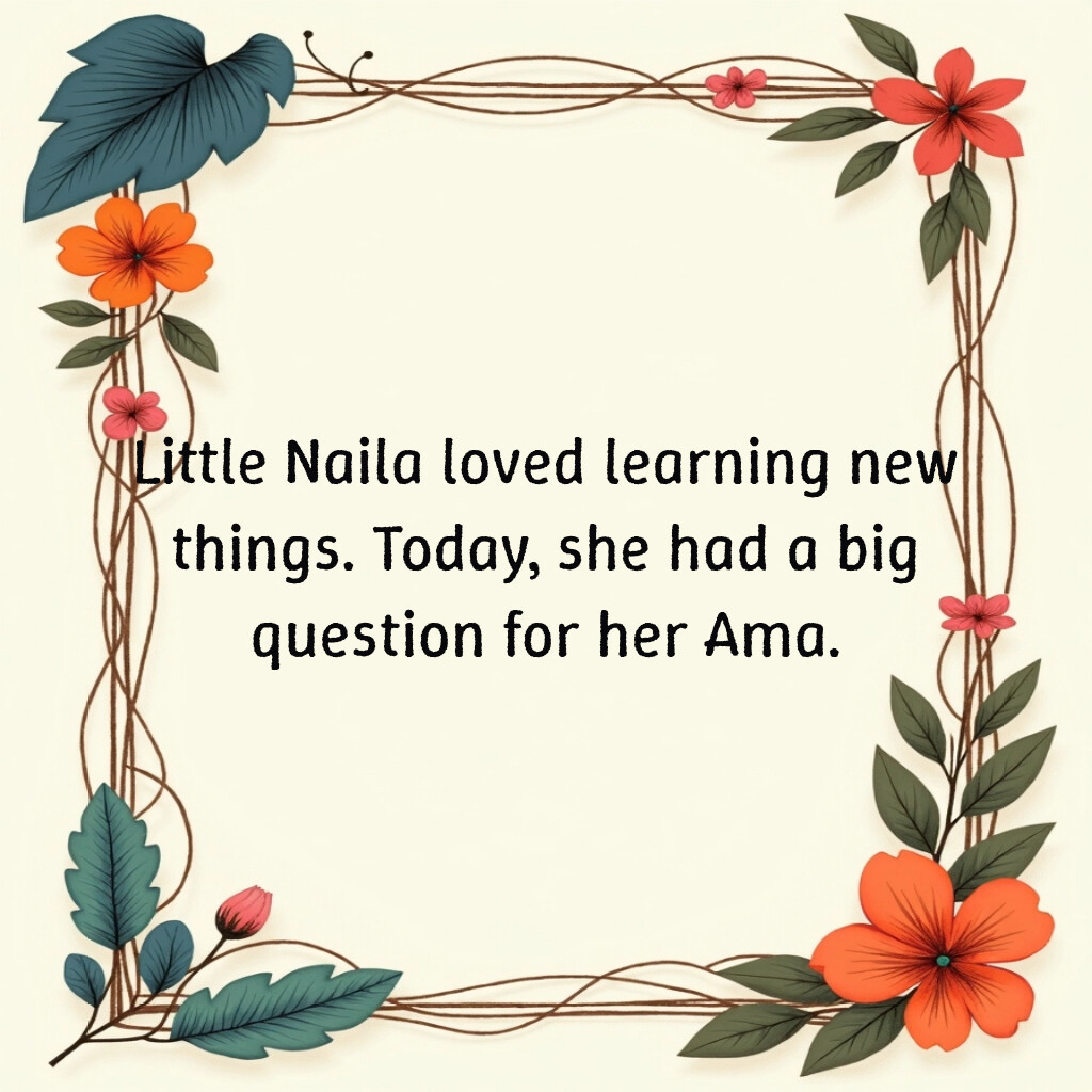


Learning the 5 Pillars

By Sidi Adnan

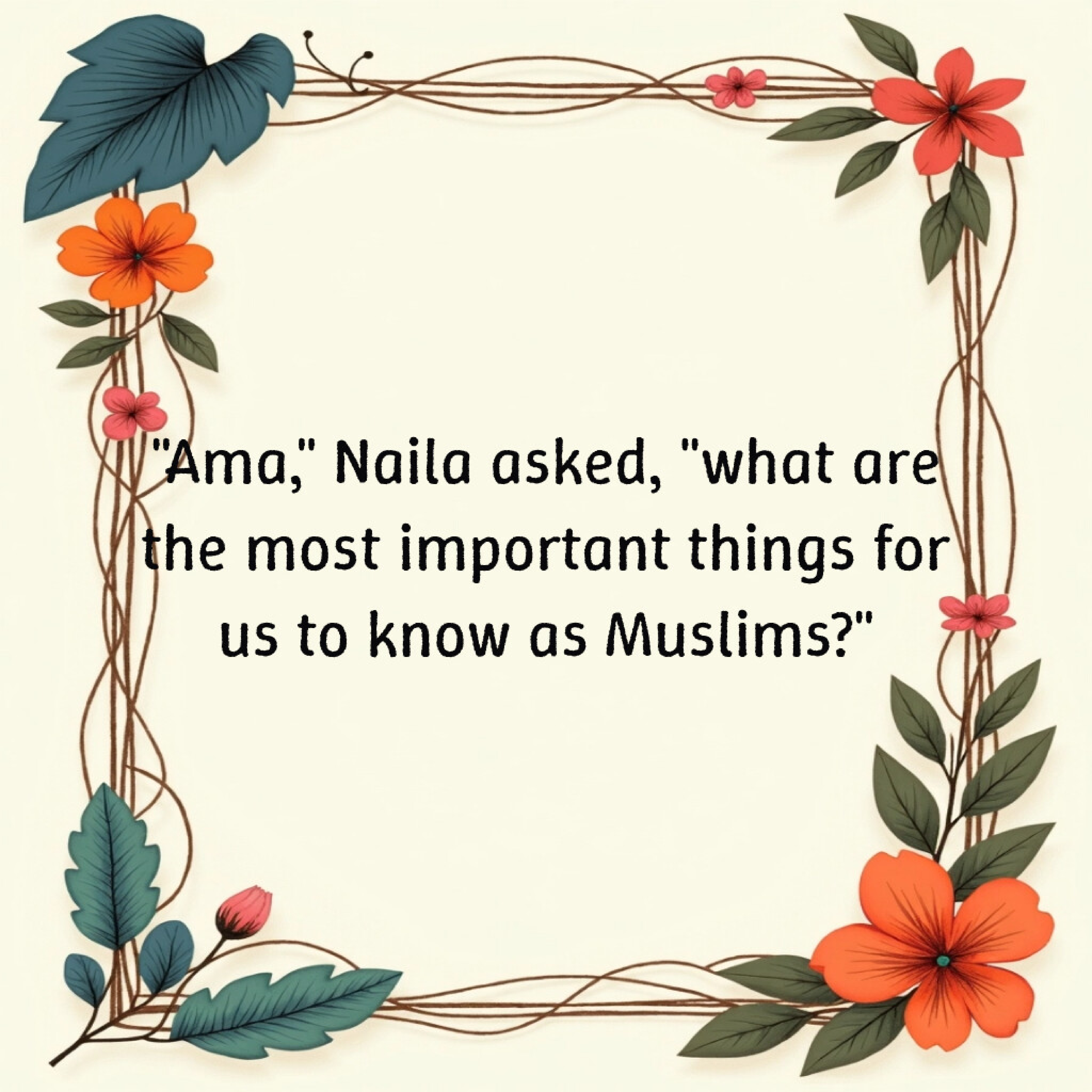






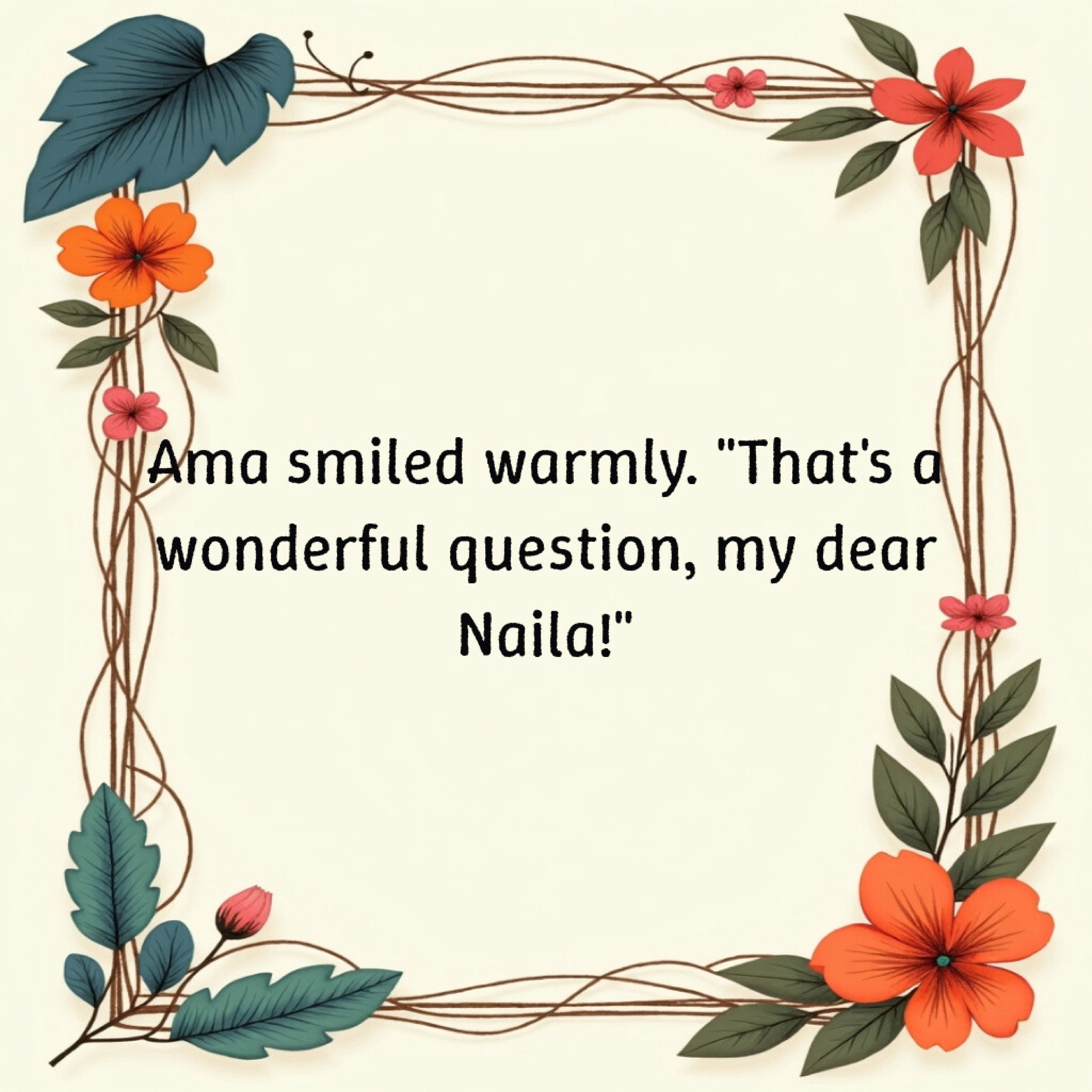
Little Naila loved learning new things. Today, she had a big question for her Ama.






"Ama," Naila asked, "what are the most important things for us to know as Muslims?"






Ama smiled warmly. "That's a
wonderful question, my dear
Naila!"





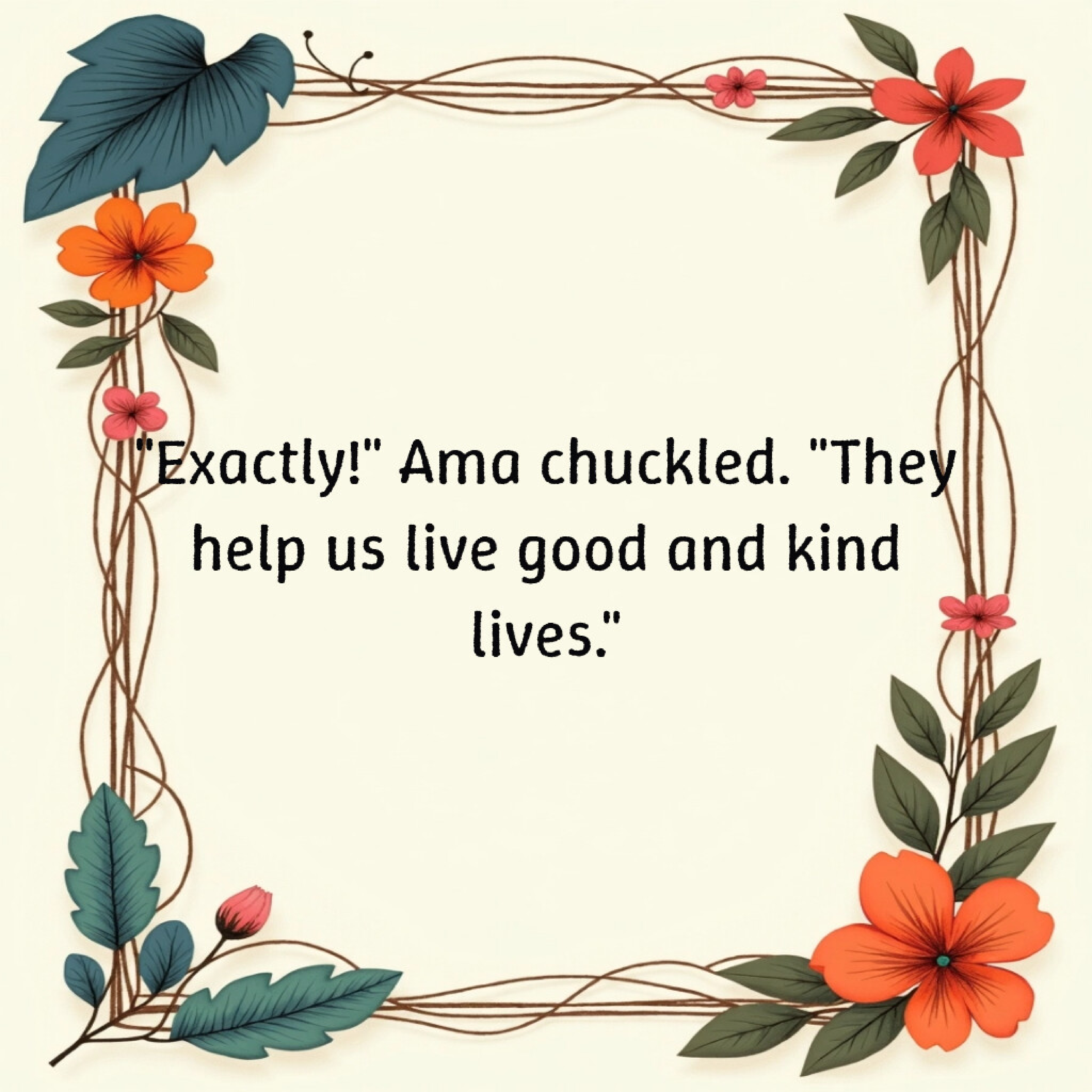
"There are five special pillars,
like strong foundations for our
faith."





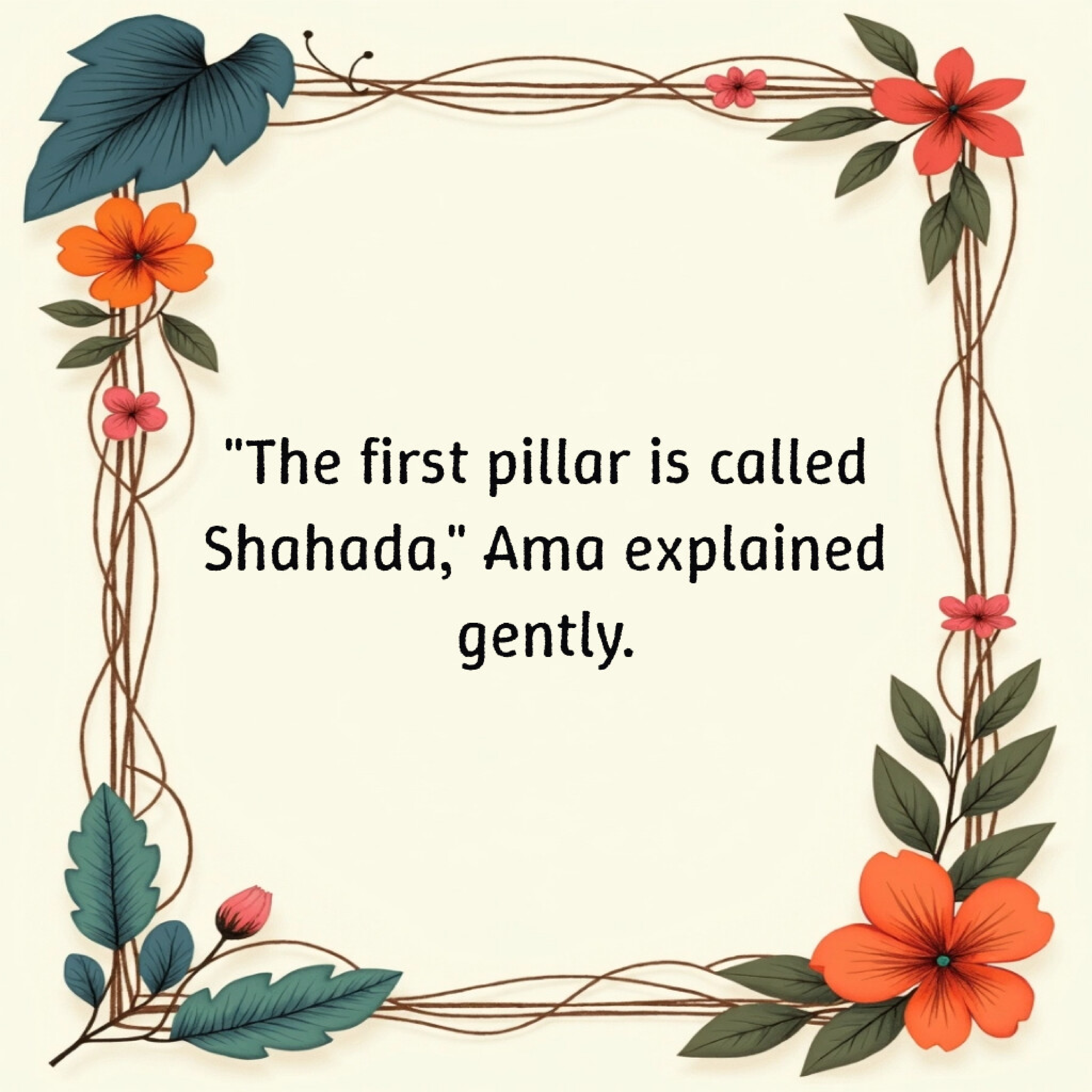
Naila's eyes widened. "Five pillars? Like a big, beautiful building?"





"Exactly!" Ama chuckled. "They
help us live good and kind
lives."

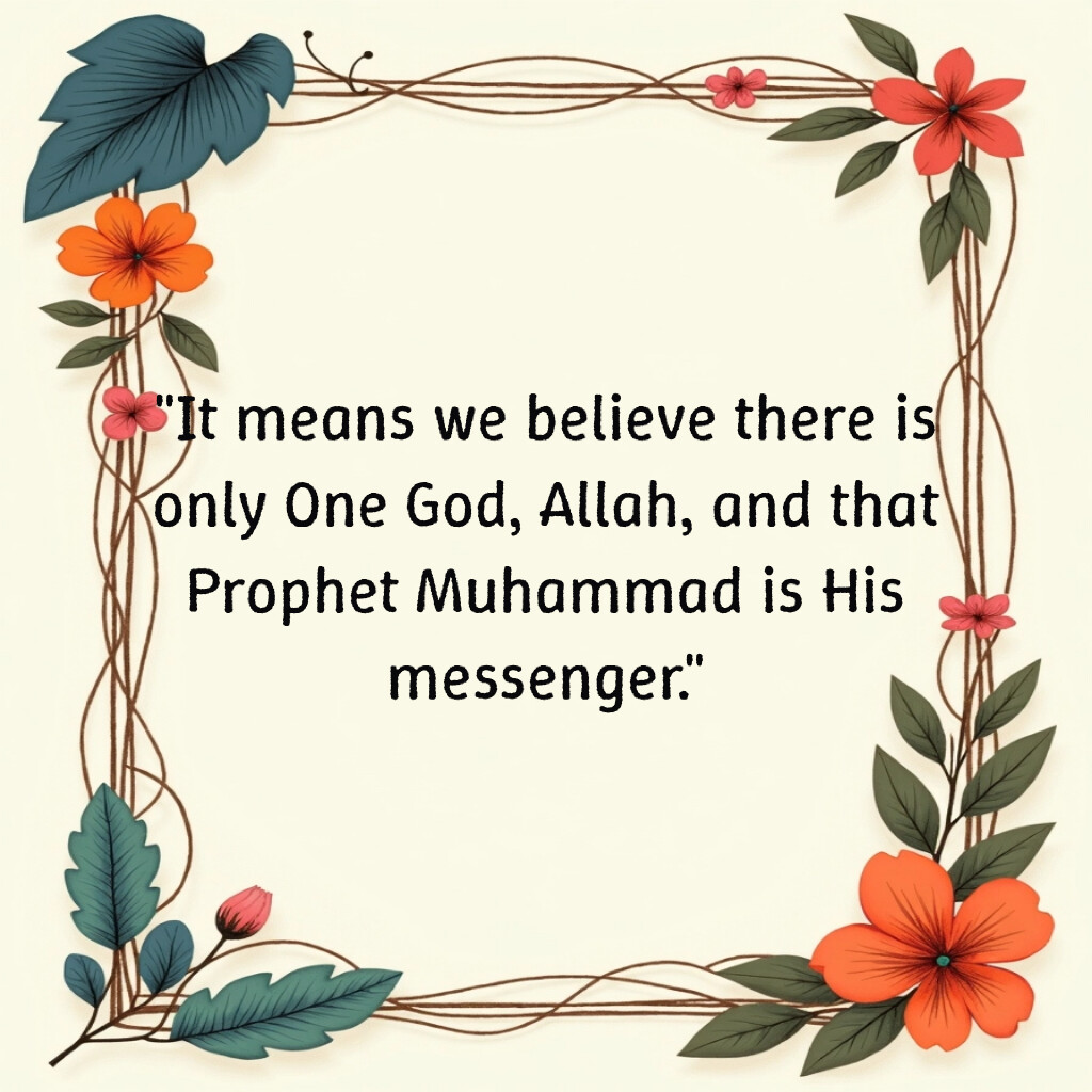




"The first pillar is called
Shahada," Ama explained
gently.


اللَّهُمَّ






**"It means we believe there is
only One God, Allah, and that
Prophet Muhammad is His
messenger."**





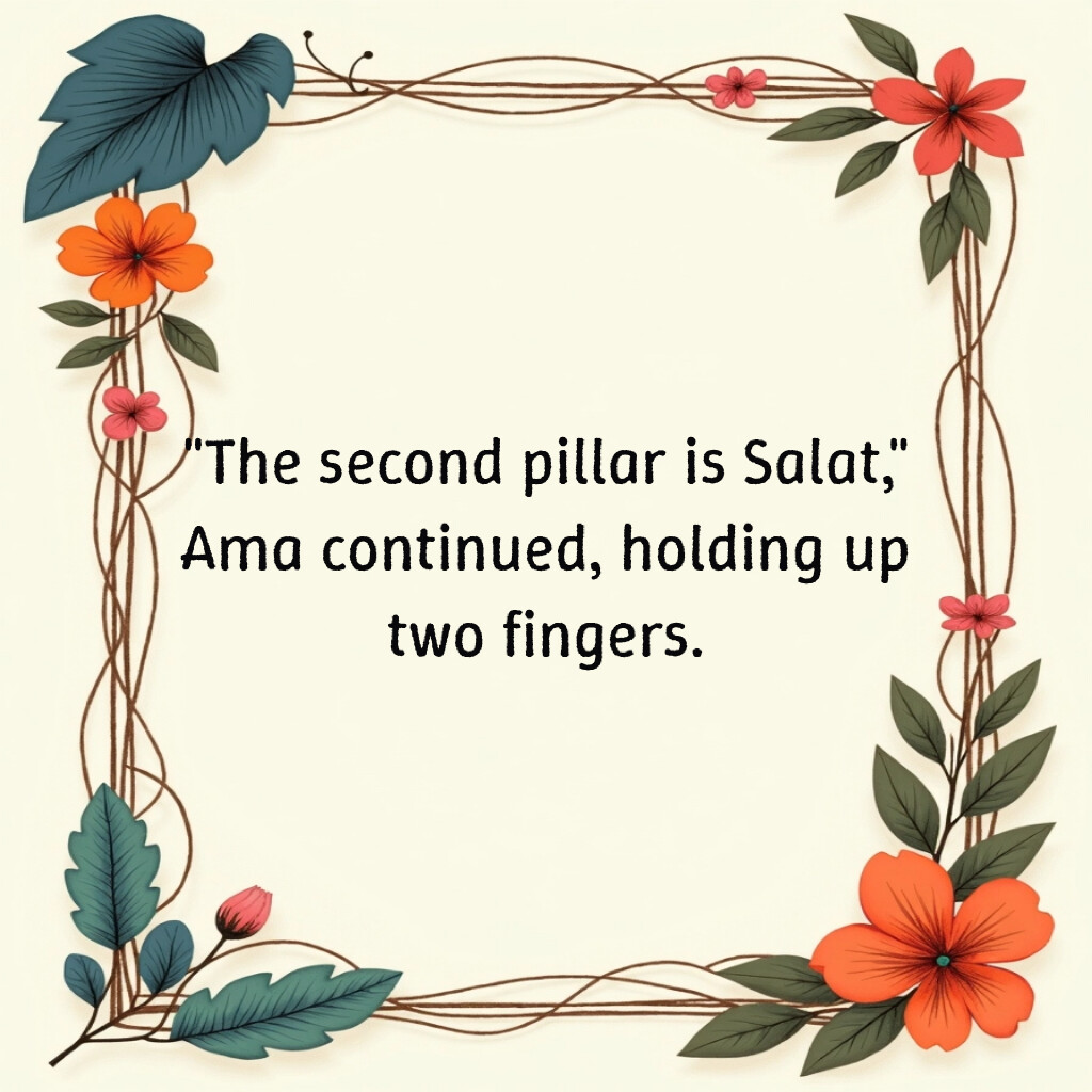
Naila thought hard. "So, we
believe in Allah and His
special messenger?"






**"Yes, that's it! It's the most
important belief in our
hearts," Ama said.**






"The second pillar is Salat,"
Ama continued, holding up
two fingers.






**"Salat means praying to Allah
five times a day."**





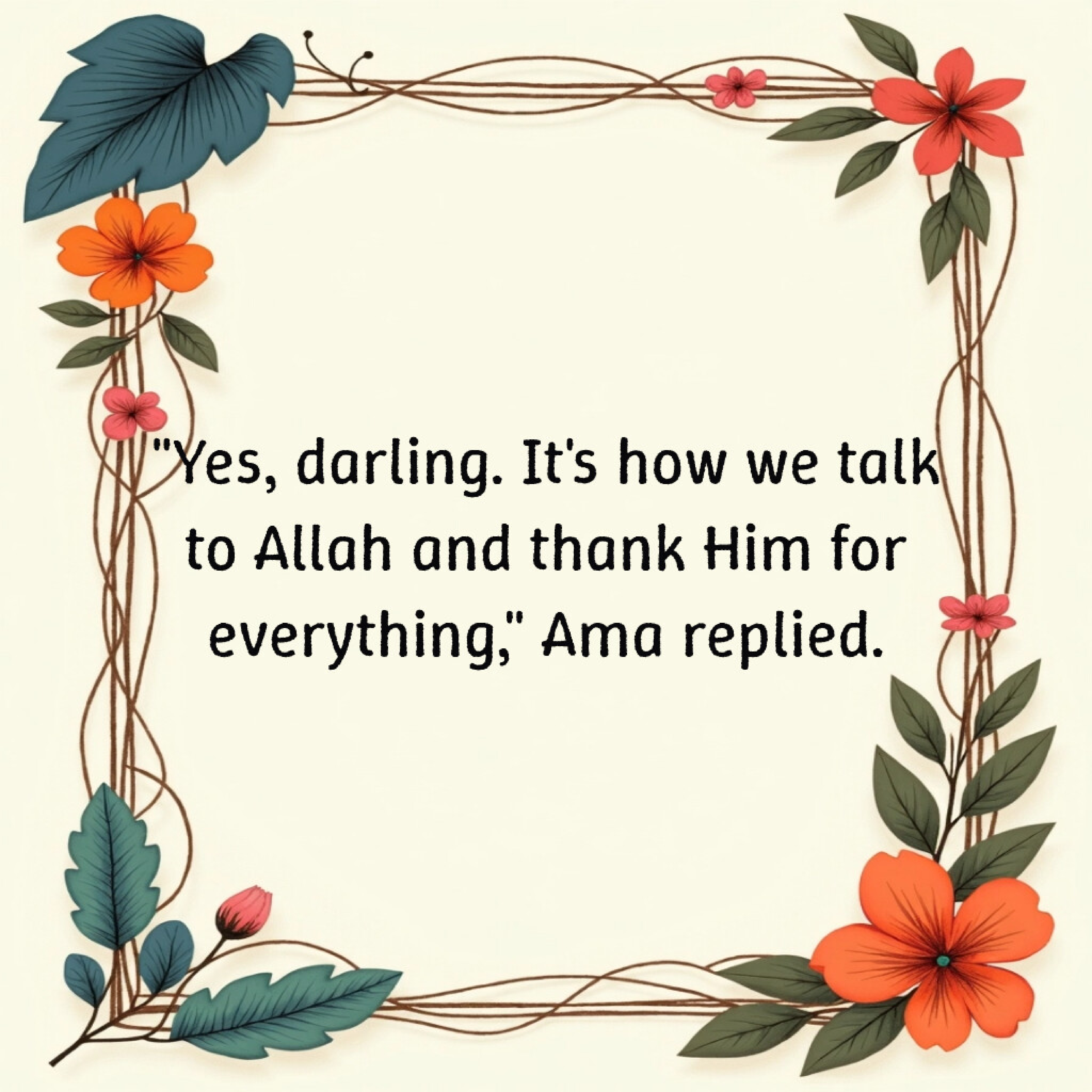
"We pray in the morning, at
noon, in the afternoon, at
sunset, and at night."






Naila remembered watching
Ama pray. "Like when you put
your forehead on the ground?"






"Yes, darling. It's how we talk
to Allah and thank Him for
everything," Ama replied.






**"Next is Zakat, the third pillar,"
Ama said, showing three
fingers.**






"Zakat means sharing our
blessings with people who
need help."






"If we have extra, we give
some to the poor, so everyone
can be happy."






Naila remembered her piggy bank. "Like when I share my toys with my friends?"





"It's a little like that, but Zakat is a special way we help the community," Ama clarified.





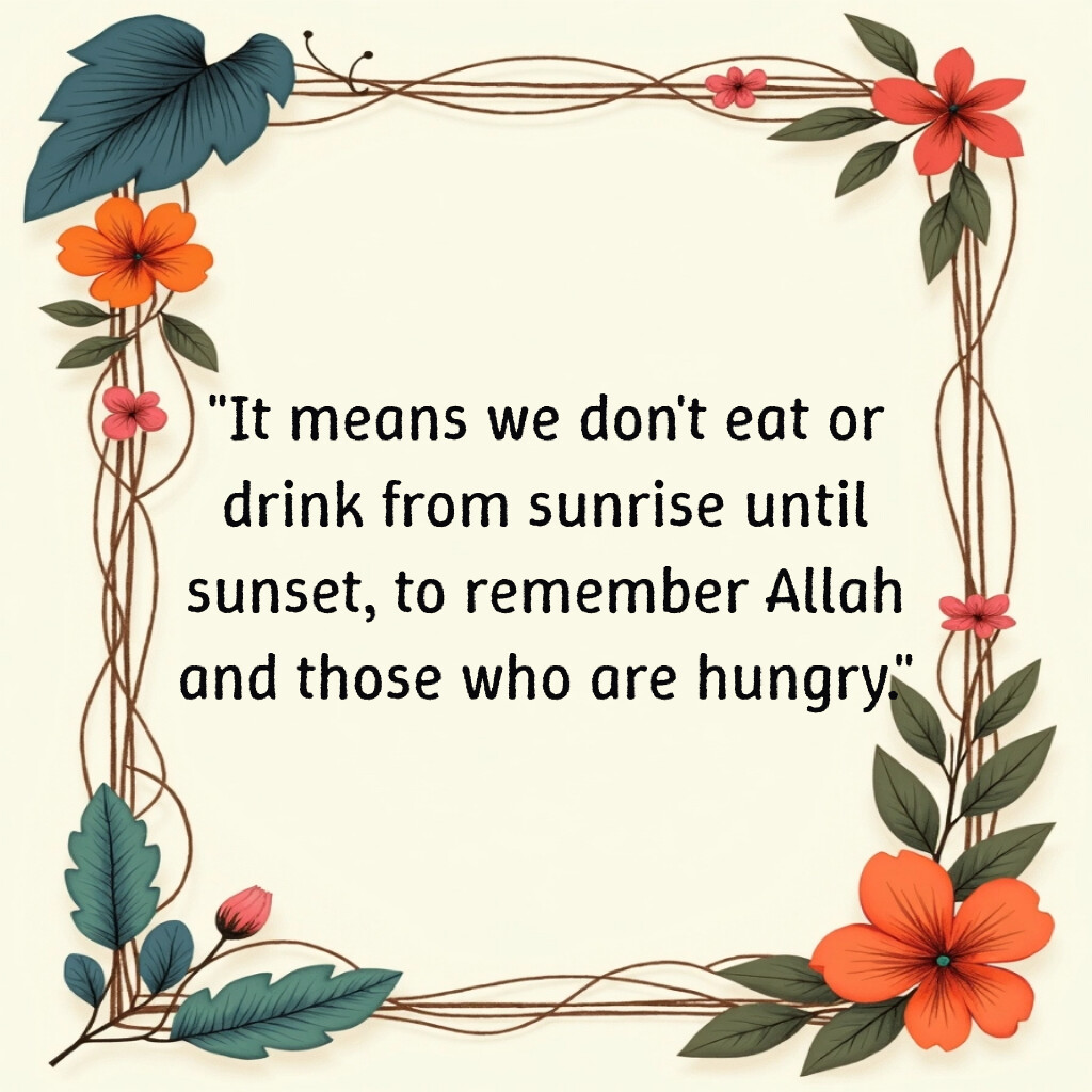
**"Now for the fourth pillar:
Sawm," Ama announced,
holding up four fingers.**





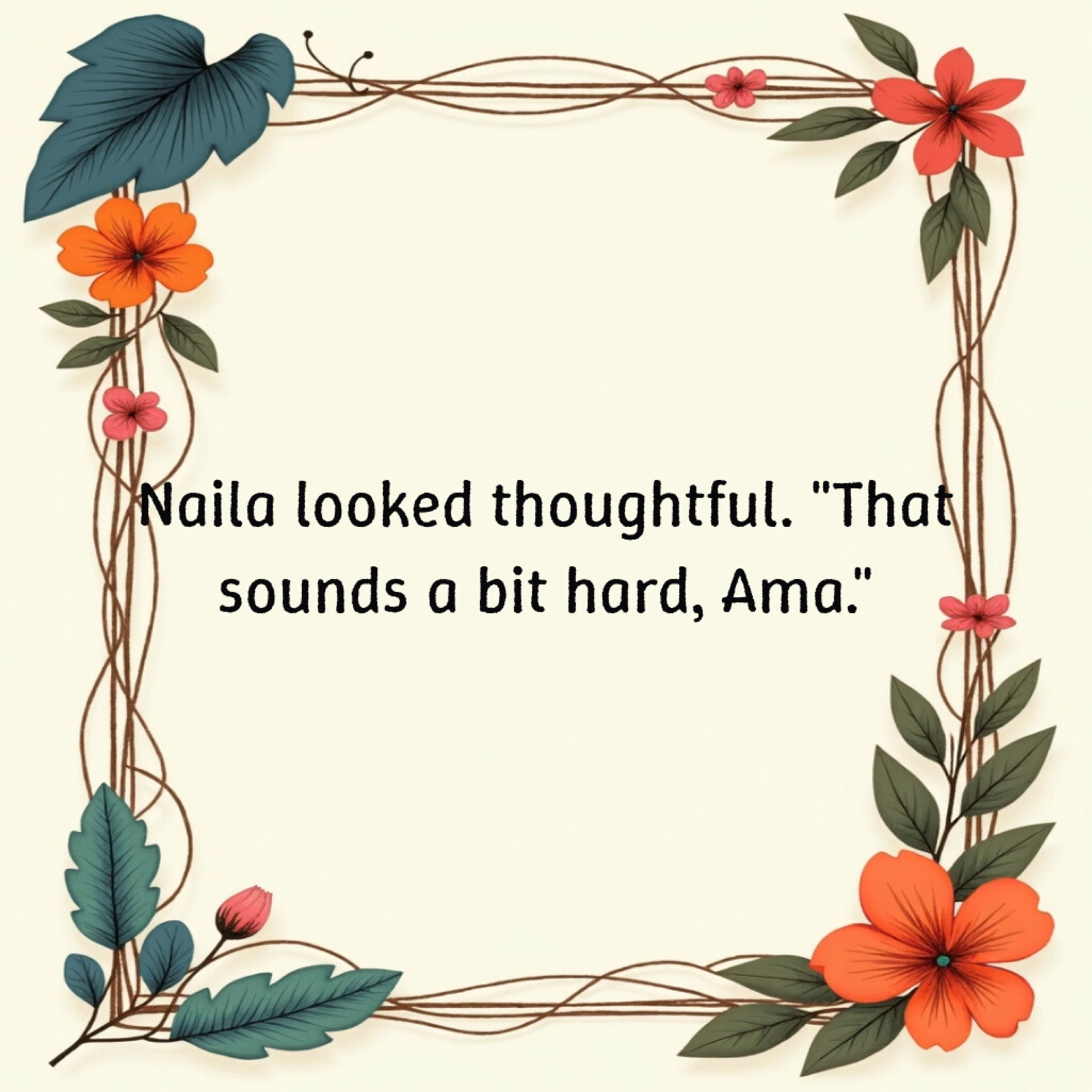
"Sawm is fasting during the
month of Ramadan."





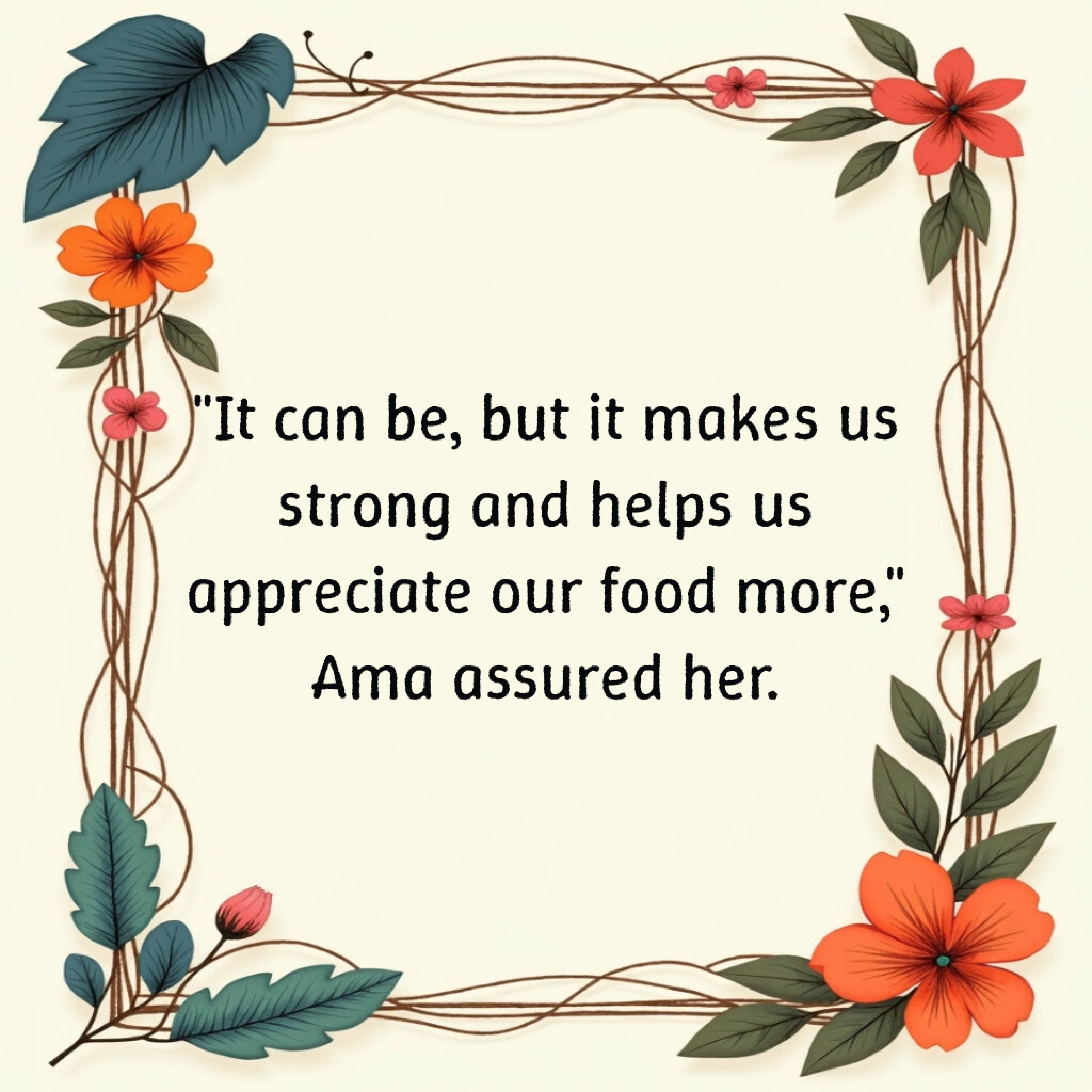
"It means we don't eat or
drink from sunrise until
sunset, to remember Allah
and those who are hungry."






**Naila looked thoughtful. "That
sounds a bit hard, Ama."**






"It can be, but it makes us
strong and helps us
appreciate our food more,"
Ama assured her.






"Finally, the fifth pillar is Hajj,"
Ama finished, showing all five
fingers.






"Hajj is a special journey to a
holy place called the Kaaba in
Mecca."



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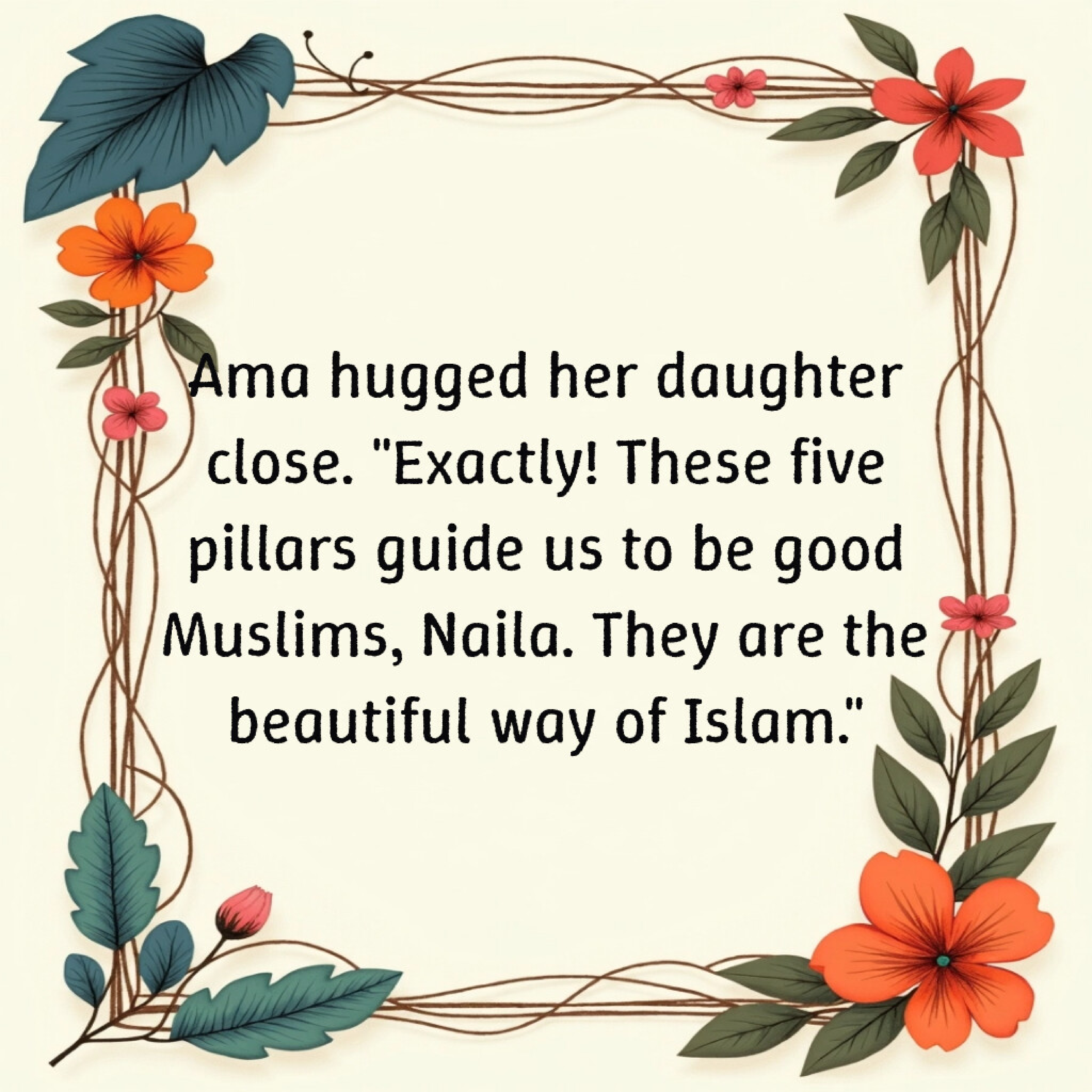
"Muslims who are able go
there to pray and feel closer to
Allah."





Naila smiled. "So, we believe,
we pray, we share, we fast,
and we make a special trip!"





Ama hugged her daughter close. "Exactly! These five pillars guide us to be good Muslims, Naila. They are the beautiful way of Islam."