



AND THOSE WHO SAY, 'OUR LORD, GRANT US OF
OUR WIVES AND CHILDREN THE DELIGHT OF OUR
EYES, AND MAKE US A MODEL FOR THE RIGHTEOUS'.

Holy Quran: Ch25: v75

Recommendation 2:

It is recommended that a list of topics with support materials be developed and provided to mothers to support them in having open and transparent discussions with their sons.

Recommendation 2 topics:

- A. Importance of Prayers (Session 1)**
- B. Developing closeness with Khilafat (Session 2)**
- C. Watching of Friday Sermons (Session 2)**
- D. Purdah (Session 3)**
- E. Modesty (Session 3)**
- F. Helping in the home (Session 4)**
- G. Respecting women (Session 4)**
- H. Role in Society as Ahmadi boys/men (Session 5)**

We will Insha'Allah cover this topics during this year and see how these link with the developmental ages of boys.

These sessions are for mothers to develop knowledge and skills to confidently support and guide their sons to be model Ahmadi boys/men.

Today we will discuss the importance of Prayers and how to inculcate this habit in our boys.

1. Ways to highlight the importance of prayers to our sons

2. Some techniques we can use to encourage our sons to offer prayers regularly.

3. Potential Questions our sons may ask – and how to answer them

Address at the National Ijtema Lajna Imaillah UK on Sep 24, 2017.

- “In the same way, to maintain a sense of balance within the world, Allah the Almighty, out of His infinite wisdom, has given different roles to men and women and they will both be held accountable before Allah with regards to the fulfilment of their respective responsibilities. Indeed, the Holy Prophet Muhammad(sa) said that just as it is the duty of a shepherd to protect his sheep, similarly it is the duty of every man and woman to fulfil their prescribed duties. Thus, if Allah Ta’alah has placed upon a woman the responsibility to ensure the moral and religious training of her children and to ensure that she protects the home and property of her husband, she must pay heed, because she alone will be held accountable for these matters. Similarly, if a man has been tasked with providing financially for his family, to care for them and fulfil their needs, he will be held accountable for this.”

Reasons to highlight the importance of prayers to our sons

1. It is a pillar of Islam
– While all other pillars of Islam are conditional, this one is not. It is **obligatory under all conditions**.

2. Salaat is very important in cultivating a personal relationship with Allah. Faith is strengthened by the acceptance of Prayers.

3. Prayer is the key to prosperity and success. The door is always open – whether it is studies, personal goals or something that is important to you only
– You can always ask Allah!

How do we highlight the importance of prayers to our sons in the light of Quranic verses?

“And observe Prayer at the two ends of the day, and parts of the night close to the day. Surely, virtues drive away evils. This is a reminder for those who would remember” [11:115]

This verse assuredly explains that Prayer (a virtue) will steer a person away from bad habits (evils), and that if someone is committing a bad deed, the virtue of Prayer is its antidote

How do we highlight the importance of prayers to our sons using Hadith?

Abu Huraira, may Allah be pleased with him, relates that he heard the Holy Prophet (SAW) say:

“Tell me if one of you had a stream running at his door and he should take a bath in it five times every day would any dirt be left upon him?”

He was answered: O Prophet of Allah! No dirt will be left on him. The Holy Prophet (SAW), observed:

“This is the case of the five Prayers. Allah wipes out all faults in consequence of them.”
[Bukhari and Muslim]

Importance of Prayer in the words of the Promised Messiah (AS)

In a youthful age when one's health is good and the body is strong, one should especially pay attention to worship. The Promised Messiah(as) states:

“If he spent this period (i.e., the period of his youth) in the worship of Allah, the reformation of the self, and obedience to God, the fruit which he shall reap is that in his old age, when he shall be unable to perform any worship, and inactivity and tardiness shall overcome him, the angels shall continue to record the same prayer, fasting, Tahajjud (pre-dawn Prayer), etc., which he used to offer in his youth. And this is the Grace of Allah, that despite the fact that he is unable to perform deeds, God considers him exempt and the same deeds are recorded in his account.”

(Malfuzat, Vol.4, pp. 199-footnote, new edition).

Some techniques we can use to encourage our sons to pray

- Important to instil a very loving relationship with your son from an early age**
- If they are unable to concentrate on their prayers, make sure they do not lose heart**
- Explain the advantages of prayer to your son**
- Allocate a special place in the house dedicated to prayer**

What has Huzur aba said about observance of Salat at home?

Huzoor aba mentioned in his Friday Sermon (20/01/2017) that if parents themselves are not punctual in Salat then how can they expect their children to do so. Or if they learn about this saying of Prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon him) in some Jama'at meetings but at home they do not find their fathers to be punctual in offering Salat, how will this effect those children?... Parents show their concern to fulfil their own and their children's worldly desires and successes, but they do not pay heed to the matter of real concern. (Taken from Al-Islam summary of Friday Sermon 20/01/2017)

Huzoor aba also stated in his Friday Sermon 01/10/2004 that we should inculcate the spirit of attachment to the mosque in our children. If we start to enjoin the good at home then we will be successful at inviting others to good. Those who want to transform others must transform themselves. (Taken from Al-Islam summary of Friday Sermon 01/10/2004)

Potential Questions our sons may ask – and how to answer them (1/3)

I don't understand why we have to Pray
5 times a day, why do we have to?

Why do we have to go to the Mosque, I
can just Pray at home?

Potential Questions our sons may ask – and how to answer them (1/3)

I don't understand why we have to Pray 5 times a day, why do we have to?

Human beings are easily distracted, and need routine to create habits. By praying 5 times a day, a Muslim is able to create a routine and eventually a habit of remembering Allah. 5 prayers at specific times break down the day, ensuring that you are never far from the remembrance of Allah, and keeps you away from trouble. The Prophet Muhammad(sa) said “The five daily prayers, and one Friday prayer to the next, and one Ramadan to the next, are all expiations for any sins committed in between them, as long as one abstains from the major sins”. [Muslim]

Potential Questions our sons may ask – and how to answer them (1/3)

Why do we have to go to the Mosque, I can just Pray at home?

As mentioned in the earlier Hadith, “Prayer in congregation is twenty seven times more beneficent than Prayer performed by oneself.” [Muslim]. This means that all the positive blessings and advantages of Prayer are multiplied. Tell your son that going to the mosque will help focus on their Prayers , as Praying is the sole reason for going there. It will safeguard the habit of Prayer until they are mature enough to truly understand and appreciate their relationship with Allah. We also need to help our sons understand that while it is good for women and girls to pray in the Mosque when they can, it is obligatory for boys and men to attend prayers in the Mosque.

Potential Questions our sons may ask – and how to answer them (2/3)

**My Prayers are not being answered, why
should I keep trying?**

**I find waking up for Fajr very difficult, can I
just miss it and do it when I wake up?**

Potential Questions our sons may ask – and how to answer them (2/3)

My Prayers are not being answered, why should I keep trying?

Encourage your son not to be disheartened. It says in the Quran: “...but it may be that you dislike a thing while it is good for you, and it may be that you like a thing while it is bad for you. Allah knows all things, and you know not” [\[2:217\]](#). It may be that what they are Praying for is not in their best interests, and therefore Allah does not grant it. Hazrat Musleh Mau'ud (ra), in his Friday Sermon gave the following analogy: God is our Creator and the Master or King of the universe. Even in worldly matters, when we take requests to the king or president, we do not expect that every one of our requests would be approved and granted. How then can we expect that the God of the universe will accept every one of our requests and prayers? If that had been the case—if God were required to accept every prayer—it would make Him our servant and the people the kings. [\[Quest of a curious Muslim\]](#)

Potential Questions our sons may ask – and how to answer them (2/3)

I find waking up for Fajr very difficult, can I just miss it and do it when I wake up?

“Watch over Prayers, and the middle Prayer, and stand before Allah submissively” [2:239]
Huzur aba in his address to Khuddam on 23/09/2018, said of this verse: “In today’s world, people of all ages, including many youngsters, stay up late studying, or wasting time in immoral or wasteful things such as aimlessly surfing the internet, watching films or TV, scrolling endlessly on their phones or tablets or sending messages late into the night. As a result, they fail to wake up for Fajr and so, due to their routine, Fajr actually becomes the middle prayer for them. Thus, the middle prayer is whichever prayer is at risk of being forsaken as a result of worldly or material pursuits.” Huzur aba also encouraged Atfal and Khuddam in this address to retire early so that they could wake up for the Fajr Prayer. If this was not possible, they should sleep with a firm determination to wake up and offer the Fajr Prayer.

[Taken from AL-Islam summary of Huzur address 23/09/2018]

Potential Questions our sons may ask – and how to answer them (3/3)

**Why do I have to Pray all 5 separately if I'm
allowed to join them?**

**My father doesn't do all his Prayers, why
should I?**

Potential Questions our sons may ask – and how to answer them (3/3)

Why do I have to Pray all 5 separately if I'm allowed to join them?

Combined Prayers are the exception – not the rule. Islam has given us flexibility in deciding exceptional cases on when Prayers can be combined, but no flexibility in changing principles. The principle that Islam has taught us is that the five Prayers should be observed separately at the appointed times, and only as an exception can we combine Prayers if there is a need.

Potential Questions our sons may ask – and how to answer them (3/3)

My father doesn't do all his Prayers, why should I?

Prayer is the responsibility of every individual, as we will all be individually answerable to Allah on the day of judgement. Also remind your son that it may be that if his father sees him Praying and reaping its rewards, it may motivate him to start offering his Prayers as well.

Observing Salat & Tahajjud

3rd Condition of Bai'at

“That he/she shall regularly offer the five daily Prayers in accordance with the commandments of God and the Holy Prophet Muhammad (May Peace and Blessings of Allah be upon him) and shall try his/her best to be regular in offering the tahajjud and invoking durud on the Holy Prophet Muhammad (May Peace and Blessings of Allah be upon him). That he/she shall make it his/her daily routine to ask forgiveness for his/her sins, to remember the bounties of God and to praise and glorify Him.”

<https://www.alislam.org/library/books/Conditions-of-Baiat-Responsibilities-of-Ahmadi.pdf> -

We would like to conclude with these questions:
‘How can I prepare for my child’?

**How can I help my son become a model
Ahmadi Muslim?**