

Enjoining Salāh to the family - Surah Taa Haa [20:132]

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Objective



وَأْمُرْ أَهْلَكَ بِالصَّلَاةِ وَاصْطَبِرْ عَلَيْهَا ۖ لَا نَسْأَلُكَ رِزْقًا ۖ نَحْنُ نَرْزُقُكَ ۗ وَالْعَاقِبَةُ لِلتَّقْوَىٰ

And command prayer on your family and persevere to it; We do not ask you for subsistence; We give you subsistence, and the (best) outcome is for those who have Taqwa.

In this verse Allah tells us to enjoin Salaah on our family. This is one of the ways of following the Quranic command of أَقِمِ الصَّلَاةَ - 'establish the Salaah' (Q 11:114, 17:78, & 20:32).

For the Salaah to be established, it must start first in the home, with ourselves and our family, then on to the community.

To command prayer on our family is not going to be easy, Allah tells us in the above verse that we will need to persevere in this.

The Holy Prophet (S) also tells us: Be firm, and steadily make your family members pray Salaah regularly.

Hence we understand that we need to be consistent, patient and persevere in establishing prayer within our family.

Whereas we tend to use these same tools to gain subsistence, but Allah tells us that He will give us subsistence.

Even then it is the subsistence that we concentrate on, NOT the Salaah.



Shia Ithna'asheri Madressa

The verse then finishes with: the best outcome is for those who have Taqwa (God-conscious) as those who are aware of Allah would know that it is the Salaah that we need to focus our energy on and not the subsistence.

Practical steps of enjoining Salaah to our family:

- Role model it
- Pray together as a family
- Discuss a correct perspective of prayer. That includes making them view Salaah as:
 - a conversation with Allah. A one to one talk with the Creator.
 - a gift for Allah. ie. Beautify and decorate the gift you send;
 - a companion in the grave and on the Day of Judgment;
 - the dividing line between faith (īmān) and disbelief (kufr).
 - a peaceful, calming, stress relieving activity that brings tranquillity to the heart.

A family that has established Salaah within the family, enjoys many blessings. Their home is a sanctified home.

They, themselves benefit from the calmness and confidence that Salaah can grant. It counters stress and negativity and bonds the family together.

The patience and efforts put into establishing Salaah reaps many rewards.

Feedback & Contact



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- Alternatively, to contact Dr Masuma Jaffer directly please email aalima@hujjat.org