

Surah Shams: Success is...

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Objective



Surah Shams:

وَنَفْسٍ وَمَا سَوَّاهَا

[91:7] And the soul and Him Who made it perfect,

فَأَلْهَمَهَا فُجُورَهَا وَتَقْوَاهَا

[91:8] Then He inspired it to understand what is right and wrong for it

قَدْ أَفْلَحَ مَنْ زَكَّاهَا

[91:9] He will indeed be successful who purifies it,

وَقَدْ خَابَ مَنْ دَسَّاهَا

[91:10] And he will indeed fail who corrupts it

Parents as Role Models



Last week we talked about saving ourselves then our families and if we are able to do that then we have succeeded.

So let us look at the definition of success according to Allah

Parents as Role Models



In Surah Shams,

Allah starts with a number of Oaths [91:1-7] - He swears by a number of things including the soul and Himself who fashioned it perfectly [91:7].

This is so that we realise, what He is about to tell us, is very important

Parents as Role Models



So what is it that He tells us, after making all these oaths:

- He tells us that the soul has been inspired to understand what is right and what is wrong
- He gives us a definition of Success

Parents as Role Models



The soul has been inspired to understand what is right and what is wrong:

- Allah defines what is right and what is wrong, not society, not people, not culture
- Allah has put within the soul the understanding of right and wrong, so each one of us knows innately what is right and wrong, it is not something that has to be taught.
- Some call this the 'Internal Prophet' some call it the 'Conscious' some call it the 'Fitra'
- We can choose not to listen to it or to justify the wrong and so the internal voice will become quieter and quieter

Parents as Role Models



The definition of Success is in purifying the soul:

- Allah equates success and failure with the purity of the soul – so if we purify our soul we are successful, not how educated I am, nor how much wealth I have, nor what job I do, but how pure is my soul
- It would be easy to purify our soul, if we lived in a spiritual realm, where we could see the consequences of our actions on the soul
- It would be easy to purify our soul, if it was just about me and Allah, i.e. if I could go to a mountain top, where all I had to think about was worshipping Allah
- But in reality: we live in a physical world, where I am not able to see my soul, where I have to interact with others and have responsibilities of the rights of others on me. So it is important that I am educated, that I am financially stable, that I have a job BUT all these things should not be the end goal but the means to the end goal: purity of soul

Parents as Role Models



Practical steps:

- Listen to the voice inside, my conscious, my internal Prophet, my Fitra, my Soul.
- Change my mind-set on the definition of Success: Success = Purifying my soul
- Ensure all I do all my decisions are with the end goal (purity of soul) in mind

E.g. Parenting: how the school, clubs, friends are affecting my child's soul

Feedback & Contact



- If you have any suggestions on content to cover or queries relating to any materials within these slides please email admin@madressa.net
- Alternatively, to contact Dr Masuma Jaffer directly please email aalima@hujjat.org