

**Selected Friday Sermons Compiled by Sh. Muhammad Jumu'an:**

**SPEECH NO.8**

**TOPIC: BEING KIND AND DUTIFUL TO THE PARENTS**

**INTRODUCTION:**

All praise is due to Allah –The Almighty, The All Gracious. We praise Him, we seek His Guidance and ask for His Forgiveness. We seek refuge in Allah from the evil of our own souls and bad deeds. Whoever Allah guides, none can lead him astray and whoever Allah leaves astray, no one can guide him to the straight path besides Allah. I bear witness that there is no deity worthy of worship except Allah alone without any associates and I bear witness that Muhammad is the slave and messenger of Allah. May the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him and all his family members and companions. Amen.

O you who have believed! Fear Allah as he should be feared and do not die except as Muslims (in the state of full submission to Him). (Chapter 3 verse 102).

**Part 1 of the speech:**

Dear Muslims! O Believers! A great act of worship! Among the best forms of worship and getting closer to Allah-The Almighty. It is one of the greatest of rights that people have upon each other. There are many texts in the Holy Quran and in the authentic traditions of the prophet which encourage and show its great significance and importance in this world and in the hereafter.

Being kind and dutiful to our parents and grandparents is Allah's advice to all of us my beloved brothers. In the Holy Quran, in chapter 17 verse 14, Allah-The Almighty says:

“And We have enjoined upon man care for his parents.” Allah has also said in Surah al Isra (chapter 17 verse 23): “And your Lord has decreed that you worship not except Him and to parents, good treatment.” Allah –the Almighty has made a close association in this verse between His right to be worshipped alone and being dutiful and kind to the parents. Also Allah- the Most Glorious has closely paired thanking Him with thanking the parents in the following verse of the Holy

Qur'an: "Be grateful to Me and to your parents; to Me is the (final) destination."  
(Chapter 31 verse 14).

Kindness to parents is a good deed and a noble characteristic to possess. Allah – The Almighty mentioned about His prophets (peace be upon them all) the following regarding this important characteristic; Regarding prophet Yahya (pbuh): "And dutiful to his parents and he was not a disobedient tyrant".  
(Chapter 19 verse 14).

Regarding prophet Jesus (pbuh), Allah –The Most Glorious mentioned in the Qurán: "And made me dutiful to my mother, and He has not made me a wretched tyrant." (Chapter 19 verse 32).

Dear believers! By being dutiful to one's parents, a Muslim person can attain the grade of those who strive in the way of Allah. A man came to the prophet Muhammad (pbuh) asking for his permission to join the army of the Muslims so that he can also strive in the way of Allah. The Prophet (pbuh) enquired from him: "Are your parents alive?" He (the man) replied: "Yes". The Prophet then instructed him to go back and strive in the way of Allah by taking care of his parents. (Agreed upon).

Being dutiful and kind to our parents is among the best deeds and most beloved to Allah-the Most Glorious. It is also among the good deeds which bring one closer to the Paradise and the great rewards in the hereafter. According to a tradition narrated by a companion of the prophet, Abdullah Ibn Masood (May Allah be pleased with him) that he said: I asked the prophet which good deed is most beloved to Allah? He (The prophet) replied: "Prayer at its appointed time". Then I asked him again: "Which comes next in order of importance?" He (The Prophet) said: "Dutifulness and kindness to parents". Then I asked again: "Which comes next?"

He replied: "Striving in the way of Allah". This tradition was related by Both Imam Al-Bukhari and Imam Muslim. In the tradition narrated by Imam Muslim Abdullah Ibn Masood asked the prophet: "which good deed brings me closer to Paradise?"

Also dutifulness and kindness to parents is a cause to attain Allah's good pleasure and will make Allah pleased with the individual (child). The prophet(pbuh) said: "Allah's good pleasure will be attained if the parents are pleased with the child

and Allah's anger or displeasure will be upon a child if the parents are displeased with that child." Related by Imam At-Tirmidhi and Sheikh Al-Albani verified its authenticity.

Dutifulness and kindness to parents is a cause to enter the Paradise. The prophet Muhammad(pbuh) said: "The parent is the midmost door (closest) to enter the paradise. So if you wish take great care of this door or if you wish ignore this door at your own loss." Related by Imam At-Tirmidhi and Sheikh Al-Albani verified its authenticity.

A man came to the Prophet Muhammad(pbuh) seeking his permission to join the Muslim army. The Prophet asked him: "Is your mother alive?" The man replied: "Yes". The Prophet(pbuh) then told him: "Stay close to her as the paradise is under her feet." Related by Imam Ahmed and Sheikh Al-Albani verified its authenticity.

Dear Believers! Dutifulness to parents has many great forms or ways. Dutifulness to parents is to be kind in treatment and spending your wealth on them as needed and serving them with humility and using the best speech with them as commanded by Allah-The Most Merciful in the Holy Qurán (Chapter 17 verse 23);

"And your Lord has decreed that you worship not except Him, and to parents good treatment. Whether one of them or both of them reach old age(while) with you, say not to them (so much as) "Uff" and do not repel them but speak to them a noble word. "The speech with them has to be coated with mercy, compassion, love and respect for them. It is also recommended to serve them yourself in humility as it is a great honour for you if you are capable and to spend on them your wealth if needed as it is a duty upon you to do so.

Dear Muslims! The dutifulness of the Muslim to his parents continues even after their death. A man came to the prophet and asked him: "O Messenger of Allah! Is there any good deed of being dutiful to my parents that I can do after they have passed away?" The Prophet then replied to him: "Yes. You pray for them, you ask Allah to forgive them, you fulfil their will or promises made while they were alive, you unite the ties of kinship or keep good relations with your relatives and you honour their friends. "Related by Imam Abu Dawood.

Supplicating or making prayers for your parents is required of all Muslims whether they are alive or dead. Allah-The Most Gracious has said in the Holy Qurán about prophet Noah (peace be upon him) that he prayed to Allah; “My Lord, forgive me and my parents and whoever enters my house as a believer and the believing men and believing women.” (Chapter 71 verse 28).

Your prayers for your parents is an act of dutifulness and good deed towards them. The Prophet Mohammed (peace be upon him) said: “When a person dies, all their deeds stop being recorded except for three things namely; continuous charity, useful and beneficial knowledge, or a pious son who prays for him or her.” This tradition was related by Imam At-Tirmidhi who graded it as authentic.

In chapter 17 verse 24 of the Holy Qurán, Allah-The Almighty says: “And lower to them the wing of humility out of mercy and say, “My Lord have mercy upon them as they brought me up (when I was) small.”

It has also been narrated in another tradition of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) that a person is raised up to a higher rank in paradise and he asks why have I been given this higher rank? It will be said to him: “Because of the supplications of your child for you.” Related by Imam Al-Baihaquee.

May Allah-The Almighty continue to bless us with the teachings of the Holy Qurán and enlighten us with its wonderful verses, knowledge, wisdom and beautiful exhortations. I say this and seek Allah’s forgiveness for all of us and for all the Muslims from our sins so ask for His forgiveness for He is the Most Forgiving, the Most Merciful.

**Part 2 of the speech:**

All praise is due to Allah for His generosity and All thanks is due to Allah for His guidance and countless blessings. I bear witness that there is no deity worthy of worship except Allah alone and I bear witness that Muhammad is His slave and Messenger. May the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him and all his family members and all his companions.

Dear Muslims! O Believers!

If we have learnt that dutifulness and good treatment of parents is indeed among the best deeds in the sight of Allah-The All Glorious, so let us be God conscious

and speak and deal with them respectfully as commanded by Allah-The Almighty in the holy Qurán: “And your Lord has decreed that you worship not except Him, and to parents good treatment. Whether one of them or both of them reach old age(while) with you, say not to them (so much as) “Uff” and do not repel them but speak to them a noble word.” (Chapter 17 verse 23). Allah-The Most Wise has prohibited to say “Uff” to them which is the least word to express disgust and repulsion. And some scholars of the early and pious generations of Muslims said: “If Allah-The All wise had known another word smaller than “Uff” used to express repulsion, He would have prohibited it.

O slaves of Allah! Indeed, undutifulness or mistreatment of parents is among the biggest sins in Islam. The prophet (peace be upon him) said: “ Should I tell you which are the greatest sins?” They said: Yes tell us O Messenger of Allah! He (peace be upon him) said: “Associating others in worship along with Allah and being undutiful to your parents or mistreating the parents.” Related by Imam Bukhari. The Messenger of Allah also said: “Allah has cursed the person who mistreats his parents or is undutiful towards them”. Related by Imam Ahmed.

The Messenger of Allah has also said: “Three kinds of persons Allah will not look at them on the day of Judgement, namely; The person who mistreats his parents, the woman who acts or behaves like a man and the man who permits his spouse to commit immoral acts and doesn’t take any action to stop her.” The Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) has also said: “Three types of people will not enter the paradise; The person who is undutiful to his parents, the person who is an alcoholic and the person who reminds others all the time of the favours they have done to them.” Related by Imam Al-Nisaae and graded as sound by Sheikh Al-Abani.

Dear Believers! Let us avoid mistreatment of parents as it will lead to the hardening of our hearts, and misery in this life and the next life. It also causes loss of blessings in one’s life, work and sustenance. Indeed, good treatment of parents leads to a lot of blessings and goodness in our lives such as having peace of mind, serenity and increase in our sustenance and quality of our lives. Our beloved prophet (peace be upon him) said: “Whoever loves to be well mentioned or reputed among the people in a good way and that his sustenance is increased, let him maintain the ties of kinship. Related by Imam Al-Bukhari.

And what ties of kinship can be greater than that of our fathers and mothers! The Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) said: "The two great sins that will most likely bring forth Allah's punishment in this world prior to the punishment in the hereafter are aggression and cutting off one's uterine ties of kinship." There can be no worse sin in cutting off ties with kin and relatives than to be undutiful to one's parents and grandparents.

Allah –The Most Glorious has commanded you to send salutations of peace and blessings upon His prophet as mentioned in the Holy Qurán:

"Allah and His Angels send salutations of peace on the prophet. O you who believe send salutations of peace and blessings on the prophet"

O Allah! Exalt the mention of Muhammad and the family of Muhammad as you exalted the mention of Ibrahim and the family of Ibrahim. You are the Praised and Most Glorious. O Allah! Bless Muhammad and the family of Muhammad as you have blessed Ibrahim and the family of Ibrahim. You are Praised and Most Glorious.