



Raising Children the Islamic Way

Session Two

**Helping children acquire
positive characteristics**

**Part 1 – Being positive with
children**

Hadith

They [children] are the fruits of the heart and the delight of the eyes but they also are sources of fear, miserliness and grief.

Holy Prophet (s)

Factors which create positive character

- ◆ Feeling loved
- ◆ Self confidence
- ◆ Being occupied
- ◆ Inspirations

Making children feel loved

- 1) Physical closeness
- 2) Attention – playing with children is specifically mentioned in Islam.
- 3) Giving things to children first – whenever the Holy Prophet (s) received fruits, he would first pray for barakah, and then give from it to the youngest child present.
- 4) Giving children gifts – Imam Sadiq (a) says whenever you return from a trip you should bring a gift for your children, even if it is a small thing.

Building Confidence

Showing respect to children:

- 1) Stand up to welcome them.
- 2) Greet children warmly, cheerfully
- 3) Include them in adult gatherings; jamaat salaah, dua sessions, invitations . . .
- 4) Refrain from angry outbursts
- 5) Value their talents and skills

Keeping children occupied

- 1) Balance between academics and leisure
- 2) Sports and physical activity
- 3) Hobbies and creativity
- 4) Socializing with family and friends
- 5) Household chores
- 6) Reading; careful selection of books
- 7) Limited access to TV, internet. . .

Inspiring children

- 1) Expose children to value based literature and media
- 2) Children's gatherings in the mosques, Islamic centers, homes . . .
- 3) Do not make religion difficult or burdensome.
- 4) Increase awareness about the world we live in.