

## Sura Yusuf Verse 5-6

قَالَ يَا بُنَيَّ لَا تَقْصُصْ رُؤْيَاكَ عَلَىٰ إِخْوَتِكَ فَيَكِيدُوا لَكَ كَيْدًا ۗ إِنَّ الشَّيْطَانَ لِلْإِنْسَانِ عَدُوٌّ مُّبِينٌ

*He said: O my son! do not tell your dream to your brothers in case they plan against you; surely the Shaytan is an open enemy to the human being.*

وَكَذَٰلِكَ يَجْتَبِيكَ رَبُّكَ وَيُعَلِّمُكَ مِن تَأْوِيلِ الْأَحَادِيثِ وَيُتِمُّ نِعْمَتَهُ عَلَيْكَ وَعَلَىٰ آلِ يَعْقُوبَ ۖ كَمَا أَتَمَّهَا عَلَىٰ أَبَوَيْكَ مِن قَبْلُ ۖ إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَإِسْحَاقَ ۚ إِنَّ رَبَّكَ عَلِيمٌ حَكِيمٌ

*That is how your Lord will choose you and teach you the interpretation of dreams and complete His blessings upon you and upon the children of Yaqub, just as He completed it earlier for your fathers, Ibrahim and Ishaq. surely your Lord is all-Knowing, all-Wise*

**Reflections**

- The father knew his sons well. They would not like the dream and may plot against Yusuf.
- Shaytan creates negative feelings in people. Why is he an enemy of the human being? What is his goal? Is it only Shaytan who is responsible for the wrong we think/say/do?
- what three things does Nabi Yaqub say God would do for Yusuf (a)?
- God is all Knowing, all Wise. He has a plan for everyone. Sometimes we don't understand it but we should trust in His knowledge and wisdom.

**Tafsir**

The dream of Nabi Yusuf excited his father and worried him too. He knew it foretold a great future but he was worried about the reaction of his sons. He knew them well and was aware of how they felt about Yusuf and his relationship with his father. A parent always knows the child. Even when the child does not say anything or disclose how they feel about something a parent understands it. Nabi Yaqub knew that the brothers already felt that Yusuf was special and they didn't like it. If they heard about the dream they would be even angrier with Yusuf.

The dream was not a normal dream that children dream about. Often children see dreams that don't make much sense. But if the brothers heard the details about this dream it would be easy for them to conclude that Allah had a special plan for Yusuf.

Nabi Yaqub tells his son that the brothers will plot against him. He attributes this to Shaytan who is always looking for a way to plant negative thoughts in the mind. Shaytan would fan the flames of jealousy which already existed but he would make it larger and more serious.

Precaution and prevention is always good. Rather than mending things afterwards it is better to have foresight and think of what might happen. That is what Nabi Yaqub did and he asked his son to take the precaution of not telling anyone about the dream.

Nabi Yaqub summarizes the dream for his son in verse 6. He tells him three things;

- a) Allah has chosen him
- b) He will be able to interpret dreams
- c) Through him Allah will complete His favors on the family of Yaqub.

This was how the father verified that it was an important dream that Nabi Yusuf had seen and he was going to have a great future.

### **Important Lessons**

- 1) Some things must be kept secret from others. It is not right to reveal everything to others. Even close friends should not know everything about you and what happens in your life. It can be harmful sometimes and can have an effect in the future. Imam Sadiq (a) says; *Your secret is like your blood and it should not flow except in your own veins.*
- 2) Talking to elders and taking advice is always useful. Nabi Yusuf may not have known that he should keep his dream a secret if his father had not told him.
- 3) Do not condemn others in your speech. Note that Nabi Yaqub mentions Shaytan, implying that Shaytan would make the brothers plot against Nabi Yusuf. He does not say anything about the negative qualities of his sons.

### **Ideas**

- discuss parent child conversations where good advice is imparted. Examples from Islamic history include the advice of Luqman to his son, Nabi Ibrahim and Nabi Ismael, Imam Ali (a)'s will to Imam Hasan (a).
- create a Prophets lineage tree so children understand the lineage of Nabi Yusuf. Show them the time and geographical locations of the Prophets as well as what the Prophets are known for. What do other religions say about the same Prophets?

