

Teachings of the Prophet (s) on Family Relationships

Session 3

Today's Topic

Appreciating Others

What are some ways of
appreciating people?

(write your answers
in the chat box)

Appreciation

To appreciate others is to thank them.

مَنْ لَمْ يَشْكُرِ الْمُنْعِمَ مِنَ الْمَخْلُوقِينَ لَمْ يَشْكُرِ
الله

Whoever does not thank a created being who
favours him, will not thank Allah

Imam al-Ridha (a), Uyun Akhbar ar-Ridha, v.2, p.24

Effects of Appreciation

شُكْرُكَ الرَّاضِي عَنْكَ يَزِيدُهُ رِضَا وَ وَفَاءً شُكْرُكَ
لِلسَّاخِطِ عَلَيْكَ يُوجَبُ لَكَ مِنْهُ صَلَاحًا وَ تَعْطُفًا

Your gratitude for one who is pleased with you increases him in pleasure and loyalty. Your gratitude for one who is angry with you brings about improvement in relationship and affection.

Mizan al Hikmah, v.5, p.152

The Process

Favor received

Feeling of Happiness

Acknowledge,
Thank, and Praise

From Imam Zayn al- Abidin (a)

The right of him who does a kindly act (*dhu l-ma'ruf*) toward you is that you thank him and mention his kindness; you reward him with beautiful words and you supplicate for him sincerely in that which is between you and God. If you do that, you have thanked him secretly and openly. Then, if you are able to repay him one day, you repay him.

Risalatul Huquq

O God, bless Muhammad and his Household,
adorn me with the adornment of the righteous,
and clothe me in the ornaments of the Godfearing

...

in spreading good qualities
and covering faults

Sahifa Sajjadiyya, Dua no.20

The Prophet (s) talks to his wives

When his wife asks why he is so considerate of the friends of Bibi Khadija (a), he said;

أَمَا عَلِمْتَ أَنَّ كَرَمَ الْوَدِّ مِنَ الْإِيمَانِ

Do you not know that respecting close ones is part of faith?

Kanzul Ummal, H#37767

Amina binte Wahab, the mother of the Prophet (s)

As a child he would accompany her to the grave of his father and weep with her. Later, during the Hijra, while he was passing through the lanes of Medina, he recognized a house and said that he had been in it with his mother and it was there that his father lay buried.

It has been recorded that after fifty-five years, during the journey for performing the Umra, the Prophet (s) passed the grave of his mother, where he stopped and wept so much that those present there were also moved to tears

Fatima binte Asad

The Prophet (s) said about her;
كانت أمي بعَد أمي التي ولدتني

She was my mother after my mother who gave birth to me.

Kanzul Ummal, v.13, p.632

He also said;

Apart from Abu Talib (a), she treated me best. Abu Talib (a) benevolently prepared the food and Fatima gathered us for this food; she gave me a larger share of all foods so that I might return to their home again.

Her Status

Fatima Bint Asad (a) was the first woman who migrated on foot toward the Holy Prophet (s) from Mecca to Medina.

The mother of Imam Ali (a) - Fatima bint Asad (a) - was among the eleven ‘vanguards’ (*al-sabiqun*) of Islam and the ‘People of Badr,’ or *Badriyyun* - those who attended the Battle of Badr

Imam Sadiq (a)

Death of Fatima binte Asad

The Prophet took part in her burial service by carrying the coffin and digging her grave. He entered the grave and lay in it. Then he took off his garment and had Lady Fatima covered in it as a burial shroud before she was placed into the grave.

After Fatima Bint Asad ibn Hashim had passed away, the Messenger of God (s) enshrouded her in his garment and performed the funeral prayer. In the prayer, he said the Takbir (Allahu Akbar) seventy times. Next, he entered her grave, extending and strengthening it. Then, he came out of the grave, shedding tears and casting soil on the Lahad (internal grave) stone.

After burying Fatima Bint Asad (a), the Prophet of Islam (s) said, “The angels were everywhere in the horizon, opening the door of Heaven to Fatima and rolling out the heavenly carpets for her. The heavenly ladies rushed to meet her. Now she is showered with happiness, bounty and heavenly blessings, and her grave is a heavenly garden.

Halima al-Sa'diyah

- The foster mother of the Prophet. He lived with her for the first five (or six) years of his life.
- The Prophet (s) respected Halima, and on several occasions helped her generously.
- Halima went to him in Mecca complaining about the difficulties of life. The Prophet (s) talked with Khadija about her and Khadija gave her some sheep and camels.
- Sometimes, when Halima visited the Prophet (s), he laid his cloak on the ground -as a sign of respect-, so that she would sit on it.
- He said about her; She is my mother who gave me milk.
- After the Hawazin were defeated in the battle of Hunayn , the Prophet (s) renounced all his shares of booty due to his respect for Halima and his relation with her tribe.

After the conquest of Mecca when the Prophet (s) visited Shayma' -his foster sister- asked her about Halima and she told him that she has passed away. The Prophet's (s) eyes filled with tears as he heard the news and then asked about her next of kin.

Thuwayba

- Slave girl of Abu Lahab who breastfed him for a few days.
- The Prophet (s) showed her great respect, and extended the respect and consideration to her family members.

Shayma, daughter of Halima

- Foster sister of the Prophet (s)
- She was brought to Madina as a prisoner after the battle of Hunayn
- When the Prophet (s) found out about it he brought her to his home. He gave her the choice of staying with him or going back to her tribe.
- When she decided to go back to her tribe the Prophet gave her gifts and sent an escort with her.

Umm Ayman (Baraka bint Tha'laba)

- She was an Abbysinian servant of Abd al-Muttalib who looked after the Prophet(s)
- She brought him back to Makkah after his mother passed away in Abwa.
- She took care of the Prophet (s). Before Abdul Muttalib died he asked her to look after him.
- The Prophet called her ‘mother’ and visited her. He introduced her as one of the women of Paradise.
- Umm Ayman was freed by the Prophet (s) and was the mother of Usama bin Zayd. .
- After the death of the Prophet (s) and confiscation of Fadak by Abu Bakr,, she was the only person who bore witness with Imam Ali (a) that the Prophet (s) has given Fadak to Fatima (a)

Bibi Khadija

- The Prophet called her as one of the perfect ladies of world and also one of the best women.
- He always remembered her with respect and love as the special one in his life.
- When she died the Prophet (s) enshrouded her with his own cloak and then with another cloak from Paradise.
- The Prophet extended consideration to family and friends of Bibi Khadija.

- When the Prophet slaughtered a lamb he would say: ‘Send this to friends of Khadijah.’ Once his wife asked for the reason of this action and he replied: ‘I care for the friends of Khadijah as well’.
- Once, years after Lady Khadija died, the Prophet (s) came across a necklace that she once wore. When he saw it, he remembered her and began to weep. His love for her never died.

The Prophet (s) speaks about Khadija

- She believed in me when no one else did; she accepted Islam when people rejected me; and she helped and comforted me when there was no one else to lend me a helping hand.
- Never did Allah give me a better wife than Khadijah. She hailed my mission at a time when everybody shouted against it. She lent me the support of her conviction when there was hardly a believer. She enlivened my heart when I felt lonely and deserted. Khadijah's love was given to me by Allah. How could I forget her?

Other Examples

The Prophet would visit the homes of the martyrs and offer his condolences to the women.

- Umm Haram; her brother died alongside the Prophet in battle.
- Khunsa; She lost four sons in the battle of Uhud. He praised the poetry she had composed.

Sources

<http://messageofthaqalayn.com/44-prophet.pdf>

<http://www.messageofthaqalayn.com/50-%20fatima%20bint%20asad.pdf>