

Overview**Nabi Yūsuf's family tree****Nabi Yūsuf's dream****Dreams of other prophets****Seeking parental advice**

Sūrat al- Yūsuf

Verse 4

إِذْ قَالَ يُوسُفُ لِأَبِيهِ يَا أَبَتِ إِنَّي رَأَيْتُ أَحَدَ عَشَرَ كَوْكَبًا وَالشَّمْسَ وَالْقَمَرَ رَأَيْتُهُمْ لِي
سَاجِدِينَ

When Yūsuf said to his father: O my father! surely I saw eleven stars and the sun and the moon-- I saw them prostrating to me.

Questions for Reflection

- 1) What type of relationship did Nabi Yūsuf have with his father?
- 2) How did he feel about seeing such a dream?
- 3) What emotions did he experience?

Commentary

Nabi Yūsuf was the youngest son of Nabi Ya'qūb. He and his brother Benjamin were from the same mother. The other brothers of Nabi Yūsuf were from a different wife of Nabi Ya'qūb. Nabi Ya'qūb was the son of Nabi Ishāq, the son of Nabi Ibrāhīm (a).

The story of Nabi Yūsuf begins with a meaningful dream. One morning Nabi Yūsuf woke up and excitedly went to look for his father. He told him about what he had seen in his dream. At that time Nabi Yūsuf was a young child. Some say he was 9, others that he was 12 years old. It is interesting to note that the story of Nabi Yūsuf ends in Sura Yūsuf with the actual realization of the dream.

This was an important dream. Nabi Yūsuf remembered it properly. Sometimes people forget what they dreamt about or forget parts of it. But Nabi Yūsuf remembered it clearly. The dream indicated humbleness of the sun, moon and stars before Nabi Yūsuf, not an actual physical prostration. Dreams of the Prophets foretell a reality that will happen. Some of their dreams do not require interpretation like the dream of Nabi Ibrāhīm when he saw himself sacrificing his son. Some dreams like the dream of Nabi Yūsuf require an interpretation.

Nabi Yūsuf tells the dream to his father to seek advice from him. Parents are the best people to go to when confused about something. They know you best and they also have the wisdom and experience that can benefit you. Nabi Yūsuf trusts his father's judgment and is respectful in his conversation with him.

Nabi Ya'qūb thought deeply about the dream of his son. He knew it foretold an important event. His son would reach such a status that the family would humble themselves before him. The objects of the dream symbolise real people – the family of Nabi Yūsuf.

Lessons

- 1) Seek advice from a father, mother, or a trusted elder, about something that confuses or worries you.
- 2) Wisdom and experience of elders helps deal with issues better.
- 3) Parents have your best interests at heart.

Practical Implementation

If the topic needed to discuss with a parent is a sensitive one, request for a quiet meeting time over a walk or ice cream – parents love that!

Cross reference verses

Being dutiful to Parents – 19:14

Gratitude to Parents – 31:14

Connecting Topics

Confiding in Parents

Seeking Advice

Useful Links

<https://www.al-islam.org/forty-ahadith-parents>

<https://www.theodysseyonline.com/4-reasons-to-develop-close-relationship-with-your-parents>

<https://kidshealth.org/en/kids/talk-parents.html>