



Learning From Your Children

وَالَّذِينَ يَقُولُونَ رَبَّنَا هَبْ لَنَا مِنْ أَزْوَاجِنَا وَذُرِّيَّاتِنَا قُرَّةَ
أَعْيُنٍ وَاجْعَلْنَا لِلْمُتَّقِينَ إِمَامًا



[25:74] And they say, "Our Lord
let our spouses and children
be a source of joy for us, and
keep us in the forefront of
the righteous."

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- The Word “Dhurriyyah” is mentioned 32X in the Qur'an in 19 different Surahs. The word “Dhurriyyah,” means offspring or children. Family is the cornerstone of society, and for this reason Islam placed much emphasis on the importance of family
- Ibrahim – Zakariyya – Nuh – Musa - All prayed for families

رَبِّ اجْعَلْنِي مُقِيمَ الصَّلَاةِ وَمِنْ ذُرِّيَّتِي رَبَّنَا وَتَقَبَّلْ دُعَاءِ

My Lord, make me an establiher of prayer, and many from my descendants. Our Lord, and accept my supplication. (14:40)



When we think of children, we often think:

“How can we raise them?” “How can we provide for them?” “How can we teach them?” “How can we protect them?”

This is only natural, for the Prophet ﷺ said:

**“Each of you is a shepherd, and each of you will be held accountable for his flock.”
(Bukhari)**

“Teach your children and family good manners and etiquette.” (Musannaf)





- **1- Perseverance:** Children do not give up easily, they are goal oriented. Obstacles are ignored, and they focus on their goals until they get what they want. All too often, adults allow the challenges they face to discourage them from achieving their goals both social and religious.

وَاسْتَعِينُوا بِالصَّبْرِ وَالصَّلَاةِ وَإِنَّهَا لَكَبِيرَةٌ إِلَّا عَلَى الْخَاشِعِينَ

Seek Allah's help with patient perseverance and prayer. It is indeed hard except for those who are humble. "(2:45)



2- A Positive Attitude Towards Mistakes: Before entering school and being told that being wrong is bad, children do not dwell over their mistakes and use them as learning experiences. I wish that we, as adults, could learn to see our mistakes as opportunities for learning and growing rather than as failures. Our success is not in 'never failing' but in rising every time we fail.

لَا تَقْنَطُوا مِنْ رَحْمَةِ اللَّهِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَغْفِرُ الذُّنُوبَ جَمِيعًا

“do not despair of the mercy of Allah. Indeed, Allah forgives all sins” (39:53)



3- Purity of Heart: Children do not hold grudges and forgive easily. They are transparent about their feelings. Adults should learn to deal with one another with the same level of sincerity. If you were to extend an act of kindness toward a child, he would easily forget wrongs of the past. Many adults however forget years of kindness if you were to wrong them once.

فَاعْفُ عَنْهُمْ وَاصْفَحْ إِنَّ اللَّهَ يُحِبُّ الْمُحْسِنِينَ

“But pardon them and overlook [their misdeeds]. Indeed, Allah loves the doers of good” (5:13)

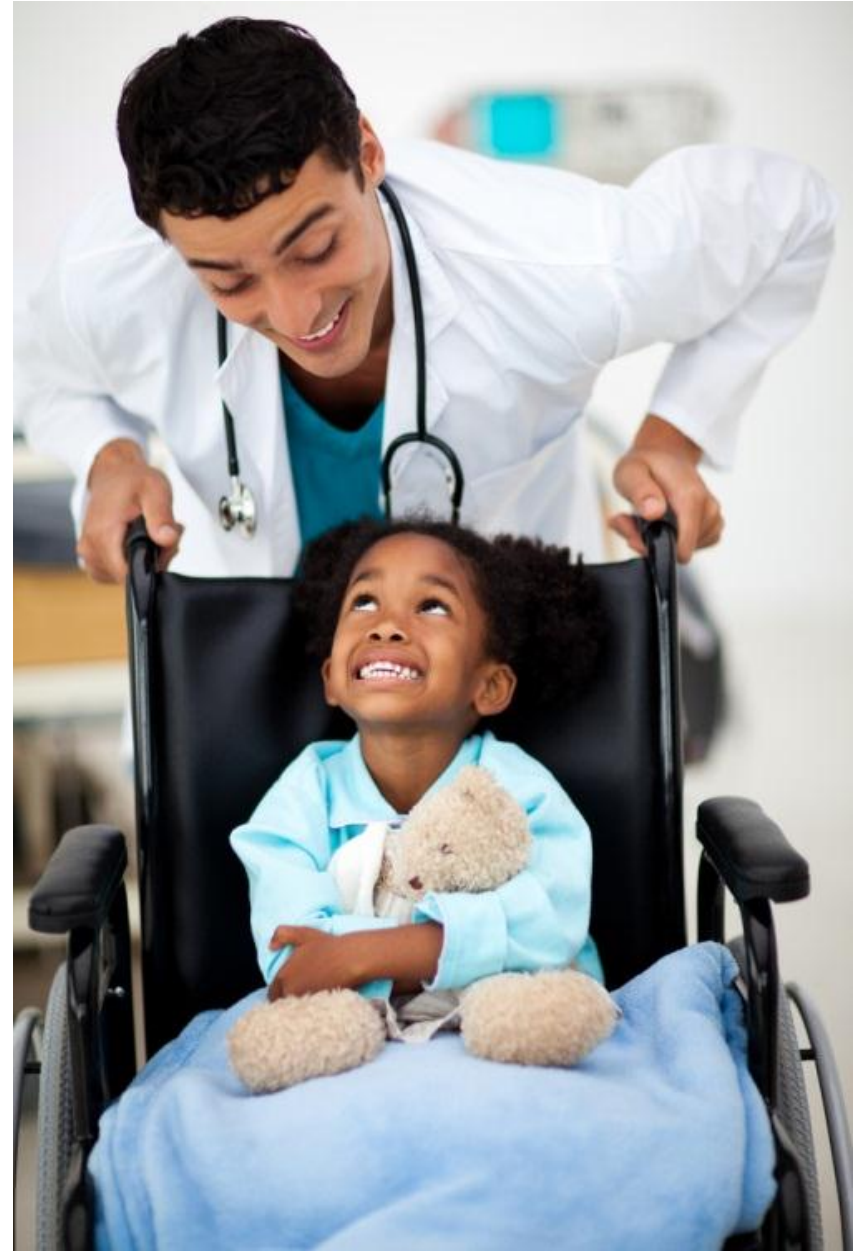
4- Ability to Adjust: Children adjust quickly to changes in their lives and are resilient but flexible, unlike adults who are often rigid and resistant to change.

وَنُيَسِّرْكَ لِلْيُسْرَىٰ

And We will ease you toward ease. (87:8)

يُرِيدُ اللَّهُ بِكُمْ الْيُسْرَ وَلَا يُرِيدُ بِكُمْ الْعُسْرَ

Allah intends for you ease and does not intend for you hardship (2:185)



5- Laughter and Smiling: The average child laughs around 200 times a day, while the average adult laughs 14-17 times a day. Most adults are borderline grumpy a good part of the day.

وَأَنَّهُ هُوَ أَضْحَكَ وَأَبْكَى

And that it is He who makes one laugh and weep (53:43)

مَا رَأَيْتُ أَحَدًا أَكْثَرَ تَبَسُّمًا مِنْ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ ﷺ

I have not seen anyone who smiled more than the Messenger of Allah (Tirmidhi)





6- Discovery: Children are naturally curious. They are continuously making discoveries about their own abilities and the world around them. We, as adults, should continue this path of self-discovery and curiosity to investigate the unknown

سَنُرِيهِمْ آيَاتِنَا فِي الْآفَاقِ وَفِي أَنْفُسِهِمْ حَتَّىٰ يَتَبَيَّنَ لَهُمْ أَنَّهُ الْحَقُّ أَوَلَمْ يَكْفِ بِرَبِّكَ أَنَّهُ عَلَىٰ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ شَهِيدٌ

“We will show them Our signs in the horizons and within themselves until it becomes clear to them that it is the truth. But is it not sufficient concerning your Lord that He is, over all things, a Witness?” (41:53)



7- Trust: Children are noticeably trusting of others. People who choose to trust tend to be happier, better liked by others, and more ethical than less trusting people. We, as a community, must behave in a trustworthy manner, earning the trust of other adults while keeping faith in our brothers and sisters.

وَمَنْ يَتَوَكَّلْ عَلَى اللَّهِ فَهُوَ حَسْبُهُ

“And whoever relies upon Allah - then He is sufficient for him.” (65:3)



8- Confidence: Young children feel that they are the most beautiful, the fastest, the strongest, the smartest. We need adults who have confidence in themselves, so they can pursue their dreams.

قَالَ رَبِّ اشْرَحْ لِي صَدْرِي وَيَسِّرْ لِي أَمْرِي وَاحْلُلْ عُقْدَةً مِّنْ لِّسَانِي يَفْقَهُوا قَوْلِي

“O my Lord! Open for me my chest (grant me self-confidence, contentment, and boldness). And make this matter easy for me. Make me eloquent of speech. So that they may understand my speech” (20:25-28)

9-Liveliness and Activity: Kids are always on the go. Adults need to get off their behinds and get moving.

قُلْ سِيرُوا فِي الْأَرْضِ فَانظُرُوا كَيْفَ بَدَأَ الْخَلْقَ

"Travel through the land and observe how He began creation. (29:20)

وَإِذَا قَامُوا إِلَى الصَّلَاةِ قَامُوا كُسَالَى يُرَاءُونَ النَّاسَ وَلَا يَذْكُرُونَ اللَّهَ إِلَّا قَلِيلًا

“And when they stand for prayer, they stand lazily, showing [themselves to] the people and not remembering Allah except a little” (4:142)





10- Knowledge We Might Not Have: In this generation of Google and smart phones, our children are often exposed to useful information that we have never come across. If we learn to open our ears and listen to our children we might be surprised.

وَفَوْقَ كُلِّ ذِي عِلْمٍ عَلِيمٌ

“but over every possessor of knowledge is one more knowing.” (17:76)



1. Perseverance
2. A Positive Attitude Towards Mistakes
3. Purity of Heart
4. Ability to Adjust
5. Laughter and Smiling
6. Discovery
7. Trust
8. Confidence
9. Liveliness & Activity
10. Knowledge We Might Not Have

رَبَّنَا هَبْ لَنَا مِنْ أَزْوَاجِنَا ذُرِّيَّتًا قُرَّةَ أَعْيُنٍ وَاجْعَلْنَا لِلْمُتَّقِينَ إِمَامًا

“Our Lord let our spouses and children be a source of joy and keep us in the forefront of the righteous” (25:74)