

How does a father teach his children Tawheed?

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Article taken and slightly adapted from: followingthesunnah.wordpress.com

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the Name of Allaah the most Kind the most Merciful

كيف يعلم الأب أبناءه التوحيد؟

How does a father teach his children Tawheed?

Shaykh Allaamah Muhammad bin Saalih al-Uthaymeen (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ)¹ was asked:

How does a father teach his children Tawheed?

He answered:

• ‘He teaches them Tawheed just like he teaches them other matters of the Deen. From the best of what is in this subject is the book ‘The Three Principles’ by Shaykh-ul-Islaam Muhammad bin Abdulwahaab. If he makes them memorise it by heart and explains to them its meanings appropriately to their understanding and their intellects.

Then there comes a lot of goodness from this. This is because this book is built upon questions and answers, and clear easy expressions, which have no complexity.

Then the father shows them the Ayaat of Allaah (His signs) so that he can practically implement what is mentioned in this small book.

For example, the sun, the father asks, who created it? Likewise the moon, the stars, the night and day, you say to them:

‘The sun, who created it? Allaah. The moon? Allaah, the night? Allaah, the day? Allaah. Allaah (عزوجل)² created all of these. This is so that one can water the tree of the Fitrah (the natural disposition) because the human himself has been created with his natural disposition upon Tawheed of Allaah (عزوجل).

Like the Prophet (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ)³ said:

(كل مولود يولد على الفطرة ، فأبواه يهودانه أو ينصرانه أو يمجسانه)

‘Every newborn is born upon the Fitrah (natural disposition), so it is his parents who either make him into a Jew or into a Christian or into a Majoos (fire worshipper).’⁴

¹ (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ) (rahimahullaah) May Allaah the Most High have mercy on him

² (عزوجل) (Azza wa Jaal) Mighty and Majestic is He

³ (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) (sallallaahu ‘alayhi wa sallam) May the peace and blessings of Allaah the Most High be upon him

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- Also he teaches them Wudoo, how to make Wudoo by demonstration and saying: This is how one does Wudoo, and he performs the Wudoo in front of him.
- Likewise the Salaah (prayer), along with taking aid with Allaah (تعالى)⁵, and asking Allaah (عزوجل) for guidance for them. Also, that one keeps away from any statement which opposes good behaviour or every prohibited action, so he should not get them used to lying, cheating and treachery, nor lowly manners.

Even if the father was trialled by prohibited actions, like if he was trialled by smoking, he should not smoke in front of them because they will get used to it and it will become easy upon them to do it as well.

One should know that every man of a household is responsible for the people of the house, due to the saying of Allaah (تبارك وتعالى)⁶:

(يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا قُوا أَنْفُسَكُمْ وَأَهْلِيكُمْ نَارًا)

[O you who believe! Ward off from yourselves and your families a Fire (Hell)]⁷

Our protecting them from the fire cannot be except if we get them used to righteous actions and to leave off bad actions. The Messenger of Allaah (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) affirmed that in his saying:

(الرجل راع في أهله ومسؤول عن رعيته)

‘A man is a shepherd for his family and he is responsible for his flock.’⁸

A father should know that their being righteous is beneficial to him in this world and the hereafter Indeed from the closest of people to their fathers and mothers are the righteous children, male and female.

(وإذا مات الإنسان انقطع عمله إلا من ثلاث: صدقة جارية، أو علم ينتفع به، أو ولد صالح يدعو له)

‘When a person dies his actions cease except for three: continuous charity, or knowledge people benefit from, or a righteous child who supplicates for him.’⁹

We ask Allaah (تعالى) to aid all of us upon carrying out the trust and responsibility.¹⁰

⁴ Collected by Al-Bukhaaree and Muslim

⁵ (تعالى) Ta’aala (He, The Most High)

⁶ (تبارك وتعالى) (Tabaraka wa Ta’ala) The Blessed and the Most High

⁷ سورة التحريم – Soorah at-Tahreem [66:6]

⁸ Narrated by al-Bukhaaree, 7138; Muslim, 1829

⁹ Saheeh Muslim

¹⁰ Silsilah Noor ala Darb. Tape: 350 side A