

السَّلَامُ عَلَى لُقْمَانَ

LUQMĀN (AS)

لقمان (ع)

FUNDAMENTALS OF ISLAM

JUNIOR LEVEL

Lesson 1

Objectives >>>

Students should:

- Be introduced to Luqmān (as) as a wise man introduced to us in the Qur'an
- Discuss some of the advice Luqmān gave to his son

In this lesson, we will be learning about a wise man introduced to us in the Holy Qur'an. The name of this man is Luqmān (as). The Qur'an mentions some of the advice Luqmān (as) gives to his son, and we can learn lots of lesson from this advice.

Luqmān (as) observed everything but kept silent. He practised self-restraint – he did no foolish things or talk unnecessarily! Luqmān (as) firmly believed in Allah ((SWT)) and advised all not to associate anyone with Allah. For all his piety and good qualities, Allah ((SWT)) gifted Luqmān (as) with *wisdom*. Allah ((SWT)) has named a chapter of the Qur'an after this wise man.

HOLY QURAN

SURAH LUQMAN
(LUQMAN)
CHAPTER 31

RECITATION BY
SHEIKH MISHARI RASHED AL-AFASY

GRATEFULNESS TO PARENTS

Luqmān (as) told his son:

“And We have enjoined on man (to be dutiful and good) to his parents” (31:14)

It is our parents who raise us, feed and clothe us, teach us manners and send us to school. We must not forget that as a baby we were weak, and very dependent on our parents for everything. Our mother carried us for nine difficult months. Then she went through so much pain and suffering to

give birth to us. Then she spent sleepless nights and tiring days looking after us.



ESTABLISH ṢALĀT (DAILY PRAYER)

Luqmān (as) advised his son to *establish prayer*. This means praying on time, and taking our prayer seriously.

"O my son! Establish the ṣalāt..." (31:17)

This is great advice because the daily prayer is the direct connection between a Muslim and his Creator, Allah (SWT). If we take it seriously, then it will keep us close to Allah (SWT) and protect us from mistakes.



What are the benefits of offering prayers?

- It strengthens our faith in Allah (SWT).
- It causes our sins to be forgiven.
- After praying, our du'ā will be answered.
- It helps us avoid committing sins because we are always remembering Allah (SWT).

"Once the Holy prophet Muḥammad (saw) shook a dry branch of a tree and all of the leaves of the leaves fell off.

Then the Holy Prophet (saw) said: "The sins of those who pray, drop off as the leaves of this branch fell off."

PATIENCE DURING AFFLICTIONS

"...and bear with patience whatever happens to you..."
(31:17)

Sometimes, things happen in our life that are difficult. We might get sick, or our brother or sister might get sick. Our parents may lose their jobs, or something might happen to our house.

When things like this happen, we should not get angry, misbehave or give our parents a hard time. Instead, we should remember this is a test from Allah (SWT). The best way to pass the test is to stay calm and do the usual daily things we have to do. It is also important to keep thanking Allah (SWT) even in difficult times, because even then we are surrounded by His blessings.

1. Luqmān (as) advised his son:

- To establish is prayer- which means to pray on time and take prayer seriously
- To pray, but whenever he felt like it
- To not pray much

2. Luqmān (as) advised his son to:

- Be patient when difficult things happened in life
- Complain when difficult things happened in life
- Neither of the above

LESSON 2

In this lesson, we will discuss more of the advice that Luqmān (as) gave his son.

DO NOT ACT ARROGANTLY

"Do not turn away your face from men in pride or walk away arrogantly on the earth. Certainly, Allah does not like arrogant boasters." (31:18)

Here, this wise man advises his son not to act arrogantly or proudly. Here are some examples of these things:

- We do not play with a particular boy because we think we are better than him
- We tell people that they are bad at something (e.g. handball) and that we are better
- We do not let other people talk in conversation and we always do the talking because we think we are smarter or better.

- Showing off our new clothes or shoes or toys by walking or acting in a certain way.

Satan, perhaps the most evil creature, became the way he is because of pride. He thought he was better than Prophet Adam (as) and refused to prostrate to him. Because of his pride and arrogance, he was cursed by Allah (SWT).



DO NOT RAISE YOUR VOICE

Luqmān (as) advised his son not to raise his voice inappropriately. He advised him that the worse of sounds is the braying of a donkey, and advised him to keep his voice quiet and low so that he would not be acting like a donkey.

It is important for us to remember our manners, and not shout and yell for no reason. It is okay to shout or be loud when we are playing with our friends or brothers and sisters. Sometimes, though, we need to be quiet. When our parents ask us to be quiet, or when we are in class, we shouldn't make too much noise.



EVERY DEED MATTERS

Here is a story of a pious man and a shopkeeper.

There lived a pious man all by himself, who spent most of his time in praying, fasting and praising Allah. He was very happy with his spiritual progress. No wicked thoughts came to his mind and no evil temptations entered his heart.

One night, he had a disturbing dream. He saw that a shopkeeper in the town was far superior to him in spirituality.

In the morning, the pious man went in search of the shopkeeper. He found him busy with his customers, selling goods and collecting money with a cheerful face. The pious man sat in a corner of the shop and watched the shopkeeper carefully. "No signs of any spiritual life at all," he said to himself. His dream could not be true. But then he saw the shopkeeper disappear to pray. When he returned, he was again busy dealing with money matters.

The shopkeeper noticed the pious man sitting in the corner and asked: "Would you like something, brother?"

"Oh! No! No!" said the pious man. "I don't want to buy anything, but I want to ask you a question." He then related his dream.

"Well, that is very simple to explain," said the shopkeeper, "but you will have to do something for me before I answer your question."

"I will do anything for you," replied the pious man.



"All right! Take this saucer; there is some mercury in it. Go to the other end of the street and come back fast within half an hour. If the mercury falls out of the saucer, you will hear nothing from me. There you go now."

The pious man took the saucer and started running. The mercury nearly wobbled out of the saucer. He saved it just in time, and slowed down. Then he remembered he had to return within half an hour, so he started walking at a fast pace. At long last he returned puffing and panting. "Here is your mercury, safe and sound," he told the shopkeeper. "Now tell me the true interpretation of my dream."

The shopkeeper looked at the pious man's weary condition and asked him: "Well, friend, how many times did you remember Allah while you were going from this end of the street to the other?" "Remember Allah!" exclaimed the pious man. "I did not remember Him at all. I was so worried about the mercury in the saucer."

"But I do remember Him all the time," said the shopkeeper. "When I am doing my business, I am fair, honest and kind to my customers. I never forget Allah (SWT) in my dealings with other people."

ⁱWe learn from this story that the small deeds of that shop-keeper, like being nice and fair to his customers, mattered so much in the eyes of Allah (SWT). When we are going about our days, we should remember this, and try to do as much good as we can.

Review Questions

3. Luqmān (as) advised his son:

- a. To always speak loudly
- b. To not raise his voice inappropriately
- c. To talk a lot

4. Luqmān (as) advised his son to:

- a. Walk arrogantly so everyone would know he is smart
- b. To avoid being proud or arrogant
- c. To speak over people and show his wisdom that way

ⁱ BIBLIOGRAPHY:

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