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YouTube Prayer Link

How stubborn and rebellious children should be taught

Deuteronomy chapter 21

21:20 And he said unto the elders, We here are stubborn and rebellious, and do not listen to us, and are gluttonous and drunkards.

21:21 And all the people of the city shall stone him to death. So that the evil will be removed from you.

When parents see their children exhibiting stubborn and rebellious behavior, they can't help but feel endless worry and confusion in their hearts. The son gradually showed a rebellious personality, as if he was unwilling to accept any guidance or advice from the outside world. In such a situation, parents need to remain calm and at the same time guide them on the right path with wisdom and patience.

The father or mother may often ask in his mind, "Why is my child so obsessed with rebellion, is he looking for his own independence, or is he fighting some inner insecurity?"

Perhaps, what this child needs is a kind of understanding and love. Parents can try to put themselves in their child's shoes and understand the pressures and challenges they are facing. Perhaps, what this son needs is a space for equal dialogue, a platform where he can express his views, instead of blindly blaming and blaming.

When guiding their children, parents should maintain a steady pace, give them some autonomy, and give them the opportunity to learn how to make the right decisions. At the same time, parents should also try to establish a positive communication model so that children feel that the family is a place where they are supported and understood. The Bible has many teachings about sons (or children) and how to educate them. Of these, perhaps the most famous are some verses that

appear in the Old Testament book of Proverbs, which provide wisdom principles for raising children. Here are some related verses:

1. Proverbs 22:6, "Bring up a child in the way he should go, and he will not depart even when he is old." This verse emphasizes the responsibility of parents to teach their children to follow the right path.
2. Proverbs 29:15, "Rods and rebukes increase wisdom." But the boy who lies puts his mother to shame. This verse reminds parents to use discipline in educating their children and to teach them to be honest.
3. Ephesians 6:4: "Father, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up according to the instruction and admonition of the Lord." This passage emphasizes that parents should love and educate their children under the guidance of the Christian faith.
4. I Kings 1:6, "His father did not anger him all his life, saying, Why hast thou done this?" This verse describes David's treatment of Adonijah, showing the father's love and gentleness toward his son.

Overall, the teachings in the Bible emphasize parental responsibility to educate children to follow the right values and codes of conduct, while emphasizing a balance of love, discipline, and teaching. It urges parents to influence their children by example and to focus on ethical and moral values in their education.

Christians teach that stubborn and rebellious sons should be built on Christian values and teachings while blending love, grace, and wisdom. Here are some suggestions:

**Prayer:** The starting point of Christian teaching should be prayer. Parents should continue to pray for their sons, asking God for wisdom, love, and guidance to help them turn on the right path.

**Love and acceptance:** Unconditional love and acceptance should be expressed to your son. This love fosters trust and creates an environment for open dialogue where the son can share his feelings and concerns.

**Teaching Biblical Principles:** Apply biblical principles to your life and teach your son the right values and standards of behavior. For example, you could cite the Bible's proverbs and commandments to emphasize values such as honesty, respect, love, and humility.

**Gentle discipline:** Discipline is necessary, but it should be done in a gentle and loving manner that avoids angering the son. The Bible speaks of "rods and rebukes that increase wisdom," but parents should remember that this is for the growth and improvement of their sons, not for revenge or punishment.

**A life of role models:** Parents should be role models for their sons, demonstrating Christian values and virtues. Such a way of life is more powerful than verbal instruction and can influence the son's beliefs and behavior.

**Dialogue and understanding:** Parents should listen to their son's opinions and feelings and try to understand his situation and difficulties. Establishing good conversations and communication styles can help solve problems and build relationships.

Emphasis on grace and repentance: Christianity emphasizes God's grace and opportunity for repentance. Parents should convey God's love and forgiveness to their sons, encouraging him to repent of his mistakes and return to the right path.

Most importantly, teaching a son should be based on love and faith, and be persistent. Different sons may have different needs and situations, so parents should tailor their teaching methods to their specific circumstances. Also, consult with the pastor or spiritual mentor of the church for more guidance and support.

Ultimately, the relationship between parents and children is a two-way learning and growth process. While it can be a challenge to face a stubborn and rebellious child, with patience and loving guidance, they may eventually find their own path and become strong and confident individuals.

### We pray

Dear Heavenly Father, I am here, with worry and confusion, to come to you for my Son. I feel helpless, but I believe that your grace and power are limitless.

I pray that you will give me wisdom to help me understand his heart and needs. Help me show true love, regardless of His actions, and let Him know that He is forever accepted in my heart.

Lord, I pray for your guidance to help me teach him with the teachings of the Bible and guide him on the right path. Let your Word be a beacon in his life and help him understand the value of truth, love, and repentance.

Please grant me perseverance because it can be a long journey. Help me to maintain faith that you can do wonderful work in his life.

Lord, I ask for your grace and mercy to find comfort and hope in your love. I believe you love him as much as you love us.

I trust in you and commit my son to you because you are true hope and salvation. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

### Deuteronomy chapter 21

De. 21:1 If a man is found slain, lying in a field in the land the LORD your God is giving you to possess, and it is not known who killed him,

De. 21:2 your elders and judges shall go out and measure the distance from the body to the neighbouring towns.

De. 21:3 Then the elders of the town nearest the body shall take a heifer that has never been worked and has never worn a yoke De. 21:4 and lead her down to a valley that has not been ploughed or planted and where there is a flowing stream. There in the valley they are to break the heifer's neck.

De. 21:5 The priests, the sons of Levi, shall step forward, for the LORD your God has chosen them to minister and to pronounce blessings in the name of the LORD and to decide all cases of dispute and assault.

De. 21:6 Then all the elders of the town nearest the body shall wash their hands over the heifer whose neck was broken in the valley,

De. 21:7 and they shall declare: "Our hands did not shed this blood, nor did our eyes see it done.

De. 21:8 Accept this atonement for your people Israel, whom you have redeemed, O LORD, and do not hold your people guilty of

469 the blood of an innocent man." And the bloodshed will be atoned for.

De. 21:9 So you will purge from yourselves the guilt of shedding innocent blood, since you have done what is right in the eyes of the LORD.

De. 21:10 When you go to war against your enemies and the LORD your God delivers them into your hands and you take captives,

De. 21:11 if you notice among the captives a beautiful woman and are attracted to her, you may take her as your wife.

De. 21:12 Bring her into your home and make her shave her head, trim her nails

De. 21:13 and put aside the clothes she was wearing when captured. After she has lived in your house and mourned her father and mother for a full month, then you may go to her and be her husband and she shall be your wife.

De. 21:14 If you are not pleased with her, let her go wherever she wishes. You must not sell her or treat her as a slave, since you have dishonoured her.

De. 21:15 If a man has two wives, and he loves one but not the other, and both bear him sons but the firstborn is the son of the wife he does not love,

De. 21:16 when he wills his property to his sons, he must not give the rights of the firstborn to the son of the wife he loves in preference to his actual firstborn, the son of the wife he does not love.

De. 21:17 He must acknowledge the son of his unloved wife as the firstborn by giving him a double share of all he has. That son is the first sign of his father's strength. The right of the firstborn belongs to him.

De. 21:18 If a man has a stubborn and rebellious son who does not obey his father and mother and will not listen to them when they discipline him,

De. 21:19 his father and mother shall take hold of him and bring him to the elders at the gate of his town.

De. 21:20 They shall say to the elders, "This son of ours is stubborn and rebellious. He will not obey us. He is a profligate and a drunkard."

De. 21:21 Then all the men of his town shall stone him to death. You must purge the evil from among you. All Israel will hear of it and be afraid.

De. 21:22 If a man guilty of a capital offence is put to death and his body is hung on a tree,

De. 21:23 you must not leave his body on the tree overnight. Be sure to bury him that same day, because anyone who is hung on a tree is under God's curse. You must not desecrate the land the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance

Chapter 21 of the Book of Deuteronomy covers various laws and regulations concerning unresolved murders, treatment of captive women, inheritance rights, and rebellious children. Here is a reflection on some key themes and lessons from this chapter:

**Pursuing Justice for Unresolved Murders:** Moses addresses the situation where a murder has been committed, and the perpetrator is unknown. He emphasizes the importance of the community taking responsibility by conducting a proper investigation and offering atonement for the bloodshed. This highlights the value of seeking justice and reconciliation in cases of unresolved crimes. It prompts us to consider our responsibility in pursuing justice and providing closure to victims and their families.

**Treating Captive Women with Compassion:** Moses provides guidelines for the treatment of captive women during times of war. He acknowledges the reality of war but emphasizes the need for compassion and respect for these women. He allows a specific period for mourning and adjustment before any marital union takes place. This teaches us the importance of treating all individuals with dignity and compassion, even in difficult circumstances. It reminds us of the value of empathy and understanding in addressing the needs of vulnerable individuals.

**Inheritance Rights:** Moses addresses the issue of inheritance rights among multiple wives. He acknowledges the potential for favoritism and the tension that may arise. He establishes guidelines to ensure fair treatment of children, regardless of their birth order or the preferences of their parents. This highlights the importance of justice and fairness in matters of inheritance and family relationships. It prompts us to consider the equitable treatment of all family members and the value of harmonious relationships within the family unit.

**Dealing with a Rebellious Son:** Moses outlines the consequences for a rebellious and disobedient son who persists in his defiance. While the punishment may seem severe, it reflects the importance of maintaining order and discipline within society. This teaches us the significance of discipline and the need for parents to instill values and principles in their children. It reminds us of the responsibility to guide and correct our children, fostering an environment of respect and obedience.

**Honoring Parents:** Moses emphasizes the importance of honoring and respecting parents. He specifically addresses the situation where a son is stubborn and rebellious, highlighting the severity of disrespecting one's parents. This serves as a reminder of the value of honoring and showing gratitude to our parents or those in authority over us. It prompts us to cultivate a spirit of humility, respect, and gratitude in our relationships with parents and authority figures.

**Blood Atonement:** Moses emphasizes the concept of blood atonement to cleanse the land from the guilt of shedding innocent blood. This highlights the importance of recognizing the sanctity of human life and seeking reconciliation and forgiveness for acts of violence. It prompts us to consider the significance of atonement and reconciliation in our relationships with others and with God.

In summary, Deuteronomy 21 prompts reflection on the themes of pursuing justice, treating vulnerable individuals with compassion, ensuring fairness in inheritance, disciplining children, honoring parents, and seeking atonement and reconciliation. These reflections call us to uphold justice, show compassion to the vulnerable, practice fairness and discipline in our relationships, honor and respect our parents, and seek reconciliation and forgiveness in our interactions. They remind us of the value of treating all individuals with dignity and promoting harmony and righteousness within society.

Chapter 21 begins with instructions for what to do if a murder victim is found in a field, and the perpetrator is unknown. The elders and judges are to measure the distance from the victim to the nearest town and determine which town is closest. The elders of that town are then to take a heifer that has never been worked and offer it as a sacrifice to atone for the murder. This ceremony serves to show that the town did not bear responsibility for the murder, and to ask for God's forgiveness.

The chapter also includes several laws related to family relationships. If a man has two wives and loves one more than the other, he is not allowed to give the firstborn son of the unloved wife a double share of the inheritance, but must acknowledge him as his son and provide for him. If a rebellious son refuses to obey his parents, they can bring him before the elders of the town and have him put to death.

The chapter also covers the treatment of female captives of war. If an Israelite soldier takes a woman captive and wishes to marry her, he must first let her mourn for her parents for a month. If, after that time, he still desires to marry her, he can do so, but if he later decides to divorce her, he cannot sell her or treat her as a slave.

Finally, the chapter ends with instructions for dealing with a man who has been executed and hung on a tree. He is to be buried the same day so as not to defile the land that God has given the Israelites.

Overall, Chapter 21 contains a variety of laws related to justice, family relationships, and the treatment of captives of war. These laws reflect the importance of respect for human life and dignity, as well as the need for social order and the honoring of God's land.

Here are some key verses from Chapter 21 of the Book of Deuteronomy in the Christian Bible:

1. "If a man is found slain, lying in a field in the land the Lord your God is giving you to possess, and it is not known who the killer was, your elders and judges shall go out and measure the distance from the body to the neighboring towns." (Deuteronomy 21:1-2)
2. "If you should see among the captives a beautiful woman and are attracted to her, you may take her as your wife." (Deuteronomy 21:11-12)
3. "If a man has a stubborn and rebellious son who does not obey his father and mother and will not listen to them when they discipline him, his father and mother shall take hold of him and bring him to the elders at the gate of his town." (Deuteronomy 21:18-19)
4. "If a man guilty of a capital offense is put to death and his body is hung on a pole, you must not leave his body hanging on the pole overnight. Be sure to bury him that same day, because anyone who is hung on a pole is under God's curse." (Deuteronomy 21:22-23)

These verses cover a variety of topics, including regulations for dealing with unsolved murders, taking wives from among the captives of war, disciplining disobedient children, and proper burial practices for those who have been executed. The chapter emphasizes the importance of justice and respect for human life, as well as the need to honor God's laws and commands..