

Host: Sister Naamah

**Topic:** Marriage, Love, and Blended Families

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#### Sister Naamah

Shalom Sisters Most High and Christ Bless.

Welcome I hope everyone is doing well. Today's class is going to be about Love, Marriage, and Blended families. I chose this topic because many sisters had questions about how to deal with a blended family.

# What is a blended family?

A blended family is when a sister, who already has children, decides to marry a man who is not the father of her kids. He will be the father in the house after they become married. It could also be a husband who has children, and the wife is not the biological mother. They are his children from a past relationship.

A blended family can be when a woman and a man have children prior to the couple getting together. They blend their families, and they all live together. Whether they are visiting children or they all live together, they become a blended family once they become married. Is everyone clear?



Tonight, my icebreaker will be: What is something hard to deal with when it comes to being a part of a blended family?

- Learning to love a kid that is not yours.
- Disobedient children.
- Older kids having to call your husband lord.
- Communication with a disrespectful mother.
- Drama with biological mom or dad.
- Dealing with children's mother
- Differences in discipline.
- ♦ Dealing with children who want their parents back together.
- Dealing with in-laws who say what they want.
- Newly married and dealing with having to call him dad.
- How to handle your lord's child that is not in the truth that comes to visit.
- ♦ Kids going back and forth to a wicked household.
- Prepping your child for a new father figure
- ♦ How to deal with unclean stepchildren.
- Having a problem with other parents disciplining their kids.
- Fear of marrying a man when you have daughters.

I am trying to get an idea of what people are struggling with.

We have sisters here who have blended families and, they have worked out by using the Most High's laws in their homes. This type of situation really needs to be handled with compassion. That's one thing you have to have when you are dealing with a blended family.

You have to have compassion for children that are not our own.

You have to know that you are capable of loving children that you did not give birth to.

You do not have to give birth to a child to love it.

You have to decide consciously, to be an example to this child, to show them love, to be kind, to be affectionate, and to be the example of a righteous woman to them. They may have never seen one.

They may be fighting the process, but you as the adult have to stay focused on the Most Highs laws and apply them in your marriage.

When you take on a man with children, they now become your children.

I don't like to use the word "stepchildren". I refer to them as my children so that they don't feel less than my birth children.

When you blend a family together, I think it should be done in away where people can't even tell which is yours and which are not. Everyone should be treated fairly across the board.



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### Tonight's topic is Love, Marriage, and Blended Families

## 1 Corinthians 14:40 (KJV) Let all things be done decently and in order.

That is the first thing you need to understand when you blend the family, you have to do everything decently and in order.

Your husband is watching because he is trusting you with his children or you are trusting him with your children.

Today, I want to focus on the women.

Women are the nurtures in the home. You have to set up a system that works for all of you, not just your children or, your favorite children.

Whomever it is, you need to come up with a system that is fair and keeps the laws of God first.

Everything must be done decently and in order. So, what would the order be?

- You can have everyone wake up in the morning and pray.
- ♦ Have a breakfast with what everyone likes, not just your children.
- We would take turns in our home.
  - Before going to the store, we would find out what everyone likes, no one feels left out.
  - Whoever is your favorite, is your personal business. It should not be shoved in other people's faces. Do your best to treat them all fair.
  - Be an example.
    - Whether they are older or younger, kids watch.
    - Children are watching your example on how you deal with all the children. They will quickly decide if you are fair.
- ♦ Are you loving?
- ♦ Are you keeping God's laws?

First and foremost, we want to show that we are keeping God's laws. Are we being someone the kids can look up to?

<u>Titus 2:3-4 (KJV)</u> The aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things [4] That



they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children,

The scripture says for the aged women to teach the young women how to love their children.

Subconsciously, you may show favoritism, or you may treat the ones you did not give birth to differently.

That is the first thing that we need to focus on. We want to try and treat all children fairly.

He is entrusting that you will be good to all his children, birth mother or not. It is a big part in why he married you, he thinks you will make a decent mom.

Be an example of a Proverbs 31 woman.

**1 Timothy 4:12 (KJV)** Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

The Scripture says be an example with our words.

Be respectful to our children.

Be an example of what respect looks like to all the children.

Don't be cussing and belittling the kids.

Teach the kids. Communicate with them. Keep the lines of communication open.

 If there is something you don't like, make it clear to them; let them know with respect.

The scriptures say, in your communication talk daily and be respectful.

Talking sideways and street to the kids is *not* a good example of a virtuous woman.

- The scripture says, in her mouth is the law of kindness.
- ♦ If you are not giving them any respect then, when they get older, they won't give you respect.
- You lead by example.

I tried my best not to curse in my home at any of my children because I just don't think it will build their sprits.

Try to communicate what you like and what you don't like.

You may have to set up monthly or weekly meetings to let each child know how they're doing, and what's expected of them in the home.



- Your expectation with chores
- Your expectation of behavior with the adults

They have to respect their elders. You have to teach that.

Question: What do I mean by respecting you elders?

- ◆ Teach them not to roll their eyes
- ♦ Don't raise their voices at an elder

Even if they are wrong, you still teach them what is pleasing to the Most High.

The Most High gave parents the authority over the children.

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**Ecclesiasticus 3:8 (Apocrypha)** Honor thy father and mother, both in word and deed, that a blessing may come upon thee from them.

The Lord says, you have to teach your children in a blended family to honor their father and mother, even if she is not the biological mother.

Children are very smart, and when they go to school, they have certain rules.

When they come home to your home, you have to sit them down and go over the rules.

This is a new place for them, a new home, what's common sense to you is not common sense to everyone.

What's done person's home may not be done in another person's home.

We want to make sure that when the children come to our home that we make it clear the expectations, don't just expect them to know.

Children mess up, expect it, and keep practicing with them.

Make sure to sit down with them, have daily meetings and communicate the laws of God.

- Repeat the rules to them over and over; to honor thy father and mother, both in words and good deeds.
- You have to explain to them what deeds are. They are your doings.

You cannot tell the child one thing and then do the opposite; we have to teach them.

Some children don't know what honor is.

- They know about talking back.
- ♦ They know about being rude.
- They know about being disrespectful.

You have to teach them they cannot roll their eyes when speaking to an adult. Tell them to:



- "Say the sentence again without rolling your eyes".
- "Say the sentence again without sucking your teeth".

You have to teach.

The scripture says, train up a child in the way they should go.

You may be the only righteous woman that child ever met.

- The world is not pushing for the kids to be righteous.
- The world is not pushing for the children to honor their parents.

Don't get mad or bitter with them. Don't show malice towards them when they weren't taught.

- Worldly women are not teaching them.
- The movies are not teaching them.
- Nothing is teaching them.

The Most High raised up a group of Israelite women who were called back to the heavenly father and we are going to teach it to the children.

We are ordained to teach it to the children.

The children are be taught with love and compassion, and with a lot of patience, mercy, and forgiveness.

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**Ecclesiasticus 3:2 (Apocrypha)** For the Lord hath given the father honor over the children, and hath confirmed the authority of the mother over the sons.

You have to teach the children that the father has to be honored whether they be a stepfather or whether they are a stepmother.

Sit with your husband first talk to him about what you want to lay out to the children.

Always go to him first, especially if they are his children from a previous relationship.

Both of the parents can go over the likes and dislikes, and then eventually take it to the children.

Children will behave a certain when they are in school, after school, when they go to the doctor's office, and even when they visit their wicked parent's house.

It's important to lay down the law and make it clear when they come back home to a righteous home.

Children adapt really quick when it comes to someone else's home. These are the rules whether you come to visit, or if you are coming here to live. You are expected to the God's commandments.

Children do not rule. They are all going to honor the father and give authority of the mother over the children.



<u>Proverbs 22:15 (KJV)</u> Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child: but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him.

The Lord says foolishness is going to come in abundance with children.

Don't get mad at them, foolishness is bound in the heart of a child.

- ♦ Some of them are going to lie.
- Some of them are going to steal.
- Some of them are going to covet.
- Some of them will be disrespectful with their mouth.
- Some of them will try to smoke.
- Some of them will try to do the boyfriend or girlfriend thing.

We as women of God have to teach them why it's wrong.

You have to study up so that can train them.

God says,

- ♦ Smoking: your body is a temple do not defile it.
  - All we can do is teach the kids. We can't determine if one day when they turn 20, they are going to follow this, but our job is to train them.
- Lie: lie not one to another.
  - o If you catch the child lying, ask them what the scripture say about lying.
  - o Sit them down, take them to the scriptures and, let them read it out loud.
  - Explain to them what it means and tell them if they are not to lie to anyone. No one is going to trust you. You need to move in a way where you get self-respect by what you do.

If you see the child is struggling, you can pray with the child, you can fast with your child.

I remember when my oldest daughter liked a young man that I did not think was a good fit for her. He just was not what I was looking for as a righteous young man. I was like girl, we got to fast him out your system. She was like, mommy I dream about him. I said girl, No!

I remember coming home after fasting for her for one week. I asked her how it was going, and she said she still thought about him. So, I said, lets fast again. I fasted every Friday until one day she was like, "mom I didn't even think about him." I was like good. All Praises!

I'm telling you, it takes a level of compassion, a level of honesty with your kids.

Children spend eight hours a day, 40 hours a week with ungodliness. They are going to pick up some evil stuff.



You have a strong mom in the home who is going to bring you back to righteousness when you get home.

You need to be asking them about peer pressures daily. "Did anyone tell you anything bad"?

You have to erase all the evil that they learned from being in the world and fill them with the laws of God.

<u>Deuteronomy 6:7 (KJV)</u> And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

Diligent means taking your time and really making sure they understand why certain things are wrong and what is right.

Exhort them when they do something right. Let them know you see their progress.

Let them know you see them and are proud of them.

If they were honest for one week out of fifty, tell them that you are proud of them. Exhort that child to want to continue to do better.

Some people only talk to the kids when they are doing wrong, but do you exhort them when they are doing right?

Lord says even when you are walking down the street, teach them.

That young lady is dressed like a whore.

That young man is selling drugs to his people.

Tell them why it's evil.

Tell them they can end up in jail or, that God can send judgment on you, even death.

It is evil to not love your own people.

The scriptures say you have to teach them when you are walking by the way, when you are standing at the bus stop, when you are waiting on a train, and when you lay down at night.

Talk to your children, even in blended families.

My husband's oldest daughter came to live with us. I used to let her sleep in my bed every night because her dad worked at night. She thought that was so weird. I would hug and kiss her. I would study with her because she was not good at math. She'd say, "maybe if you were my mom, I would be smarter". I was like, I am your mom, and you are smart. I am just going to tap into what you already got. When she did great on the test, I would take her out to eat and celebrate!



So, I'm showing you that although I didn't give birth to her, I still love her. His children are now my children. That's how it goes.

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You have to love them to your soul.

So, my stepdaughter, the eldest one; I am going to stay stepdaughter, so you know what's going on. She would come over and she would wake up and not say anything. I would say, "Am I here? Maybe I'm invisible". She would wake up and walk right past me. I had never seen anything like that before. So, I would wait for her to come out of the bathroom and say "Good Morning, how are you? How did you sleep?" After a couple of days of it, she would be like "Dad is she really like this every day?" Yes! I told her that, when you wake in the morning, you say Shalom, Most High and Christ Blessed.

I told her, you should say good morning, it shows respect. That's what we are going to do while we are here. I am going to respect you and you have to respect me. She was like "ok", and I said give me a kiss. She said, 'give you a kiss"? I said, yes. We have to show love to each other. She was like, "Oh my god this is so gay". I said, no I am married, I am not gay. I am married to your dad, so what we are going to do is, hug and kiss and, we are going to start our day beautifully.

You have to set the example.

You have to set the tone.

It was weird for her; she was not like that with her mom.

But I told her, in my house we are going to do things in a way that might be different.

I am going to show you love and respect.

I could have had attitude about the way she was acting. But where is that going to get me? I am being evil back.

I will set the example. That's what being a virtuous woman is about setting an example of what righteousness looks like.

Maybe her mother was not taught right, so for me to throw shots at her and her mother, is evil.

This is part of your responsibility when you get married to a man with children.

You married him so his children become yours.

You are going to deal with them with patience and kindness and long suffering.

They are going to do lots of things the way you might like when you didn't birth them. You didn't raise them. You have to act it out until you get it.

If the child was acting rude, turn off the TV and deal with the disrespect right then.

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Let's talk about eye rolling.

I did not roll my eyes at you; you don't roll your eyes at me. Express your feelings like a young lady, or like a young man.

We have to teach the children how to talk.

Maybe they've never been listened to before and everyone shuts them out.

You have to tell them, "I want to hear what you have to say".

Go over scriptures to show them how to express themselves.

Is everyone clear on what I am saying?

If children will follow the commandments after they move out on their own, how the behave is not up to the parents.

Our job is to set the foundation. As long as you have a clear conscience towards God that you taught them, and have an example of a righteous woman, you set the standard.

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Foolishness is in the heart of the child.

- They may still want to break the Sabbath.
- ◆ They might want to talk back.
- They might want to dress provocatively.
- ♦ They might want to sell drugs.

You really have to sit with these kids and find out what's going on in their heads.

This is what we do as a blended family.

We sit down and explain things over and over again.

We tell them what the repercussions will be if you do not listen.

Don't cry because the Most High is judging you.

You have to teach them about judgement.

The Most High gives you time to fix yourself. If you don't fix yourself, the Most High will deal with you.

All children blended or not blended, let's move as family.

Let's show love.

Let's build the foundation with respect, kindness, gentleness, peacefulness, the fruits of the spirit.

♦ If the child is raising their voice at you, show them that a soft answer turneth away wrath.



- Disrespecting me talking loudly may cause me to go somewhere I did not want to go.
- o Now, we are fighting and arguing. Now people are getting kicked out.
- o To keep the respect, we are going to keep our voices down.
- o I am not going to interrupt you in your speech; I am going to listen.

Compassion is when you listen to a person's problem, and you answer according to the problem.

Give them a scripture for their problem.

Over talking is not permitted this generation does not know.

That is why the scripture says rise up you women that are at ease.

We have got work to do. We got a lot of work to do for the children, our children, and the stepchildren.

If you teach God's laws and loving all the kids and being kind. I pray the kids will continue what is taught.

We are trying to build a nation.

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Mistreating a child is not beneficial.

Showing malice towards a child for no reason, that is evil.

If you don't like the sin, teach them.

Do not speak negative to a stepchild about their mother, that is not going to benefit anyone. Don't belittle her or knock her.

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I am going to share another story.

When my stepdaughter came to live with me, she didn't like me because all of the things her mother said about me. She couldn't stand me when she first came, but now she loves me more than her own mother.

I didn't care what her mother said about me. I was there to set an example of right and wrong. I was there to love her from my soul. I told her if it's ok with you, let's not use the word stepdaughter and stepmother. Let's use mom, and she said it was cool.

I made her comfortable and we moved on from there. I didn't look at her as a stepchild, I look at her as a part of him. I love him and I love her. That's it how it goes for me. I'm treated her with love as if I birthed her.

I was like, are you ready, she said, I'm ready. So, we did it.

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It is all about the mindset and the attitude.

If you act like the children are a burden, they will feel it.

When you have stepchildren, as a mother, you are starting over from scratch. When you take in a child that is not yours, expect them not to know anything.

The children were not raised in the scriptures. So, tell them,

- We are going to keep the Sabbath holy.
- We are going to keep the laws of the Most High
- ♦ We will not lie to one another.
- We will not steal.
- We will honor your father and mother.

We will expect them to fall, and we will be right there to lift them up. Like a baby learning to first walk, they drop down and we help them back up.

It's like that with blended families. You have got to take your time with them.

It's a process. They are not going to get it overnight. They are going to have a lot of negative on them, and you have to teach them the right way. Everyone clear?

If you are not sincere, loving them from you own heart, it will not work.

If you don't like them, they can feel it. It's not going to work.

If you are going out of your way to show them that you don't care for them and you are doing for the other kids, it's not going to work.

They are going to have resentment, they are going to feel pain, they are going to be upset.

I went shopping one time and I had enough money to buy my daughter a chain set. My stepdaughter did not have enough to purchase one. I told the man selling the chains that unless you can give me two for the price of one, or I am leaving here with no chains. I am not leaving with one daughter getting something and the other not. I just don't move like that. She looked at me like, oh my god, you really do love me.

I try to be fair across the board.

I am just trying to show you how little things we do make children feel just as loved.

You do not have to give birth to a child to love it.

Some people are mean to little kids. They are nasty and they're rude.

You may have a lot of things you are already dealing with, so the child just feels like a burden.

Guess what? The Most High sent that child to you for you to work on you, for you to love on them and teach them His laws.



**Ephesians 6:4 (KJV)** And ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

We have to bring them up in the admonition of the Lord.

This is not our program ladies; this is the Most High's program. Keep that at the forefront.

If your husband has sons, one or all of those children could be prophets. If he has daughters; they could be our foremothers coming back. We don't know.

We need to be good to all the children and teach them all.

You may be shocked, the stepchildren might be the ones to take care of you when you are old, and your own will not help.

The bottom line is, setting the right foundation with God's laws, statutes, and commandments.

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Show them what a virtuous woman looks like. Scripture say, who can find a virtuous woman, for her price is far above rubies.

<u>Proverbs 31:10-11(KJV)</u> Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above Rubies [11] The heart of her husband doeth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil.

Your husband's heart [his heart is his mind], can safely trust in you.

Do parents have favorites? they do, but guess, what the Lord has favorites.

The Most High said I send rain to the just those who keep the commandments and the people who don'. Everybody gets a chance. Everybody got some compassion from the Most High.

Until we wake up, he is trying to send us his word. He is given us a chance.

It's the same thing with stepchildren, you may have children that are falling.

They may not be well versed in the laws, or they don't keep them as well as the others.

But guess what, we can still exhort them to good works, exhort them daily.

To our black boys, people are not building them up, we have to build them up; we have to exhort them. Don't just have them by themselves.

In my house, if I hear my boys answers a scripture my husband throws out, I come running out clapping.



Let me find out you are studying. Yes, you are a black man who's righteous. And they will be like, "really mom", I'll be like yes, I am super proud of you.

So, that is how they know that I think highly of them for learning God's laws.

Even our daughters, if they try to cook and it's good, I tell them how amazing the food is. "You are a virtuous woman in the making".

You will have to build these children up to love being in God's word.

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<u>Proverbs 31:26 (KJV)</u> She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness.

Some women are just rude.

I don't know if rude is the new norm, but they are really nasty.

Instead of saying to the child "mind your business", you could say "Honey I need you to take a seat over there, grown-ups are talking".

We can be an example of righteousness. In her tongue is the law of kindness.

She speaks kinds to her husband and her children.

I'm not saying don't be firm with the kids, but we know the difference between firm and ratchet.

We know the difference between being firm and throwing shade.

"Stop eating so much, that is why you are fat now".

That is terrible, that's a terrible way to talk to a child.

You can go over nutrition facts with them.

There is a way to teach them without belittling our Black children, our Hispanic children, and our Native American children.

She opens her mouth with wisdom and in her tongue is the law of kindness, be kind.

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<u>Proverbs 31:28 (KJV)</u> Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her.

Mom is teaching them the commandments, because she is a good example of what they are reading and what they are seeing.

We need to show them that what they read is what you become.

Your children will rise up and say how blessed they are to have this mom.

They are blessed to be blended in this family.



- ♦ She helped me with my homework.
- ♦ She had the patience to teach me to read.
- She had the patience to teach me math and science.
- She taught me the commandments.
- ♦ She showed me with love when I went wrong.
- ♦ She always patient and longsuffering with me.
- ♦ She never gave up on me.

That's a part of parenthood. Until they are 20, we are accountable for them.

We can't give up.

We have to keep being an example to them.

The sisters who are in blended families, and regular women who are married with children, are we setting the right example in our home daily?

Are we disrespecting our husbands at home?

If we disrespect our husbands, the kids will never respect him if mom doesn't respect him. That is terrible.

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Sister Naamah: Shalom Sis Most High and Christ Bless

Sister loanna: Shalom love Most High and Christ Bless

**Sister Naamah:** I wanted you to explain a little bit about your blended family to the sisters, so they hear from another perspective.

You had children before you married Captain Barnabas.

Your children were a little bit older, so I wanted to know what were some of the morals and values you laid on the table to let the children know what they needed to do to make that transition?

**Sister Ioanna:** When I was proving Captain Barnabas, he was an Officer of 10 and my youngest was 7, my second oldest was 13 and, I had a 20-year-old.

Before we started proving, I sat them down and talked to them. Bishop Nathanyel and Bishop Kani brought us together. I went to my kids and got their input. My daughter and the 7-year-old were all in. But my 13-year-old was reserved.

Prior to coming into the truth, I was married for 17 years. I was in the process of a divorce. When I came into the truth the divorce papers were in, not signed, just in. So, I talked to my kids and asked what their thoughts were.

While we were proving he would talk to my kids. Once I got married, my daughter, who is no longer in the truth, left when she was 25. My lord and I would have arguments and my sons wouldn't say anything. My lord would chastise my sons, and I would watch the



whole situation, then go talk to them. I would say, "did he say anything wrong?" and they would say, no. I would say what is your attitude? And they would say that they didn't like the way he talked to me. I would explain to them that he is from the tribe of Benjamin. My husband didn't know, all he knew is that I would go behind him and talk to our sons without any explanation to him. He did not like that.

At one point, my lord did not like Caleb's haircut, and he went off. So, my counselor was Sister Shamara, and she would tell me what to do with them. It is very important to have a counselor. It is very important to have discipline with your kids. This is the man that the Most High gave me to be my husband. This is your father now. Caleb loved his haircut, and my lord could not stand it, and jumped in Caleb's ass. Caleb came to me, and I didn't know what to do. I don't like being in the middle of stuff like that, so I called Sister Shamara and I was very distraught because I love my sons. I love my husband and I love my sons. She said, Caleb and Barnabas should have a relationship. Have Caleb go talk to your lord and say that he really like this haircut. I did. I told him that I know it may upset you but don't come to me anymore about any disputes. If this is something you really want, you need to fight for it. Go talk to him one-on-one and that's that. He was looking at me like I was crazy, because usually I would fight his battles.

I really appreciated Sister Shamara for that. I told him he needs to start establishing a relationship with his dad. He can't come to me so I can talk to my lord for him. So even to this day if there is something going on, he will come talk to me and I will say you need to go talk to your father.

We have never done the stepfather thing. My lord has daughters that are in Jamaica. He told me that I didn't think about his daughters in Jamaica. That really cut me to my heart. The next year he was really busy so, I went and bought everything that I know they needed. I put it in a backpack and said Hey, here is their things for school.

He has a daughter named Angel, when she got older, she would call me. He didn't know this, but she and a couple of his other daughters would contact me on Facebook every now and then. They liked what we are doing.

You can't intervene in your kids' lives all the time. If I see that my sons are being disrespectful to my lord, I will go to them and let them know that I didn't like the way they handled themselves. I just wanted peace in my home. They should have their own relationship with their father.

I want my lord to tell his perspective of a blended family and how we all came together.

On that note, here is Captain Barnabas.

Mama Naamah: All Praises! Thank you. Shalom Captain Barnabas

**Captain Barnabas:** Shalom Sister Naamah what are you talking about today?

**Sister Naamah:** We just want to hear about your experience and expertise on blended families. What you feel works when you are blending a family together.

**Captain Barnabas:** I am going to speak from my experience. When I first met her, it was long distance. These two boys came into my life and there were no problems. The



only problem was they wanted to go to mama for everything. Everything I say, they responded with, MOM. I said no, I have never seen anything like that. Whatever I said to them, they go to mom. I don't know what that was about. I never got any disrespect. I told her, if they ever disrespect, they will have to go live with their father. By dealing with them personally they started to grow to know me, and I started growing to know them too. What I see are two beautiful kids. If you have a wife and she is not trying to help you with the kids, as a man she is not in the right spirit.

I am talking to you sisters. You have to have the kids show your husband respect. Trust me, it's not what you say, it is what you want them to do. Sometimes you can say things the nice way and they still don't do it. I like my kitchen clean; she knows that. It is the only thing I ask is that the house is clean. She knows I like my area clean, and I help out in certain areas.

But the one thing I can say to you sisters, if you are going to take a man and you will be bringing children to the relationship that are not his, you need to start rehearsing the righteous acts. Start to teach them, so when they come into the man's life, it will make it easier for you and him. You have to start early. It's not going to work if you start teaching when you first come together.

I hope you all got something from what I said. Start getting counsel before you come together. Peace.

Mama Naamah: All Praises. Thank you both.

**Sister loanna:** All praises. As a mom, I know you go to bat for your kids. But when you become one with your lord, you have to pull away from that. Even if you feel that your lord is wrong, you don't go to your kids and say that Dad was wrong. You don't go to your lord and say that he is wrong.

There was a situation that happened, my lord being Jamaican, his mindset is a certain way. It was when my daughter left the truth, and I asked my lord if I should take her pictures down. He said no because she will eventually come and visit her brothers and her sisters. If she does not see her pictures up, she is going to feel like she is not loved. When she comes back to visit, I want her to see that those pictures are still on the wall. That was wisdom. That is what made me respect my lord 100% more than I already did.

My son's father is in their lives. They have learned to balance both situations, and they understand he is wicked and in the world. It is in the divorce decree that they go spend every other wicked holiday with their father. Now that they are older, last year Caleb did not want to go. I told him I am not getting in the middle of that, you need to talk to him yourself.

Caleb told him that he did not want to go. It was our High Holy day and he wanted to be with his friends. I got called and was cussed out. I let him know I had nothing to do with it. That is between him and his sons.

Now, if you see your kids are being disrespected then, that's when you jump in, not right away. Let your lord handle it, then you talk to them.



Caleb was all in. He was like, Officer Barnabas is going to be my dad, yes! But Azariah was like, I'm not calling him dad. My lord had a talk with him. I don't know what he said but after that talk, I didn't have the same problems I had with him anymore.

I know my kids are not going to be disrespectful. I will put my foot all up in that 6'7" ass, regardless of my 5'4" stature. They will not disrespect any adult.

Mama Naamah: Thank you so much!!!

I really appreciate you both. I really appreciate you Sis. Love you guys, hugs, and kisses to the whole family.

I wanted to show you from a perspective where Sister Ioanna had children, but they were not her lord's children. She trained them and disciplined them to speak up for themselves and made sure they were applying the commandments. When something is wrong, she kept the lines of communication open and keeps the respect.

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I'm going to do my job and teach you how to be a young woman.

- How to carry yourself.
- ♦ How to get an education.
- How to learn these laws.
- ♦ How to get a job.
- ♦ How to take care of yourself.

You don't have to render evil for evil.

You don't have to strive with these kids.

You have to care enough to want to work it out.

You have to put love, time, and patience in or, they are they going to end up falling.

They are going to fall 1000 times. Remember, the scriptures says foolishness is in the heart of a child.

The Most High sent you. God said he will not give you more than you can bear.

You can handle it. If you love your husband and he loves you, you can work together.

I didn't go through her dad when she was acting up, I went straight to her. I would always start with, "you know I love you right? There's nothing we can't talk about".

I am just showing you, if you take on a blended family you have to be willing to put in the work, and it is work. In a blended family you need to stay focused.

<u>Ecclesiasticus 33:19 (Apocrypha)</u> Give not thy son, and wife, thy brother and friend power over thee while thou livest, and give not thy goods to another, lest it repent thee: and thou intreat for the same again.



Don't give you kids power over you. Your children should not be bossing you.

If you have a blended family, you set the rules. You decide what the repercussions are going to be.

For the little ones, you might give them a spanking. For older ones, you may take away an activity, be in the scriptures, or fasting.

You and your husband need to be on the same page, that is important for parenting.

I would always go to my husband before I talked to his daughter and let him know this is what she did this is how I am going to handle it. I made sure he was ok with how I was going to handle it. He would give the go ahead. He trusted me to handle it.

When my husband came home, we would be alright, loving each other. I was going to hug her and kiss her until she spoke. That was my motto. We family. I'm stuck with you, and you are stuck with me, and we love each other.

People who argue still love each other. People who fight still love each other. People who don't see eye to eye will use the Bible and figure it out. And we still love each other. That is what we do as family. We don't give up on each other. We keep fixing it until it's perfect.

The scripture says, don't give your children power over you.

They are bossing you around. They are breaking the laws. They are disrespecting your husband. Your husband is letting them disrespect you.

Don't give your children the power. You are supposed to be ruling over them.

Your children are not your friends. I told my kids we can be friends when you are in your own house paying your own rent.

<u>Hebrews 3:13 (KJV)</u> But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day, least any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

Exhort one another daily.

Learn what their strengths and weaknesses are. Every child has a set of weaknesses, so you have to build them up.

When you see them making little positive changes, exhort them. Tell them, I liked the way you went and studied the scriptures on your own, you are maturing.

**Romans 12:10 (KJV)** Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love, in honor preferring one another.

The lord says, be kindly affectionate with each other, even the children.

The lord sent you children you didn't give birth to. Teach them. Help them.

If we don't help them:

♦ Drugs



- ♦ Guns
- ♦ Sex
- Unwanted pregnancies
- Catching diseases

The Most High summoned you to try and help them avoid these things, to deal with sin.

It's our job to be a Proverbs 31 woman and be an example to the people that are without the scriptures.

It says be kindly affectionate and prefer those that keep the laws.

That does not mean hate them.

That doesn't mean be jealous of the kids.

My kids ask me who is my favorite. My answer is always, "the one who keeps the commandments is my favorite". Everyone is trying to keep the commandments because everyone wants to be the favorite.

<u>James 3:17-18 (KJV)</u> But the wisdom that is from above, is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy, and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. [18] And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace, of them that make peace.

Pure means that it is not mixed with evil. When you are in a blended family, you cannot be evil to these kids.

Don't be just nasty, mean and evil to them.

The lord said, if you have wisdom from above, it is pure.

You have to purely help them from your heart and from your soul.

You have to want your family to work. You have to want to love these children.

What does love mean? 1 John 5:3. Not hugs and kisses.

I'm talking about love in the bible, keep the commandments. You have to want to teach them the commandments.

As a parent you need to be peaceful.

You have to be gentle with their spirits.

Don't knock them every minute.

Don't tell them they are never going to amount nothing.

Your mother wasn't nothing. Your father wasn't nothing. You are not going to be nothing. That is evil speech.



They have their whole lives ahead of them to become something special. To become a man of God, to become a woman of God, that is special enough.

The children shouldn't feel like you are not easy to be intreated. They shouldn't feel like,

- ♦ She's going to cuss me out
- ♦ She don't like me
- ♦ She's not going to feed me
- ♦ She's going to hide the food

Just evil little stuff that people do when they don't like somebody.

Don't do that to the children, be fair.

The scripture says be full of mercy and full of forgiveness.

The Most High gives a lot of forgiveness. Fast and pray with them. Pray the Most High removes the spirit of lying, please remove the spirit of covetousness from him.

We have got work to do.

Don't be a hypocrite and allow partiality with the children. Letting some kids sin, and then the other ones you don't say anything. That's evil. The Lord says, if you are full of wisdom, you will not be partial and you will not be a hypocrite.

Treat them fair. That's how we move as virtuous women.

We have to make peace.

Romans 12:18 (KJV) If it be possible, as much as lyeth in you, live peaceably with all men.

It's going to take everything in you to deal with these kids.

They are going to get on your nerves.

They are going to try and pull you out the spirit.

He said with everything that lyeth in you, do your best to live peaceably with them. Not arguing, fist fighting, or cussing them out.

He said as much as lyeth in you because sometimes, it takes all you have.

The Most High sent them to you for you to have patience, peacefulness, and gentleness.

He sent them to you to be diligent about teaching them. Relax time is up.

The scripture says arise ye women that are at ease. Ease time is up, we got work to do.

Our children are the future, we have a lot of work to do until Christ returns.



<u>1 Peter 3:8 (KJV)</u> Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous,

**Patience definition:** The capacity to accept or tolerate delay, trouble, or suffering without getting angry or upset.

You have to be able to deal with trouble and suffering.

You have to deal with different situations without getting angry.

You as the woman of the house, the nurturer, if you are getting to a place where you are super upset, you need to pray for patience with these children. Ask the Most High for patience.

**Synonyms for patience:** Tolerance, forbearance, self-restraint, kindness, tranquility, perseverance.

You need to keep going and going and still remain calm.

You need temperance, diligence, and to be even tempered.

You need to know how to control your temper when dealing with the situations.

When you have a blended family, you have to develop patience.

The scripture says be ye an example.

**Definition of Example**: A person or thing regarded in terms of their fitness to be imitated or the likelihood of their being imitated.

People are going to follow your example and imitate you.

- ♦ Are you being an example of a virtuous woman?
- Is your mouth full of peacefulness, gentleness, and kindness?
- Are you studying with the kids?

The scriptures say the righteous studied to answer.

Are you putting on a class and sitting down with them until the class finishes?

We're not listening to the radio; we are listening to a class. The scripture says faith comes by hearing.

If you really want these kids to learn, you have to give them an example to go by.

Are you being the example you can be?

**Synonyms for Example:** lead, guide, model, pattern, blueprint, template, standard, role model

- Are you leading and guiding the kids?
- Are you the model that they are fashioning themselves after?

If you never study, and you never apply, why do you think they are going to apply?



If you don't honor daddy, they are not going to honor daddy.

If you don't dress modest, the girls won't dress modest.

If you want to hit and scream, the kids are going to fight each other.

What king of example are you setting forth?

There was a question about what if the parent is not in the truth?

We are not here for them. Let the father deal with that situation. You just worry about what goes on in your house. Set the rules and everyone abides by them together.

**Definition of Long Suffering**: having or showing patience in spite of troubles, especially those caused by other people.

You have to have patience for problems caused by these children.

Show patience and stay calm despite what they do.

If they lie, steal, covet, or they are being disrespectful, you still have to show patience.

They may be repeat offenders, you have to keep showing them.

The scripture says train up a child.

The Most High sent us these children to train them. We have to set the foundation and train them with love, compassion, patience, and long suffering.

**Joshua 24:15 (KJV)** And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

As for me and my house we will serve the Lord.

Make it clear to the whole blended family, no matter where you came from, in this house we are going to keep God's commandments. That is the law in this house.

If they don't want to serve and they have another place to live, then you speak with your lord and y'all figure that out.

Make sure that the kids understand, in this house we will serve the Lord.

We are not going to have you in our house sinning.

Did anyone have a question you wanted to ask?



**DOS Tech Team**: I got a question in the chat. How did you feel sharing when they were young and unclean, how did you deal with that?

Mama Naamah: How did I feel about what?

**DOS Tech Team:** I guess the kids going back and forth, I think this was from when Sister Ioanna was talking.

**Mama Naamah**: We can't control what people do in other people's homes. We can control what the kids do when they get to your home.

If they are wearing pants, they are going to put on a skirt with fringes and a border of blue.

They won't be eating shrimp, crab, pork, and lobster, because those are unclean foods.

They are going to understand that in this house we go by rules, we are not just doing anything.

Now if they live with the other parent, there is nothing we can do about that.

**Question:** How do you deal with little boys who are more stubborn?

**Mama Naamah:** You have to set up the rules in your house. The child breaks the law you have to have a way that both parents decide to deal with him.

Are you going to take something away, or are you going to whoop him? Is he young enough to chastise? You and your lord have to decide how you're going to deal with the rebellion in the house. When you take things away, it upsets them. If my sons misbehave, I take away their video games, or their cell phone. You have to decide what the consequences will be.

**Question:** How do you introduce your child to their new father even if your lord does not have children of his own?

**Mama Naamah:** Like Captain Barnabas and Sister Ioanna said, speak to them before he even comes on the scene.

Show them the scriptures on marriage. The person would have to follow Christ. There is a brother that I am proving, I like him, and I would like to make him a part of the family. If he meets the criteria of a godly man, I would like to eventually marry him.

This is what is expected of you.

- ♦ I would like you to be respectful.
- I would like for you to communicate with him if something is wrong.,
- ◆ I would like for you to not suck your teeth and don't be disrespectful to adults.

You have to set the rules as to how they should behave. Let them know what the consequences will be if they don't follow the rules. Like sister loanna said, her children will not disrespect her lord or any adult, she is not having it.



Children should know their place and be quiet. They should not be in adults faces even if they think the adult is wrong. Children should not usurp authority over adults.

**Question:** If you have a child that decided to leave the home because they didn't want to follow the commandments, do you still reach out to them and teach them?

**Mama Naamah**: No. If they left the house that means they don't want to learn. They are living with ungodly people. Wait until they are ready to come back, and when they are ready to hear. If they don't want to hear, I would leave them where they are.

**Question:** How do you deal with half siblings, having healthy relationships, having jealousy and being mean to each other and not wanting the baby to get attention?

**Mama Naamah:** Make them feel included. You want to say thing to exhort the older siblings and make them feel special. Ask if they would like to change the baby or feed the baby. Maybe ask them to read to the baby. You make them feel special, so they won't feel jealous. You may even take the older siblings out one-on-one without the baby and show them special love that day.

**Question:** At what point in the proving process do you introduce your child to speak to your future lord? After betrothal, or soon in the process like 10 months or a year.

**Mama Naamah:** Before the betrothal. Betrothal is when you stand up in front of the congregation. I would definitely want to do it before to see if he still wants to be betrothed after he meets the kids. Definitely before that time. Only you know how soon because you need to make sure that he is keeping the commandments. When you are comfortable and you feel he's keeping the commandments, you can ask the leadership in your state.

**Question:** How to deal with a court order, not allowing step kids to attend Sabbath or anything religious and having to miss every other Sabbath to stay and watch them?

**Mama Naamah**: You and your lord will have to figure out what to do. Maybe you take turns on who will stay home and watch them and who will go to class. I don't really know what's in that court order. You guys can watch from home, or you can go over scriptures at home. You can still share information with them. Communication is key.

**Question:** How do you deal with a sister in the congregation that always makes jokes about her stepdaughter in front of the other kids. The sisters call her stepdaughter "zero and other things. Her stepdaughter has very low self-esteem. I spoke to her a couple of months ago about it, but things didn't change.

**Mama Naamah**: She just needs to go over with the sister how to exhort the young lady daily. The Most High commands us to teach the younger women about the scriptures. That's not right the way to be speaking according to the Most High.

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Aniyah from the house of Captain Gideon is back. I know that you've dealt with a blended family and wanted your perspective on how you got your sons ready for your husband who is now the lord in your house.



**Sister Aniyah:** Shalom everyone MHNCB. My lord and my son were already establishing their own relationship. My son really loved him and took a liking to him and, my lord did as well. I ask my lord now, if took a liking to my son because he had his eye on me, wink, wink. It really is important for them to establish a relationship before you even get involved. Like Sister Naamah said, you never just want to jump in and then they begin thinking, what the heck is going on.

You have to do what works best for your family. You have to stay in the scriptures and allow the scriptures to guide you. Make sure that the man and your family are all on one accord. And, that your lord is leading righteously according to the scriptures. We stay consistent doing what we, as parents need to do, and that is being that example for our children.

**Mama Naamah**: Thank you. If you look at your blended family as a burden, like it's a problem and annoying, then that's how you are going to respond. But if you look at it like I am going to take this challenge on and do my best with all the kids. Your example matters.

<u>Matthew 5:19 (KJV)</u> Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall doe, and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

The Most High said if you are in your house and you have broken the least commandment on purpose, you are teaching children that it is ok to break the commandments, he said you are going to be called the least.

We really need to take it serious about teaching the children and being an example for them. We have to guide them. If we do the commandments and teach them to the children, he is going to call us great.

Don't look at it as if there is no reward for teaching the children, there is a reward for teaching the children. He will consider you great in the kingdom of God.

<u>Matthew 18:6 (KJV)</u> But who so shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the Sea.

The Most High said it is better to drown yourself in the ocean than to offend one of his little ones. That's why I keep telling y'all, you don't know who these children are, they could be prophets who came back. They could be one of our foremothers. The Most High said if you offend one of his little ones, it is better if you kill yourself in the ocean.

Be careful how you are treating these kids, the Most High is watching, and his angels are keeping account of what you are doing.



<u>1 Corinthians 12:23 (KJV)</u> And those members of the body, which we think to be less honourable, upon these we bestow more abundant honour; and our uncomely parts have more abundant comeliness.

Even the people you think you're giving less honor he said, give extra honor. You may think this child is no good and that they'll never be anything, the Most High said honor them anyway; teach them anyway and help them anyway.

Video: Black Love: David and Tamela | How We Blended Our Family

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0j7NaP14nQY

I hope everyone understood what being in a blended family means. Everyone should feel loved and appreciated, and everybody should feel like family.

People from the outside should not be able to look in and see the mistreatment of a child, it is terrible.

You have to be fair. Everything is in order so one feels left out.

I hope everyone enjoyed the class and if you have any problems, you should be in contact with your counselor.

#### Conclusion...

<u>Philippians 4:8 (KJV)</u> Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report: if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things:

Try to keep you name pure, your thoughts pure, true, kind and loving.

Always do your best with the family and Lords will, we will all make it to the kingdom together.

Love you guys.

Song: "We are Family" by Sister Sledge

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JytOdK5YWr8