

# FamilyLife Blended® Radio Transcript

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## Autism and Blended Families

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**Ron:** Ron, how does autism affect a stepfamily?

**Announcer:** For FamilyLife Blended®, here's Ron Deal.

**Ron:** Blending two families is challenging for many. It's even more challenging with a child on the autism spectrum because they have rigid routines and struggle to connect emotionally. Now, bonding and connecting is what a blended family is trying to do so where does that leave a stepparent with an autistic stepchild? Or stepsiblings who don't understand why so many things have to be centered on the autistic child.

Well, you have to move slowly as a family, make changes very carefully, and lower your expectations for emotional bonding. Our free online article on Autism and the Blended Family has more practical suggestions. But know this, merging is not impossible but you do have to get equipped. For FamilyLife Blended I'm Ron Deal.

**Announcer:** To find out more visit [familylifeblended.com](http://familylifeblended.com).

*FamilyLife Blended with Ron Deal* is a production of FamilyLife, of Little Rock, Arkansas. Help for today. Hope for tomorrow.

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