

AD DIRECTORY

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FRANK ADAMS JEWELERS
INSIDE BACK COVER

FRANK ADAMS JEWELERS
BACK COVER



Honor Your Father

The role of a father is a daunting task. Since there is no training manual as to how to be a good dad, we have to look to our own fathers and our heavenly Father for advice.

As a new father I was at the births of both of my sons, and they were the two happiest days of my life. Until you have a child, you cannot imagine the delight and love that resonates in the heart and soul of a father looking upon his newborn. I remember coming home from the hospital so elated that I could not sleep. "I have a son!" I would repeat to anyone and everyone who would listen. The memory of my sons' births will always be with me. Training them to find their place in this insane world of ours was my life challenge.

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old he will not depart from it." — Prov XXII v. 6

A father must provide for his family first and foremost was the old world notion that I was taught, and observed growing up. But I wanted more than that. I wanted a relationship with my sons — I wanted them to know me and to love me as a person, not just a provider. For a father striving to be the bread winner, disciplinarian, teacher, carpenter, chauffeur, plumber, gardener, pastor, coach, friend, and wise counselor this balance is a lot to ask, but it is a challenge that we all face. Some of us do it very well, others never get it. As fathers, we want to be more and better than our own fathers. We want our children to prosper and not have to work as hard as we did. We want for our kids, a better life. It is honorable for a man to want to be more than he is, and to pass something good and hopeful into the hands of his children. But in order to do that we must be a strong teacher and disciplinarian. We must set the right example for our children to follow. How can we teach our kids not to drink or smoke, when they see us partying to a drunken state with our friends? How can we tell them to be honorable and not lie, when they hear of the corrupt ways that we run our businesses? When we set the right examples we are guiding our children down the path to become the people that we want them to be. The world is a different and more dangerous place, but the basic standards that we set for our children at an early age, will determine who they will become.

"I cannot think of any need in childhood as strong as the need for a father's protection." — Sigmund Freud

We must teach our children and then allow them the freedom to make their own decisions — hopefully the right ones. There will be great struggles between a father and his child, and many times the search for independence can become a battle that is lost by both parties involved. Healthy debate and challenge is good. But a child who turns a search for independence to anger and resentment can only bring disaster and dishonor to a family. This energy must be channeled properly.

"There must always be a struggle between a father and a son while one aims at power the other at independence." — Samuel Johnson

Knowing your child and giving them the love and time that they need to be nurtured and strengthened in their time of need is a critical link to their destiny and your happiness. We take the time mandated by our business to handle human relations problems, why wouldn't we take time to understand our child's needs and wants, whatever they may be?

"It is a wise father that knows his own child." — William Shakespeare

Take the time necessary to develop a strong loving relationship with your kids; it will bless you both in the short term, and last a life time. It is the father who made his business and money his life, who dies alone, wondering why he has no visitors.

"Lucky that man whose children make his happiness in life not his grief, the anguished disappointment of his hopes." — Euripides

I learned from my father's hard work and strong work ethic, but I learned more from his mistake of not spending enough time enjoying life with his children. He tried so hard to take care of his family that he never got to see the fruits of his labors. Take time to share the precious moments God has given us with our children, so that they can learn to love life and love their fathers for who they are. Help your children grow into the people that you want them to be. Show strength through a strong hand, a quick learned mind, and a giving spirit. Teach by example.

A man never stands as tall as when he kneels to help a child. — Knights of Pythagoras