

THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

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An Unparalleled Father/ Son Relationship

Mike King



It was during the day, but darkness covered the earth. The temple curtain was torn in two. Women who followed Jesus stood at a distance with hearts heavy and minds wondering. The Centurion now acknowledged Jesus as innocent and the Son of God. It was in this context that Jesus cried with a loud voice, *“Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!”* (Lk. 23:44-49).

This expression indicated victory, but it came at the expense of the life of God’s Son. We see the intersecting of God’s tremendous love and the great sacrificial spirit of Jesus. Augustine, one of the 5th century church fathers, depicted the scene from the women’s perspective: “As they were looking on, so we too gaze on his wounds as he hangs. We see his blood as he dies. We see the price offered by the Redeemer, touch the scars of his resurrection. He bows his head, as if to kiss you. His heart is made bare open, as it were, in love to you. His arms are extended that he may embrace you. His whole body is displayed for your redemption. Ponder how great these things are. Let all this be weighed in your mind: as he was once fixed to the cross in every part of his body for you, so he may now be fixed in every part of your soul” (GMI 248).

I find the thought very gripping that Jesus could say, with all the anguish that He was in, *“Father into your hands I commit my spirit!”* What trust and devotion Jesus must have had in His Father to relinquish all of His rights, privileges and His very life and breath, to please and satisfy His Father. God must have been mindful of His Son’s concerns and feelings while doing so. I am reminded of a beautiful passage that says, *“Though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered. And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him”* (Heb. 5:8-9).

Fathers, could our children have the confidence and trust to place into our hands the very care and custody of their souls? Would their respect and obedience to us be so strong and genuine that they would know that our actions and expectations are most noble, performed through love and required for justifiable and right reasons? Would they feel confident and safe in seeking our judgment and soliciting our presence when heavy matters are happening in their lives? Can our children feel that they are being led by example and proper motives or coerced for inferior purposes? Children must be able to **commit** and as fathers we must **care**.



“Did Daddy Go To Heaven?”

The other day, one of our ladies, Mildred Garner, came to me, burdened with grief over the death of the husband of a life-long friend who is closer than a sister to her. The man was in his early thirties and was killed in an accident, leaving his wife and small children.

Because of the distraught and shocked condition of the young widow, it fell Mildred’s lot to take the eight-year-old daughter to see the body of her father at the funeral home, and also to accompany her to the funeral service.

The little girl kept asking, “Did Daddy go to Heaven? He never did go to church.” No answer that was given to her seemed to satisfy. They explained that we cannot judge or say whether people have gone to heaven or to hell, but before long, the little girl would be heard asking the same question of some other member of the family.

Deep down in her innocent heart was the gnawing realization that her Daddy’s life had not been filled with those things that gave hope at death, and take away its sting.

Mildred said that she didn’t think that she could ever erase from memory the expression of that little girl’s face or the tone of her voice as she repeated her pathetic question.

Death has its ugliness, however it may be viewed. It always wounds deeply, and it always leaves its scars. It seems to me, though, that such a wound as is described in the case of this father never dies.

Fathers, if something should happen to call you away from this life today, what kind of questions would be in the heart and on the lips of the little one in your home? “Did Daddy go to heaven?”

~ Eldred Stevens, Dallas, TX

Father’s Day Memories

To say, “All that I am, I owe to my mother,” not only praises mother, but at the same time it condemns father. I cannot honestly make that statement, because my life has been greatly influenced by both my father and my mother.

Here in America, there are multitudes of homes without fathers. This is truly one of the most devastating plights of our modern experience. My dad had problems, a few of them were large, but I will go to my grave knowing that my dad loved me and wished better for me. He taught me about God everywhere we went. When I was just a small boy he would tell me that God made all the trees, the birds, and the animals and he would explain that God took care of all of creation, because He was a good God.

Dad was a commercial fisherman and he would take me with him. When I was small, the Mississippi looked huge and dangerous. My dad told me that God made that big river and all that was in it. I have no way of knowing how many times I heard him praise God for this great thing or that little thing. It seems like I heard dad thank God countless times for one thing or another. Sometimes the old Evinrude would quit and he would have to take the top off to work on it. I can still see the sweat dripping off his Indian nose as he would pull and pull on the start rope as we drifted closer and closer to the dam. He would be asking for the Lord’s help right along and when the old motor would stay running he would say, “Thank you, Lord!”

His influences still touch me day by day. I will also go to my grave knowing that he had a love and reverence for God that I personally have seen in only a few. I sure hope to see him on the other side. Dad was not the perfect father, but he did teach me many things to point me toward Him who is, for that I am eternally grateful. The absent of faithless father cannot positively influence his family toward precious salvation in our glorious Christ Jesus.

Love, honor, reverence, and care for your parents while you may, for they too will soon “fly away.” The precious old Book still says, *Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long in the earth. And ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.*” Ephesians 6:2-4

Rodger A. Lane, Sr. ~ copied & edited





PRAYER LIST

Troy Robertson, is in room 505 of Baptist Memorial Hospital-Desoto County scheduled to have a heart cath today, June 11th.

Nancy Petrowski, daughter of *Harold* and *Deloris Crow* is in room 590 of the Tupelo Hospital undergoing chemo treatments for leukemia. She is not able to have visitors at this time.

Ken Joines, minister from the Southaven area will have surgery June 26th to remove his left kidney, due to cancer. He requests our prayers.

Suzette Renix sister of *Perry Jones* will have surgery Wednesday, June 12th to repair the right side of her heart and a blockage in her lung.

Melissa Reed, will have eye surgery June 20th in Memphis. Her doctors are hopeful that this will be her final surgery.

Continual Prayer :

Kathy Clayton, Larry Ashmore, Jann Hicks, J.V. Davis, Dennis Nichols, Pat Reed, Judy Ward, Pat Reed, Marie Beard, Rivers Robertson, Ruth Brown, Barry Yancey, Jennie Frohn, Randy Dunnam, Jack Dunlap, Rosie Wilson, Tauso Branch, Prebble Foster, Tony Cross, Norman Brown, Al Pless, Shane Crotts, Terry & Betty Young

Shut-Ins:

Jean Drummond, Billy Joe Garner, Teresa Clark

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

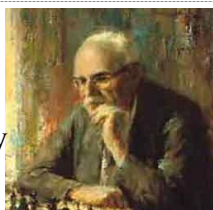
Mattie Golden, Amy Vest, Laura Mae Harris, Louise Holcomb, Maxine Carlisle, Margret Reeves

Military List:

David & Barry Wilhite, Jimmie Stutts, Tiffany Erwin, Aaron Raines, Michelle Hamm, Raegan Cole, Derek Bradley, Jesse Stroud & Christopher Phagan

Good Thoughts

"By the time a man realizes that maybe his father was right, he usually has a son who thinks he's wrong."



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



June 16. Lucille Gibson
 June 16. Joanna Moffitt
 June 18. Madison Griggs
 June 20. Cindy Ashmore
 June 22. Luke Jennings

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

June 14. Greg & Lynn Harrison
 June 14. Austin & Jessica Garrett
 June 16. Richard & Kathy Jennings
 June 20. Dean & Viva Dillard
 June 30. Phil & Paige Young



SYMPATHY

We express our sympathy to *Janet Drummond* in the death of her brother **Don Camp** of Dallas, TX. *Mr. Camp* passed away Thursday, June 6th.

5th SUNDAY SERVICE



Sunday, June 30th, we will have a pot luck meal following our morning service. Our evening service will be at 1:15 and led by our young men. Mark this date on your calendar and bring someone with you. The adult III class will be in charge of set-up and clean-up of the fellowship building.



- There will be a Youth Devo Sunday night June 23rd, following evening services at the fellowship building. *Jason* and *Amy Jennings* will be hosting.
- Marvelous Monday group will meet Monday morning, June 17th.
- A canoe trip is planned for the youth June 28th. The cost will be \$15 per person. For more information please see *Andy Brown*.



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday School.....9:30
 Morning Worship.....10:30
 Evening Worship.....6:00
 Wednesday Bible Study....7:00

MINISTER

Mike King..... 507-0625
 Home 534-6872
 Office..... 534-4649

ELDERS

Richard Jennings534-6671
 Troy Robertson534-3491

DEACONS

Greg Clayton..... 252-9762
 Roger Clayton..... 538-8195
 Brad Pounders.....316-7931
 Harold Russell 534-4648
 Randy Wall 316-9255
 Lonnie Weaver..... 801-8448

TO SERVE

Scripture.....Cody Clemmer
 A.M. Prayer.....Harold Russell
 Closing Prayer.....Steve Todd
 P.M. Prayer.....Randy Wall
 Closing.....Bobby White
 Wed 6/19.....Greg Clayton
 Wed.6/19.....Jason McCullough
 Usher & Lock.....Greg Clayton
 Greeter.....B & N Frohn

OUR RECORD

Sunday School..... 118
 Sunday A.M.....140
 Sunday P.M91
 Wednesday..... 120
 Contribution.....\$3,609.75
 Budget.....\$3,817.55



PANTRY ITEM

Canned Chicken

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A Father's Instructions For Life

H. Jackson Brown, Jr.



- Say "please" a lot.
- Live beneath your means.
- Buy whatever kids are selling on card tables in their front yards.
- Treat everyone you meet as you want to be treated.
- Donate two pints of blood every year.
- Make new friends but cherish the old ones.
- Keep secrets.
- Don't waste time learning the "tricks of the trade." Instead, learn the trade.
- Admit your mistakes.
- Compliment three people each day.
- Watch a sunrise at least once a year.
- Look People in the eye.
- Say "thank you" a lot.
- Be willing to lose a battle in order to win the war.
- Don't gossip
- Never cheat
- Give yourself a year and read the Bible cover to cover.
- Learn to listen. Opportunity sometimes knocks very softly.
- Pray not for things, but for wisdom and courage.