

View

A Publication of the Folsom Point church of Christ, 900 E. Natoma, Folsom, CA 95630

June 15, 2008

Lessons from our fathers

What we are teaching our kids will live with them forever

We come by business naturally in our family. Each of the seven children in our family worked in our father's store, "Our Own Hardware-Furniture Store," in Mott, North Dakota, a small town on the prairies. We started working by doing odd jobs like dusting, arranging shelves and wrapping, and later graduated to serving customers.



As we worked and watched, we learned that work was about more than survival and making a sale. One lesson stands out in my mind. It was shortly before Christmas. I was in the eighth grade and was working evenings, straightening

the toy section. A little boy, five or six years old, came in. He was wearing a brown tattered coat with dirty worn cuffs. His hair was straggly, except for a cowlick that stood straight up from the crown of his head. His shoes were scuffed and his one shoelace was torn. The little boy looked poor to me — too poor to afford to buy anything. He looked around the toy section, picked up this item and that, and carefully put them back in their place. Dad came down the stairs and walked over

to the boy. His steel blue eyes smiled and the dimple in his cheek stood out as he asked the boy what he could do for him. The boy said he was looking for a Christmas present to buy his brother. I was impressed that Dad treated him with the same respect as any adult. Dad told him to take his time and look around. He did.

After about 20 minutes, the little boy carefully picked up a toy plane, walked up to my dad and said, "How much for this, Mister?" "How much you got?" Dad asked. The little boy held out his hand and opened it. His hand was creased with wet lines of dirt from clutching his money. In his hand lay two dimes, a nickel and two pennies — 27 cents. The price on the toy plane he'd picked out was \$3.98. "That'll just about do it," Dad said as he closed the sale.

Dad's reply still rings in my ears. I thought about what I'd seen as I wrapped the present. When the little boy walked out of the store, I didn't notice the dirty, worn coat, the straggly hair, or the single torn shoelace. What I saw was a radiant child with a treasure.

By LaVonn Steiner from *Chicken Soup for the Soul at Work*
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A Higher Priority

At the Olympic Games in Paris in 1924, the favored team in the four-man canoe race was the United States team. One member of that team was a young man by the name of Bill Havens. As the time for the Olympics neared, it became clear that Bill's wife would give birth to her first child about the time that Bill was scheduled to compete.

So Bill found himself in a dilemma. Should he go to Paris and risk not being at his wife's side when their first child was born? Or should he withdraw from the team and remain behind?

Bill's wife insisted that he go to Paris. After all, he had been working toward this goal for many years; it would be the culmination of a life-long dream. After much soul searching, Bill decided to withdraw from the competition and remain behind with his wife so that he could be with her when their first child arrived. Bill considered being at her side a higher priority than going to Paris to try to win an Olympic Gold medal.

The United States four-man canoe team won the gold medal at the Paris Olympics. But Bill had no regrets. His family was more important to him than the Olympics. Bill was present when his wife gave birth to their baby boy whom they named Frank.

Twenty-eight years later, in 1952, Bill received a cablegram from Frank. It was sent from Helsinki, Finland, where the 1952 Olympics were being held. The cablegram read:

Dear Dad,

Thanks for waiting around for me to be born in 1924. I'm coming home with the gold medal you should have won.

Your loving son,
Frank

Frank Havens was bringing home the Olympic gold medal for the 10,000-meter canoeing event. Now he wanted to share his medal with the one who set aside his own personal dreams for a higher priority: his son.

Via Living Water

Thoughts for Food

Recession?

We often speak in broad economic terms, identifying people as being haves or have-nots. A 2007 study by the Pew Research Center seems to indicate such categorization is going to be increasingly difficult because our perceptions of wealth are quickly changing. Researchers found that only 43 percent of middle-income Americans view themselves as being a part of the haves—down 18 percent from a similar study done in 1988. The same study found that of America's wealthiest, 19 percent actually considered themselves a part of the have-nots.

"Primary Sources: Doubling the Dream," www.theatlantic.com (December 2007); as seen in "Currents," *Discipleship Journal* (March/April 2008), p.12

Permissive Parents

In a study of teenagers regarding degrees of honesty and deceit, researchers found that most parents believe being permissive will encourage openness and honesty from their kids. Parents of teen-

agers would rather be informed than strict and "in the dark."

However, researchers discovered a "no rules" policy simply doesn't work. One researcher noted: "Kids who go wild and get in trouble... have parents who don't set rules or standards. Their parents are loving and accepting no matter what the kids do, but the kids take the lack of rules as a sign their parents don't care—that their parent doesn't really want [the] job of being the parent..."

Ironically, the type of parents who are actually most consistent in enforcing rules are the same parents who are most warm and have the most conversations with their kids." Though some rules result in arguments between parents and teens, only 23 percent of the teenagers surveyed considered these conflicts harmful to their relationship with their parents.

Jerry De Luca, Montreal West, Quebec, Canada; source: Po Bronson, "Learning To Lie," *New York Magazine* (2-10-08)

Agenda

The Lord's Day, June 15, 2008

9:30 AM: Worship: Singing, Lord's Supper, Preaching

• Preaching: David Posey, The Story

5:00 PM: Lord's Supper, Preaching.

Classes @ 5:30 PM

Auditorium, I John

• Teacher: Dennis Wade

Room 11-12

Characters of the Bible

• Teacher: Bryan Byrd.

Wednesday, June 18, 2008

7:30 PM, Classes

Auditorium, Proverbs

• Teacher: Randy Clark (Jeff Clark, Assisting)

Room 11-12, James

• Teacher: David Posey, Sr. (Zac Brown, Assisting)

Notes

Most sermons are available in MP3 format on our website (www.folsomchurch.com) or on CD (see a deacon).

Quotes

THOUGHTS/THINKING

"For as he thinks in his heart, so is he."

Proverbs 23:7

"Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall."

I Corinthians 10:12

"Nurture your mind with great thoughts, for you will never go any higher than you think."

Benjamin Disraeli

"For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned."

Romans 12:3

"By thinking and acting affirmatively in this minute, you will influence the hour, the day, and the time, your entire life."

Denis Waitley

"Look at the weaknesses of others with compassion, not accusation. It's not what they're not doing or should be doing that's the issue. The issue is your own chosen response to the situation and what you should be doing. If you start to think the problem is "out there," stop yourself. That thought is the problem."

Stephen Covey

The church of Christ

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Services

Sunday Morning Assembly
9:30 AM

Sunday Evening: 5:00 PM
Wednesday Bible Study
7:30 PM

Classes for all ages.
Private classes arranged
at your convenience.

www.folsomchurch.com
Webmaster: Richard Harvey