



#24

Theme: Smell the Crayons!

Scripture: Psalm 127:3 (NIV)

“Sons are a heritage from the Lord, children a reward from Him.”

A Thought:

Many, many years ago (1945) I recall when my mother bought me my first crayons and a colorful thin metal box containing pencils, erasures and one pencil sharpener...oh, the pleasing scent of crayons still linger today! It was the first day of school....all dressed up and ready to take the challenge of meeting my teacher, new surroundings and other students just as scared as I was. Noise abound...omnipresent chatter, high energy bustling in the hallways and the ever-present clanging of the school bell. What a day! Oh, another note... I remember my mother's warm hug when I returned home from school. I later learned she hid behind a tree as I entered the class room and walked home with tears cascading down her cheeks. We do love our moms. What about my dad? Well, I had a great dad. He was at work and I don't believe if he had been at home he would have joined my mother. It was different in those days. Today, I notice more fathers walking hand in hand with their children to school. Fatherly fingers gripping Spiderman and Dora the Explorer lunch boxes. What a wonderful sight to see a father's hand clinching the hand of the little one and ensuring that the child is safe and will be safe always! Not unlike God who holds our hands daily...(John 10:14-16). It isn't enough to provide material welfare and sustenance for our children....they also need our love and attention. Children are the Lord's crown jewels.....Proverbs 17:6 (NIV) *“Children's children are a crown to the aged, and parents are the pride of their children.”*

Now....what are your thoughts? Write them down.

Talk to yourself:

Wise thoughts from John Dreshe, in his book, *If I Were Starting My Family Again*.

1. I would love the mother of my children more.
2. I would listen more.
3. I would seek more opportunities to give my child a sense of belonging.
4. I would express words of appreciation and praise more often.
5. I would spend more time together with the family.
6. I would laugh more.

Scriptures to read:

- Psalm 103:17; Psalm 127:3; Proverbs 20:7, 29:15; Isaiah 54:13;
- Matthew 18:5-6, 19:14; Mark 10:13-16; Ephesians 6:4;
- Psalm 126:5-6; Proverbs 22:6; 2Tim 1:12

Quote:

Rabindranath Tagore, Bengali Polymath: “Every child comes with the message that God is not yet discouraged of man.”

Muhammad Ali: “Children make you want to start life over.”

Author unknown: “Children seldom misquote. In fact, they usually repeat word for word what you should have not said.”

Robert Brault, Freelance Writer, “A child seldom needs a good talking to as a good listening to.” Author unknown: “A rose can say “I love you”, orchids can enthral, but a weed bouquet in a chubby fist, yes, that says it all.”

Bottom Line:

Psalms 127:3 (NIV) reminds us of the importance of our respective responsibilities and duties as fathers and parents. As stated in the verse, “*Sons are a heritage from the Lord, children a reward from Him.*” Gents, God our father through His son Jesus, now that’s a heritage!. What about us? What about our heritage? Let’s start by living and adhering to His word and subsequently teach and train our children to do likewise. Be a part of their lives and don’t be afraid to “smell the crayons.”

NOW.....THAT’S THE BOTTOM LINE.

Spiritual Dabbler, Your bro, Ray

Please click: www.Missionebenezer.org/thebottomline#!the-bottom-line/cmx0

