

When Dads Share Truth

My father was not baptized into Jesus until he was 79 years old. He promptly bought a large print Bible and the entire Bible on tape. What a joy to see Dad getting into the scriptures!

But I have amazing memories of Dad at a much younger age, even when I was a child. Dad had a rather astounding ability to live day by day and one of the details of that approach to life was seen by all who know him well – it was the incredible degree to which he refused to hold grudges!

Dad knew that holding grudges was a peculiar disease that makes the holder ill and has little or no effect on the focus of the grudge. Grudges are also an odd sickness which one intentionally chooses to harbor and even keep. The cure (true forgiveness) is intentionally rejected in preference of revenge.

Amazing – decades before Dad was converted to Jesus, he handled grudges and revenge far better than most Christians I have known. That reality reminds me of Romans 2:14-16:

For when Gentiles who do not have the Law do instinctively the things of the Law, these, not having the Law, are a law to themselves, in that they show the work of the Law written in their hearts, their conscience bearing witness and their thoughts alternately accusing or else defending them, on the day when, according to my gospel, God will judge the secrets of men through Christ Jesus.

Even before Dad knew Jesus, he, as a loving, involved dad, was sharing, instinctively, the truths of God. Without knowing the text of Leviticus 19:18 or Ps. 55:3 or James 4:11, Dad shared important life truths with us. (Look ‘em up!)

Today, and every day (Ephesians 6:1-4), let us remember our fathers and honor them, and their memories as we pass down their love and wisdom to future generations. ***“Thanks Dad! Rest in peace and tell Jesus I love Him.”***

-Ray Wallace