

## “Happy Father’s Day!”

“Happy Father’s Day!” The words bring deep joy and great memories to me. Dads are human. Dads are imperfect. But in most cases, Dads (and Moms) love us more than we ever realize. From precious presents to painful paddlings, Dads show us love that we seldom understand until we have children of our own.

The apostle John wrote, “I have no greater joy than this, to hear of my children walking in the truth,” 3 John 4.) That should serve as a “key” to our relationship with our fathers here on earth. One of my dad's common sayings was, “Truth is very hard to find.” And yet it was a constant pursuit of his that led to his conversion at age 79.

Cards make dads happy. Gifts make dads happy (well, not neckties so much). Special dinners on Dad’s day and hand-made items from the kids make dads happy. In spite of all those crinkled treasures in the antique cedar chest, the gift that gives dads the greatest joy is “to hear of my children walking in the truth.”

When the godly behavior of our children creates joy in heart of dads and moms,  
I believe Jesus smiles.  
When the truth of God leaks from the lips of our kids when challenged by culture,  
I believe Jesus smiles.  
When words of wisdom come from our kids to others of dubious character,  
I believe Jesus smiles.  
When teens stand up to peer pressure when they really are tempted,  
I believe Jesus smiles.  
When self-discipline wins over attractive moral challenges,  
I believe Jesus smiles.  
And when fathers hear of their children “walking in the truth,”  
I *know* fathers smile.

Let your lifestyle put a smile on dad’s face today. It will be the greatest joy you can give him.

Ray Wallace