



Thank You Father For Fathers!

- One child noticed that the word “*father*” appears in the dictionary just before the word “*fatigued*” and just after the word “*fathead.*”

- “Wow, if this is Father’s Day, then the first day of duck season ought to be called ‘Duck’s Day.’”



QUACK!!!



PROVIDED FOR THE BASIC NEEDS OF HIS FAMILY



- 1 Timothy 5:8 - *“If anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for his immediate family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.”*



- ...it costs you about \$11,972 per child per year. And as they get older, it gets more expensive.
- \$13,253 per year.
- ...\$223,860 per child, and that doesn't include college. If they go to college it will cost you about \$300,000 per child that you raise.





*“Dad’s the guy who has
a wallet full of pictures
where there used to be
money.”*

HE WAS GENEROUS BEYOND EXPECTATION

- *‘There was a man who had two sons. The younger son said to his father, ‘Father, give me my share of the estate.’ So he divided his property between them.’*



Erma Bombeck

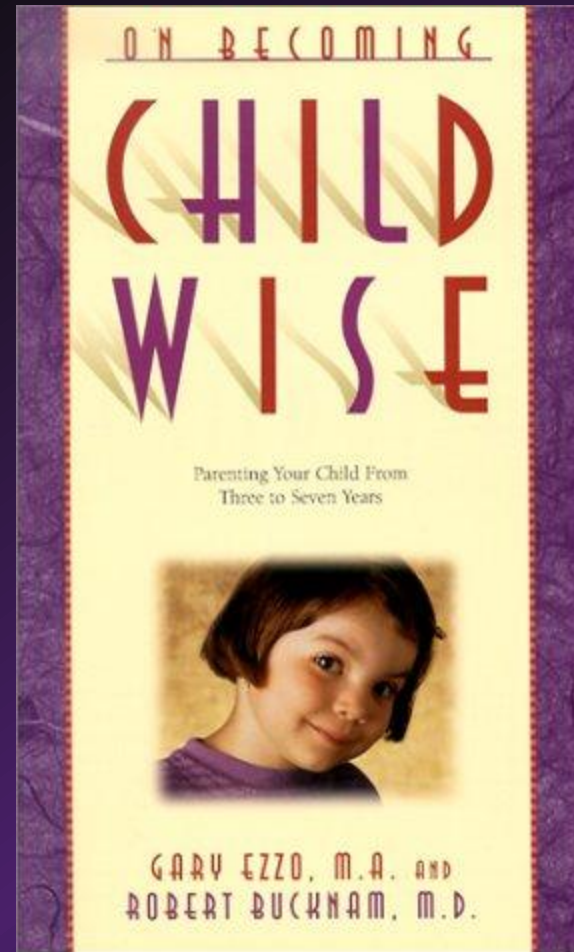


- All my life he said, “What are you doing? What time are you going to be home? Do you have gas in the car? Who’s going to be there? No, you can’t go.” Not Mom, she just loved me. But Daddy, he just didn’t seem to know how to show love – unless, is it possible, that he was showing it all along, and I just didn’t recognize it?

HE GAVE HIS SONS SPACE WHEN IT WAS APPROPRIATE

- “Not long after that the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living.”





- Gary Ezzo



- The first stage is “**Discipline**” - from birth to age 5.
- The second stage is “**Training**” – ages 6-12.
- The third stage is “**Coaching**” – ages 13-19.
- The last stage, the fourth stage, is “**Friendship**” – from sometime around 20 throughout the rest of your life.

HE WAS WILLING TO FORGIVE A SERIOUS OFFENSE and MOVE ON



- Vs 14, *“After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need.”*
- Vs 15 says, *“So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs.”*



- *“He longed to fill his stomach with the pods the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.”* So *“When he came to his senses,”* - important words – *“When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired men have food to spare, and here I am starving to death’* (Vs’16-17).



- *“Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired men” (Vs’s 18-19).*



- *“So he got up and went to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him” (Vs 20).*



- *“Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son,”*
- *“Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it... ‘Let’s have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate.” (Vs’s 21-24)*



HE LOVED HIS SONS EQUALLY, EVEN THOUGH HE HANDLED THEM DIFFERENTLY

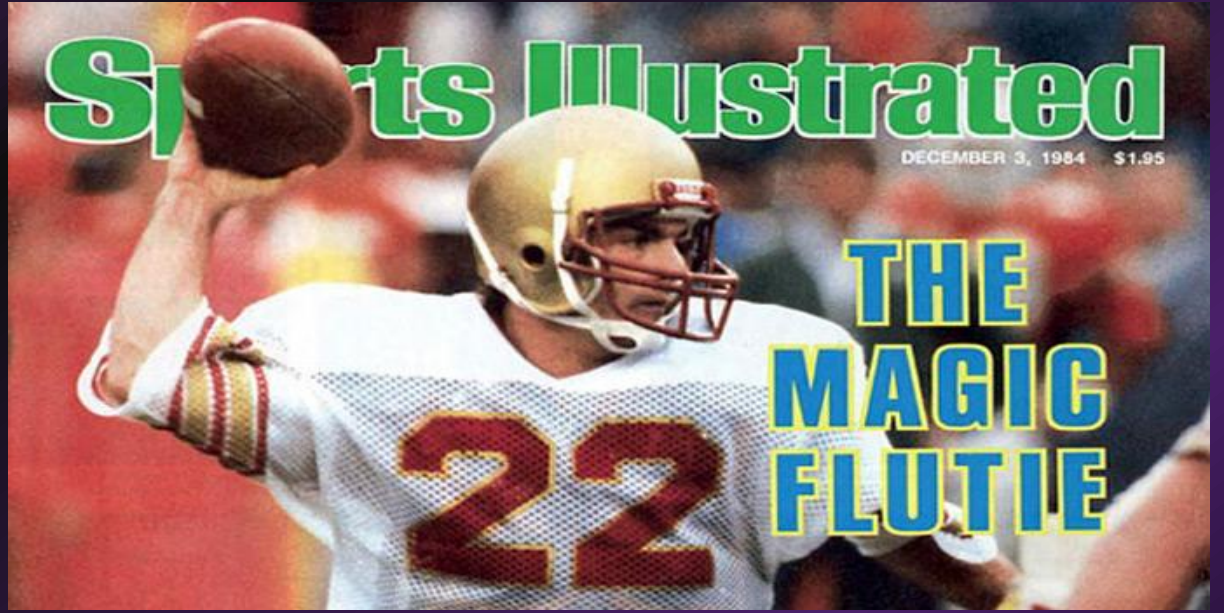
- *“Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. ‘Your brother has come,’ he replied, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.’ The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him.”*



- *“But he answered his father, ‘Look! All these years I’ve been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!’*”



- *“My son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’” (Vs’s 29-31)*



- “I would give up all my awards, all my money, all my successes from the ball field if my son could just look at me and say, ‘Dad.’ If he could just say that one word - If he could just say, ‘Dad’.”





- He's taken care of our basic needs.
- He is generous beyond expectations.
- He has given us space to be our own selves.
- He has forgiven us over and over again.
- And He loves us all equally, even though we are very different.