

“My Daddy Came to Church!”

By A. C. Grider

Did it ever make you sad to see a child happy? It did me! Yes, the other Sunday, I saw one of the happiest children in the world and I nearly cried. And, every time I have thought of it since, I have had to fight back the tears.

The little fellow comes to services with his mother. His father isn't a member and rarely comes. Now there is nothing in this world to this boy like his Daddy.

Well, on this particular Sunday, the little boy ran ahead of the rest and entered the church building where I was greeting people in the vestibule. He came running up to me, face aglow, with his hand outstretched. He clasped my hand, but he didn't say "hello" or "good morning." There was just one thing on his mind; just one thing that seemed to matter. He said, "Brother Grider, my Daddy came with me today!"

I wish the fathers and mothers of every child that comes to Preston Highway could have seen and heard as I saw and heard that child last Sunday. I just know it would have helped the members to be better fathers and mothers. And I am sure it would have had effect upon non-members.

You only have them for a short time, Mom and Dad. Swift passes the time when that child will look up to you in wonder and exclaim, "I want to be just like you!" If you postpone faithful service to God until the children are older, you have in all likelihood lost your opportunity to bring your children to the Lord. Parents, what pattern are you setting for your children with your life? Non-Christian friend, these things may not be important to you today; but one day, these matters will consume your heart with regret. "For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Mark 8:36-37). What are you giving in exchange for the soul of your child? (Preston Highway Bulletin, 10/6/60)

Give Me the Truth

By Bill Crews

If you are my friend, if you are concerned for my soul, give me the truth. Do not flatter me. Do not praise my virtues while remaining silent about my vices. Do not fear the truth will offend me. Do not treasure our friendly relations above my salvation. Do not think that by ignoring my sins, you can help me. Do not think that being blind to my sins will prove you charitable. However I may react to it, whatever may be my attitude toward you after you have done it, GIVE ME THE TRUTH!

For the truth, and only the truth, can make me free from the shackles of sin, strengthen me in the pathway of righteousness, and lead me to the joys of heaven. If I am wavering, weak, lukewarm, indifferent, neglectful; if I have been overtaken in a trespass; if I have been drawn into the pleasures of the world; if I have left my first love; if I have been led astray by error, or, if I have done none of these things, but simply need to grow in knowledge and to be edified, GIVE ME THE TRUTH!

Grandmas Glasses

Two small boys were discussing eye glasses. "Wouldn't you hate to wear glasses?" one asked. "No," answered the other, "not if I could have the kind my grandma wears! My mother says she can always see when folks are tired or discouraged or sad. She sees when somebody is in need and she can always recognize when you have something on your mind that you need to talk over. But best of all she can always see something good in everybody!" The little fellow continued: "I asked my grandma one day how it was that she could see that way. She said it was because of the way she's learned to look at things since she's gotten older. So I'm sure it must be those glasses of hers." Wouldn't it be wonderful if all of us could see others through Grandma's glasses?

Biting Ourselves

"You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder, and whoever murders will be in danger of the judgment.' But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. And whoever says to his brother, 'Raca!' shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, 'You fool!' shall be in danger of hell fire" (Matt. 5:21-22). "Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him" (1John 3:15).

It is said that a rattlesnake, if cornered, will sometimes become so upset that it will bite itself. That is exactly what the harboring of hate and resentment against others is - a biting of oneself. We think that we are harming others in holding these grudges and hates, but the deeper harm is to ourselves. (From 1500 Illustrations for Biblical Preaching, p. 180)

A Moments Wisdom

--It is not by doing the things we like, but by liking the things we do that we discover life's blessings. (Goethe)

--The hostess who is gracious and tactful has the ability to make guests feel at home when it is where she wishes they really were.

--Life is a grindstone. Whether it grinds you down or polishes you up depends on you.

--An idea is only as good as its application.

--Iron must endure the forge in order to be shaped and strong. Adversity is the tempering of our mettle.

--Getting a good idea should be like sitting down on a pin; it should make you jump up and do something.

--You get more than you give when you give more than you get.

--When God measures a man, He puts the measuring tape around his heart, not his head.

--If you wish to be a leader, you will be frustrated, for very few people wish to be led. If you aim to be a servant, you will never be frustrated.

--There are no shortcuts to anyplace worth going.

--Credentials are not the same as accomplishments.

--The only way to deal with fear is to confront it directly, to stop and take a good look at it. Then you can make it go away. Otherwise, you spend your life running from it, and fear always runs at least as fast as you.

--If you want permanent change, you must change permanently.

--Your day often goes the way the corners of your mouth turn.

--Whether it is on the street or in an argument, when you see red it is time to stop.

--Some folks are as proud of their ancestors as if they were responsible for them.

--Character consists of what you do on the third and fourth try.

--Just like highways, there are two kinds of Christians in this world: those under construction and those under repair.

--Everyone is in favor of free speech. Hardly a day passes without it being praised, but some people's idea of it is that they are free to say what they like, but if anyone says anything back, that is an outrage. (Winston Churchill)

--Ah, the insight of hindsight!

--We are always hard on our faults when we see them in others. Perhaps the reason is that we know how inexcusable they are.

--A list of a man's enemies is often a truer guide to his character than a list of his friends.

--One test of leadership is the ability to recognize a problem before it becomes an emergency.

--The only folks you should try to get even with are the ones who have helped you.