

A LEGACY

By Paralee Eadie

Dad, God gave you a legacy, a treasure beyond compare,
Not of riches, fame, or power, but the children he placed in your care.

This legacy is a trust that must be handled with prayer
And guarded closely every day that no wrong values seep in there.

Your life will teach them so much more than any words could ever do.
The things they learn about the Lord they'll learn by following you.

As they follow your example until the time that they are grown,
As they walk each day with Jesus, you'll leave a legacy of your own.

I Corinthians 11:1 NLT "And you should imitate me, just as I imitate Christ."

As I was trying to write this Father's Day poem, I told my husband, Rod, that it was easier for me to write about mothers. Because I am a mother, I know a mother's heart. I asked him to share with me a father's heart. I asked him, "What does a man want?" As I wrote down what he said, I realized that this was godly wisdom that needed to be shared with dads. So here is what he shared. It was the inspiration for my poem and will be an inspiration to dads.

"A man wants to leave a legacy, not about his work or his accomplishments. All of that will be forgotten and it won't change the world. Your life is in your children. It's what you leave in your children's hearts and spiritual lives that changes the world. It's by living out what you believe, who you are in Christ Jesus. It's not who you impress in this world by your works or your knowledge, but what you impress in the lives of your children that will continue for generations. What if you make a mistake along the way? And you will. Admitting your mistakes is one of the best things you can do for your children. It shows strength, not weakness. It gives your children understanding of the Lord's grace and forgiveness. I always pray each day that I will be the man God created me to be." It is our hope that this is the prayer of every Dad.