

Dad's Advice on Living Life to the Full

Family Cruise - March 16, 2007

1. **Find ways to keep your heart soft toward God:** This will involve honest self-appraisals and confession, resting in His grace and forgiveness and walking surrendered to Him.
2. **Be consistent and intentional about knowing and applying Scripture:** Don't kid yourself - be in the Word daily as best as you can. There is no short cut to spiritual growth. Pay the price to go deeper with God.
3. **Your marriage needs to remain a priority:** Work to love your spouse. Take time with them even at the expense of other important things, even kids. Make no excuses; treat your mate awesome.
4. **Always work in time for your extended family:** Be intentional about staying in touch with all members of the family. Keep connected. Show love and forgive quickly. At all death beds, people yearn for Family...that's what's important.
5. **Extend yourself to and surround yourself with good friends:** You become like those you hang around with. Don't doubt that. Find quality people who live their faith and affirm you in your successes and hold you accountable to your values.
6. **Look for ways to add value to those you meet:** Be a blessing. Honestly take an interest and care for those that come within your 10-foot circle of influence. Leave people wishing they had more of you.
7. **Chase what God has called you to do:** Determine your God-given gifts and passions and develop them to the max. He didn't give them to you to sit on. Follow your dreams and anticipate a great future of fruitful existence.
8. **Find great joy in what God has called you to do:** Work to find satisfaction on your day-to-day vocation whether it is at work or at home. You will spend a lot of time at it so give it your best and do it to bring God glory.
9. **Laugh more, smile more, encourage more to live more:** Enjoy each day by choosing to be a person who always brings a sparkle of life, love and liberty into the room. Milk each day to the full as you only have 30,000 of them.
10. **Focus on the 2 things that are eternal - People and God's Word:** Wise is the one who spends his life bringing the 2 together. No matter where you go or what you do, seek His Kingdom first. Remember - put God first, life goes best!

**My Loving Support and Constant Prayer,
Dad**