#### "L.E.A.R.N. to Be the Best Dad Ever" I Thessalonians 2:11-12 (p. 1146); Ephesians 6:4 (p. 1137)

Lean not on your own understanding - Proverbs 3:5

"The truth is, a child is not likely to see God a\_\_\_ Father, unless he/she sees God i\_\_ their father."

Don't discourage them - Colossians 3:21

**A** = **A**\_\_\_\_\_ - II Corinthians 5:17

- Just say "I'm s\_\_\_\_\_"
- It's N\_\_\_\_\_too L\_\_\_\_!"
- II Corinthians 5:17
- I John 1:9

### R = R\_\_\_\_\_

- Your relationship will grow and evolve over time.
- God and your children can forgive you.
- God can give one good m\_\_\_\_\_; one treasured m\_\_\_\_\_
- Have f\_\_\_\_!

### N = N\_\_\_\_\_ STOP L\_\_\_\_\_

- "The best way to love my kids is to l\_\_\_\_\_ their mother w\_\_\_\_."
- Never stop telling your kids you love them and will a\_\_\_\_\_
  - b\_\_\_\_\_for them.

### **Recommended Reading:**

Leslie Leyland Fields, <u>Parenting Is Your Highest Calling and 8 Other Myths</u> <u>That Trap Us in Worry and Guilt</u>

### **Recommended Viewing and Listening:**

The Skit Guys.com – Fatherhood "You Say" by Lauren Daigle

# General Douglas MacArthur's Prayer For His Son

(While General Douglas MacArthur was stationed in Australia and acting as Supreme Commander of Allied Forces in the Southwest Pacific Area, he penned this prayer for his only son, Arthur.)

Build me a son, O Lord, who will be strong enough to know when he is weak and brave enough to face himself when he is afraid; one who will be proud and unbending in honest defeat, and humble and gentle in victory.

Build me a son whose wishes will not take the place of deeds; a son who will know Thee—and that to know himself is the foundation stone of knowledge.

Lead him, I pray, not in the path of ease and comfort, but under the stress and spur of difficulties and challenge. Here let him learn to stand up in the storm; here let him learn compassion for those who fail.

Build me a son whose heart will be clear, whose goal will be high; a son who will master himself before he seeks to master other men; one who will reach into the future, yet never forget the past.

And after all these things are his, add, I pray, enough of a sense of humor, so that he may always be serious, yet never take himself too seriously. Give him humility, so that he may always remember the simplicity of true greatness, the open mind of true wisdom, and the weakness of true strength.

Then I, his father will dare to whisper, "I have not lived in vain".

#### "L.E.A.R.N. to Be the Best Dad Ever" I Thessalonians 2:11-12 (p. 1146); Ephesians 6:4 (p. 1137)

L = LEAN ON GOD – I Thessalonians 2:11-12; Ephesians 6:4

Lean not on your own understanding - Proverbs 3:5

"The truth is, a child is not likely to see God as Father, unless he/she sees God in their father."

**E = ENCOURAGE** – I Thessalonians 2:11

Don't discourage them - Colossians 3:21

### A = ADMIT YOUR SHORTCOMINGS – II Corinthians 5:17

- Just say "I'm Sorry"
- It's Never too Late!"
- II Corinthians 5:17
- I John 1:9

## $\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{RELAX}$

- Your relationship will grow and evolve over time.
- God and your children can forgive you.
  - God can give one good memory; one treasured memory
- Have fun!

## **N = NEVER STOP LOVING**

- "The best way to love my kids is to love their mother well."
- Never stop telling your kids you love them and will always be there for them.

### **Recommended Reading:**

Leslie Leyland Fields, Parenting Is Your Highest Calling and 8 Other Myths That Trap Us in Worry and Guilt

## **Recommended Viewing and Listening:**

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