

From Father to Father

By Glenn Currier

My father was a good man
he worked hard with mind and hand
was sober and at home at night
spoke and joked with friends
showed me wrong from right
taught me to hammer a nail
level a board without fail
build a bench and stilts to walk high.
But in spite of this Daddy had a roving eye
was prone to flirt or more to my mom's regret
and after work Dad had no time or vigor left
to play with me or throw and catch.

I was sad and even shed a few tears
as I thought of him over the years
recalled his absences in my life
not there to show how to sharpen a knife
to be confident to take a stand
and in other ways to become a man.

But today the tender love I feel
for him gives me peace and I am healed
knowing he was just a man
doing the best he could
to be a dad
in good times and bad.

Now in my later years
when my resentments and fears
have faded or flown away
I have my one true Father
always good beside me
every moment every day
and in this time, to my delight
I have one true Brother,
a man in my heart like no other
there is Jesus the very son of man
who did and does every thing he can
to show us the way to live vitally.
And with my fellows we try mightily
to follow their Christ,
to love as he.
And arm in arm they are pulling me
to a new city on the hill
to do our good Father's will.

Jesus, now it's with you I identify
your hand on my shoulder right by my side
I am always in your sight

you lead me to love and fight the good fight
to be a man who takes a stand
who loves our Father with mind and heart
who brings others together and not apart.

Jesus my Lord you showed me true power
the strength in compassion
the gentleness of a flower
you teach me to work and fashion
a life of kindness, to forgive and heal
even now in this world where I kneel
you reveal to me how to reach through the clouds
beyond the rubble and crowds
to forgive seventy time seven
and touch the edge of heaven.

*"From Father to Father," Copyright 2019 by Glenn Currier
Written 5-11-19*