
THOUGHTS OF A FATHER

A young man sat on the carpeted floor with a gift between his legs. The gift was not fancy in appearance, just tidily wrapped in tissue paper and tied with a ribbon. Maybe it was a soccer ball! Like most young persons, the boy did not take time to carefully unwrap the gift so as to save the paper. The contents were more important than the paper. He lifted the flaps of the box, only to find another more attractive box inside. His curiosity aroused, the young man opened the second box and found a rather ornate brass case. Taking the case in his hands, he opened it and found it contained a compass. He has never had such a 'grown-up' gift before and was quite eager to show it to anyone whose attention he could muster.

As was often the case, the young man went to see the elderly man next door, taking his new compass with him.

"Look what I got, isn't it neat!" he exclaimed. The neighbour took it in his hand, opened it and nodded his approval.

"It is a good compass, for sure, but let me ask you, what are you going to do with it?"

The boy paused for a moment trying to come up with a good answer.

"I'm not sure yet," he replied, "I'll have to ask my Dad."

"Well," suggested the elderly man, "your compass really has no true value unless you know how to use it to help you find your way. Until you understand it and it becomes almost a part of you, it is not much more than a pretty object, something nice to look at. However if you get to know your compass it can be a very valuable tool. I'm certain your Dad will help you."

Over two thousand years ago, the Christ came to earth. He didn't come as an ornate gift. His surroundings were very plain. Just as the boy knew that there was value in his compass, the shepherds and Wise men knew there was something special about this Child. Anyone who has even a limited understanding of Jesus Christ has some awareness that He is something special. Jesus is God's compass. He was sent to help us find the way back to the Father. Unfortunately,

unless we acknowledge that Jesus Christ was sent by God the Father to be our personal Saviour, enabling us to find our way back to the Father, His value to us is no more than that of a painted figurine in a nativity scene.

Get to know 'God's Compass'. Let Him become an intrinsic part of who you are. Let Him show you the way. It is the most valuable gift you can ever receive. Your Father wants to help you appropriate all the value of His gift to you.