

Dad's Dinner Bucket

When I was a kid, I would go down by a creek to meet my dad as he was coming home from work. He would give me his dinner bucket to unpack. When I opened it, there would always be some little snack left. In hindsight, I also remember he would always tell Mom to be sure and put extra in his lunch in case he wanted a snack. When you are 5 or 6 years old, you didn't catch on right away. I can still smell that dinner bucket as I remember Dad. It had its own aroma after so many years of use, taking on the smells of the different items carried in it each day.

As we think about our lives and the way we live, we are taking on our special, distinctive traits, just as the dinner bucket did. In Matthew 5:16, we are told to "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." As we go about our daily routines, do our activities show others we are good Christians living a lifestyle reflecting GOD'S principles in all we do and say? Or is that only our Sunday façade?

All our lives, we encounter people who influence us and we influence them. We remember school teachers, Sunday school teachers, and family members for specific reasons. Usually, it's because there was something special they did, or there was something about them that made us admire them. We often have the attitude that our young people don't listen, but they definitely observe what we do and say. We have an influence on their lives.

Let's keep in mind that our lifestyle is having an effect on our children and those we have dealings with every day. There is always someone watching, listening and being influenced by what we do or don't do.

For the Elders,
Don Wagner