



**THE NOT-
EVEN-CLOSE-
TO-PERFECT
CHRISTIAN
DAD**

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**1. Mordecai: Keep Challenging Your
Christian Kids (Young AND Grown) to
Stand for Christ During These Difficult
Days (*Esther 4:10-16*)**

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**Esther 4:10 Then Esther spoke to
Hathach and commmanded him
to go to Mordecai and say,**

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¹¹ “All the king's servants and the people of the king's provinces know that if any man or woman goes to the king inside the inner court without being called, there is but one law—to be put to death, except the one to whom the king holds out the golden scepter so that he may live. But as for me, I have not been called to come in to the king these thirty days.”

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¹² And they told Mordecai what Esther had said.

¹³ Then Mordecai told them to reply to Esther,

**“Do not think to yourself that in the king's
palace you will escape any more than all the
other Jews.**

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14 For if you keep silent at this time, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish. And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"

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15 Then Esther told them to reply to Mordecai,

16 “Go, gather all the Jews to be found in Susa, and hold a fast on my behalf, and do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my young women will also fast as you do. Then I will go to the king, though it is against the law, and if I perish, I perish.”

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**2. Isaac: Love, Encourage,
and Discipline Your Kids -
But Don't Be an Overbearer!**

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**Ephesians 6:1 Children, obey your parents in
the Lord, for this is right.**

**² “Honor your father and mother” (this is
the first commandment with a promise),**

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3 “that it may go well with
you and that you may live
long in the land.”

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⁴ Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

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Genesis 25:27 When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, dwelling in tents.

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28 Isaac loved Esau

because he ate of his game,

but Rebekah loved Jacob.

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Genesis 27:32 His father Isaac said to him, “Who are you?” He answered, “I am your son, your firstborn, Esau.”

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33 Then Isaac trembled very violently and said, “Who was it then that hunted game and brought it to me, and I ate it all before you came, and I have blessed him? Yes, and he shall be blessed.”

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³⁴ As soon as Esau heard the words of his father, he cried out with an exceedingly great and bitter cry and said to his father, “Bless me, even me also, O my father!”

³⁵ But he said, “Your brother came deceitfully, and he has taken away your blessing.”

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³⁶ Esau said, “Is he not rightly named Jacob? For he has cheated me these two times. He took away my birthright, and behold, now he has taken away my blessing.” Then he said, “Have you not reserved a blessing for me?”

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³⁷ Isaac answered and said to Esau, “Behold, I have made him lord over you, and all his brothers I have given to him for servants, and with grain and wine I have sustained him. What then can I do for you, my son?”

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38 Esau said to his father, “Have you but one blessing, my father? Bless me, even me also, O my father.” And Esau lifted up his voice and wept.

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⁴¹ Now Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing with which his father had blessed him, and Esau said to himself, “The days of mourning for my father are approaching; then I will kill my brother Jacob.”

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**3. Solomon: Be Your Family's
Godly Patriarch - to the Very
End (*1 Kings 11:1-12*)**

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1 Kings 11:1 Now King Solomon loved many foreign women, along with the daughter of Pharaoh: Moabite, Ammonite, Edomite, Sidonian, and Hittite women,

2 from the nations concerning which the LORD had said to the people of Israel, “You shall not enter into marriage with them, neither shall they with you, for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods.” Solomon clung to these in love.

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**3 He had 700 wives, who were
princesses, and 300 concubines.
And his wives turned away his
heart.**

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⁴ For when Solomon was old his wives turned away his heart after other gods, and his heart was not wholly true to the LORD his God, as was the heart of David his father.

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**⁵ For Solomon went after Ashtoreth
the goddess of the Sidonians, and
after Milcom the abomination of
the Ammonites.**

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6 So Solomon did what was evil in the sight of the LORD and did not wholly follow the LORD, as David his father had done.

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**⁷ Then Solomon built a high place
for Chemosh the abomination of Moab,
and for Molech the abomination of the
Ammonites, on the mountain east of
Jerusalem.**

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**⁸ And so he did for all his foreign
wives, who made offerings and
sacrificed to their gods.**

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**⁹ And the LORD was angry with Solomon,
because his heart had turned away from the LORD,
the God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice
¹⁰ and had commanded him concerning this thing,
that he should not go after other gods. But he did
not keep what the LORD commanded.**

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¹¹ Therefore the LORD said to Solomon, “Since this has been your practice and you have not kept my covenant and my statutes that I have commanded you, I will surely tear the kingdom from you and will give it to your servant.

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**¹² Yet for the sake of David your
father I will not do it in your days,
but I will tear it out of the hand of
your son.**

HAPPY
Father's
2023
DAY

A circular graphic design for Father's Day 2023. The text "HAPPY" is at the top in a bold, distressed font. Below it, "Father's" is written in a large, cursive script. Underneath "Father's" is the year "2023" in a simple, outlined font. At the bottom, "DAY" is written in a bold, distressed font. The design is decorated with various icons: a bow tie, a mustache, a crown, two hearts, and two floral sprigs. Small stars are scattered throughout the design.