

MEDITATIONS OF A FATHER

MY DEAR CHILD, realize that living is more than it appears to be to a twenty year old.

Life is an art, a mosaic, to which we add each day - our actions, our thoughts, our plans - our omissions, our choices - for good or bad - beautiful or plain - we are building our mosaic.

Be careful. Think. Think again, carefully, before choosing. Your happiness or sorrow is the result of many small and innocent choices.

Choose a simple life, the simpler the better. Don't spend money just because you have it. Be wise. Lay some aside. Someday you will need it urgently. Invest your time and money, in memories and friendships, not in autos and stereos and furniture.

Be responsible to those you love. They cannot be sure they exist, unless you love them. Support them emotionally, build them up, help them in whatever way they need.

Accept yourself and your faults. None of us were ever perfect. Forgive your folks the injuries and hurts you felt. Try to understand and be compassionate.

Be afraid of your appetites. Discipline them whenever possible. If you indulge, or ignore them, they will soon conquer and own you.

Honesty and hard work are admirable - but they are also excellent therapy.

Play a little every day. Meditate, sit quietly sometime each day.

May you have a productive and generous life. A joyful and full life. See you in Heaven. Dad