# In a Word

#### Letters from a Father to his Children

By

H. Kirk Rainer

2004 - 2007



Today, I begin these letters at the urging of your grandfather - who suggested that it would be helpful to you as you read it for the first time and possibly for years to come...

These letters have enabled me to reach out to you in a personal, transparent & enduring way; and have encouraged me to document my own beliefs as a Christian and convey them to you.

My hope and prayer is that *In a Word* will be a source of encouragement, entertainment and instruction for you and for others as well.

#### In a WORD is about...

### Being a

The absence of both parents in the family has produced a host of social problems and elevated risks for the children: lower performance in school and higher drop-out rates; out-of-wedlock pregnancy; and increased drug and other criminal activity.



#### parent, step-parent and a father

### Expressing myself in

still, this possibility does not deter me from preparing the letters as a continuation and expression of my thoughts concerning all matters and events pertaining to our separation.

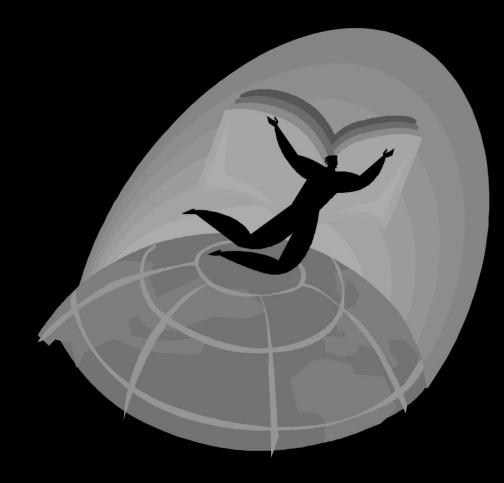
Care is an expression of love in a sense, and usually includes tending to one's needs and comfort as well as being conscience and sensitive.



#### words, verse, pictures & illustrations

### Sharing my

Families might be considered as a chain in that they ideally function as interlinked or dependent units; they are not completely alike but still have a lot of similarities and shared interests that bound them together.



#### experience, knowledge, opinion & passion

### **Communicating with my**

which means that we should know Jesus as Lord, meditate on the God's gift of salvation and forgiveness, confess our sins, and partake with thanksgiving and heart of worship and reverence. Never take this opportunity lightly but with an understanding, mindset, and heart on Jesus and the priceless gift of salvation.

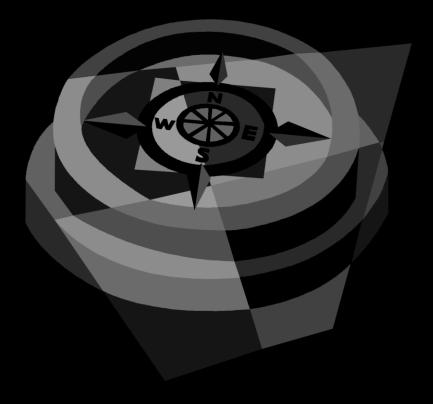


#### Lord, wife, children, step-children & others

### Providing

And now, as I have prayed before and as I will continue to pray, watch over this young precious girl and provide for her needs, her protection and her care.

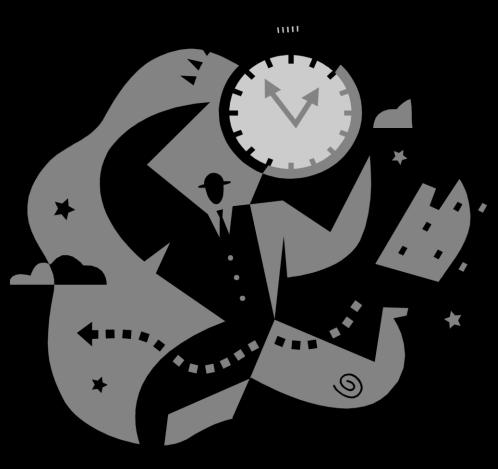
Encouragement means to provide moral support or to give someone "courage" to face a problem or challenge.



#### guidance, direction & understanding

#### Giving my time and attention to

Realize that you have been given a healthy, functioning body and mind. Please don't destroy this precious gift by the momentary pleasures or acceptance gained from drug abuse.



#### the needs of those who may benefit

### Creating a legacy for

The human was designed and manufactured as God's greatest creation; altogether conceived in his image, the body is the temple of God made to please and glorify him.

...because God created you, you have value and purpose; it is not an unrealistic sense of grandeur but rather an honest assessment of your character.



#### the generations that follow my own

### Fostering a

In the process, I have grown to appreciate the accomplishments of other step-parents, foster parents, and otherwise guardians with no natural connection. I am thankful and blessed with the gift of children, step-children, and children in general.

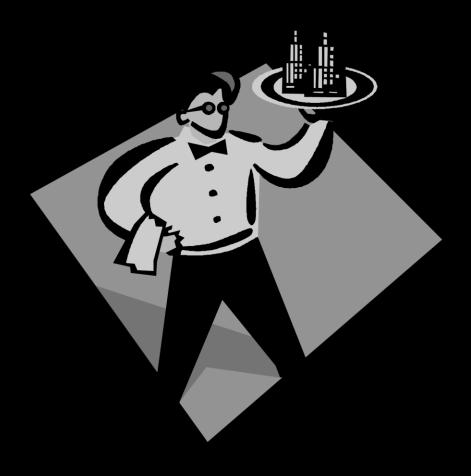


#### degree of trust in relationships

## Serving my

Esther was placed in this powerful role by providence; she was serving God by ensuring that her people (the Jewish captives) were not destroyed by evil leaders among the King's court.

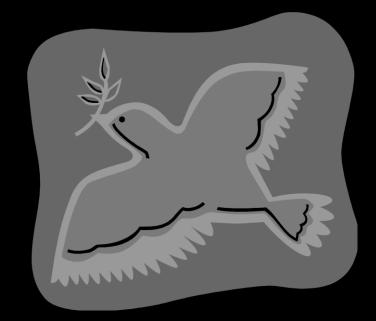
God in his patience and mercy, has allowed me to once again worship and serve him – I am fortunate!



#### Lord and my fellow man

### Offering a

Present on the field of battle, King Saul was the closest in height to Goliath but, as you probably know, did not offer himself to the verbal challenge. Sent to the front to deliver food to his brothers, young David becomes the most unexpected victor in the challenge of Goliath. Faith in God won out over physical dominance.



#### possibility for peace and reconciliation

### Following the

Both learning and succeeding in our duties begins with a good attitude: a willingness to try our best, to accept any set-backs or shortcomings, and to remain vigilant in our effort and objectives at hand. With a good attitude, the steps that follow become easier with time while enabling us to take on more duties, responsibility, and leadership.



#### order to nurture and instruct

#### Planting, Sowing, and Reaping for a

The mission was to present the intimacy that the Lord offers in our relationship with him; and that should be present by all means in our relationship with our children and children in our charge.

bountiful harvest

#### About the Project



### Beginning in December 2003,

and with the support of immediate family, I began to write simple, one-page letters to my children. The topics or choice of words have been selected on an ongoing basis but were largely developed in alphabetical order and with a personal conviction, idea or interest.

"What began as a few letters became an outpouring of my soul expressed in a word."



### Appreciation must go to

My family, who gave me the idea in the first place, and who have encouraged me along the way; not only for *In a WORD* but for other writing in general. My Lord, for which the blessings have not yet been fully realized, but who gracefully loves, forgives, and strengthens.

"We are called to be content in all things – please help me in my discontent, my unfaithfulness."



WORD

### Finally, dedication must go to the

Parents and caretakers that have applied themselves to the Christian model of the family, that as a starting point for ministry, provides opportunity to further understand and extend God's love to these precious ones that have been placed in your charge.

*"May God richly bless and keep you; abide in Him in this lifelong and fulfilling ministry."* 



#### 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment Rights

- Regarding the First Amendment, I have been granted the right of free speech – to include that which is contained in the document. I hereby rest on the rights of citizenship to express myself both as parent and as a citizen. The symbol on right representing that freedom shared by all U.S. citizens to – include non-custodial parents – who have been unjustifiably denied their privileges as a natural parent, and to their children who have suffered irreparably because of it.
- To those who have suffered with me and to those (parents and families) who suffer as I do, there is hope; not necessarily in the judicial system but rather in the *tie that binds...yes*, love is a powerful force...
- As long as I have the means, I will continue to write about my "religious beliefs and interests"; and if I am denied my **Freedom of Expression**, than I must accept the consequences of my action – my expression of love, hope, faith.

H. Kirk Rainer,

November 22, 2008



#### 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment Rights

All material within this Website is protected under <u>The First Amendment</u> of the Constitution; it is not a violation of Florida Statute 775.084; nor is it a violation of an injunction – That has denied my rights as a Parent; Rather, it is free expression of my religious beliefs and interests.