



*Happy Mothers', Fathers' and Children's day to fathers, proxy fathers, fathers to be, mothers, proxy mothers, mothers to be and children. As a father, still striving to improve as a person and father, I have taken it upon myself to proffer some advice I consider important for effective parenting.*

*Try not to be caught up in the hype (on one day) of being a father or mother but be more concerned about genuinely being the father/mother you would have liked your father/mother to be every day. Only strive to be better as a father/mother, husband, wife provider, nurturer and protector-with love, sincerity and passion. Our primary responsibility to our children involves preparing them for the world with the resources available to us. Even with little or no money, the basic parenting resources, love and caring can be provided.*

*Children sense sincerity and caring and readily learn from experiencing positive examples as truthfulness, honesty, discipline, initiative, parental love and harmony, deliberate planning and striving for high goals. Negative attitudes and practices should be avoided. We must help them to identify and manage the various life stages, which we all experienced and are still managing. Concisely, you can never go wrong if you are guided by Jesus' teachings in the Holy Bible, and teach your children accordingly by words and actions. While the environment and situations may change the basic tenets that develop beliefs, character, honesty, discipline, initiative, poise, aplomb, drive and well being remain constant.*

*When children leave and or go on their own, you would have known that you did your best and be assured they will succeed and enjoy the more bountiful blessings promised to us. Sons would have been prepared to be better fathers, and daughters would have been prepared to be better mothers. We must include mothers as if they are fathers and fathers as if they are mothers, because the family unit is strongest as a single unit with unity of purpose.*

***We must be committed to making every day parents and children's day, an invaluable contribution to creating a better society, the values of which are evidenced by the quality of our individual and collective activities, attitudes and pursuits.***

*Neville Martin (06.17. '12)*