



# Shepherd's Path

## A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

### Raising Your Parents Series, Lesson 10

**Lesson Title:** Having Fun With Your Parents

**Take Home Point:** Have fun with your parents.

#### Warm-Up:

When my three children were growing up, there were lots of ways that we had fun together. We played games, read books, did outdoor activities, traveled to fun parks or interesting sites; we would tease each other (in positive ways!). But one fun thing really sticks out. My children all had large collections of stuffed animals, and almost every one had a name, a unique voice, and distinct character traits. Sometimes it was quite a challenge to think of a new voice after a few dozen animals, but either they or I would think of an accent or vocal trait we hadn't used before that would fit their new stuffed friend. It was fun, and I didn't consider it unusual until one day my 6-year-old daughter had a friend over to play. I joined in for a bit and did some voices. My daughter's friend was amazed. "Your animals talk?" she said, "I never heard of that before."

**Read:** 1Thessalonians 3:12; John 2:1-2

#### Observation (What happened?):

What is the true source of our love for each other?

What joyful occasion was Jesus attending with his mom?

#### Interpretation (What does it mean?):

What does it mean to have your love overflow? Describe it.

Why do you think John considered it important to mention that Mary and the disciples were at the wedding with Jesus?

#### Insight:

A friend of mine has a wonderful sense of humor but tends to be very serious about spiritual things. One day we were laughing about something and I mentioned how glad I was that God has a sense of humor. My friend just looked at me. "What do you mean?" she asked. I was kind of surprised at her response, so I asked her, "Don't you believe God has a sense of humor?" "Why, no," she answered. Now I was really surprised. "Well, then, where do you think we got ours? Who else would give it to us?" "Well, I never thought about it that way," was her answer. That person was my mom, who taught me a lot about having fun. As I grew up, she helped me see that life's circumstances are hard enough and we shouldn't take everything so seriously. It was easier to do that when I was a child; it got harder in my adulthood. But God taught me (and still does) through her example, and through my desire to give my children as much fun as I can, that I don't need to be so serious. And I still have fun with my mom when we get together.

#### Application (What does it mean to me?):

If they are still living, how do you have fun with your parents? If you don't, what keeps you from doing so? What can you do about it?

Pray for the parents of the children in your small group to work to have fun with their children.

Kingdom Quest Year 1 - Lesson 10