



# REFLECTIONS

June 19, 2016

**"But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. "**

*Luke 15:20*

## Nature of a Father's Love

Boss had a lesson to teach me that day. Well, maybe not so much a lesson to teach as a truth to share. The night before, violent storms unleashed their anger with large hail and destructive winds throughout the area. Air travel ceased in many places, but not here where Boss's son was scheduled to return from a lengthy trip. The storms stirred Boss's nerves sending him to the airport to anxiously await his son's arrival. I expressed dismay that he had ventured to the airport when he could do nothing to improve landing conditions. My reaction prompted his profound explanation. "Richard, no matter how old they are, you never stop worrying about your kids."

Boss, as he was affectionately known, was a man a half-generation older than my own dad. His son was about ten years senior to me. But neither the age of the father nor maturity of the son quieted the concerns of a father for the well-being of his child. It's the nature of a father's love.

Can't you just sense the anguish a father had for the choices of his prodigal son in the parable Jesus told. And can't you feel his exhilaration when he saw his son returning home again. That's what Boss felt too that stormy night when his son stepped safely from the plane. It's the nature of a father's love.

When storms threaten our lives, or the choices we make lead us astray, our Father agonizes for you and me. Only He has done something about it. *"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."* (John 3:16) And can't you feel his exhilaration when we return our lives to him. It is the nature of our Father's love.

Today is a good day to love Him back.

*You are the light of the world,*

*Richard +*

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