

CHAPTER 51

MILLION-DOLLAR DAUGHTER

I. Are you a million-dollar daughter?

- A. When your mom and dad cuddled you in their arms as a cute little bundle of joy, are you the darling girl they envisioned you'd grow up to be?
- B. Have you developed into the kind of girl that brings pleasure, delight and honor to them?

II. Cite the example of Denise Garrison.

- A. As a young girl growing up in the Church, she manifested all the wholesome qualities that would give any parent a glowing sense of pride.
 1. Respectful toward adults.
 2. Obedient to her parents and responsive to their wishes.
 3. Considerate of her friends and peers and was held in the admiration of all.
 4. She always had a smile and cheerful disposition.
 5. Hard working, creative, made top grades.
 6. Did more than was expected around the house.

III. By contrast, cite the example of _____!

- A. She was spoiled, demanding and insolent.
- B. She was lazy and expected Mom to pick up after her and do all the housework.
- C. She exuded an air of superiority and it didn't seem to bother her if she offended others.
- D. Coming from a financially secure background, everything was given to her on a silver platter.
- E. When corrected by her parents, she would pout, sulk, or likely as not berate them.

IV. What, then, are the traits that aptly describe the million-dollar daughter?

- A. Here's a profile of the kind of girl every parent dreams of.
 1. Jump out of bed when the alarm goes off.
 - a. This sets you apart as a girl who has goals, purpose and vision.
 - b. Few things are more disconcerting to your parents than to have to yell at you several times to get you up and going.
 2. Make your bed and straighten your room without having to be reminded.
 - a. This type of behavior reflects strong character and shows that you have your life under control.
 - b. Mom and Dad not only become exasperated, but also discouraged when they have to remind you time and again.
 3. Willingly help Mom with breakfast, lunches or quick morning chores.
 - a. Doing these things voluntarily adds beauty and value to your life.
 - b. Taking an extra five or ten minutes to help with the dishes, dust, put clothes in the washer, etc., means a great deal to your mother, especially if she's facing a busy day.
 - c. Remember that Mom is not your slave and that you warm her heart when you consider her feelings.
 4. It would be nice to give Dad a hug and let him know you love him.
 - a. In your dad's eyes, this little gesture adds a great deal of charm and sparkle to your character.
 - b. Don't forget that he cares for you deeply and works hard to provide for your needs and the extra things you want in life.
 - c. Make your hugs a regular habit.
 5. Discipline yourself to carry out your parents' wishes and prove that you can be trusted.
 - a. You break your parents' hearts when they catch you in deceit, telling lies or betraying their faithful training.
 - b. Commit yourself to obey their instruction, even when they're not around.
 - c. Don't cave in to the influence of your peers when they're tempting you to engage in dishonorable practices.

6. Be dependable and follow through with assigned chores and responsibilities.
 - a. Far too few teenagers in society today have this depth of character.
 - b. Yet, it's the distinguishing mark that will give you the edge in being successful.
 - c. Your mom and dad will be more inclined to help you get ahead when you've proved yourself to be trustworthy and responsible.
7. Try hard to be pleasant and sweet-natured as an on-going way of life.
 - a. For starts, avoid beginning the day in a sour, grumpy, irritable attitude.
 - b. Watch your mood swings and force yourself to be cheery and thoughtful.
 - c. Brighten the lives of your family and friends by being courteous, kind and caring.
 - d. Smile from within and it'll show on your face.
8. Set high personal standards and build good habits.
 - a. This involves a variety of daily disciplines.
 1. *Going to bed on time.*
 2. *Eating breakfast.*
 3. *Curtailing junk foods.*
 4. *Setting aside time for school assignments.*
 5. *Resisting too much TV.*
 6. *Be meticulous in hygiene and grooming.*
 7. *Get organized and fulfill your priorities.*
 - b. When you achieve high ideals, you build self-respect.
9. Make a special effort to respect and honor your parents.
 - a. Always uphold the family name and never permit yourself to disgrace it.
 - b. Realize that your parents simply cannot grant every request you make.
 - c. Some things would be harmful to you, or you may be too young to handle some situations (dating, parties, overnight trips, etc.).
 - d. Be patient and understanding when your parents make mistakes and never hold them in contempt.
 - e. Listen to their counsel and seek their advice when you face difficult problems.
 - f. Remember there's no one on earth who loves you like your parents.
 - g. When you fulfill the Fifth Commandment sincerely from the heart, you have the promise of God's special blessings.
 - h. Eph. 6:2-3 — *'Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; (3) That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.'*
10. Don't neglect study and prayer and make God a part of your daily life.
 - a. Your life will run much more smoothly and successfully when you seek to please God.
 - b. He will give you added favor and abundant blessings when you humbly and thankfully obey His Word.
 - c. Rather than losing friends, walking with God will make you more appealing and attract others to you.
 - d. Even though you're only a teenager, God will grant you special understanding to live life wisely if you diligently seek it.
 - e. Prov. 8:17 — *'I love them that love me; and those that seek me early shall find me.'*

V. This, then, is how you become a million-dollar daughter!

— END —