

# Contagious Enthusiasm

“Dad, Dad, guess what, guess what?” she screamed as she bounded into the room and jumped into her father’s lap.

“What? What?” he responded with equal vigor and enthusiasm.

One of the greatest joys of his life was seeing his 7-year-old daughter Crystal’s contagious love of life. In fact, she seemed to attack life with a voracious appetite for discovery unknown to him in any other child.

Before she could reply, he remembered a similar time two years earlier when Crystal came home from school with a brochure that described the coral reefs found in the Florida Keys. At that time she could not read yet, but her teacher had read the brochure to the class, and she remembered it nearly word for word.

A couple of weeks later, on a glass-bottom boat ride over the reefs, Crystal delighted everyone on board by identifying the types of coral even before the guide could point them out to the group. She wanted to share her newfound knowledge with everyone.

Shaking him from his reverie, Crystal announced with glee, “My picture won first place in the County Art Fair!”

The father’s heart was overwhelmed with joy as he shared in her accomplishment – asking detailed questions about how she arrived at the subject, the comments of her classmates and the teacher, what the judges said in their evaluation that led to the award, and praising her discipline and hard work.

He was so proud of her.

More importantly, he was so glad that God had blessed his life through Crystal, and he was delighted to hear the news she brought.



Every father can identify with this one. And each can recall stories of jubilation at the accomplishments of a child.

Be certain of this: God, the Father, also takes great joy in *our* accomplishments. Wouldn’t it be neat to rush into His presence, jump into His lap and scream, “Guess what? Guess what?” whenever we achieve a life goal, or acknowledge a special

blessing, or see someone saved into the Kingdom because of something we said or did?

Yes, He already knows, but still, He enjoys our thankfulness and He loves our enthusiasm.

He is, after all, our Father.

*Let them ever shout for joy* (Psalm 5:11 KJV).

– Beecher Hunter