

## Testimony by Life

By: Edwin Fisher

The other day a cousin, Wade, went home to Heaven after a long battle with cancer. He left behind a very large family both immediate and extended. But he left something else behind that shadows all other accomplishments in his life. He left behind his testimony.

Not just prerecorded words or a written list of things thankful for, but a life long lived testimony for the Lord.

When I was younger Wade's father-in-law, Calvin, was my Sunday School teacher. In his later years, Wade stepped in to help out when Calvin just couldn't teach anymore. For the next two years Wade taught the class out of Proverbs chapter 8. It was one of his favorite passages to teach. He taught about wisdom...God's wisdom. Wade taught that following the Lord's guidance was the wisest thing a person could do. He taught us that the more we knew about the Bible, and life, the better off we would be. He even offered a \$100.00 reward to the first person in the class that would memorize Proverbs chapter 8. His money was safe, none of us memorized it, but most of us remember the lesson.

As Wade journeyed through life, he helped out where he could. He took in children that were not his by being a foster parent. He showed them love. He showed them God. He showed them God's love. I remember Wade standing by his daughter through a particularly tough time. A time when some parents would gladly stand in the background. Not Wade. He stood proudly by his family in the good times and the bad. He was a pillar upon which they could lean because he was leaning on Jesus. Even during his long illness Wade would say he was blessed.

Wade left behind the only thing one can leave...a life long lived testimony for Jesus Christ. He just didn't say it, he didn't write, he didn't record it on tape...he lived it. He left his spiritual fingerprint on more lives than can be counted. But the Lord knows them all. Wade has gained more than he left behind, and I doubt he would trade any of it now.

My hope is that I too can leave behind a testimony such as this. I hope that I live my life in a way that those whom are around me can see Jesus. I hope they can see His love, His mercy, His grace, His wisdom, His Word. I hope my family won't struggle to write my obituary. I hope that I would have lived a life where it writes itself. I hope I will have lived a life where they know where I'm going. I hope I will have lived a life where they will know how to come and see me.

I hope when all said and all is done, that my life...is my testimony.