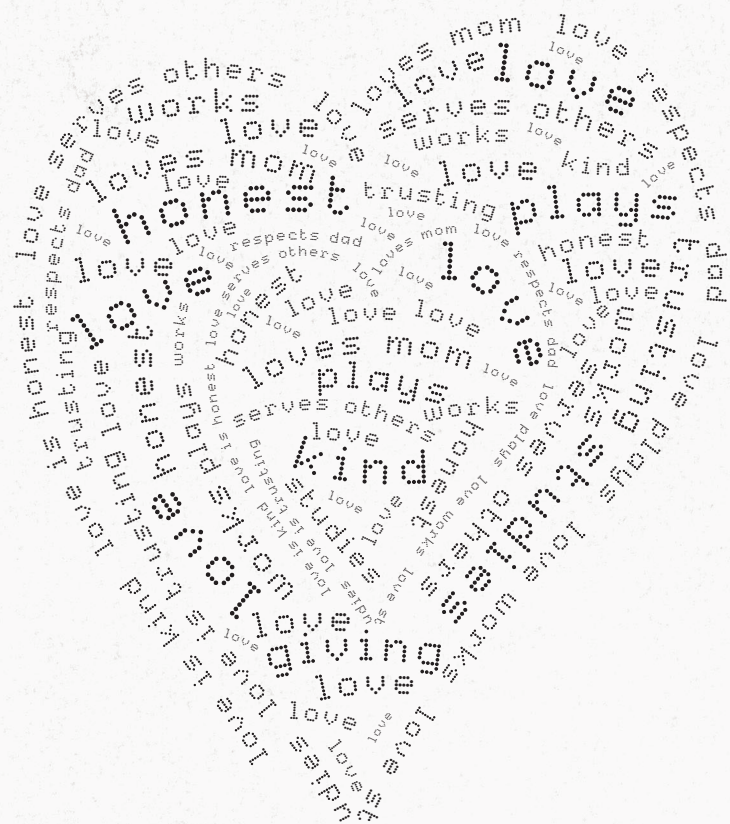


# 11 N 11

Boyd Bailey & William Faulk









Gentlemen:

Tick, tick, tick goes the clock as your precious little girl grows, grows, grows. Home from the hospital. First steps. First birthday. Driving. Off to college. How did that happen? Where did the time go? Time will stop for no man, therefore we should strive to cherish each moment now.

Tonight is one of those moments. Why not commit to be much more intentional about spending time with your girl? Consider a date each month – eleven dates in 2011 – 11 N 11. Nothing fancy required, just some one-on-one time doing something she will enjoy and getting to know one another.

Sometimes we, as fathers, aren't sure how to really talk with our daughters, especially when they are young. The booklet that you hold in your hands is but one resource that you may consider to guide conversation during your time together. Let it serve as a catalyst for more ideas and renew your passion to optimize the remaining time that you have with your daughter, before she walks out the door.

Seize the moments,

Boyd Bailey Father of Four Daughters

William F. "Woody" Faulk Father of Three Daughters







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## How to Use This Booklet

The following pages have been organized into eleven individual dates for you to have with your daughter. Each monthly date suggests a location, a time, and topics for discussion. If you have more than one daughter, schedule individual dates with each of them. The goal is to build a relationship with each of your girls, not to group them all at once. They want one-on-one time with just you. Don't take shortcuts if you wish to maximize your relationship.

It takes time.



A suggested next step is to pull out your calendar, Blackberry, iPhone, etc. and proactively book time with each daughter. Practically speaking, the time will probably be on weekends - at least during the school year - so select the date that best works for your family. Also, bear in mind where your daughter is in her physical and mental development when selecting the time of day. Don't select a time that works best for you; rather choose wisely a time when she will be at her best.

Take it a step further and actually send her a handwritten invitation a week or so out, so that she has something to look forward to and enjoy anticipating.

Feel free to use the material in this booklet, or create your own. The magic is in the time you spend together and in discovering one another - not in following a formula. Do not approach this as a *to do* exercise; focus instead on wanting *to be* together. Your plans may completely fall apart depending on what is going on at the present, but that's okay; just remain flexible and steadfast in spending the time together. Then you may enjoy the rewards of a greater intimacy and deeper relationship with your young princess.





## How to Date Your Daughter

The key to making the most of these special times with your daughter is to really focus on her. Think back to when you were dating your wife: you probably refrained from checking your phone and e-mail. The same holds true for your daughter. She senses and knows if you are not giving her your all. She wants your full, undivided attention during your date. Give it to her.

Secondly, even though she may be young, model the behavior you want her to expect from men in the future. The way you treat her (and her mother) sets the bar for future suitors. Talk to her in a respectful, engaging manner. Teach her the art of conversation. Look her in the eyes when she is speaking. Listen to her. Open the door for her. Pull out her chair. It sounds very elementary, but you would be surprised at how many men forget, or have never been taught, these basics. And you will be surprised at the impact it will have on your daughter when you treat her like a lady.

Third, be prepared. Have something to do and have something to say. On the next page are some idea generators for activities to share. Each monthly date has suggested topics so you will have something to discuss.

"You are  
beautiful" and  
"Above all,  
I love you".



Fourth, embrace the spontaneous moments to create "only you two" memories. You never know what magic can occur when you are spending time together. These moments weave the memories into what she will remember about you, and what you will remember about her.

Finally, and most importantly, look her in the eyes after every date and tell her two things: "You are beautiful" and "Above all, I love you." That is what every girl wants and needs to hear from her father. She can never hear it enough. Nothing will build her self-esteem more than consistently hearing these two messages from you.

### Where to Go/What to Do :

- Bike rides in neighborhoods or local trails
- Visit the local park or state parks
- Visit the local playground
- Camp Out - backyard and beyond
- Breakfast out at a place she likes
- Lunch out at a place she likes
- Dinner out at a place she likes
- Trip for ice cream
- Trip to coffee shop
- Travel together on business trips
- Daddy Daughter day at work
- Shopping



















## JUNE - LOVE RESPECTS DAD

Day of Date .....

Location .....

### THE BIG PICTURE

Fathers love their children, and need to be loved in return. But in addition to love, it is also important to show him your respect. Dads work hard outside the home to provide a comfortable living inside the home. Sometimes it is easy to let your feelings get away from you when you show disrespect by talking back, not listening, or disobeying. When this happens, try to remember that this is hurtful. Go back to your dad, apologize, and ask for forgiveness. Dads feel loved when their little girls honor them with respectful words and attitudes. Show dad respect by trusting and obeying him with a smile.

### CONVERSATION STARTERS

1. I feel most respected by my daughter when she...
2. I feel most disrespected by my daughter when she...
3. As a son and dad, here are ways I still respect my father...
4. Here are some ways I commit to respect my wife and children...
5. My love language as a father is...

### FUN IDEAS

1. Let Dad chose any restaurant to have lunch or dinner on Father's Day.
2. Make him "King for the Day" with no responsibilities, just to be spoiled.
3. Write dad a nice note describing what you admire about him.



## FOR DAD'S EYES ONLY

Be totally honest about your desire to be respected by your daughter. Let her know that you are committed to being a man of character, so it is easy for her to respect you for what you say and do. Also know that your model of love and respect for your wife is contagious to your daughter. Hold your wife in high esteem, and your daughter will do the same for your wife and you.

- What did I learn about my daughter?
- What did I feel today?
- Based upon this insight, do I need to take action in any area? If so, what?

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*"Any man can be a father. It takes someone special to be a dad."*  
- Author Unknown





JULY - LOVE PLAYS

Day of Date .....

Location .....

THE BIG PICTURE

The dad and daughter who play together, stay together emotionally. Discover what you both enjoy doing individually and together.

If she is young, try biking, hiking, roller-skating, horseback riding, camping out, exploring state parks and scenic travel. As she becomes older, try tennis, golf, canoeing, water-skiing or snow-skiing/boarding. Come up with an adventure, activity, or hobby that your daughter enjoys and then take the time and money to enjoy it together.

## CONVERSATION STARTERS

1. What is a hobby you would like to spend more time doing?
2. What low cost activities are fun to you and give you energy?
3. What cities in the United States would you like to visit? Foreign country?
4. What is a dream adventure for you?

## FUN IDEAS

1. Buy tickets to a concert of your daughter's favorite band.
2. Surprise her with a treasure hunt, and let her discover the clues.
3. Ask your daughter to plan a fun Saturday with just the two of you.



FOR DAD'S EYES ONLY

Rules without a relationship leads to rebellion. Therefore it is imperative for you to invest fun time with your daughter. The most teachable moments can be in the middle of really fun play – so play and laugh often.

- What did I learn about my daughter?
- What did I feel today?
- Based upon this insight, do I need to take action in any area? If so, what?

*"Blessed indeed is the man who hears many gentle voices call him father!" - Lydia M. Child*













NOVEMBER - LOVE IS THANKFUL

Day of Date .....

Location .....

THE BIG PICTURE

No one has ever complained of too much appreciation. Thank each other often for what you mean to one another. Thank the other for their kind smile, their caring words, their encouraging attitude, and their heart of love.

A grateful daughter and dad are able to be content with who they are and what they have. They do not need things to make them happy for they are so blessed to enjoy what they already have: faith, family, food and health.

## CONVERSATION STARTERS

1. What are you thankful for the most?
2. What do you appreciate the most about your daughter?
3. What do you appreciate the most about your dad?
4. How can you express your gratitude to your family, friends, teachers, coaches and others?

## FUN IDEAS

1. Call your wife and daughter every day in November and thank them for something specific.
2. Write a note to a friend for a recent kind deed they extended to you.
3. Write out all the things you are thankful for today and see who can make the longest list.



FOR DAD'S EYES ONLY

Do you often appreciate your wife, children, parents, friends and work associates? If you do, how do you express it in a way that they notice? Your grateful heart generates gratitude in your children. Build them up with words of affirmation that highlight their strengths and grow their confidence. Do not underestimate the power of your words.

- What did I learn about my daughter?
- What did I feel today?
- Based upon this insight, do I need to take action in any area? If so, what?

*"If you want your children to improve, let them overhear the nice things you say about them to others." - Haim Ginott*







## Resources:

### Books

*She Calls Me Daddy* by Bob Woglemuth

*Shepherding a Child's Heart* by Tedd Trip

*Strong Fathers, Strong Daughters - 10 Secrets Every Father Should Know* by Meg Meeker, MD

### Father Daughter Programs

[www.jhranch.com](http://www.jhranch.com)

### Websites

[www.allprodad.com](http://www.allprodad.com)

[www.wisdomhunters.com](http://www.wisdomhunters.com)

