

From Parent to Child

I gave you life, but I cannot live it for you,
I can teach you things, but I cannot make you learn,
I can give you direction, but I cannot be there to lead you,
I can allow you freedom, but I cannot account for it,
I can take you to Church, but I cannot make you believe,
I can teach you right from wrong, but I cannot always decide for you,
I can buy you beautiful clothes, but I cannot make you beautiful inside,
I can offer you advice, but I cannot accept it for you.
I can give you love, but I cannot force it upon you,
I can teach you to share, but I cannot make you unselfish,
I can teach you to respect, but I cannot force you to show honour,
I can advise you about friends, but I cannot choose them for you,
I can advise you about sex, but I cannot keep you pure,
I can tell you the facts of life, but I cannot build your reputation,
I can tell you about drink, but I cannot say 'No' for you,
I can warn you about drugs, but I cannot prevent you from using them,
I can tell you about lofty goals, but I cannot achieve them for you
I can teach you about kindness, but I cannot force you to be gracious,
I can warn you about sins, but I cannot make your morals,
I can love you as a child, but I cannot place you in God's family,
I can pray for you, but I cannot make you walk with God,
I can teach you about Jesus, but I cannot make Jesus your Lord,
I can tell you how to Love, but I cannot give you Eternal Life.

To you my child!

Fr. Augustine Hourigam C.P.

“Give a lad a training suitable to his character and, even when old, he will not go back on it.

Proverbs 22:6.