

LIKE FATHER LIKE SON

By Rod

This sketch seeks to illustrate the ideas of Psalm 127. It owes a lot to the song "The Cat's in the Cradle" by Harry Chapin. We have not yet performed this so have not worked out full stage directions. But it will go best if illustrated by some actors. Some suggestions are given.

CAST

Dan

Anne His wife

Lee Their son

Work colleague/vicar

On stage are a bed + a desk and chair

We're going to tell the story
Of the life of a certain man.
His name? It could be anything,
But for ease we'll just call him Dan.

Dan is in bed.

[Refrain]

Dan rose up early ev'ry morning,
And he toiled at his work all day.
He was last to leave each ev'ning,
And so he fully earned his pay.

*Alarm clock rings. Dan leaps out of bed.
Dan goes to desk.
Waves goodbye to colleague leaving
Opens wallet*

He became a man of substance,
So was ready to marry a wife.
He worked hard to build their union,
To give Anne a comfortable life.

*Stands up proudly, pats a thick wallet
Enter Anne. He gives ring.
Dan goes to desk.
Anne 'admires' comfortable house, exits*

Refrain

Dan and Anne were blessed with offspring;
A son that they had christened Lee.
Dan said, the proudest of fathers,
"I'll raise him to turn out like me."

*Re-enter Anne holding babe in arms
Enter vicar who takes baby & baptises
Peering at baby, points to self proudly*

Refrain

At bedtime Lee loved a story,
His fav'rite was Winnie The Pooh;
But Mummy did all the reading,
Dad at work, so never there too.

*Enter 'young' Lee who gets into bed.
Holds up book.
Anne goes to sit on bed & read
Dan goes to work desk*

Refrain

Lee got a football for Christmas;
 With his Dad he wanted to play.
 But Dan said, "Sorry I'm busy.
 Let's make it on some other day."

*Lee opens present watched by D & A
 Asks Dan
 Dan goes to work desk.
 Lee looks sad.*

Refrain

Before long Lee was a schoolboy,
 So had work to do of his own.
 He asked for help, but his Dad said,
 "I'm busy son leave me alone."

*Anne dresses Lee in tie and cap
 Lee has homework. Goes to Dan.
 Dan at desk, waves him away.
 Lee looks sad*

Refrain

Lee worked hard, went off to Uni;
 The day came to get his degree.
 But his phone pinged with a message,
 "Busy, son, so can't come to see."

*Lee is at Uni. D & A say goodbye & exit
 Lee dons Uni gown.
 Looks at phone*

Refrain

Lee left home, worked in the city.
 Dan asked "Can you visit today?"
 But Lee said, "Sorry I'm busy.
 Let's make it on some other day."

*Lee sits at work desk.
 D appears on edge of stage with phone.
 They talk on phone
 Dan looks sad. Lee goes to bed.*

[Refrain]

Lee rose up early ev'ry morning,
 And he toiled at his work all day.
 He was last to leave each ev'ning,
 And so he fully earned his pay.

*Alarm sounds. Lee springs out of bed.
 Lee goes to work desk.
 Waves goodbye to work colleague
 Pats wallet. Remains at desk.*

So as Dan entered retirement,
 He mused on his life's legacy.
 "A son who's always to busy,
 Yes a son who's turned out like me."

*Enter Dan with walking stick.
 Looks at Lee working.
 Moves over to be beside working Lee
 Points to self sadly.*

THE END