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"Modern Family Turmoil: Dad Edition"

by
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What In a fun take on the TV show *Modern Family*, a proud and excited dad tells the

audience how great he is as a husband and father. His family chimes in, too. **Themes**: Father's Day, Dad, Relationships, Marriage, Parenting, Conflict

Who Dad

Daughter 1- 15-years-old Daughter 2- older; 16-18 Son- 10-12 years old

Wife

When Present

Wear Couch (Props) Cell phones

Headphones

Laundry basket of clothes

Why Luke 1:17, Titus 2:2, 1 Timothy 3:1-5

How This skit has a very "Modern Family" feel to it. So, characters are overly

exaggerated. The Dad role is played showing the adventures of being a dad. Make sure your audience sees the optimistic side of fatherhood contrasted to

the utter fear of being a dad.

Time Approximately 4 minutes

Dad enters and sits on a couch center stage. He speaks to the audience.

Dad: Ok, let's do this! (As if answering a question) What do I think about

being a dad? I think the question should be "What do I think about being an AWESOME dad!" No, "What do I think about being a COOL dad?" Yep. Look, I know I've got my faults; who doesn't? I mean, sometimes I lose my cool, and sometimes I'm not TOTALLY awesome. But, I think I'm doing pretty good in this area. My kids are healthy, and their friends love me. Not, braggin', but they call me the "cool parent".

The wife's pretty happy, too.

Wife: (enters on that last line and sits beside him) He is a great dad and

husband.

Dad: Right?

Wife: And humble, too.

Dad: (smiles, as if to agree, then realizes she's being sarcastic) Honey, I'm just

trying to encourage the other dads here, help them embrace their "dadness". You gotta admit, the world is pretty hard on us guys. Those TV shows where the dad is a total idiot, those commercials where the

man can't do anything...

Wife: I agree. No, he is a great dad and husband. He's a hard worker, he really

cares about our kids and he takes great care of me, too. He's also

available and pretty thoughtful.

Dad: PRETTY thoughtful?

Wife: Well, honey, we know that sometimes you aren't the greatest model of

"attention to detail".

Dad: What do you mean?

Wife: You remember last Valentine's Day I kept hinting about wanting that

spa day for a gift? I even left a couple of brochures on the foyer table to

give you some suggestions?

Dad: (sighs) Yes...

Wife: And what did you get me?

Dad: A Shiatsu back massager...

Wife: A Shiatsu back massager.

Dad: But, honey, why give you one day of massages when you could have

massages any time you want?

Wife: (to camera) See what I mean?

Dad: I think my idea of thoughtful is different than your idea of thoughtful.

That was pretty thoughtful.

Wife: It was...(raised eyebrow and forced smile at the camera)

Dad: OK.

Son: (enters, playing on his phone; has earphones in. Takes one bud out to

speak) Hey, Dad. We still going to the mall later?

Dad: That's my son. Come on and join us.

Son: Dad...(clearly not wanting to join them)

Dad: Come on. 2 minutes.

Son sits on the floor in front of **Dad**.

Dad: That's my youngest and the only boy. He's my little buddy, my man-in-

training, my partner in crime. (Attempts fist bump, but Son is

preoccupied on the phone)

Wife: Literally.

Dad: Honey, they didn't press charges.

Wife: There was this one time the two of them were attempting to recreate

the fireworks scene from the "Lord of the Rings" movie in the back yard. Things got a little out of hand, and the neighbor's yard was involved.

Son: That was awesome!

Dad: I know, right?! (High-fives Son) Hey, have I mentioned my girls? My

youngest just won a Regenerob science award! Isn't that amazing? Of course, I was a *little* disappointed that they didn't give out brand new robots as a prize. Wouldn't that be awesome?! Scholarship money is good, though, too. Besides, I do a really great robot impression myself.

(**Dad** stands up to do robot dance impression)

Daughter 1: (enters talking on the phone) Can you believe she did that? (Sees Dad

and springs into action) Dad! No, please!

Dad: Hey, hon? Can you come here a minute?

Daughter 1: (covers phone) Dad, please. I just found out Erica got a fellowship to

Princeton.

Dad: That's good, right?

Daughter 1: No, Dad. It's NOT good! She's my age; 15!! I've got to get busy with my college applications now. I can't let her outdo me! This is a disaster...

Daughter 2: (enters as Daughter 1 is exiting) Oh, you don't KNOW disaster!

Daughter 1: Let me guess. You don't have any shoes to go with that outfit.

Daughter 2: No. These shoes go FABULOUS with this outfit. (Questioning herself)
Don't they? Wait. I'm taking advice from you?! (Huff) Never mind.

Son: Ugh. Girl stuff. I'm out. *(Leaves)*

Wife: What's your disaster, sweetie?

Dad:

Daughter 2: The new Snapchat update is horrible! I can't find any of my friend's feeds and I lost my Snapchat streak: 416 days!

Dad: (to camera) This is my oldest. The firstborn. She and I have that total daddy/daughter vibe going on. (Trying to be cool and understanding, speaking directly to Daughter 2) Yeah, that's definitely a disaster. What's up with Scrapchat these days?

Daughter 2: SNAP chat, Dad. Ugh. No one in this house understands the pain that is "my life". (Leaves)

(back to audience) Yeah, things can get a little crazy around here, but I'm cool with it. It's the way family is sometimes. Still, I'm a pretty blessed dude. You see, the trick is to be on top of all the activity going on around here. You know, be "in the know". Not a lot get past me.

Son: (offstage) Hey, Dad. Your leaf pile fire has gotten pretty big.

Dad: I was burning leaves out back! (Jumps up and runs off-stage)

Daughters 1 and **2** enter as **Dad** runs off stage. Both give him a strange look.

Wife: (sigh and smiles) He really is a great man. He's a little goofy, sometimes a tad lazy, and a bit forgetful. But, we love him. (daughters agree) We love the creative gift-giver he is, the way he's always thinking about us, and we all know that we are his first priority. It kinda balances itself out with all the other stuff. Mostly, we just like the fact that he deeply cares about us. We know that we are a family because he makes sure...

Dad: (offstage in a panic) Can I get some help out here?!

Wife: (to Daughter 1 as though this was normal) Honey, can you go get the hose? (To the Daughter 2) Call 911?

Daughter 1 and Daughter 2 both nod and step into action.

Wife: Coming dear! (Exits stage)

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