

“The Paternity Test”

by
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What	When Jay finds out he's going to be a father, he finds a "paternity test" online and is anxiously preparing so he can be a good dad. His friend, Sam, helps teach Jay that there's no studying or planning that can get a man ready for fatherhood. It's all about love. Themes: Father's Day, Dads, Parenting, Love
Who	Sam Jay
When	Present
Wear (Props)	Paper to read from
Why	Psalm 103:13, 1 Corinthians 13:1 -13
How	The conversation between the actors should flow naturally. Even though Jay paces at the beginning of the skit, when dialogue begins, actors should be center stage.
Time	Approximately 4 minutes

At the beginning of the skit, Jay is onstage, scanning the papers nervously, pacing, and talking quietly to himself as if studying. Sam enters the stage with energy, whistling to himself. He stops when he sees Jay and greets him.

Sam: Hi, Jay. What are you up to?

Jay: *(preoccupied, Jay looks up briefly and then resumes studying papers and pacing)* Oh, hey, Sam. I'm studying.

Sam: Are you taking a class or something?

Jay: *(still looking at papers)* Sort of.

Sam: *(concerned)* Well, you seem a little nervous *(waves his hands in front of Jay to get his attention)* and preoccupied.

Jay: *(looking up from papers)* Oh sorry! Actually, I'm glad you're here. I have some great news that I wanted to tell you. I'm going to be a dad! Laura is expecting.

Sam: That's great!

Jay: Right?! So now I need to get ready and I'm running out of time. I want to be an awesome dad! I've got a lot to learn.

Sam: And that's what you're doing now?

Jay: Exactly! Actually, are you free? You've been a dad for a while and I could use some help.

Sam: Sure!

Jay: Sweet! Well, I started to do some research online and was trying to find some tools to see if I was ready to be a dad. I searched under "paternity test" and a lot of interesting stuff came up.

Sam: *(uncertain)* Uh, I can imagine.

Jay: Yeah. Well, at any rate, I finally found this test here *(referring to the papers in his hand)*. The website said that if you can pass this test, you will know everything you need to know about being a dad.

Sam: If only it were that easy! Jay, unfortunately, it doesn't really work that way.

Jay: *(pleading)* Please, Sam! I'm so nervous, I have to try something.

Sam: *(sighs)* Okay, let's see what it says. Hand it over.

Jay hands over the paper. Sam looks over the paper.

Jay: Thanks! I've been studying. Start with question one.

Sam: *(looking over the questions)* Jay, I know you're nervous, but I really don't think—

Jay: Please!

Sam: *(sighs resignedly)* Alright. Question one. What 5 words should dads use at the beginning of all advice to their kids?

Jay: *(trying to remember)* Hold on a sec...I'm thinking...Oh yeah! "When I was your age?"

Sam: Correct. Question number two. For the following question, fill in the blank to complete the common dad phrase. "Close the door! Were you raised in a 'blank?'"

Jay: Barn!

Sam: Right. Question number 3. How can a dad keep his child from making bad choices?

Jay: Often say: "If your friend jumped off a bridge, would you jump off, too?"

Sam: Okaaaay. Look, Jay, I really think we should talk about this "paternity test" *(makes air quotes)*. It doesn't seem—

Jay: Come on, Sam! I'm on a roll.

Sam: *(resignedly)* Fine. Next question. When a child does something wrong, how should a dad address the problem?

Jay: Tell your child, "You must get that from your mother's side."

Sam: *(laughing)* Yeah, but you might not want to use that around Laura.

Jay: *(smiles)* I think you might be right!

Sam: Alright. This next question is about a dad's car rules. You are driving down the road and your kids start arguing in the backseat. What should you say?

Jay: Don't make me stop this car! You don't want me to come back there! Or, "I'll turn this car around"?

Sam: Yep. Finally, here's the bonus question: What is the appropriate attire for a dad?

Jay: Anything you want, but every year, the waist line of your pants should be raised an 8th of an inch.

Sam: *(rolls his eyes)* Ummm...Jay, I don't want to disappoint you, but I don't think this stuff is really going to help you.

Jay: *(sighs)* I know you're probably right. But, I'm so nervous and I just want to be ready. How in the world do you prepare to be a good father?

Sam: Jay, first you have to stop panicking! You ARE going to make mistakes. We all do. But our own heavenly Father supplied us with the best test question answer we ever need to know about being an awesome dad.

Jay: Really?

Sam: Yes! Through His example, He shared the 3 most important words in a dad's vocabulary.

Jay: Is that on my papers? I don't remember. Is it, "Don't do that?"

Sam: *(laughs)* Not quite. It's the phrase "I love you." If you say it, mean it, and live it, you'll be an awesome dad.

Jay: I'm sure that's not as easy as it sounds, but I'm willing to give it a try...especially if it means I can keep my waist line where it is!

Lights down.