

Small Sufferings

By Glenn Currier

The life of parents is guaged in teaspoons
of sweat, vinegar, blood and tears
in early mornings and tire of late afternoons
all collected in a cup of salvation for years.

Small sufferings and moments of pain
become sacrifice for a child's little sins
so the youth won't suffer the blame,
cost of loss, but the joy of life's wins.

All these payments made without wrath
may never be repaid to them in their time
but lessons taught will etch a path
for a child to grow up into its prime.

Anyone who loves the unkind
or selfish or one who has spurned
virtue or left goodness behind
pays debts the errant don't earn.

Author's Note: Dedicated to Kevin Williford in honor of his forthcoming work: *Serving in the Lord's Blackberry Patch*.

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