

Leave it better

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Am Em/B C D -
G D/F# Em C
A saying of my father that always stays with me
G/B D/A G D
Is "Leave your campground better than you found."
G D/F# Em C
We'd pick it up, pack it out, tidy up the ground and
D - C G
Leave stacked firewood dry for the next to come around.

Am Em C G
To leave it as he found it was not good enough for Dad
Am C - D - -
To leave it better was his way, the philosophy he had.

G D/F# Em C
It started pouring half-way up, we passed men hiking down -
G/B D/A G D
Back-packing boys, a mountain, and a storm.
G D/F# Em C
We climbed 'til lightning flashed the dark then tented on the ground.
D - C G
We could have used dry firewood. It might have kept us warm.

Am Em C G
To leave it as he found it was not good enough for Dad
Am C - D
To leave it better was his way, the philosophy he had.

G D/F# Em C
 Now home's a place we live ... and share with others close
 G/B D/A G D
 The best and worst of what we are made of.
 G D/F# Em C
 When tempers flare, doors slam, seems no one gives a damn,
 D - C G
 Just listen with your heart, somebody's asking for your love.

Em - G -
 Sometimes I miss you, Dad.....
 Am7 - C D
 Perhaps I always will.....
 Em - -e- d Em7/b
 Although your words were few.....
 D ' - ' -f# ' -f# '
 I can hear you still..... The fact is

G D/F# Em C
 We're just passing through --- camping on this earth.
 G/B D/A G D
 How are we leaving it for those who come next?
 G D/F# Em C
 The extinctions, warming, fouling are a test of our worth? Will we
 D - C G -
 (Will we) just say, "Hey, we tried"? No! We can't leave such a mess!

Am Em C G
 To leave it as he found it was not good enough for Dad
 Am C - D
 To leave it better was the way, I learned as a lad.
 Am C D G
 Yes, "Leave it better, that's the way." I still hear you Dad.