

MEET

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show love for
his family.

Some people want to read a play by Shakespeare, a steamy novel or even comic books. For Dallas Farmer, from Nashville, TN, learning to read an instruction manual was his goal. Without improving his reading skills, Farmer says, "I was going to be stuck right here at this job for the rest of my life."

Today, Dallas can read well. He has learned to use instruction manuals to fix cars. He can use an index and a table of contents to look things up. He can read diagrams of car engines and brake drums and can connect the pictures and the words. He points to an auto: "The owners already had two garages look at this old car." Dallas laughs, "Within 35 minutes I figured out what the problem was."

It wasn't just his career, however, that made Dallas get the education he needed. It was his kids. "When I was a kid I didn't have nobody to help me. It was rough."

WORKING IT OUT

When his children started to need help with their school work, Dallas entered an adult education center. His homework became as important as his kids' work. Doing the homework for himself and helping his children with theirs, was just as rough as when he was a child. Common sense, though, told Farmer that learning to read well and getting an education was one of the best ways to show his love for his family.

To Dallas, it was sort of like bowling. "If you keep putting forth that effort, you will get a strike."

Dallas Farmer is too busy to read Shakespeare. Instead he's learning more about cars, his kids and, most important, himself.



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