

A Message from Pastor Travis Dean

November 2009

I have spent quite a bit of time with my son, Elijah, at the doctor's office and the hospital. I'm sorry to say that each time he has been the patient, not me. Some of the experiences have been pretty traumatic for him.

One time in particular stands out in my mind. I believe it was when we were at the Pediatric clinic. There were several nurses in the room trying to get a piece of metal out of Elijah's eye. As they left the room, Elijah was crying. He looked around the room and then looked at me. Suddenly I felt what I thought Elijah must have been thinking, "Where can I go to be comforted?" I was moved with the thought, "He has nowhere else to go." I was the only one there who could comfort him.

What must it be like to be so dependent? I could only imagine.

Jesus gives a wonderful invitation to hurting people in Matthew 11:28-30. He says, "Come to Me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

We all need to be comforted at times. Sometimes we need a listening ear. Other times we just need some ice cream. But there are times when Jesus is the only one who can comfort us. The devil would like us to think in these times that we don't have anywhere to go. But Jesus extends His invitation to us, "Come to Me, all who are weary and burdened." It's like He is speaking to people who have tried everything else. When you don't know where else to turn, turn to Him. He is gentle, approachable, and a great listener.

I want to be like Elijah. When I look around and don't see anyone else I can turn to, Jesus is there.