

A Message from Pastor Travis Dean

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Jesus says unless we become like little children we will not make it to heaven (Matthew 18:3). With this in mind, I have sought to be a student of our children. They are little gifts from God. And they have a lot of wisdom to share.

When Elijah was 9 months old, we started teaching him sign language. We had heard that babies are able to learn sign language before they are able to talk. The first sign he learned was "milk". My wife provided some incentive by insisting he give the sign before being able to nurse. Another sign he learned quickly was "more". He used this one at meal time when he wanted more food. The sign he learned, though, that made the most impression on me was "please". I remember walking into the room and seeing him in an obvious predicament. When he saw me, he made the sign for "please".

This was the first time that I sensed this kind of connection with my son. He was asking me for help! I felt like he was giving me a window into his needs and desires. He was in a situation that was impossible for him. And he asked me to do the "impossible".

Like Elijah, I often face situations where I need help. Sometimes my wife can help me. Sometimes a salesperson in Home Depot can help me. Sometimes only God can help me. Unfortunately, it often takes some time for me to ask for help. Here also, Elijah is a lesson for me.

According to Luke 11:9-13, my heavenly Father wants to help me so much more than I want to help Elijah. When I see Elijah in need of help, everything inside of me responds to his request. I don't have to think twice about it. It bothers me when he tries to do the "impossible" on his own. When God sees me in a predicament, everything inside of Him wants to help me. The only problem is, I don't always ask for help. And when I do, sometimes it takes me a while.

There's a great song entitled, "What a Friend We Have in Jesus". In this song it says, "Oh, what peace we often forfeit. Oh, what needless pain we bear; all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer."

May God help us to be quick in asking for help. Life is full of impossible situations for us. But what is impossible for us, is possible for God.