

A recent airplane crash had sent unsettling shock waves of fear through my daughter. "Planes are safer than driving, Ashley," I said reassuringly. "Besides, my life is in God's hands and He knows what He's doing." By now my tender-hearted young Ashley was clutching my hand in both of hers, and I could see that my theological lesson had fallen short of its mark. Fear was visible on her face.

I went on to explain that fear is a normal emotion, but that she could give it to God. "You're in the process of learning how to depend less on me and more on Him," I said. "I won't always be here to answer your questions-but God will. Now, it's as if there are invisible electrical cords coming from you to me and your mum. And our responsibility is to unplug those cords from us and teach you how to plug them into God." I then took one of her hands and gently "unplugged" one of those "invisible strands" from me. She frowned and then grinned as I guided her hand above her head and helped her visualise plugging into God.

"Ashley," I said as I tenderly squeezed her hand, "I need to go, and you're going to have to take your fear to Jesus Christ. He can give you the peace." As I pulled out of the driveway, I waved at Ashley and she grinned back. I thought about how the culture she is growing up in doesn't know where to "plug in." I was glad I could point her to the Lord.

Prayer:

Ask God to enable you to model a life that is "plugged into" God-dependant on Him.

Discuss:

Are there any areas of your life where you aren't dependant? What can you do to begin teaching your children how to become dependent upon God?



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Dependence on God

Families should be a place of security-but also a place where parents teach their children that ultimate security is in God's hands, not ours.

Dennis writes:

One morning as I pulled out of our garage to go to the airport, my daughter Ashley, then a pre teen, rushed out to give me one more hug. I could tell something was troubling her. Reaching out through the car window to hold her hand, I asked, "What's wrong, Princess?" "I'm afraid your aeroplane is going to crash," she said, obviously a bit embarrassed by her admission.





Trusting God

The Right Note



(Deuteronomy 29:29) ""The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but those things which are revealed belong to us and to our children forever.."

We will look at three examples of how our responsibility and God's sovereignty are to be held in tension:

1. _____ constantly (For God is able to _____), Acts 4:23-24

(Philippians 4:6) "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;"

(Matthew 5:44) ""But I say to you, ...pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,"

(Matthew 6:9) ""In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name."

(Matthew 9:38) ""Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.""

(John 16:24) ""Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full."

(Ephesians 3:20) "..[He] who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us,

(1 Chronicles 5:18) "The sons of Reuben, the Gadites, and half the tribe of Manasseh had forty-four thousand seven hundred and sixty valiant men, men able to bear shield and sword, to shoot with the bow, and skillful in war, who went to war."

(1 Chronicles 5:22) "for many [of the enemy] fell dead, because the war was God's. And they dwelt in their place until the captivity."

(1 Chronicles 5:20) "... He heeded their prayer, ..."

(Ephesians 6:18) "praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, ..;"

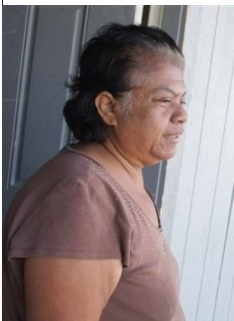
(Nehemiah 4:7-9) "Now it happened, when Sanballat, . . ., and the Ashdodites heard that the walls of Jerusalem were being restored and the gaps were beginning to be closed, that they became very angry, {8} and all of them conspired together to come and attack Jerusalem and

create confusion. {9} Nevertheless we made our prayer to our God,"
(Acts 27:29) "... they dropped four anchors from the stern, and prayed for day to come."

(Philemon 1:22) "But, meanwhile, also prepare a guest room for me, for I trust that through your prayers I shall be granted to you."

(Psalms 127:1) "Unless the LORD builds the house, They labor in vain who build it; ..."

(1 Thessalonians 5:17-18) "pray without ceasing, {18} in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."



2. Act _____ (for God's way is _____), Acts 4:31, 33

(John 3:7) "".. 'You must be born again.'"

(Acts 17:30) ""Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent,"

(Romans 10:13) "For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.""

(Galatians 3:3) "Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh?"

(1 Chronicles 5:19-20) "They made war with the Hagrites,

{20} And they were helped against them, and the Hagrites were delivered into their hand, and all who were with them.."

(Nehemiah 4:9) "Nevertheless we made our prayer to our God, and because of them we set a watch against them day and night."

(Nehemiah 4:15-16) "And it happened, when our enemies heard that it was known to us, and that God had brought their plot to nothing, that all of us returned to the wall, everyone to his work.

{16} So it was, from that time on, that half of my servants worked at construction, while the other half held the spears, ..."

(Acts 27:18-19) "... the next day they lightened the ship.

{19} On the third day we threw the ship's tackle overboard with our own hands."

(Acts 27:28-29) "And they took soundings ... {29} Then....

they dropped four anchors from the stern, ..."

(Acts 27:36) ".. and also took food themselves."

(Psalms 127:4) "Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, So are the children of one's youth."

(1 Corinthians 15:10) ".. I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me."



3. Always _____ on _____ (for _____ can never _____),

Acts 4:24, 27-28

(1 Chronicles 5:20) "And they were helped against them, and the Hagrites were delivered into their hand, and all who were with them, for they cried out to God in the battle. He heeded their prayer, because they put their trust in Him."

(Nehemiah 4:14) "And I looked, and arose and said to the nobles, to the leaders, and to the rest of the people, "Do not be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, great and awesome, and fight for

your brethren, your sons, your daughters, your wives, and your houses."

(Acts 27:25) ""Therefore take heart, men, for I believe God that it will be just as it was told me."

(Psalms 37:3) "Trust in the LORD, and do good; ..."

(Matthew 7:11) ""If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!"

