

Daddy Still Loves You

Dinner was finished. The boys had washed their faces and brushed their teeth. They had their usual playtime to let their food digest and then it was time for bed. We had gathered at the foot of their beds for our family prayer and they had been tucked in bed for the night. Mommy sang her nightly rendition of “Amazing Grace.” It was another day coming to a close. Finally, we could settle in for the evening.

Of course, if you have kids, you know they can think of a million reasons to get up after going to bed! They need a drink. They’re hungry. They’ve got to go potty. They have to tell mommy something.

About 30 minutes had passed, the program had started, and it looked like we were going to be able to watch it without interruption. Ah, the bliss! All of a sudden, our youngest was there, appearing out of nowhere (How do they do that!)? In an irritated little voice, he said, “Turn that down!” OK! I’ll give him that one. Maybe the TV was a little too loud. He then went to mommy, whispered a few things in her ear, and she followed him down the hall towards his room.

Upon her return, she asked, “Did you hear what he was telling me in the hall?” I had not. She then imitated him in a tearful, pleading voice of forlorn despair, “Daddy thinks we’re downstairs playing, but we’re not! We’re in here trying to go to sleep! Daddy doesn’t love little children anymore!” With that, I had to laugh out loud!

Isn’t that how we can be with our heavenly Father? Something happens in life that interferes with our smooth sailing and we immediately think He doesn’t love us anymore. “If He still loved me, He wouldn’t have let me lose my job!” “If He still loved me, He wouldn’t have let me get cancer!” “If He still loved me, He wouldn’t have let me lose my loved one!” How easy it is for us to resort to, “Daddy doesn’t love me anymore.”

Here’s the reality though; God loves you. Always! He loves you even when life is hard. He loves you when you don’t love Him. He graciously loves you even though you don’t deserve it. Why? Because that’s who God is and how God loves.

The Scripture says in 1 Chronicles 16:34, “O give thanks to the LORD, for *He is* good; for His lovingkindness is everlasting.”

One might say, “Well, He wouldn’t love me if He knew this about me.”

Newsflash: God knows everything about us and He still loves us. He proved it by sending Jesus to pay our penalty, so that we could have a relationship with Him.

1 John 4:10 says, “In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins.”

O give thanks to the Lord! Daddy still loves you!