When I Am Afraid

Psalm 56:3



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TOPICS: Assurance & Comfort; Faith; Living in Christ; Peace in Christ

LEAD-IN: When I am afraid,

I will trust in you...

In God I trust; I will not be afraid.

What can mortal man do to me? (Psalm 56:3-4, NIV)

LEAD-IN DEVOTIONAL READING:

Trust Your Father

Have you ever listened to children when they're on an outing? It doesn't matter what magnificent sights they could be seeing. Their requests are, "I'm thirsty . . . ," "Do we have to . . . ," "I'm tired . . . ," "I wish we could . . ." They react out of temporary desires. They speak out of pain, fatigue, or false expectations. They don't know what's best for them. They can't see the whole picture.

I think about our Heavenly Father listening to our desires and requests. He's listened for thousands of years. He knows that what we want often has nothing to do with our happiness. We react out of pain or fatigue or false expectations. We don't know what's best. We can't see the whole picture.

No wonder God sometimes seems to ignore our fervent requests and desires.

Think of it this way:

If you're married, you know what it takes for two very-different people to live happily together.

So imagine what is necessary for beings like us--who are focused on the moment and on our own comfort--to have a long-term relationship with a Being like God--who sees all of time at once and is all-wise and all-loving.

For such a relationship to endure the hard times, we must keep trusting Him. We must keep our hands in His and stay committed to Him, no matter what. For it's inevitable that much of the time, we won't understand where He is leading or how He is working.

We are His children. We can't see the whole picture. We don't know what's best. We must keep trusting our Father's love.

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