

Devotional for Families with kids for Sunday, October 25th

## God Sees Our Needs

*<sup>30</sup>If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? <sup>31</sup>So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' <sup>32</sup>For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. <sup>33</sup>But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Matthew 6:30-33*

Meri sat on the bench at the mall, swinging her legs and watching the people go by. She loved "people-watching," as her mom called it. Her mom sat next to her, sipping some soda and checking things off her list, so she wasn't paying attention. But Meri couldn't take her eyes off all the crowds of moving people – busy people, rich people, angry people, colorful people, laughing people, impatient people – all kinds of people!

Suddenly, Meri took in a quick breath and stopped swinging her legs. A teen-aged boy was walking by, but there was something wrong with him. His face was all flushed red and his eyes were squeezed tightly shut. It looked like he had been crying really hard, and like he might just start up again. He was holding an open cell phone, but it did not seem like he was talking to anyone.

Meri had never seen a boy cry, nevermind a boy walking around crying in a public mall. There are people everywhere in a shopping mall. There are hidden cameras. Meri wondered if someone had called the boy on his cell phone and given him some bad news. She pulled on her mom's elbow to get her attention, but by then the boy was rounding the corner and going into the restrooms. Meri felt sorry about the boy. She wished she could have helped him feel better, but she didn't know what to do or say that might have helped.

The crying boy that Meri saw at the mall probably did not go to the mall expecting to burst into tears. He probably went to buy junk food or a pair of jeans, or maybe to hang out with some of his friends. But we cannot plan our lives out. Things happen, and sometimes we are very upset by the things that happen – whether our emotions come out as anger, fear, sadness, loneliness, or mixtures of many emotions – those are just natural human responses to things that happen.

Meri felt sad because she saw the crying boy but could not help him. But do you know that Someone else *did* see that boy? God saw him! Even without hidden cameras, God sees all of us, and He knows when we are in need.

What kinds of needs do you have right now? Do you think God sees you? Do you think He knows your needs? Do you think He cares? Even the flowers and birds are taken care of by God. How much more is He able to take care of His people? Matthew 6 teaches us that it is better to be concerned over spiritual, eternal things than it is to worry over eating and drinking and other needs we have.

Food, shelter, health, finances, and clothes – of course, these are not "little" needs to us, but they are very small when you compare them to the "big picture" of God's kingdom. He is a very big God. He is all-powerful, all-knowing, and all-present. He can see what we need. We can trust Him to care about the needs He sees.

### **We can trust God to take care of our needs.**

#### **My Response:**

- » *Do I trust God to see me when I need His help?*
- » *What are some needs I have right now that God could help me with?*
- » *How can I show in my life that I believe God can take care of me?*

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