

Are You

Children's Lesson by
Mrs. Pavlina Davis

March 9th,
2008
Mahomet,
Illinois

Ever Afraid?

Mrs. Davis: Praise the Lord! Are we ready to pray? Isaac, why don't you come a little bit closer to the rest of us?

Isaac: I'm sick.

Mrs. Davis: Oh, you're sick. Well, we'll just pray for you then. Who wants to pray for Isaac? Josiah? Go ahead.

Josiah: *Jesus, I want to thank You for this day and I thank You for Isaac. I ask that You would make him every wit whole and that he would be totally healed, that he would not have to be away from us and that he would be able to join us in everything. In Jesus' name I ask, amen.*

Mrs. Davis: Amen. Caleb, would you like to pray for the children's word?

Caleb: *Jesus, I thank You that we get to come here and be with all these other people, fellowship together and worship You. I ask that You would please help us all to have good attitudes and that we would be smiling and not be grumpy. I ask that You would heal Isaac and make him as clean as snow that he can do the stuff that we do and not be separated because he's sick. In Jesus' name, amen.*

Mrs. Davis: Amen. Did you all hear that? You're supposed to smile and not be grumpy! Do I see the smiles? Yes, I do!

Before we start the word itself, I want to show you several pictures of people. All these pictures have something in common. Do you know what it means that they have something in common? What is it, Isaac?

Isaac: It means they have something that's the same.

Mrs. Davis: They have something that's the same. I want you to look at the pictures and if you know what it is that they all have the same, I want you to raise your hand. All right, Christopher.



Christopher: They are all frowning.

Mrs. Davis: They are frowning. Why are they frowning?

Sophia: They are worrying.

Mrs. Davis: They're worrying. How else can we say it?

Josiah: They're scared.

Mrs. Davis: They are scared. They are very fearful. Tell me: of what is this man fearful? Everybody at once.

Everybody: SHARK!

Mrs. Davis: All right. What can a shark do to you?

Children: Eat you.

Mrs. Davis: Eat you so you would die, right?

Children: Yes.

Mrs. Davis: Okay. How about this poor lady? What is she afraid of? Would somebody eat her so that she would die?

Children: No!

Jonathan: She doesn't want to do anything wrong.

Mrs. Davis: What would the people do to her if she made a mistake?

Children: They would laugh at her.

Mrs. Davis: She is scared that people would laugh at her. What is this man afraid of?

Anna: That a bomb is going to hit him.

Mrs. Davis: That a bomb is going to hit him and something bad is going to happen to him. So, now we know that all these people are really fearful. Are you ever afraid?

Children: Yes.

Mrs. Davis: What are you afraid of?

Josiah: Heights.

Mrs. Davis: Heights. Let us put all the things that we are afraid of on the board.

Caleb: Getting shot in the arm.

Jonathan: Lions.

Mrs. Davis: Lions. You are afraid of lions in the zoo, right?

Jonathan: I am also afraid of bears.

Mrs. Davis: Okay, lions and bears, let's put them in one category. What else are we afraid of? Is somebody here afraid of the dark? Do you ever wake up in the middle of the night and are scared? Or, are you afraid that something might happen to you?

Anna: The hospital.

Mrs. Davis: You are afraid of the hospital. Is anybody afraid that something might happen to their parents? For example, that they might be put in prison? These are some of our fears, aren't they? I think we have plenty of them on our board already.

Let us now look at what the Bible says about fear. Hebrews 2:15 says that the devil bound us through fear and now we are in bondage. Now, it also says that he bound us through fear of death. It doesn't say that the devil bound us through the fear of lions or through the fear of heights. It says that he bound us through fear of death. You see, all of our fears can be put under one roof and we can actually call them all the "fear of death."

So, it is kind of normal to be afraid, isn't it? Everybody is afraid of something. Too bad, the devil bound us and now we are bound and afraid,



right? No! To be afraid is not normal. It is like having a disease. Let me give you an example: Imagine that it is very cold outside and you say to yourself, “Okay, it’s very cold outside and I don’t have a hat and I don’t have a coat.” But then, you go out anyway. Pretty soon you start coughing and then you get pneumonia. You are really sick. Everybody knows that if you go outside in the cold and don’t have your hat and coat on, you could get sick. It is a normal reaction, isn’t it? But you don’t stay

sick for the rest of your life, do you? You want to get healed and you do all you can to get healed. Well, it is the same with fear. It is like a disease and you have to want to get healed of it.

Let us look at what we do when we are sick. The first thing your parents do is pray, right? They lay hands on you and say, “Son, in the name of Jesus, be healed.” But sometimes it happens that the disease is such that God chooses not to heal you right away. What do your parents do next then?

Child: They feel your head.

Another child: They take your temp.

Mrs. Davis: Yes, and sometimes they take you to a doctor, don’t they? What does the doctor do to you?

Moriah: They give you a diagnosis and medicine.

Mrs. Davis: They give you your medicine. And then what? Then, you come home, put the medicine on the table and if you look at it long enough, you are healed, right?

Children: No!

Mrs. Davis: No? So what happens? What do you do?

Child: You have to take your medicine!

Mrs. Davis: Oh, you have to take your medicine! Well, if fear is like disease, then it means that God gives you your remedy for fear, which is found in the Bible, and you have to take it. So, let us go to the Bible and see what our medicine for fear is. Actually, before we look in the Bible, I have some pills here for you to take. Who said they were afraid? Josiah? Take one of these Bible pills. It will heal your fear. What does it say?

Josiah: Love.

Mrs. Davis: Love. Hmm, it's not that difficult, is it? Who else was afraid and wants Bible medicine? Anna, here is one pill for you. Or, maybe you need two of them, don't you? Who else?

Children: Me! Me! Me!

Mrs. Davis: Okay, now you all have a pill that is called LOVE, don't you?

Children: Yes.

Child: I don't.

Mrs. Davis: Well, I am sorry I ran out of my pills, but do you think that God ever runs out of love?

Children: NO!

Mrs. Davis: No, He doesn't. Now, do you think I am making this all up? Let us open our Bibles and go to I John 4 so that you would really believe me that the pill you got is the right pill for fear. I John 4:18 says, *There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear...* What does it mean? It says that if I have perfect love, I am not afraid, because that perfect love casts the fear out. You remember how Brother duCille always teaches us to read the Bible in the converse, don't you? He tells us that it says many things even though they are not exactly written in there. So, if we read this verse in the converse, we will read, *There is much fear without love; if you don't have love, you are afraid.*

Then it says, *...because fear hath torment...* Tell me children: is it pleasant to be afraid?

Children: No.

Mrs. Davis: Fear does torment you, doesn't it? When you get scared of something in the middle of the night, you are tormented. It says further on, *...He that feareth is not made perfect in love.* Verse 19, *We love him, because he first loved us.* HIM means God or Jesus.

Tell me now: How do you know that God loves you?

Johanna: He died for us.

Mrs. Davis: Yes, He died for us. That is how we know that He loves us. It says in I John 3:16, *Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us.* But look at this. Let's read one more scripture and then I will show you something else. I John 4:16 says, *And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth*

in love dwelleth in God, and God in him. We have known and BELIEVED the love that God hath to us. We heard and read that Jesus died for us, but do you really believe it? If you do, then why are you still afraid?

Let me show you another picture. You bigger ones know what this is a picture of, but I want the little ones to tell me. Have you ever seen a picture like this? Isn't it beautiful? Oh man, it's gorgeous, isn't it? What is it?

Rachel: It's space.

Mrs. Davis: Yes, it's space! It has a lot of stars, doesn't it? They look very tiny. Let us look together at Psalm 8:3-4, *When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; 'What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him?'* When David was writing this psalm, he was thinking about the sky and all the things that God made. He looked at the sky and said, "Oh God, when I think about all these stars..." Did you know that when it is really, really, really dark and there are no clouds, you can see about 3,000 stars in the sky? That's a big number! But it is nothing compared to how many stars there actually are. There are many, many stars that we cannot see. When you look at our picture here, you see in between these bright spots, which are the stars, a little dark sky as if nothing was there. However, even though it looks like nothing is there, there are millions, billions, trillions and even more stars there that we cannot see because they are too far away.

Now, God created all of this. Then, He looks upon this earth and sees us, little people. How big do you think we look to Him?



Child: About as an ant.

Mrs. Davis: Okay, now tell me: how many ants are in this world? Or, let me make it easier for you to count: how many ants are in your backyard? You don't even know. How many ants are in your kitchen?

Children: None.

Mrs. Davis: Good for you! Let me tell you there were a

lot of them in my house last summer. I just pray that this summer they would find somewhere else to go. So, you don't know how many ants are in the world. Now, this BIG God, Who made so many stars that we can't even imagine how many there are, looks upon us, those little ants, and not only does He know how many of us are here, but He knows every one of us by name! He even knows how many hairs fall off your head when you brush it in the morning. Actually, not even one hair falls off of your head unless God says, "Yes, it's okay for that hair to fall off." Can you imagine that? This God, Who created the whole universe, sees every single hair on your head.



You have to know, children, that if there was nobody, absolutely nobody in the whole world, God would still send His only Son that He loved more than anything else to die just for you so that He would prove to you that He loves you. Can you imagine that? Can you understand God like that? I admit I can't. He says, "Because I loved you so much, I sent My Son that He would die just and only for you." Do you think God loves you? Can you believe that love that God has for you? We read in John, *And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us.*

So, you think about this BIG God and then you look at the small fear of lions. Who are the lions? Daniel sat with them the whole night in the den and they became his pets, didn't they? How about the hospital? Isn't God greater than the whole hospital, Anna? Isn't He there in the hospital to say, "Anna, I love you so much. You don't have to be afraid of this place." Can you see that? Do you understand that this mighty God came so that we would not be afraid of death anymore? The devil said, "Oh, I've got them. I'll bind them by fear." But we say, "No way!" Think about this: I wake up in the middle of the night and am very afraid. But then I remember, "No way, devil! You will not have me! God said that He loves me with His perfect love and I believe Him. There is nothing for me to be afraid of."

Do you know why I am sharing this word with you? God has been

speaking to me for weeks now about little fears that we have that make no sense because of the love of God. God will not allow anything happen to us or to our parents if we walk with Him unless it is in His perfect plan for your life. Then it means that it is good for you, because this is what God is like. Romans 8:28 says, *And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.*

So, we keep hearing about the atomic war starting soon. I want you to know, children, that because of the love of God there is nothing you have to be afraid of if you believe the love that He has for you and if you walk in that love. Starting today, I want you to exercise the love of God. Any time you are afraid of standing up front and saying something, say first to yourself, "No way! I am not afraid, because God loved me so much that He sent His Son to die for me." Or, when you wake up in the middle of the night, you will say, "No way! I am not going to be afraid of any devil that walks in the dark, because the love of God is here with me." When you look at the sky at night and see the stars, then think of what God has done.

There is so much more we could talk about the love of God and us walking in His love. But we will leave it for some other time. However, before we finish today, let me tell you one more secret about the sky. There is one galaxy in space that is very special. (A galaxy is a group of many, many stars close together.) The people who study stars named it the Spiral Galaxy, because it has a spiral shape. When you get really close to it with the biggest telescope that people ever built, you can see a shape of a cross in the middle of it. You look at it and there is a cross. God put the cross even in the universe so that we, those little ants, would know that God loves us. Will you remember this, children? I want you to remember it and I want you to practice it so that we would overcome the devil and not be afraid of anything he can do because of the love of God for us and in us.

Amen.

