

*"Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled."* -Matthew 5:3-6

*"I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing."* -John 15:5

*"Lord, my heart is not haughty, nor mine eyes lofty: neither do I exercise myself in great matters, or in things too high for me. Surely I have behaved and quieted myself, as a child that is weaned of his mother: my soul is even as a weaned child."* -Psalm 131:1

Stop trying to escape whatever makes you more dependent on the Lord or causes you to more fully sense your need of depending on the Lord for everything. Instead, lean on Him for the willingness and ability to thank Him for the trials and tribulations He sends to help force you to Himself.

By His grace become grateful for them. Let your prayer not be for deliverance. Let

### **A NEW PRAYER**

it be that He will teach you to need Him, trust Him, love Him, lean on Him, depend on Him, run to Him, throw yourself into His arms of love. Let it be that He will teach you to abide and reside in Him, and so receive from Him all you can need for life and godliness.

Let your prayer time become love-time rather than grab-time. Let it be a time of needing Him, enjoying Him, resting in His arms of love. Let it be a time of offering Him your love and worship, however feeble. Let it terminate in peace and joy in His presence.

This will never be, not so long as the emphasis is on your performance. Only when it is on His Person. The emphasis must not

be on your performance but on your position reclining on His bosom. Abiding and residing in Him, the dynamic of His life is yours.

*"When I am weak, then am I strong. ... Most gladly will I rather glory in my infirmities that the power of Christ may rest upon me."*

Go about your affairs in quiet, restful dependence on Him. Live in peace all the day.

Start toward this goal by asking the Lord to make you willing to be needy.



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and request extra copies for distribution.*

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# OH, TO BE NEEDY

—  
*A Key to  
Revival*

By Pastor Ron Marr

Our hope for successful Christian living doesn't lie nearly so much in our achievements as in our willingness to recognize our neediness.

The principles of the kingdom of God are quite opposite from those of this present evil world.

It's more difficult than we dream to forsake the thoughts of this world for those of the one to come.

We 'naturally' assume that success is success and weakness and need the opposite of success. So Paul's statement in 1 Corinthians 12:10 that when he was weak, then he was strong, seems not only contradictory but foolish.

I'll come back to Paul, but right now I

**BUT IT WORKS ... AND NOTHING  
ELSE DOES!**

want to get to you.

You fail!

You let God down!

You feel guilty!

And you run from God.

Now, what does this pattern do for you?

It leaves you in a recurring, or perhaps even in a constant, state of practical separation from the Lord.

This in turn leaves you in a recurring or constant state of disappointment, loneliness, hurt, frustration, and anger.

And you try to cover it up with a pretense that it isn't so. This in turn makes you hypocritical and dishonest with yourself, the Lord, and, of course, others.

Now, if this description doesn't fit you to any extent at all, you may want to pray for those whose case it does describe, and go on to read elsewhere. But if it does, let me assure you there's something better for you.

The last thing I want to encourage is disrespect for Almighty God. He is omnisci-

## DADDY CARES

ent, omnipresent, omnipotent, perfect, infinite, eternal, holy, pure, just, and good. He is majestic with a glory that human eyes can't stand to look upon. And mere words cannot begin to describe His perfections, beauty, and wonder. We must stand in awe.

But this wondrous Person is my Father, my papa, my daddy. Paul says so in Romans 8:15: It is by his Spirit that "we cry, Abba (pappa), Father."

I fear we've completely missed the point of Jesus' teaching about our need to come to God as little children. He said in Matthew 18:3 & 4, "*Except ye be converted (turned around), and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven.*"

Now, what is the one sure thing about children? It is that, whether they willingly recognize it or not, they are dependent on their parents.

Just last evening our granddaughter was 'on her high horse.' I know when she's like that she's headed for trouble. So big four-year-old that she is, I picked her up, laid her down in my arms and tried to cuddle her. No use. She wanted no part of it. She wanted her stubborn, willful independence. So she simply couldn't accept my love.

Remind you of anyone you know?

During a phone conversation with a lady I had counseled regularly for many months, I was offering new counsel. She

## INTO THE WAITING ARMS

interrupted me to say, "I remember you telling me to just lay myself down in the arms of God, and I do it!"

Regardless of the circumstance, you need to run to your Father and throw yourself into His arms of love. Whether you've failed, as I suggested above, and end up wanting to run away from God. Or you're being tempted. Or you're frightened, worried, and anxious. Or you're just trying to make it on your own. Just to run into the waiting arms of love is your hope.

We've been taught that life has no value or meaning apart from freedom. We've been taught that this freedom is found in independence.

## THE CURSE OF INDEPENDENCE

Not so, my friend. Certainly not in the spiritual dimension. Our only hope is utter absolute dependence on our Father God.

What gets our children into so much trouble? Just this cursed spirit of independence.

Let my child trust me, and depend on me to help, and I can help. Let him not, and the road is all downhill from there.

Oh, God help us hate our cursed spirit of

independence, our insistence on trying to do it all ourselves.

Paul reminds us in II Corinthians 12:7 that we are not "*sufficient of ourselves to think any anything as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God.*"

Now, this is what I want to say: BE NEEDY!

That's all.

Be needy enough to run into the arms of love. Be needy enough to turn to the Lord

## OH, TO BE NEEDY

at every opportunity. Be needy enough to depend on Him, not on yourself, for whatever it is you need, for all you need. Be needy enough to despise the spirit of independence that plagues you. Be needy enough to need much time alone with Him recognizing your need and your rebellious spirit of independence that wants not to recognize your need.

Don't accept your tendency to see your failure as separating you from God. Rather view your failure as demanding you run into the forgiving, loving, caring arms of your Father God, there to receive whatever it is you need, including both the desire and the capacity to change.

Be glad your failure shows you once more your neediness, the folly of your independence, of your self-dependence, which alone led to your failure.

*"The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, Oh God, thou wilt not despise."* -Psalm 51:17

*"The Lord is high unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit."* -Psalm 34:18

*"I dwell in the high and holy place, with*

## A NEW SPIRIT

*him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the contrite ones."* -Isaiah 57:15

*"To this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word."* -Isaiah 66:2