

“He Wants to Comfort You” by Max Lucado

My child’s feelings are hurt. I tell her she’s special. My child is injured. I do whatever it takes to make her feel better.

My child is afraid. I won’t go to sleep until she is secure.

I’m not a hero. I’m not a superstar. I’m not unusual. I’m a parent. When a child hurts, a parent does what comes naturally. He helps.

And after I help, I don’t charge a fee. I don’t ask for a favor in return. When my child cries, I don’t tell her to buck up, act tough, and keep a stiff upper lip. Nor do I consult a list and ask her why she is still scraping the same elbow or waking me up again.

I’m not a prophet, nor the son of one, but something tells me that in the whole scheme of things the tender moments described above are infinitely more valuable than anything I do in front of a computer screen or congregation. Something tells me that the moments of comfort I give my child are a small price to pay for the joy of someday seeing my daughter do for her daughter what her dad did for her.

Moments of comfort from a parent. As a father, I can tell you they are the sweetest moments in my day. They come naturally. They come willingly. They come joyfully.

If all of that is true, if I know that one of the privileges of fatherhood is to comfort a child, then why am I so reluctant to let my heavenly Father comfort me?

Why do I think he wouldn’t want to hear about my problems? (“They are puny compared to people starving in India.”)

Why do I think he is too busy for me? (“He’s got a whole universe to worry about.”)

Why do I think he’s tired of hearing the same old stuff?

Why do I think he groans when he sees me coming?

Why do I think he consults his list when I ask for forgiveness and asks, “Don’t

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This Week’s Bible Reading Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>New Testament</u>	<u>Old Testament</u>
Monday, 9/15	1 Timothy 4	Isaiah 5-8
Tuesday, 9/16	1 Timothy 5	Isaiah 9-12
Wednesday, 9/17	2 Timothy 6	Isaiah 13-16
Thursday, 9/18	2 Timothy 1	Isaiah 17-20
Friday, 9/19	2 Timothy 2	Isaiah 21-24
Saturday, 9/20	Reflection*	Reflection
Sunday, 9/21	Reflection	Reflection

*Saturdays and Sundays are reserved as days to re-read and reflect upon previous readings, or catch up on readings missed during the week.

“He Wants to Comfort You” (continued)

you think you’re going to the well a few too many times on this one?” Why do I think I have to speak a holy language around him that I don’t speak with anyone else?

Why do I not take him seriously when he questions, “If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!” (Matthew 7:11)

Why don’t I let my Father do for me what I am more than willing to do for my own children?

I’m learning, though. Being a parent is better than a course on theology. Being a father is teaching me that when I am criticized, injured, or afraid, there is a Father who is ready to comfort me. There is a Father who will hold me until I’m better, help me until I can live with the hurt, and who won’t go to sleep when I’m afraid of waking up and seeing the dark.

Ever. And that’s enough.

From *The Applause of Heaven* © (Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1999) Max Lucado

This article is reprinted from Max Lucado’s weekly email devotional. To receive these weekly devotionals, sign up at <http://www.maxlucado.com/email/>.

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September 14, 2008

Order of Worship

- Opening Songs
- Welcome & Call to Worship**
- Scripture Reading: Psalm 145:3-13**
- Song: *Lord I Lift Your Name on High*
- Song: *Mighty Is Our God*
- Song: *On Zion’s Glorious Summit Stood*
- Song: *We Fall Down*
- Song: *Holy Ground*
- Song: *Holy Ground*

Communion

- Song: *Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross*
- Song: *The Wonderful Cross*

Offering

(Children’s Offering* and kids dismissed to Children’s Worship**) Song: *Jesus Loves Me*

Song: *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying*
“Face-to-Face”***

Message: “Follow Me” (Guest preacher: Steve Roseberry)

- Song: *Lord, Reign in Me*
- Family News**
- Song: *Give Thanks*

New to North Pointe and have children?

Children are an important part of the North Pointe church. For this reason we offer the following opportunities for children during our worship service:

Nursery: A staffed nursery with pagers for parents, is provided during the worship service. The nursery for babies, toddlers and two year olds is located in E Hall past the restrooms. A separate, non-staffed nursery is also available for parents to use as needed.

***Children’s Offering:** To teach our children the discipline of giving we provide them an opportunity to contribute in a visible way. This money is used for various ministries.

****Children’s Worship:** Because children have their own unique level of learning and expression we offer a special worship period for children 3 years of age through 2nd grade. Children are dismissed to Children’s Worship following the Children’s offering.

*****What is “Face to Face with God”?**

This time during our worship service allows three opportunities for personal prayer. Your may: 1) remain in your seat and spend time privately praying to God, 2) go to the back of the cafeterium where a member of our prayer team will pray for you or with you, privately and in confidentiality concerning your prayer request, or 3) come to the front row of seats with your public prayer request where the prayer leader will include your request in his prayer concluding this period.

North Pointe News

Today

The **Knox Pointe Group** will be meeting at the home of **Janie Wilhite**, 2930 Antares Circle in Garland during the month of September.

This Week

Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, September 17

10:00 to 11:15 a.m.

Home of **Deanna Priebe**

316 Love Bird Land, Murphy

972-423-1470

For our study of **1 Kings** (which will last through January 24) we will be using a book by Warren W. Wiersbe entitled **Be Responsible**. The book is available in the commentary section of the Christian bookstores. Contact Deanna if you have any questions. Please join us for Bible study and lunch out afterwards.

Curtis Williams is on vacation this week, September 14-20, and will not be receiving phone calls or checking email. If you have any need during this period please contact one of our shepherds, or Beverly Ritz in the church office.

"... so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation in which you shine like stars in the universe ..."
Philippians 2:15



Today

Love and Logic Parenting Class

5:30 to 7:00 p.m.

At the church offices, 4405 Williford, Sachse
The class will be starting at 5:30, so make sure to get there a little early to get your kids checked in.

This Week

Children's Chorus

Wednesday, September 17

6:45 to 7:30 p.m.

At the church offices, 4405 Williford, Sachse

For ages kindergarten to fifth grade.

Future Events

God's Girls and God's Soldiers

Sunday, October 12

Trunk or Treat and All Church Fish Fry

Sunday, October 26

Christmas Musical "Visions of Christmas"

Presented Sunday, December 14

Beverly Ritz

North Pointe Youth Ministry

This Week

Teen Pointe Group

Wednesday, September 17

7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Home of **Mike** and **Frances Campbell**

6006 Pleasant Valley Road, Wylie

Future Events

Youth Retreat

Friday, October 31 – Sunday, November 2

Theme: *Fear God!*

Camp Deer Run

Winnsboro, Texas

Cost: \$50

Matt Lee

Record for Sunday, September 7, 2008

Worship Attendance: 172

General Offering: \$7,832.50

Children's Offering: \$28.91

Building Fund: \$200.00