

“Punkin” Pie

By Danetta Ferguson

It was about a week before Thanksgiving and I was straightening up around the house early one morning. My phone rang and my daughter in law’s number showed up on the caller ID. Answering and expecting to hear her voice, I was surprised when it was my 5-year-old grandson. Now grandparents know what a joy it is to hear that little voice on the other end of the phone. I was delighted. I thought we would chat for a little while and that would be the end of it as that is how these times usually go. Instead, this time he got right to the point of the phone call.

“Grandy,” he said, “you know that dinner we are going to have at your house in a few days?”

“Yes sir, you mean Thanksgiving?”

“Yea, that one. When we have that dinner would you make me a ‘punkin pie’?”

I got tickled and said, “Jacody, I didn’t realize you liked ‘punkin pie’.”

“ I LOVE ‘punkin pie’. I had it at school the other day and it was sooo good!”

I assured him that he would have a ‘punkin pie’ waiting on him when he got to my house for Thanksgiving. Being a straight to the point kind of kid, he said, “Ok, thanks. Goodbye! Oh, I love you and will see you soon.” And that was that!

We laughed about the phone call, but Holy Spirit began to speak to my heart through the innocence of a child. My grandson wasn’t afraid to call and make his request known to me. He didn’t have to justify his request or make any lengthy proposal for what his little heart desired. He just simply asked if he could have ‘punkin pie’. In fact, his request lacked perfection in that he did not even pronounce the word correctly. Yet he knew that once his request was made and that his Grandy had heard his request, there was no need to continue on. There was no reason to beg or present his case. Before I ever agreed to the ‘punkin pie’, he knew that his request would be honored because he knows how much I love him. Hearing me verbally agree just sealed the deal in his little mind. He hung up the phone and never called to ask again. The Father showed me what child like faith looks like in the short conversation that morning. He also showed me how it delighted my heart to be able to grant Jacody’s request much more than it delighted his heart to receive it.

Several scriptures began to stir in my spirit that day. 1 John 5:14-15 has been very dear to me for a long time and came to life in a new way that morning. ***“And we are confident that He hears us whenever we ask for anything that pleases Him. And since we know He hears us when we make our requests, we also know that He will give us what we ask for.” (NLT)*** That was my grandson’s phone call in a nutshell! He knew I would take the time to listen to him and in his own little way, he knows I love to do things for him...that it pleases my heart to grant his requests. He

had confidence that what he had asked for would come to pass. There was never as much as a doubt in his mind. Oh, the lessons we can learn from little ones!!

As the day went on, the Lord began to speak to me about how we as His children are the delights of His heart, and how we grieve Him because we do not ask Him for things. He tells us in His word that *'we have not because we ask not'*. How many blessings do we miss out on because we simply do not take the time to ask? How has the world and religion skewed our view of our Father and portrayed Him as a cruel and hard taskmaster; one that wants to take everything and give nothing in return? How often do we see Him portrayed as a Father that is fed up and disgusted with His kids? Yet the Word tells us that He is the very definition of perfect love; that He is the picture of joy, long suffering and kindness (1 Corinthians 13) and it is His greatest desire to give His family, the very family He established from the beginning, good things. James 1:17 tells us that ***"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning."*** My grandson would not have called me that morning with such a sweet request had he thought I would condemn him or punish him. He knew I would hear him and answer him in love. Maybe we should take a moment and ask ourselves how we feel in approaching our Father. If there's any fear or apprehension, then ask Holy Spirit what is hindering us from coming *'boldly to the throne of grace'*.

Needless to say, my grandson got his 'punken pie' that Thanksgiving. In fact, he got two 'punken pies'...one to eat that day, and one to take home!! It thrilled my heart to be able to do this for him and ***"If [we] then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!"*** **Matthew 7:11 (NKJV)**

He desires to give us good things; and He desires for us to make our requests known to Him just like my grandson did with me that day. I could have just made him a 'punken pie' hoping he would like it, or his mother or daddy could have told me that he wanted one; but the joy for me was hearing the request come from that little voice on the phone that morning. In the same way, the Father loves to hear His children make their requests known to Him. It thrills Him to hear our voice. He's such a good Father. Don't be afraid to ask Him for things both big and small. He is interested in everything that concerns us...even 'punken pies'.