Dear Open Door Family,

Have you ever heard the word "tightfisted"? It means to be stingy, cheap, not generous, unwilling to give or share with others. The picture in my mind is of a two year old who has two huge handfuls of candy, a bowl full of it sitting in front of them, and their mouth full. Yet, when Mom or Dad tell him to share he shakes his head and holds on tighter. The difference between being generous and tightfisted is night and day. During hard times financially it is always important to remember that GOD is NOT tightfisted ever. Let's look at these verses together.

Isaiah 26:3-4 *(HCS) You will keep the mind that is DEPENDENT on You in perfect peace, for it is trusting in You. Trust in the LORD forever, for the LORD God is an everlasting rock!*

Psalm 145:16 *(HCS) You open Your hand and SATISFY the DESIRE of every living thing.*

When I am struggling and fearful about the things going on in our lives. I need to remember that the Lord God wants me to be totally DEPENDENT on Him. That is impossible to do if I refuse to TRUST God. None of us would say that we do not trust God. But what are we saying when we give in to Fear, Doubt, Anxiety? I believe we are saying we trust God, but not completely. We are not DEPENDENT on Him; we are acting independently or apart from Him. If we want the perfect peace that is promised then we MUST Trust and Depend on the Lord. Why should we do this? The imagery in Isaiah is that God is an everlasting rock. In other words, a rock that cannot be changed, a rock that will ALWAYS be there, a rock you can build on. We also need to remember that the Lord is never TIGHTFISTED; He is always open handed and wants to satisfy the DESIRES of those who are looking to Him as their eternal rock for His help and strength.

PRAYER: Lord, You and only You are my hope. You never fail, You are never stingy, You open Your hand to bless. Thank You that I can find Trust and satisfaction ONLY in You.

Pastor Mark Kieft
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