

Dear Open Door Family,

Well, there it was Christmas day and water was backing up all over the laundry room. No problem, I used to be a plumber's apprentice. So, I went down armed with my "extensive" knowledge and promptly discovered there was nothing I could do. The rest of the drains were working just fine so the problem was limited to the Kitchen and Laundry. I did all that I could and when it became apparent I could not fix the situation, I warned everybody sternly not to use the kitchen sink or wash clothes and then went to bed. I slept well knowing it was out of my hands. The next day someone came and snaked out the line and we were up and running again.

I wonder how many times in my life have I been up all night worrying about something I could not control anyway? That is what I love about God. He never gets to the place where He says “this is beyond my ability; I need help.” These verses remind us that even though we need to sleep, God never does.

**Psalm 127:2** (NIV) In vain you rise early and stay up late, toiling for WHILE THEY SLEEP HE PROVIDES for those he loves. (Hb. Margin reading - all caps)

**Psalm 121:3-4** (NLT) *He will not let you stumble; the one who watches over you will not slumber. Indeed, he who watches over Israel never slumbers or sleeps.*

**Psalm 147:10-11** (NLT) *He takes no pleasure in the strength of a horse or in human might. No, the Lord's delight is in those who fear him, those who put their hope in his unfailing love.*

**Piper:** “Peaceful sleep is the opposite of anxiety. God does not want his children to be anxious, but to trust him. ...Sleep is a daily reminder from God that we are not God. ...Once a day God sends us to bed like patients with a sickness. The sickness is a chronic tendency to think we are in control and that our work is indispensable. ...Sleep is a parable that God is God and we are mere men. ...it is like a broken record that comes around with the same message every day: Man is not sovereign - Man is not sovereign - Man is not sovereign. Don’t let the lesson be lost on you. God wants to be trusted as the Great Worker who never tires and never sleeps. He is not nearly so impressed with our late nights and early mornings as he is with the peaceful trust that casts all anxieties on him and sleeps.” (pg. 335-336 Taste and See)

**PRAYER:** Lord, God thank you that You never need to sleep. Thank You, that I can trust You and rest in the fact that You are in control of all things. Thank You, for reminding me everyday that You are God and I am not. Help me every night to remember as I fall asleep that You are in control and I can Trust YOU!

Pastor Mark Kieft

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