

Family Life Chaplain  
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Family and Faith

I have found that life seems to be full of surprises. Some of these surprises bring joy and happiness like when you finally meet that special someone and even greater joy when you experience the birth of your first child. Yet, there are those events that make demands on our faith when the surprise turns out not to be so good.

One of the most remarkable stories I find in the Bible is that of Abraham. For Abraham was a man who was like any one of us in reason, faith and experience and yet he was asked to go to a place he had never been before. I do not know how God broke in on him, but in some way he knew that he had to leave the place he was and journey to another area. I am sure this journey was at times painful and unfamiliar to him and a place of uncertainty. Still, he felt God was with him and so with that certainty he made the journey.

I have found that families are much like that in another way. We may not be moving away to another residence or location, but we find ourselves moving out of the comfortableness of a secure environment to a new place or may be entering a hospital with a sick child, or it may be the insecurity of a failing marriage; the list can go on. Yet, we have to make the journey for there is no alternative. Abraham probably asked a lot of “whys?” during his journey much like we do when we experience anxiety and pain for ourselves and our children.

What can we do when we are walking an unwanted path which brings the feelings of insecurity and fear? I believe we can do as Abraham – trust in God. Abraham may not have seen God, nor may not have felt God's presence during the difficult times, but he surely trusted that God would be with him. You may find yourself insecure about [your marriage, your parenting ability or even](#) what the future holds, but so did Abraham. It is okay to share with God your feelings of [hurt](#), fear and anxiety, God already knows all about it. God hears the prayers that are in your heart.

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