

## **The finger drill**

Only moments ago, I sat at my dining room "operating" table with a very sharp pointed exacto knife in one hand and my three-year-old son's finger in the other. He had smashed it in the, very large and heavy, glass fish tank lid. It was swollen and the nail was full of blood. It must have been throbbingly painful. Being the skillful surgeon that I am, I remember back to the day's when Dad would pull out his old, rusty Old-timer pocketknife and start drilling. I did sanitize it first and started doing the same. Dane could not understand why in the world his daddy would want to cut off his finger, I am sure he was thinking, "it doesn't hurt that bad!" What he didn't know is that I was about to bring him tremendous relief. With tears running down his face and all the courage he could muster, not understanding why, he decided to trust me and reluctantly placed his finger on the table. The point penetrated through and the blood gushed out, and that was just more than he could handle. He began to jump up and down, holding his "Thank you daddy it feels better." My heart was glad!

Wow, are we ever like that sometimes. God allows painful things to happen because He knows that it will bring about His perfect will and endurance in us. We don't understand why we are getting a finger cut off or a broken relationship, or the death of a loved one, or a job loss, or the loneliness and on and on, but God does! All it takes is to place that finger or relationship or job or heart on the table and let Him go to work. It's OK if we are reluctant or jump up and down saying "that hurts!" as long as we place it under His exacto. God must shake His head and say, "If only he or she knew". Just know that whatever surgery is done, is done out of love and concern for you. And it is so true, in looking back, how many times have you said "Thanks daddy that feels better".

I wonder what could be placed on the table today?

James 1:2-3 "Consider it all joy, my brother, when you encounter various trials (surgery's), knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance."