

(continued from the front)

described a simple remedy—sitting in a steamed-up bathroom to relieve the symptoms. That was it. Nothing else.

As Becky relayed the doctor’s reaction, I found myself growing upset. How could he remain so cool and calm when my son was struggling to breathe and coughing so harshly? I couldn’t understand the doctor’s attitude. It seemed so insensitive and uncaring. Perhaps he would have felt differently if it were his own son—if he had stayed awake all night, intently listening to his precious child’s breathing.



The more I thought about the doctor and his attitude toward my son, the more a frightening parallel began to emerge regarding my own interactions with others. When someone faces a difficulty, have I ever been guilty of thinking, “Oh, it’s nothing—you’ll get over it”? Have I ever left someone

with the impression that I was insensitive or uncaring? Have I ever failed to be the moral support someone needed, simply because I thought their problem was insignificant?

I know the doctor did care about Brandon. He understood that the condition was likely not as serious as I had feared, and so he responded with calm reassurance. But I needed more than facts—I needed empathy. I needed understanding. And now I wonder: how many people around me need the same kind of support, regardless of how serious I think their problems are?

Jim Slater
Bulletin Digest



**PORT CHARLOTTE
CHURCH OF CHRIST**
20484 Midway Boulevard
Port Charlotte, Florida 33952
(941) 629-7454

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Do We Show We Care?



My wife and I were sleeping soundly when we were suddenly startled. The sound coming from Brandon’s room was panic-inducing. It sounded as if our youngest son was choking. We flew out of bed to investigate. There was no time for deep thought—we raced to his bedside.

The next day, the doctor gave us the diagnosis: croup. He didn’t seem the least bit concerned as he explained that it was an inflammation of the respiratory passages, causing labored breathing and a hoarse cough. He

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Phil Degelia
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Deacons

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(Building and Grounds)
Jeff Kiel
(Building and Grounds)
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