THE STEWARDSHIP PAPERS

Moving Right Along

Have you ever wondered about the process of a child learning how to walk? The incredible, inborn drive that compels the infant to pull him or herself to a standing position after months of exploring the world on all fours. What a wonderful change of perspective must take place at that moment.

I remember when my own children learned to stand. The practiced it over and over again, even though it was a good two weeks before they discovered that falling wasn't the only way to get back down.

Once the art of standing was mastered, it wasn't long before the baby took its first tentative steps, all the while holding on to a parent or some piece of furniture. Then, at some point, the child "took off" on his own.

What an incredible accomplishment! Think what courage it must have taken for the child (and each of us, at one time) to "let go"...because, of course that's what we had to do in order to really learn how to walk. (Oh, I'm sure I took plenty of falls in the process, but I don't remember them anymore; walking seems so natural to me, now.)

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And perhaps I would never have thought of the process at all, except that, recently, I've felt like I was moving at a "spiritual crawl." So perhaps it's no coincidence that Jesus seems to say to us (of the material things in life),

"Let go..."

After all, how can one really learn to walk while holding on to things? I suppose I'll probably fall, again, in the process (I've already done so more than once), but at least I know that if I can't get up by myself, then or Father will help me! After all, if I (who am...not so good...) would do this for my children, how much more so will my heavenly Father do for all of us who cry out to Him for help.

It's all a part of growing up...learning how to walk.....in love.....

(March 25, 1984)