

DADDY, I CAN'T!

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Intent of the Story

- ✓ *Alone, we can do nothing; with God we can do all.*
- ✓ *Human efforts and cooperation are wanted, but they are not enough.*
- ✓ *Value of prayer of petition*

THE STORY

Once upon a time, a gentleman and his little son were trimming the garden lawn of their cozy bungalow. . Right in the middle of the lawn there was a big stone. Daddy told his little son:

"Johnny, darling, roll this stone out of the lawn." Little Johnny tried very, very hard to roll the stone out, but tried as much as he did, he could not manage even to move the stone one inch. In despair the child cried out: "Dad, I can't, I can't roll it out"

Daddy insisted: "Of course, darling, if you try all possible means" you will move the stone away

With renewed efforts, the child tried and tried again, but to no avail. Finally, in tears, Johnny: cried: "Dad, I can't. I can't. I did all I could."

Sweetly, lovingly and encouragingly, Dad said: "Yes, son, you tried very hard to move the stone out of the lawn, but still you have forgotten to do one thing. If you do that, you will succeed."

Eagerly, the child asked: "Dad, what's that thing?" With a smile and a winning face, Dad replied: "Do you see me here, standing next to you? I am most willing to help you to roll the stone out, yet you did not ask me to give you a hand. Ask me and you will see what happens."

The child exclaimed: "Then, Dad, help me to roll the stone out!"

Then, both father and child putting their shoulders together rolled the stone out of the lawn. In delight Johnny exclaimed: "Daddy, we did it! We did it!"

Points for Reflection

- Through our human efforts alone we cannot attain salvation.
- Yet, our human efforts are required and wanted by God.
- Prayers of petition and of intercession are most efficacious whenever we place all our trust in God
- Away from God, we can do nothing. With God we can do everything.

- If we try to carry our spiritual and moral burdens all by ourselves we shall will be crushed.
- God is always close to us He is just waiting for us to ask his help.
- In our dealings with God, we have to try as hard as if all success would depend on our efforts, and at the same time, trust God so firmly, as if all success would be His alone!
- In your name, Lord, I'll cast down the nets
- Lord, if you wish, you can cure me
- I believe Lord, but help my unbelief..