

TURKEY

— *Excerpt from Food for the Journey* —

BY JUNE CROSS



“JUST ONE TURKEY, LORD.” I MUTTERED THE WORDS softly as I finished my morning prayer. It was November 1997 and I was headed to work. As a single mother of four, I was mentally assembling the Thanksgiving dinner I hoped to prepare. We typically spent that day with family, but no matter how well we ate, when we came home there was an inevitable “I’m hungry” from one, that soon became a chorus of four. Peanut butter and jelly sandwiches or spaghetti would suffice. But this year I had the desire to prepare a small Thanksgiving dinner along with the turkey and fixings, at home. Unfortunately, there was a problem at work that affected my pay, and I would not be able to purchase a turkey this year. Could I ask God for a turkey? Should I ask God for a turkey? Was that small minded and selfish?

Ephesians 3:20 Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, NIV

As I arrived at work that morning, to my surprise, in a shopping bag on my desk, was a turkey! My coworker smiled and explained that he and his wife each earned a free turkey from their supermarket so he hoped I could use it. Umm, yes!!!! I thanked God and asked Him to

forgive my doubt that He cared enough about me to give me a turkey. Of course He could. Of course He would!

Later at home while happily putting the turkey away, there was a knock on the door. It was a friend who worked at a local school. In her hands? You guessed it. A turkey! She cheerfully recounted the circumstances that allowed her to pick up this turkey basket for me. Since I had a turkey she insisted I keep the one she brought for Christmas dinner.

After running some errands, I returned to a home full of laughter and excitement. My oldest informed me that while I was out, we received..... (drum roll, please) 2 more turkey baskets! In my absence a neighbor dropped off a turkey basket and our church dropped off yet another turkey basket! A total of FOUR turkeys in one day! I could only laugh as I imagined how God must have enjoyed reminding me that there is nothing too hard for Him. How easily He exceeded my simple request. He delighted in giving me the thing I almost felt too embarrassed to ask for, several times over!

I started the day not quite sure I could even ask for something that seemed as trivial as a turkey, but it was important to me. So it was important to God. He is a good Father who cares about everything that concerns us. What is it that you haven't asked Him for today?

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, Thank you that you love for us to come to you as children, believing that you care for us and want us to share with you everything that is on our hearts. You can and you do exceed everything that we could ever ask or imagine. Help us to come to you boldly, knowing that you withhold no good thing. You love us. And for that we are thankful. In Jesus' name, Amen