

# One of our kids in the Burns Institute has a request...

Some of us get to go to the hospital every month. We get to meet the kids that we're helping, up close. During one of our trips to the hospital, I was talking to one of the patients, a girl about 8 or 9 years old. She seemed in good spirits.

At our hospitals, the doctors and nurses try to make the kids feel as wanted and loved as possible, and as pain-free as can be expected. Of course, with the nature of their injuries, that's not always possible. With the best care, and the best pain medicine, it's still going to hurt sometimes. And a burn is probably the most painful injury that there is.

The girl and I talked on and on. She didn't want any Tootsie Rolls, she didn't want any more books or videos brought to her just yet. But she did have one request: She'd like to have 15 minutes without any pain. Add that to the list of things that I can't do: I can't stop her pain for 15 minutes.

Or maybe I can.

My mother always has us say grace when we're at her house. And she adds to the standard blessing, something for every group in the world. She prays for the starving people in China. She prays for people who I don't know, in places that I've never been.

Well, I want to add one of my own. I want to add that *every* kid in the hospital wants 15 minutes without any pain. I never seriously asked for anything, do you think that I could get that one thing?

How about this... *everyone* who reads this, when you say your blessing before you eat, ask for 15 minutes without pain for every kid in the hospital. Without a doubt, most people out there are better connected to the Almighty than I am. Maybe He'll answer your prayers.

If we can accomplish that one thing, we'll really be doing something special for our kids.

Speedy