

Define it

The Fear of the Lord

Luke 8: 22-25

Do it

(For parents)

Fearing the Lord is an interesting idea. I equate it to the feeling I had as a child toward my father. He loved, cared for, hugged, gave good things to me, took me swimming, etc. BUT when I behaved in a willfully disobedient way—especially to my mother—I had reason to be afraid of him. NOT because he would beat me or yell at me, but because I knew there was no chance of getting off without a consequence AND I knew he would be sad that I had pushed him to discipline me.

I understand the fear of God by adding His great power. The disciples switched from being afraid of the storm to being afraid of Jesus—after He controlled the wind and the waves.

They were awed by His extreme power.

Your children don't have to be afraid of what God might do to them if they belong to Him.

They will suffer no wrath, only the loving correction of a compassionate Father.

However, they need to be awfully glad He is on their side as I'm sure the disciples were after He made the storm and the sea be quiet.

Drink it

Fear of the Lord gives life, security, and protection from harm.

Proverbs 19:23

Say it

The fear of the Lord means, awe, respect, and fear.

Pray it

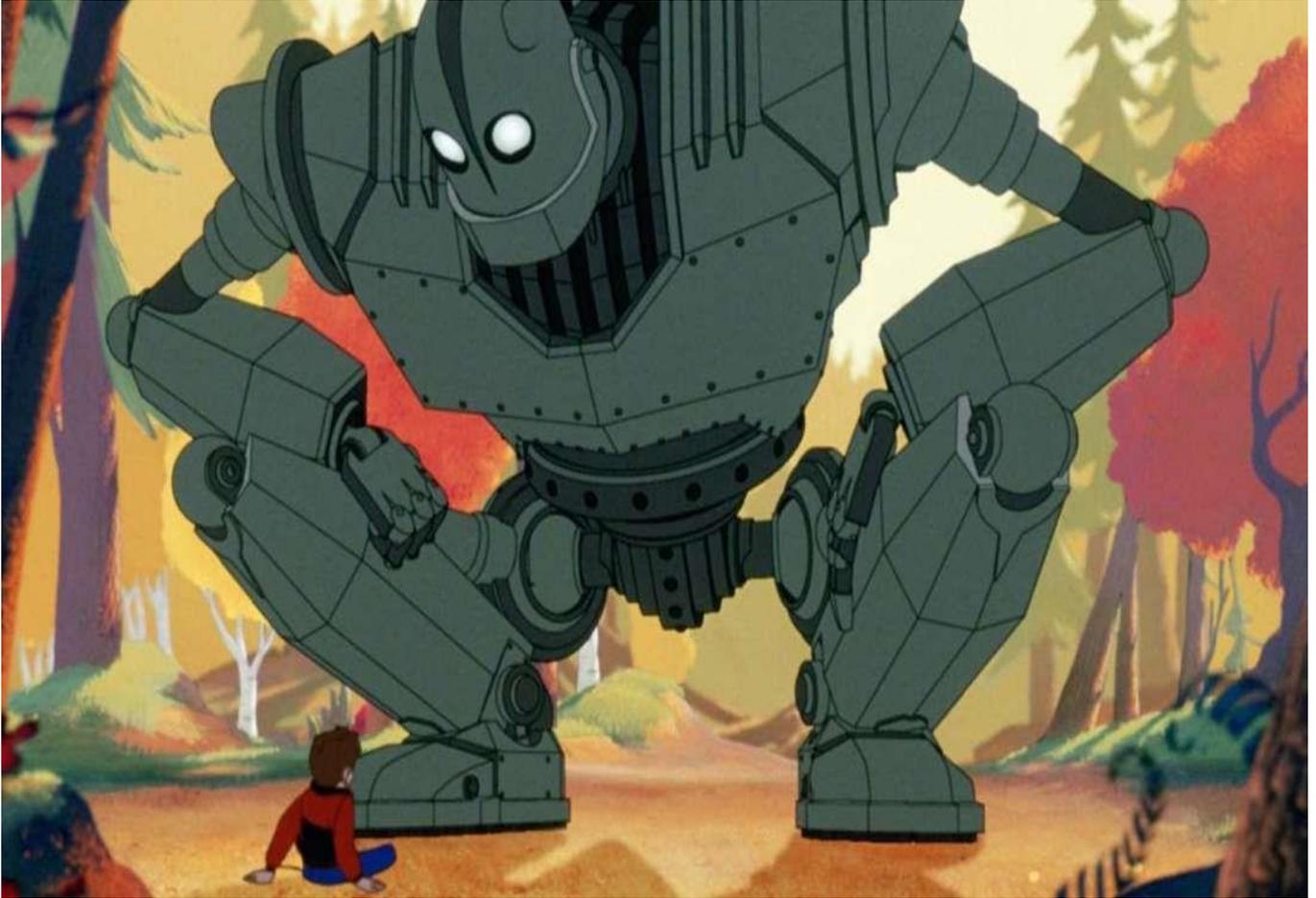
Dear God, I praise you for Your great power and wisdom. Thank You for being a good, caring God. Please help me to always remember how awesome You are, and always take You seriously.

Amen.

Display it

Did you ever watch the movie *The Iron Giant*?

The giant never hurt Hogarth (the boy who befriended him) but, especially at first, Hogarth was afraid of the size and power of his new friend. The giant tossed him around and carried him very high but Hogarth learned to trust the giant.



Think about the size of you as compared to God.
Do you see how understanding His power is a fearsome thing?