

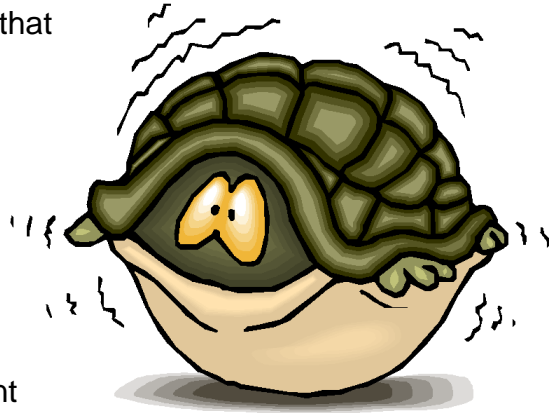
Depending on Abba

Because of our fascination with celebrities, we know much about their lives, including their fears. As examples ...

- President Ronald Reagan was afraid of flying, even though he was often on Air Force One.
- Escape artist Harry Houdini was claustrophobic (afraid of small spaces) – incredible, since he was often locked in small boxes as part of his act.
- Author Hans Christian Anderson was so terrified of being buried alive, he left a note each night that said he only looked dead; he was actually sleeping.

Fear can become paralyzing, causing us to act unwisely or, perhaps even worse, to not act at all.

A child's first word might be the simple *Daddy* or *Papa*. The Bible uses the term *Abba*, a word with the same meaning, carrying the idea of endearment and closeness, and indicating the child's trust in his father.



When we have a trust in God as our Abba, we have no person to fear.

You don't have to be Houdini to face your fears. You need only call on your Heavenly Father.

For you have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but you have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father (Romans 8:15).

– Beecher Hunter