1 EAN IN

...TO THE LORD IN 2025

"... it is The Lord in whom our future and our hope lies."

"Lean in to The Lord"

EXCERPTS FROM PERSONAL REFLECTIONS, JAN 2025

"LEANIN"

I sensed The Lord say this during a January devotional time and sought a direct bible reference to 'back it up'

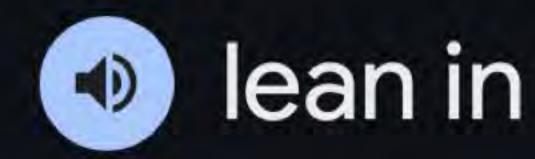
I couldn't find an identical quote and so didn't really pursue what God was saying!

And then I had a meeting with my friend Paul during a 'retreat' who shared that he felt this was a time to 'lean in'!!!

5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; 6 in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Dictionary

Definitions from Oxford Languages · Learn more



phrasal verb of lean

commit completely or more fully to something, especially when faced with difficulty or resistance. "speak up, lean in, and don't shy away from reaching out to underrepresented individuals"

OXFORD LANGUAGES

COMMIT MORE FULLY TO JESUS, ESPECIALLY WHEN FACED WITH DIFFICULTY OR RESISTANCE...

... DEFINITELY A WISE MOVE!

AWISEMOVE

Drawing closer to God is always a good idea

To 'lean in' is not to be passive, it is a deliberate decision and action to come toward or to rely upon

The writer of proverbs centres the theme around the pursuit of wisdom, poetically personified as woman

18 She [wisdom] is a tree of life to those who take hold of her; those who hold her fast will be blessed.

HOLDING ON TIGHT

Wisdom is ultimately personified and given to us in Jesus Christ - take hold of the Lord and hold fast to Him

To 'Trust in the Lord' is not usually to stand back, throw up your hands and say: 'You do it all, its nothing to do with me'!

Throughout the scriptures we see how the manifestation of the power of God is often preceded by an act of obedience

LEANING TOWARD OBEDIENCE

Noah was obedient in building the Ark

Abraham obediently offered his son to be sacrificed

Moses obediently lifted his staff over the Red Sea

Hannah obediently dedicated Samuel

Mary obediently bore and raised Jesus

Jesus was obedient, even to death, for the will of the Father

9 "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. 10 If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love.

THE CALL TO LEAN IS TO BRING US TO A PLACE OF RELIANCE AND TRUST, AS WELL AS TO A PLACE OF INTIMACY WITH HIM

"Lean in to hear His voice"

"Lean in to breathe His air"

"Lean in to see His view"

EXCERPTS FROM PERSONAL REFLECTIONS, JAN 2025

8 Come near to God and he will come near to you.

LEANING NEARER STILL

James' phrase here comes amongst instructions to humble ourselves, resist the devil and submit our lives to God

In a world that wants to take us away from The Lord and all He has for us, the call is to a bible shaped life

His promise is that as we draw near to Him, He will draw near to us

SOME SUGGEST YOU CAN BE AS NEAR TO GOD AS YOU CHOOSE TO BE

DRAWNEAR

This is not to say that there are never times when you are doing all you can and God still feels distant

The Psalms are full of examples of crying out to God in times of need or

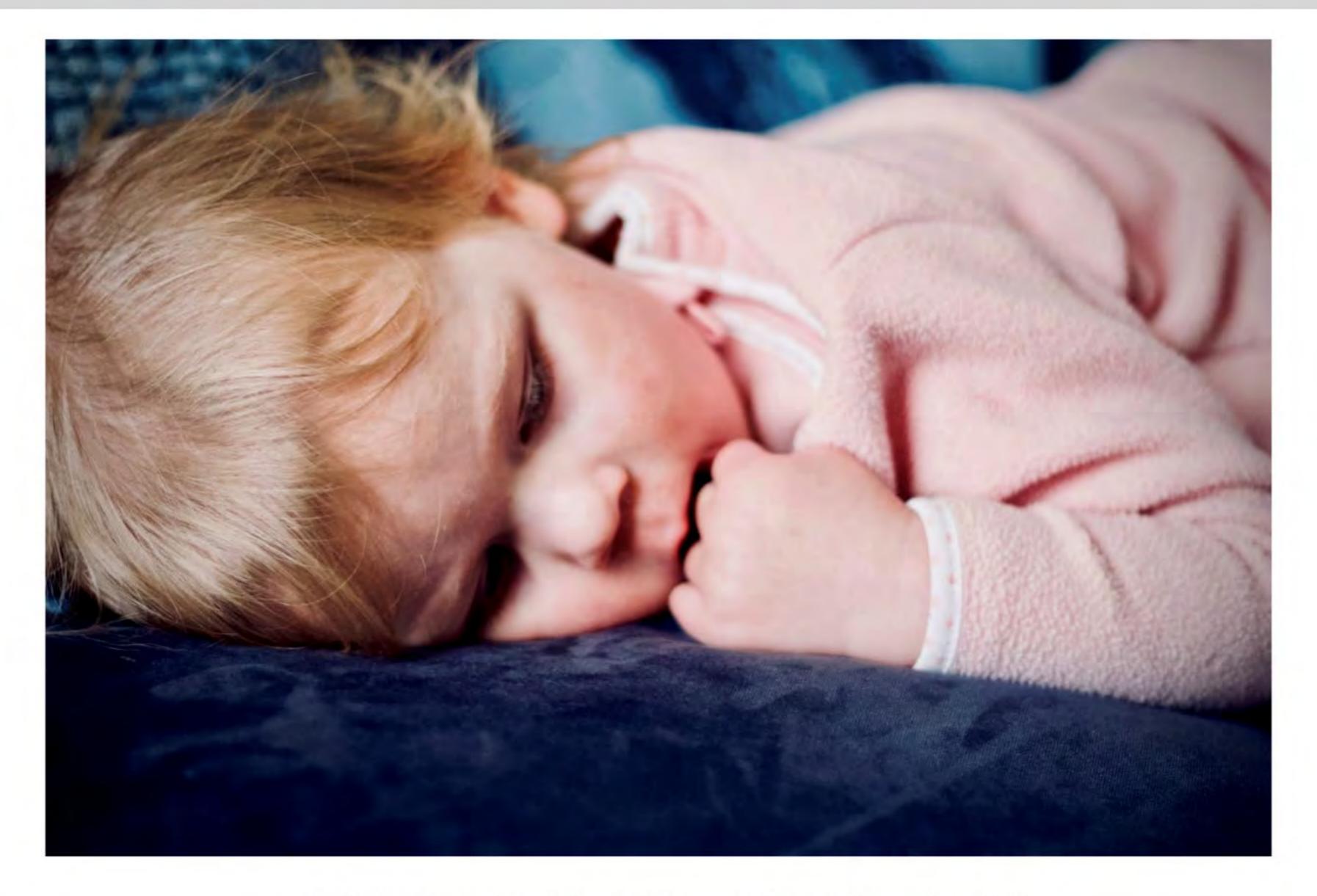
The promise is: if we seek, we shall find (); if we call on Him, He will answer (); if we wait on Him, we shall be strengthened (

23 One of them, the disciple whom Jesus loved, was reclining [on his bosom] next to him. 24 Simon Peter motioned to this disciple and said, "Ask him which one he means." 25 Leaning back against Jesus, he asked him, "Lord, who is it?"

κόλπος

2859 kólpos – properly, the upper part of the chest where a garment naturally folded to form a "pocket" – called the "bosom," the position synonymous with intimacy (union).

HELPS WORD STUDIES



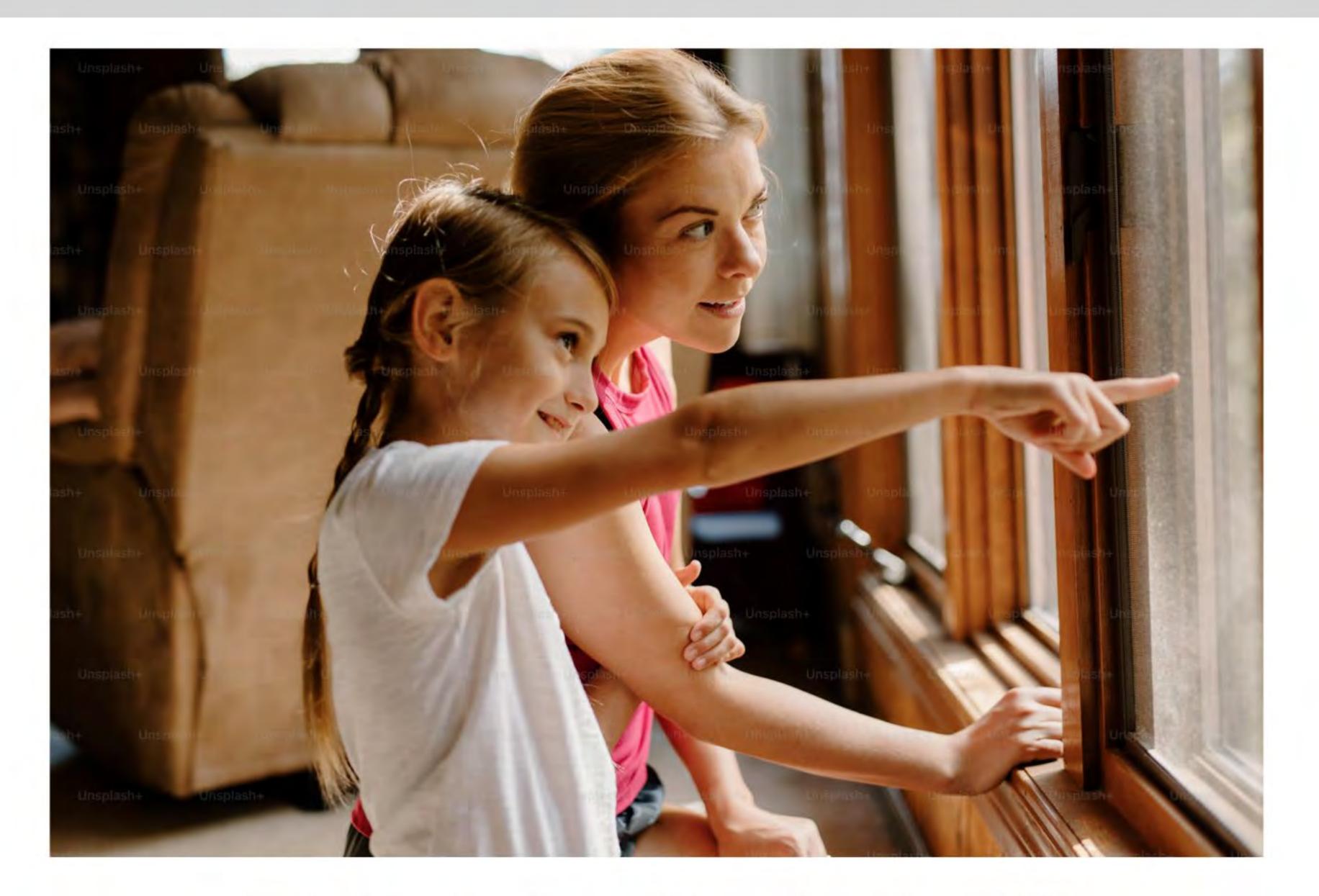
https://unsplash.com/photos/baby-sleeping-on-black-surface-wzOyUkuLy7E

THE CLOSER WE GET TO THE HEART OF GOD THE MORE 'IN-SYNC' WE WILL BECOME WITH HIS WILL AND HIS WAYS



https://unsplash.com/photos/grayscale-photo-of-woman-in-white-floral-lace-top-GhKlybwmbal

As we abide in Him and Hear His voice we will begin to sound more and more like Him



https://unsplash.com/photos/two-young-girls-looking-out-of-a-window-zr4ISOebFAU

When we draw near to Him we will see Things from the perspective He is SEEING THEM FROM

5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; 6 in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

LEANINTO THE LORD IN 2025

What does it look like for you 'lean in' to The Lord at this moment in your life?

Are there areas where you need to trust in The Lord and acknowledge Him as you pursue His pathway for you?

What are you going to do in 2025 to draw near to The Lord and make sure you are abiding in Him?