It’s good NOT to be God.

There is an old story of an Angel in heaven asking where God is. “Oh, He’s down on earth playing doctor.” A funny story because we often think we would like to be God because if we were God, we would make everything work out exactly like we want. It would be perfect – no mosquitos, no rain on picnics, perfect internet.

The challenge of us being God is what happens when everyone else does not cooperate? Then we have to become God for them as well. Then, we would have to persuade – or force – people to do what we want. If we believe in a “good God” that doesn’t seem to come off very well.

Now to be God, we’d have to be omniscient – knowing everything.

We’d have to be omnipresent – being everywhere.

And we’d have to be omnipotent – all powerful.

Being any one of those things would complicate our lives immensely.

Sure, I’d like to know what my wife is thinking – sometimes, but if you knew what everyone was thinking at one time it would be cacophony (like an orchestra tuning up) the discordant noise would bombard you and you wouldn’t be able to hear distinctly each of the thoughts.

And for us to be everywhere at once – is to be nowhere. How do you live in the moment when the past, the future and the present are all one?

And if you were all powerful, how would you answer competing prayers (or do you just ignore football games completely?) And how do you determine whose prayers are important or worthy? What do you do about bad people? And who is so bad that they can’t be saved? Could you trust yourself with that power?

Being God has its challenges but what are the challenges of NOT being God?

It requires us to have the simple faith and trust of a child. (“Unless you become like a child you cannot enter the kingdom of God.”) What is it about the child that Jesus so admires? The child has complete trust in you - the parent. They trust that you have everything in control. Your children trust you to protect them, to provide for them, that you will prepare for tomorrow, as well as today and that you will do your best for them. And above all that you will love them.

Isn’t that what we are looking for from our Heavenly Father? A father (or a mother) who never fails their children, who loves them and provides for them. There is one major difference between earthly parents and our Heavenly Father – He does control tomorrow, and He knows the end from the beginning. So, our challenge is not to try to play God but to believe - just like our children believe in us - with a simple and pure faith in our Heavenly Father.