

A six-book series of easy-to-use picture devotional books that connects Bible themes and verses to teach Christian values to children ages 4 on up.

Each spread presents a Bible verse with a little explanation of the verse and how to practically apply the Christian value or moral lesson introduced. Children are encouraged to explore the lesson with a complementary action, discussion question, or activity.

A wonderful Bible-based book sure to win the hearts of children and parents alike.



BIBLE DEVOTIONALS

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MINUTE

5-MINUTE BIBLE DEVOTIONALS



FEED MY LAMBS



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www.auroraproduction.com

ISBN 978-3-03730-642-0



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Acknowledgments

The Bible verses in the *5-Minute Bible Devotionals* series were selected from the following Bible versions:

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ISBN: 978-3-03730-642-0

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FEED MY LAMBS

5-MINUTE BIBLE DEVOTIONALS

FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

In this book you will find:

15 devotionals for preschool-aged children

Each devotional based on a **Bible scripture**

An **activity** for each devotional

Topics in this book:

Holy Spirit

Preach the Gospel

Healing

God's Power in You

FRUITS OF GOD'S SPIRIT

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, moderation.

—Galatians 5:22–23, *paraphrased*

Have you ever planted a seed in the ground and watched it grow? If a tomato seed is planted and given enough care, sunshine, and plenty of water, a tomato vine will eventually grow, and then in a little more time there will be lovely red, juicy tomatoes. That plant and the tomatoes all grew out of that tiny seed.

Our spirits, or our hearts, are a little like the earth. The things that we “plant,” or make a part of our spirits, will grow and become a part of who we are. When we are mindful to fill our lives with things that come from God, then our lives will blossom with fruits of His Spirit—love, peace, patience, gentleness, joy, and so much more.

It's important that we take care to plant good things in the garden of our heart. That way, when others look at us, they will see Jesus' loving ways in our actions and words. The more we are like Jesus, the happier we will be.



Ask your mommy or daddy for several dried beans. In a bowl place some wet cotton or a wet paper towel and place your beans on the towel. Once the seeds sprout, move the towel and seeds to a place where they get sunshine. Write down one thing you want to do to be more like Jesus, and put it by your bean sprouts, so that you're reminded of what it is you want to grow in.

Be sure to water your beans lightly every day. In a few days, you'll see them begin to sprout.

WHEN WE RECEIVE GOD'S POWER


You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and you will be My witnesses.

—Acts 1:8 NIV

Before Jesus returned to heaven to be with His Father, God, He told His disciples to go to a certain place and wait and He would send the Holy Spirit to them. As the disciples waited, something amazing happened! God's Spirit came upon each person in the room, filling their hearts with boldness so that they could tell others the good news about Jesus.

The disciples then went to many cities and countries to tell those whom they met about God's great love for us, the gift God gave us by sending Jesus to earth, and how everyone can receive salvation and forgiveness for their sins. The Holy Spirit gave the disciples courage and boldness as they told others about Jesus wherever they went.

The Holy Spirit can give us power to be good examples of Jesus' love to others, too. Even when we are shy or don't know what to say, the Holy Spirit can give us the courage we need.



Can you think of other times in the Bible when God gave courage and boldness to someone to do God's work? You too can pray for courage to be an example of God's love to others.

GOD IN US

You are the temple of God,
and God's Spirit lives in you.

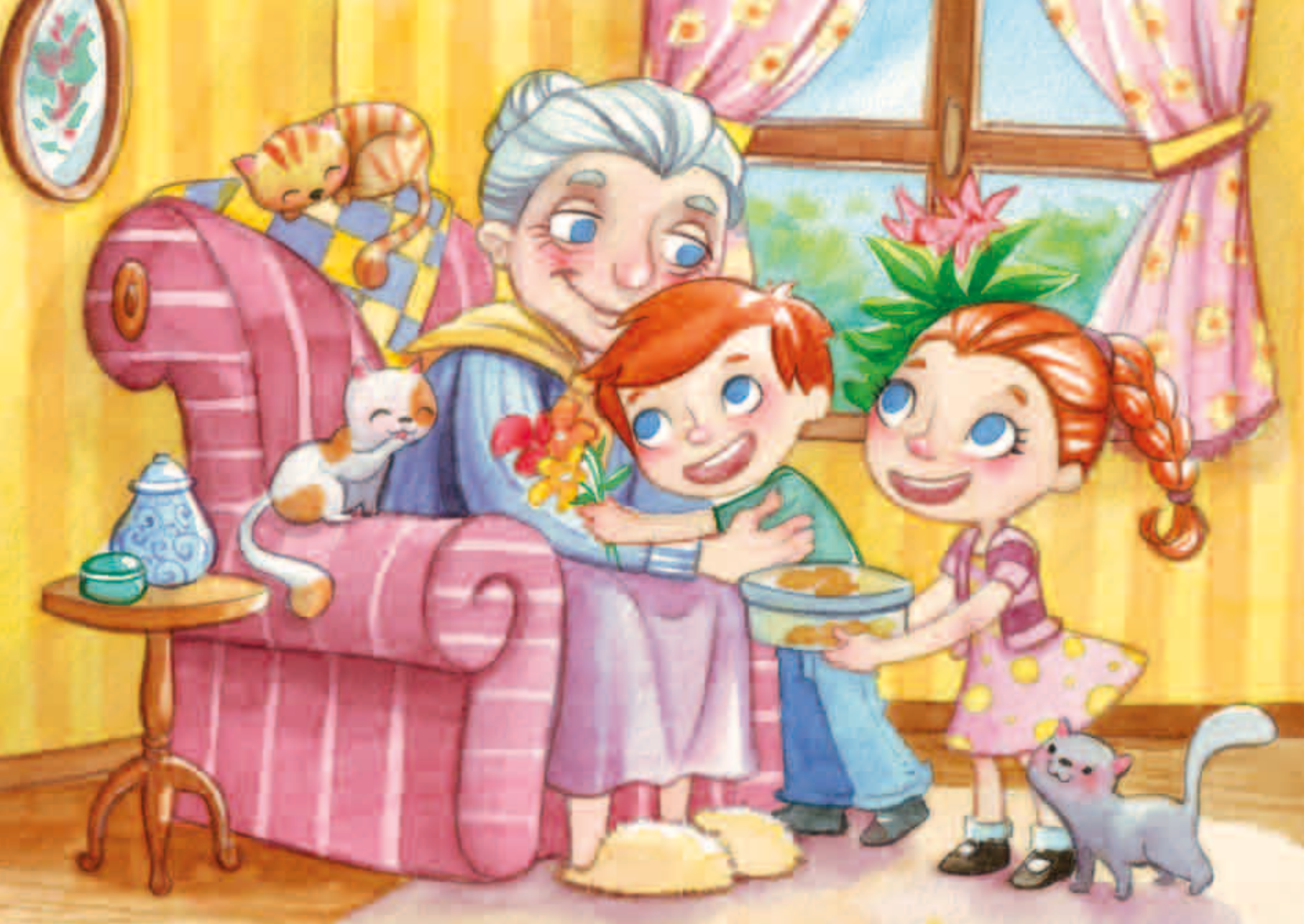
—1 Corinthians 3:16, *paraphrased*

Draw and color a picture of Jesus.
Now draw a house around the picture
of Jesus—a roof over His head, and
walls and a floor around Him. Talk
about ways that you can be a good
reflection of Jesus to others.

Our bodies are wonderfully made by God. He designed us to be able to run, to jump, to think, to speak, and so much more. The Bible says that we are the house of God and that His Spirit lives in us. When Jesus lives in us, He wants to use the way we live and how we act as ways to show others about Him.

We need to take care of our bodies, so that they are a good reflection of God's Spirit in us. Our words and actions should also be kind and courteous so that they are an example to others of Jesus' love.

When we take good care of our appearance and our health, we are showing a nice, clean picture of Jesus to others. We're showing Jesus to the world!



EVERYBODY NEEDS JESUS

Go into all the world
and preach the Gospel to
every creature.

—Mark 16:15 NKJV

Isn't it wonderful to know Jesus and have His love in our hearts? Did you know that there are some people who don't know how much Jesus loves them? It would make Jesus very happy to be introduced to those who don't know Him yet.

Jesus asks us to show His love to others, and tell them about the wonderful news of His love and salvation. Maybe we don't feel like we know that much about Jesus, or we're still learning, but we do know about His love. We can tell others about how much love Jesus had for us—so much that He came and lived on earth so that He could be like one of us. We learned about His love for us by the kind and loving deeds He did.

We can share Jesus' love with others by our kind actions, and show them how He can be a part of their lives too. Everybody needs Jesus.



What is your favorite Bible story about Jesus? Draw a picture based on the story. Ask your mother or father to help you write “Jesus loves you” on the picture, and then give it to a friend who wants to know more about Jesus’ love.

TELL THE GOOD NEWS


He who wins souls is wise.

—Proverbs 11:30 NIV

We are blessed to know about God's love for us, and we can trust that He will always be there to care for us. God wants everyone to know about His never-ending love and His gift of salvation.

Jesus asks His followers to share the good news of salvation with as many people as we can. When we tell others of Jesus' love, we are helping them find salvation. Sharing the good news of Jesus' love with others is one of the best things we can do! When we think about how happy knowing Jesus makes us, then we can imagine how much joy He can give to others who do not know Him yet.

The way we live our lives is one way that we can be a witness of Jesus' love and truth that dwells in us. If our actions and words are kind and loving, people see that there is something special and different about us, and we can tell them that it is God's Spirit in us and His love that makes us different. Let's tell and show others the good news!



Can you think of
something that you
could do in your day to
show others Jesus' love?
Why not give it a try?

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

Let your light shine that others may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

—Matthew 5:16, *paraphrased*

A lighthouse has a powerful flashing light that helps to guide sailors at sea. When that bright light shines, it can be seen from very far away, and the sailors use it to get their ships safely to port.

Jesus told us that we should let our light shine. But what is our light? The light within us is Jesus! The things that we do and say are how we let Jesus shine through us. When we are loving, this tells others that God is loving too; when we care for others, this shows a little bit of God's love and care for each one of us. When our words are thoughtful and kind, this shows people that God's Spirit in us is what helps us to be kind toward others.

The more we live like the Bible tells us to live, the brighter our light shines. And people will know that we have gained this beautiful light through our love for Jesus and His words.

Cut out a big yellow circle for a sun, and draw a picture of Jesus in that sun. Glue it to a piece of black or dark blue paper. Then cut out 10 strips of yellow paper to use as the sun's rays. Ask your mommy or daddy to help you write some of the ways you can shine your light for Jesus on the paper sun rays. Then glue the rays around the sun.



NO MATTER WHAT

Many are the afflictions of the
righteous, but the Lord delivers
him from them all.

—Psalm 34:19, *paraphrased*

There once was a man named Job, who loved God very much. But one day, everything in Job's life started to go badly. Job lost his riches, his family, and his health. Even with all the difficult things that he was facing, Job still trusted God. He had faith that God would see him through his troubles. And that's just what happened! God saw Job's faithfulness and trust, and He healed Job and blessed him many times over.

Although we get sick or hurt, we can trust that Jesus will deliver us from the afflictions and sicknesses that we face. We may not always be healed right away, because it takes time for our bodies to heal, but Jesus can lift our spirits, and make our hearts glad even when our bodies hurt or we are unwell.

And just like Job, we can pray for grace and faith, and continue to trust that Jesus will deliver us. God never fails when we believe!



Take one of your stuffed animals and pretend that it is sick. Can you think of something that would cheer up your animal and help it feel better? Maybe a soft blanket to keep it warm, a game to cheer it up, or a lullaby to be soothed by. Jesus lovingly cares for you, too, whenever you are sick.

PRAYER IS POWERFUL!

The prayer of faith will save
the sick, and the Lord will
raise him up.

—James 5:15, *paraphrased*

The Bible teaches us that if someone is sick, we should pray for the person to be healed. Prayer is powerful. When we pray, Jesus can heal those who are sick.

God made our bodies, and He has the power to make them better when they get hurt. Sometimes we may need a doctor's help if we are sick. We should also always pray for healing and trust that Jesus hears our prayers and will heal us, just as He did so many people who needed healing in Bible times.

Jesus answers our prayers, and He will heal us when we pray in faith.

Is there someone you know who is sick and needs healing? Take some time to pray for him or her to be healed.



JESUS HEALS US

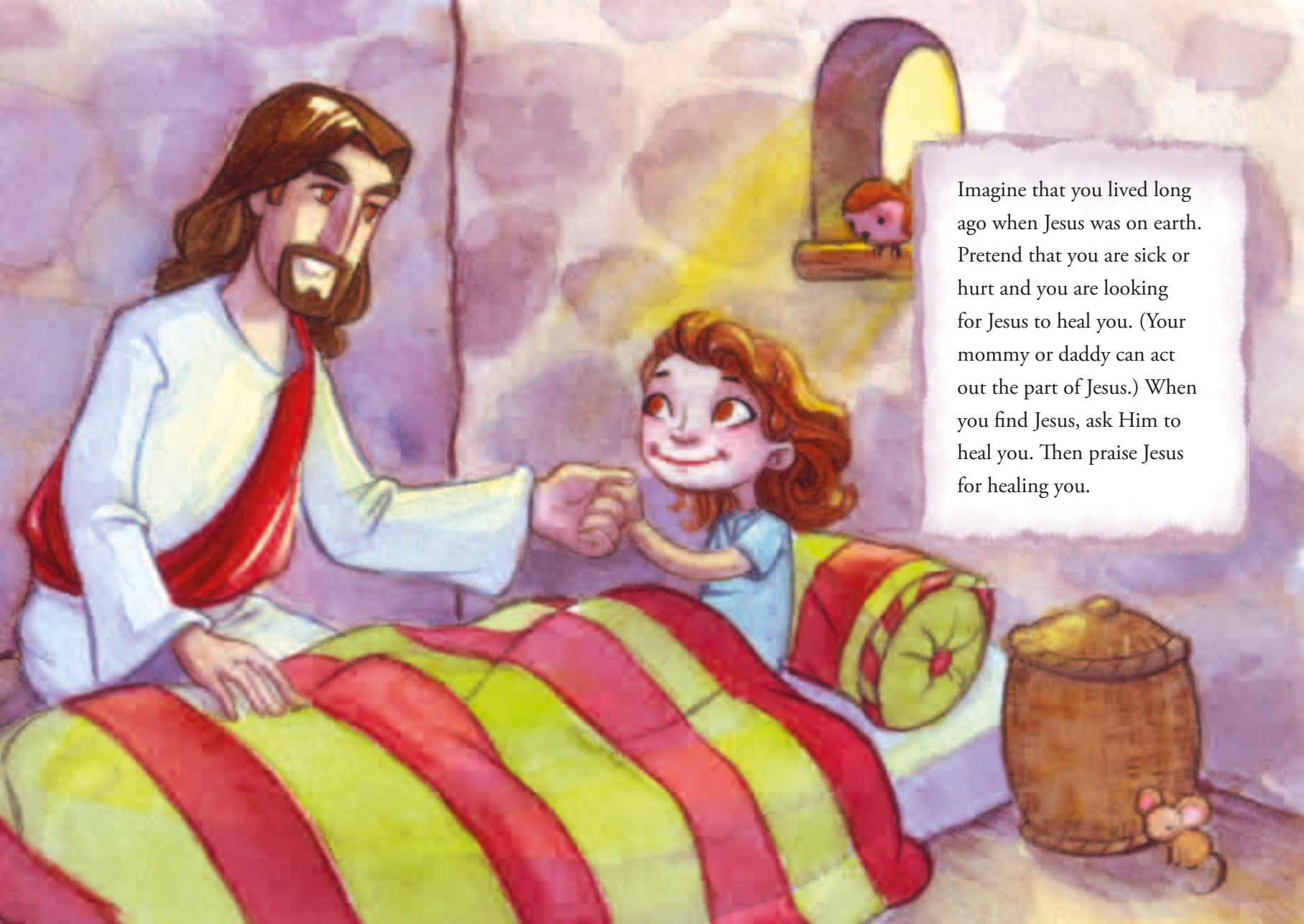
Jesus went about healing people from all kinds of sickness and disease.

—Matthew 4:23, *paraphrased*

When Jesus was on earth He healed many sick people. There are times when we get sick, too, and our bodies need to heal. The people in the Bible whom Jesus healed were just like you and me. They needed Jesus' help, and He touched and healed them.

When we are sick we can ask Jesus for healing, and He can help us to recover. Sometimes we don't get better right away, but we can trust that Jesus is taking care of us and healing our bodies.

Being sick makes us grateful for the times when we have good health and can run and play. It's important to thank Jesus for the times that we are healthy. We also need to do our part to keep our bodies strong and healthy.



Imagine that you lived long ago when Jesus was on earth. Pretend that you are sick or hurt and you are looking for Jesus to heal you. (Your mommy or daddy can act out the part of Jesus.) When you find Jesus, ask Him to heal you. Then praise Jesus for healing you.

GOD'S POWER TO HEAL


They that believe will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.

—Mark 16:17–18, *paraphrased*

When Jesus was on earth, He sent His disciples to tell other people about the good news of the love of God, and how the Savior, Jesus, had come. Jesus told His disciples that if they believed, then they could place their hands on people who were sick and afflicted and pray for healing through God's power. Many people were healed through the disciples' prayers.

The Bible tells us that prayer is the way that we can call on God's miracle-working power, and that if we will lay hands on those who are sick and claim God's promises of healing, then we can trust that Jesus will do miracles. Sometimes Jesus may choose to heal the person's body right away, other times He may choose to heal the person's heart or spirit before healing the body.

It is not always easy to understand how or when God chooses to heal us, but when we trust Him and have faith, we can know that He'll do what is best for us.



Can you think of another miracle of healing in the Bible? Isn't it wonderful to think of all the people who were healed because they had faith in God's power?

FAITH MAKES MIRACLES POSSIBLE

Your faith has healed you!

—Mark 10:52 NIV

Jesus and His disciples were leaving a city when they passed a blind man, named Bartimaeus, who was sitting by the side of the road begging for money. When Bartimaeus heard that it was Jesus who was passing, he began to shout, “Jesus, have mercy on me!”

“Quiet down!” some of the people told Bartimaeus sternly. But Bartimaeus only called out louder. “Jesus, have mercy on me!”

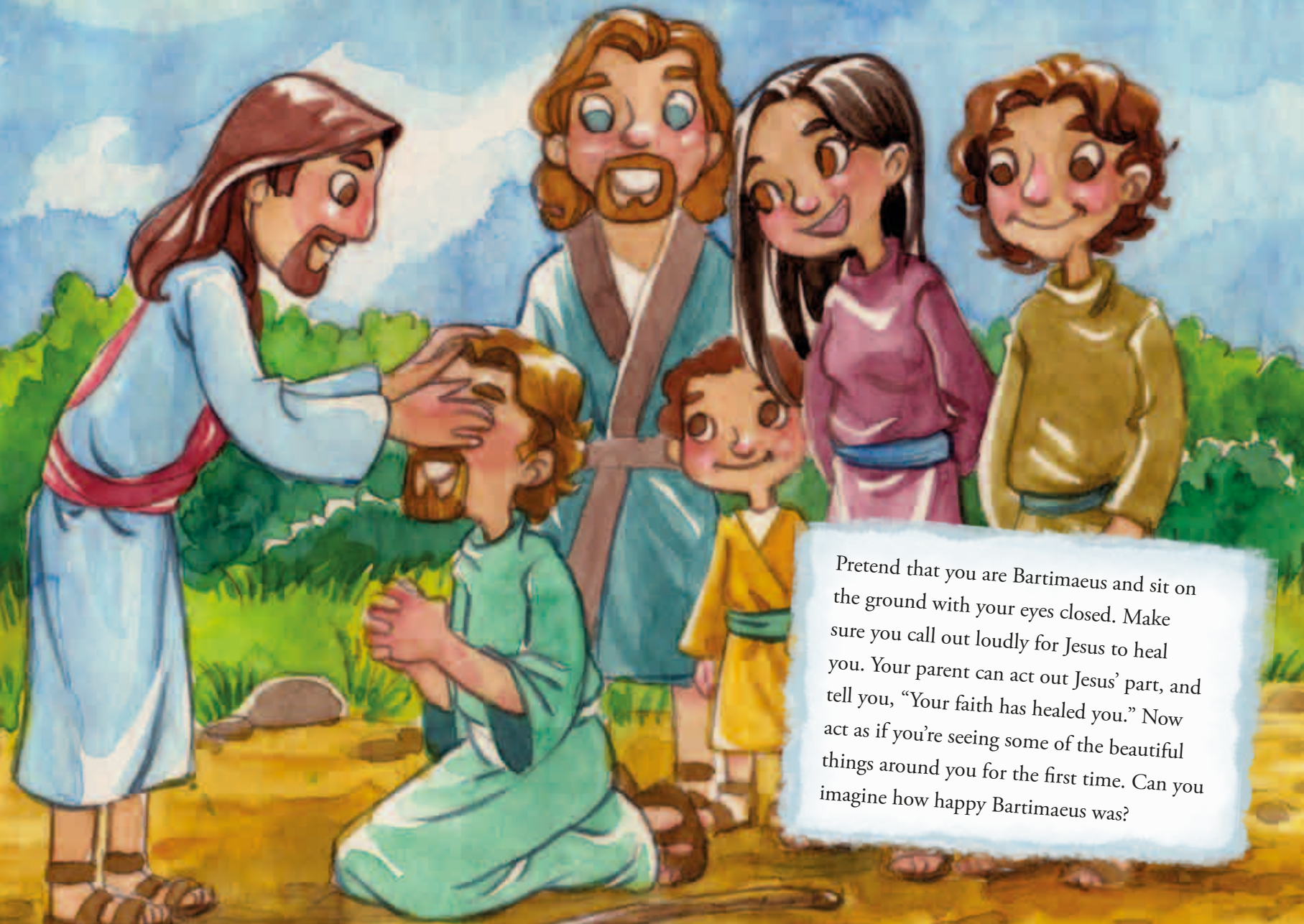
Jesus heard the blind man, and called for Bartimaeus to come to Him. Bartimaeus jumped to his feet and came to Jesus.

“What do you want Me to do for you?” Jesus asked.

“I want to see!” Bartimaeus exclaimed, certain that Jesus could heal him.

Jesus smiled kindly and said, “Your faith has healed you.” Immediately Bartimaeus received his sight and followed Jesus along the road.

Faith in God makes miracles possible.



Pretend that you are Bartimaeus and sit on the ground with your eyes closed. Make sure you call out loudly for Jesus to heal you. Your parent can act out Jesus' part, and tell you, "Your faith has healed you." Now act as if you're seeing some of the beautiful things around you for the first time. Can you imagine how happy Bartimaeus was?

HEALING POWER

Jesus Christ heals you!

—Acts 9:34 NIV

Lie very still on the floor and pretend that you are the paralyzed man. Your mommy or daddy can pretend to be Peter, who tells you, “Jesus Christ heals you.” Now get up quickly and wiggle around to show how your body is completely healed. Don’t forget to jump up and down for joy too!

Peter was one of Jesus’ disciples. He traveled around teaching people about God’s Son, Jesus, and how people could receive His love and salvation into their lives. God used Peter to help many people. Jesus gave power to His disciples to heal others when they preached in the name of Jesus.

Once Peter met a man who had been unable to walk for eight years. Peter reached out his hand to this man and told him, “Get up! Jesus Christ heals you.” Immediately, the man stood up and was completely healed. What a wonderful miracle!

Even today God promises His children healing, too, and through our prayers we can ask Jesus to heal those who are hurt or unwell. Jesus likes to hear our prayers, and when we believe that He has the power to heal those we pray for, then wonderful things can happen. God’s healing power is magnificent!



STAND YOUR GROUND


Resist the Devil, and he will flee
from you.

—James 4:7 NIV

The Devil tries to fight God's children and keep us from following and obeying God. Sometimes the Devil tempts us to do things that are not right. Even when we know what is right, it can still be hard sometimes to make good choices.

The Devil is a bit like a bully who tries to push us around to make us do what he wants us to do, which is usually the wrong thing. Even though the Devil tempts and fights us, with God's help we can resist him. We may think the Devil is so big and strong that we cannot fight him, but God's Word tells us that we can resist him and stand our ground. That means that even when we hear that naughty little voice in our head that tells us to do something wrong, if we instead choose to do what is right, we are resisting the Devil.

When we make good choices that lift up God and show our love for Him, this bothers the Devil terribly. It sends him running from us! As we listen to and obey God's voice, it becomes easier to do what is right and good.



Close your eyes and be very quiet. Ask Jesus to show you something that you can do that will lift Him up and show others your love for Him.

A GREAT AND AWESOME GOD

Greater is He who is in you
than he who is in the world.

—1 John 4:4 NASB

God in us is more powerful than anything of this world.
He is the ultimate superhero!

When God's Spirit is in us, it gives us peace and happiness, and helps our hearts to be strong and full of faith, even when things don't seem so good around us. When we look to God and trust in Him, then we can find courage and bravery even in difficult times.

There is nothing in heaven or earth that is as powerful as God. And best of all, even though God is so great and magnificent, He has a tremendous amount of never-ending love for each of us. We can always trust that in His great love for us, He will be there to protect us, care for us, and give us the courage we need to be witnesses of His love. We have a great and awesome God!

Draw a picture of
one of your favorite
Bible heroes.



GOD'S MIGHTY ARMOR

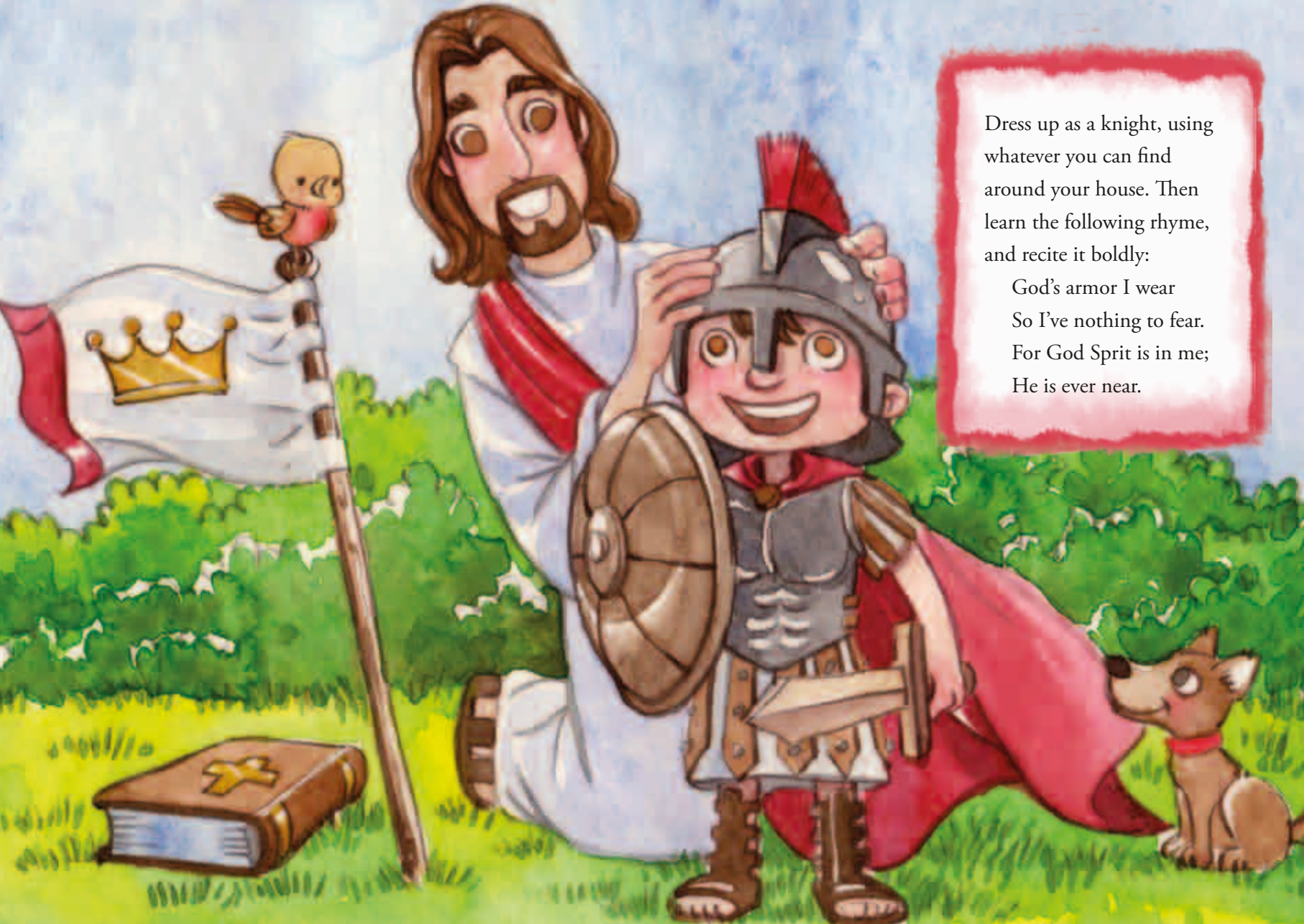
Put on the whole armor of God so that you may be able to stand against the attacks of the Devil!

—Ephesians 6:11, *paraphrased*

In olden days, knights would put on armor to protect themselves when they went into battle. God's Word tells us that we can put on the armor of God that will protect and keep us safe.

What is this armor? It is spiritual armor that God gives to those who believe in Him. He gives us the helmet of salvation—God's gift of love that redeems us of our sins. A shield of faith in God's Word and His promises to us. A breastplate of righteousness, a belt of truth, and feet fitted with the gospel of peace. And lastly, He has given us the sword of the Spirit, which represents the Word of God.

This armor and these weapons help us to be strong followers of Jesus. We can use them to overcome temptations, sins, and to help others whose faith needs to be lifted up. God's Spirit in us is powerful!



Dress up as a knight, using whatever you can find around your house. Then learn the following rhyme, and recite it boldly:

God's armor I wear
So I've nothing to fear.
For God Spirit is in me;
He is ever near.

A WORD TO THE PARENT

“Do you love Me?” Jesus asked Peter.

“Lord, You know all things,” Peter answered. “You know that I love You.”

“Then feed My sheep,” Jesus said. “And take care of My little ones.”

—Based on John 21:15–17.

5-Minute Bible Devotionals is a collection of Christian and character-building books written for children ages four on up. Each devotional is built on a Bible verse, and explains to a child in simple terms what the principles of that verse mean and how it applies to daily living.

I wrote these books to provide opportunities for conversation and discussion on Christian values between parent and child on a level that is relatable to a child. You can simply select a devotional to read with your child and pause when questions are posed in the text to allow time for your child to answer. Then encourage your child to express personal experiences or thoughts that relate to the theme you are reading.

Included with each devotional is a simple activity, such as a discussion question, a short rhyme to learn, or a simple project. I have found that emphasizing the lesson I am teaching my children by means of interactive activities brings that spark of fun into the mix that makes these important times of learning a joy.

The Bible verses included with each devotional have been selected from a variety of translations or revised so that they are easy for a young child to understand. Children can also be taught these verses. Repeat the verse several times with your child; he or she should soon be able to recite it from memory. Make a point to review the verses a couple of times a week so the child retains what has been learned.

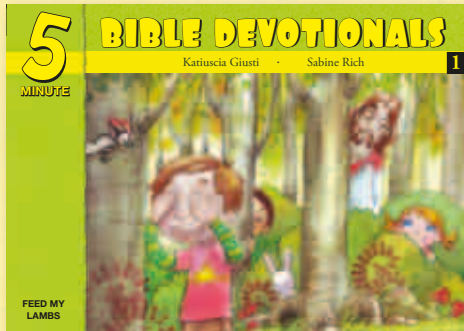
In addition, I will often spice up a devotional reading by including related Bible or character-building stories that complement the principles being taught.

My aim for these books was to have a way to teach my young children Bible-based values, and I have had a wonderful time sharing these simple truths with them in this way. It is my hope that you'll experience the same.

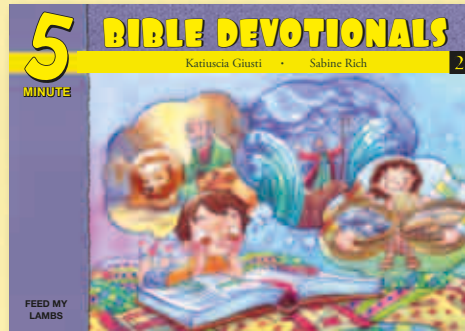
Katiuscia Giusti

5-MINUTE BIBLE DEVOTIONALS

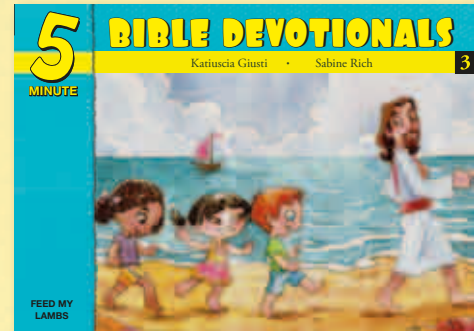
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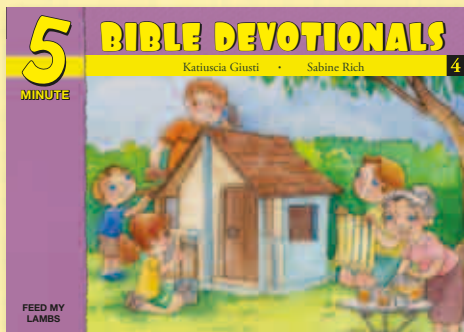
Love • Salvation



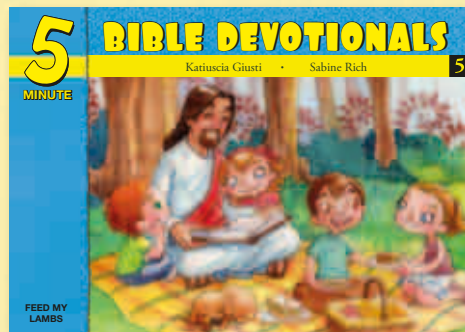
Faith • God's Promises



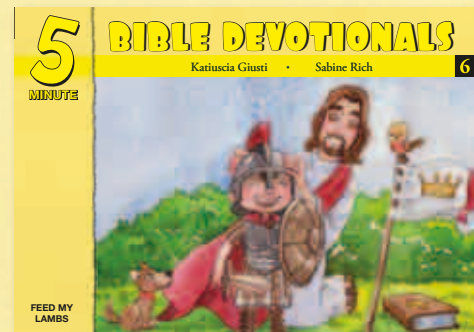
Prayer • God's Word



Christian Living



God/Jesus • Following Jesus • Obedience
Forgiveness



Holy Spirit • Preach the Gospel • Healing
God's Power in You

