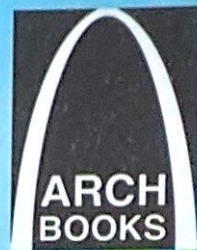


LEARNING BIBLE STORIES IS FUN WITH



Jesus Blesses the Children



Jesus Blesses the Children

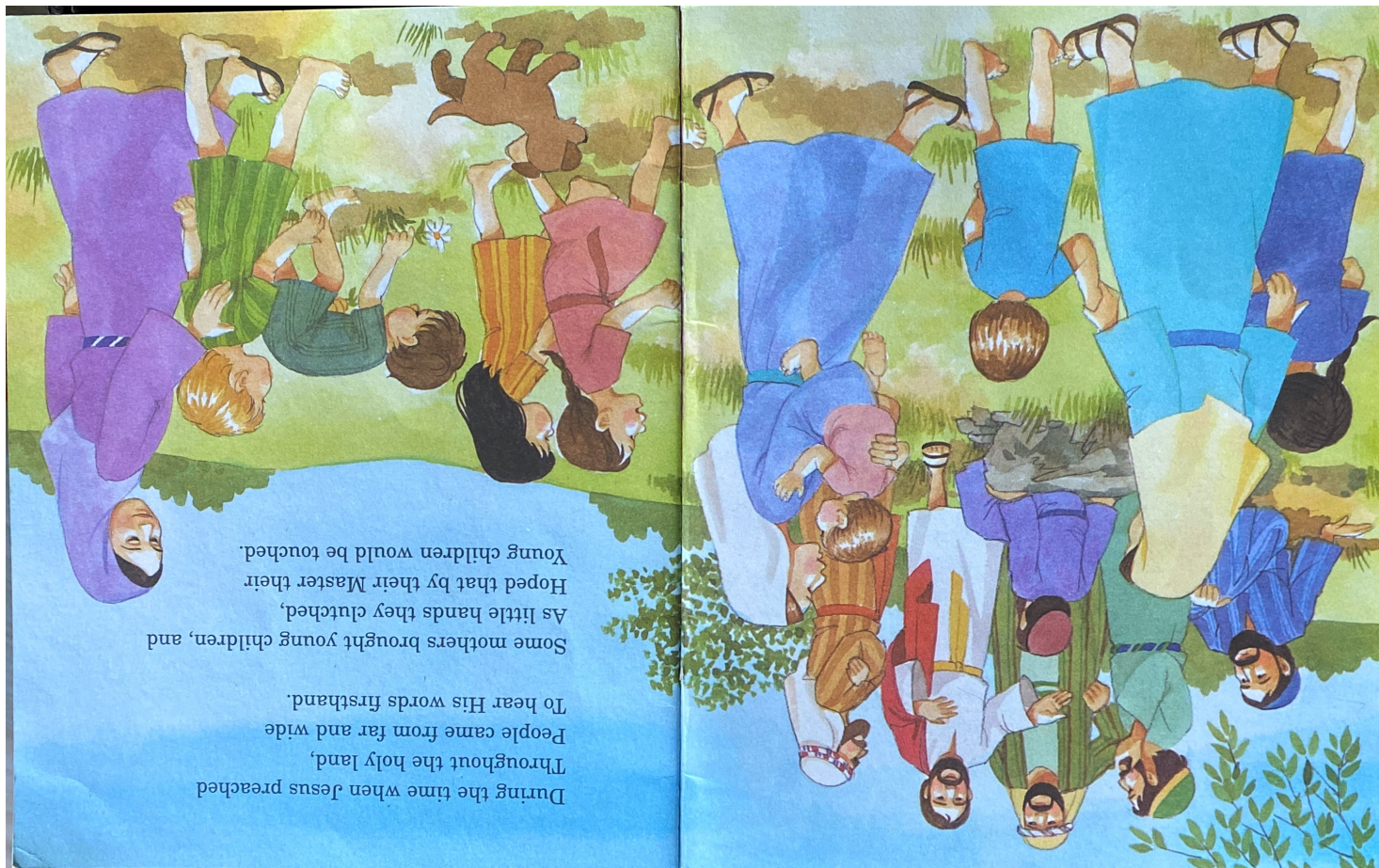
Mark 10:13–16 for children

Written by Gloria Truitt
Illustrated by Kathy Mitter



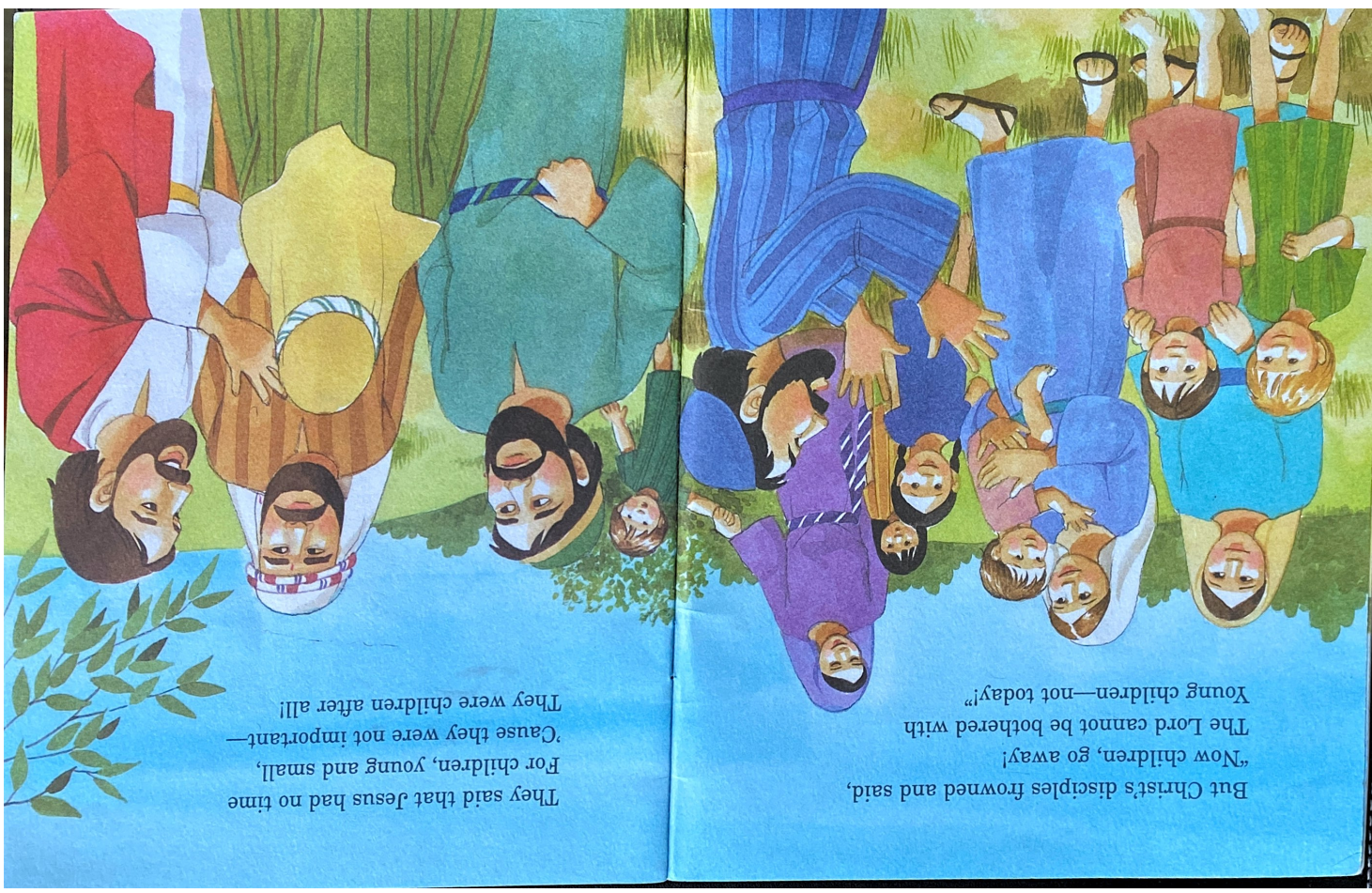
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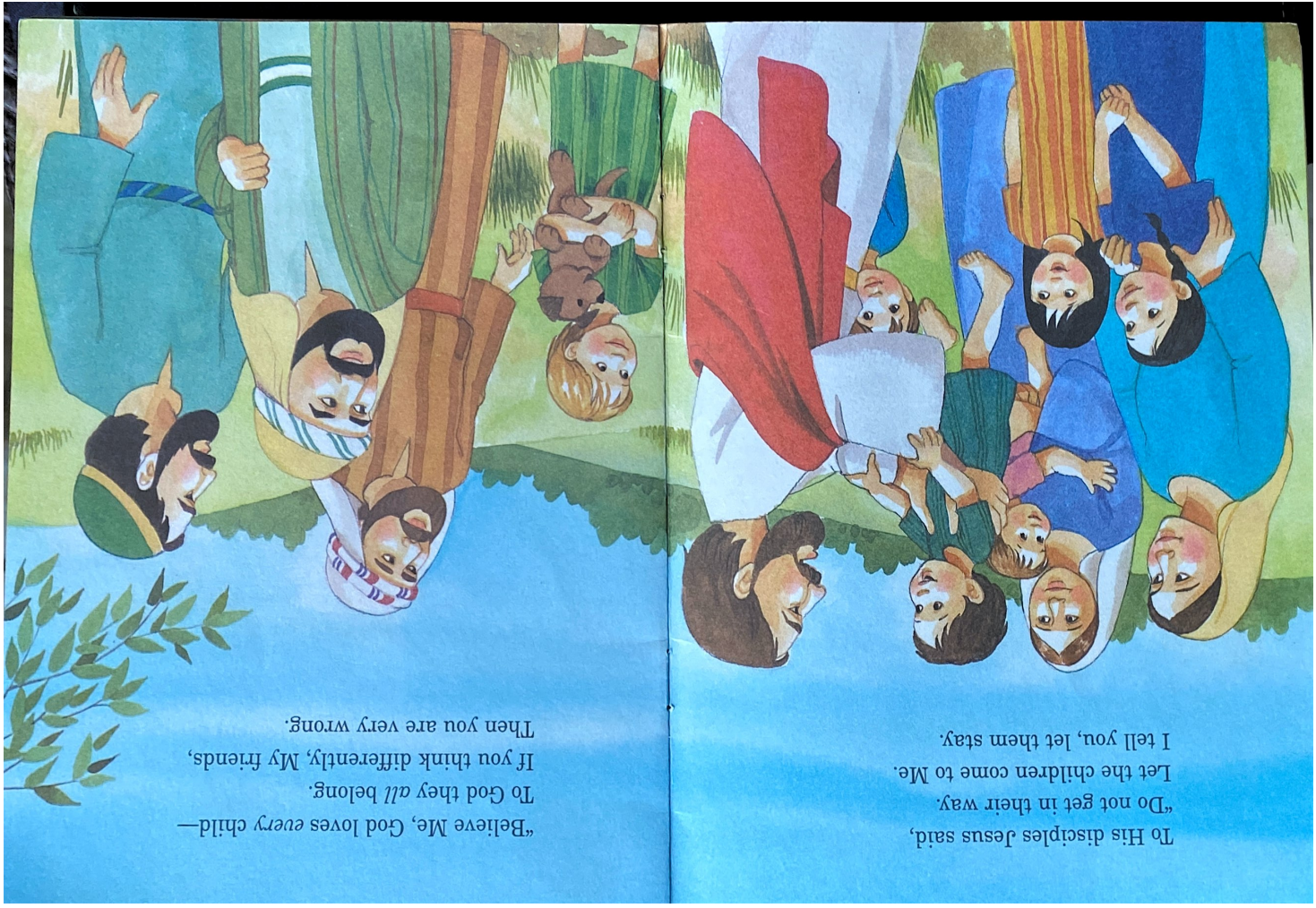
During the time when Jesus preached
Throughout the holy land,
People came from far and wide
To hear His words firsthand.

Some mothers brought young children, and
As little hands they clutched,
Hoped that by their Master their
Young children would be touched.



They said that Jesus had no time
For children, young and small,
'Cause they were not important—
They were children after all!

But Christ's disciples frowned and said,
"Now children, go away!
The Lord cannot be bothered with
Young children—not today!"

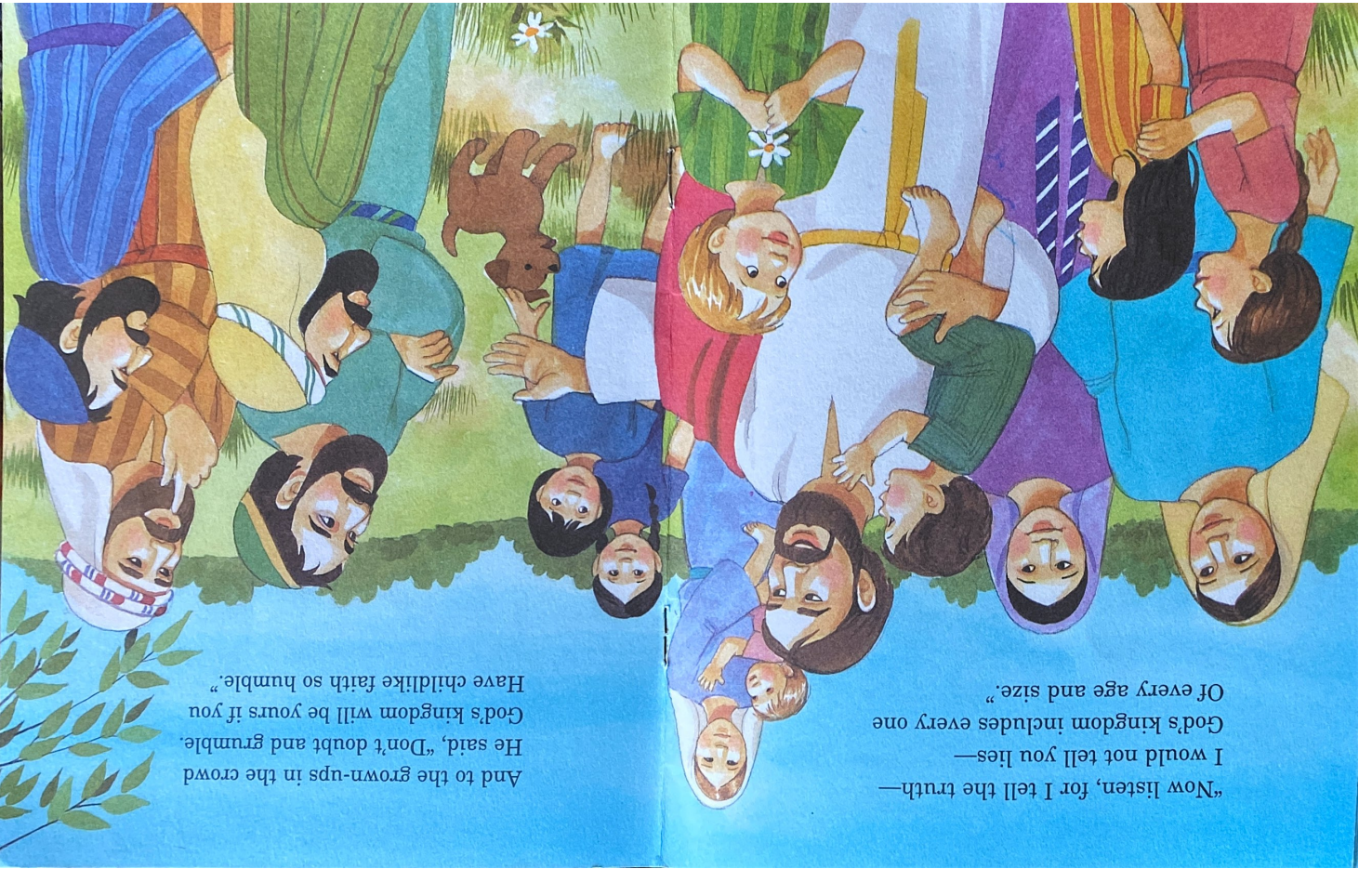


To His disciples Jesus said,
"Do not get in their way.
Let the children come to Me.
I tell you, let them stay."

"Believe Me, God loves *every* child—
To God they *all* belong.
If you think differently, My friends,
Then you are very wrong."

"Now listen, for I tell the truth—
I would not tell you lies—
God's kingdom includes every one
Of every age and size."

And to the grown-ups in the crowd
He said, "Don't doubt and grumble.
God's kingdom will be yours if you
Have childlike faith so humble."



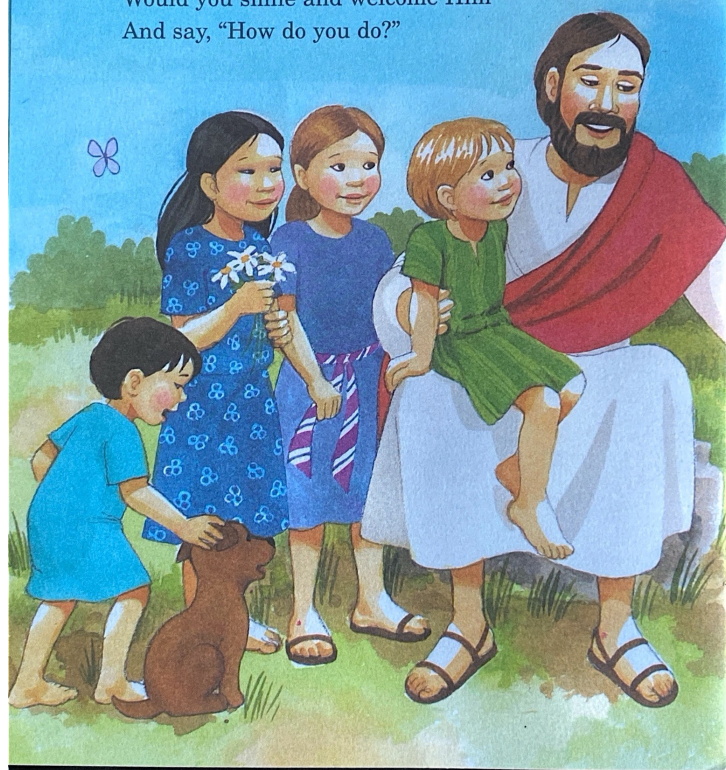
When Jesus spoke those caring words,
The little children stayed,
Then went to Jesus, full of trust—
They weren't a bit afraid.



When Jesus took them in His arms,
He patted them and smiled,
Then lovingly He blessed them as
He prayed for each young child.

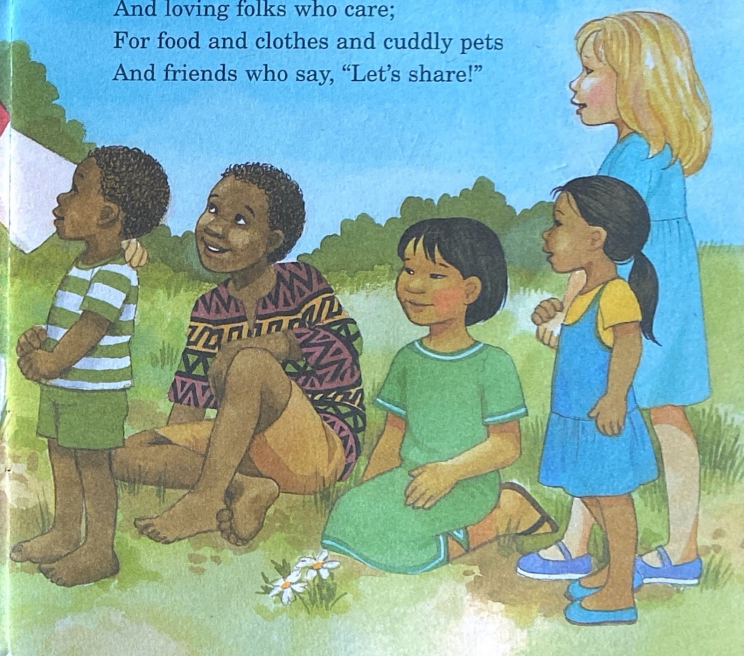


What would you say to Jesus if
He came to visit you?
Would you smile and welcome Him
And say, "How do you do?"



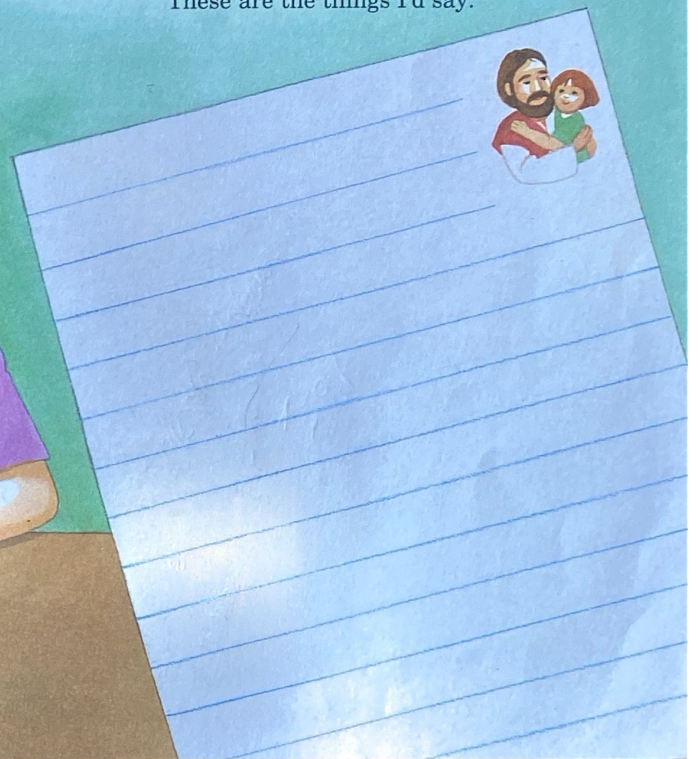
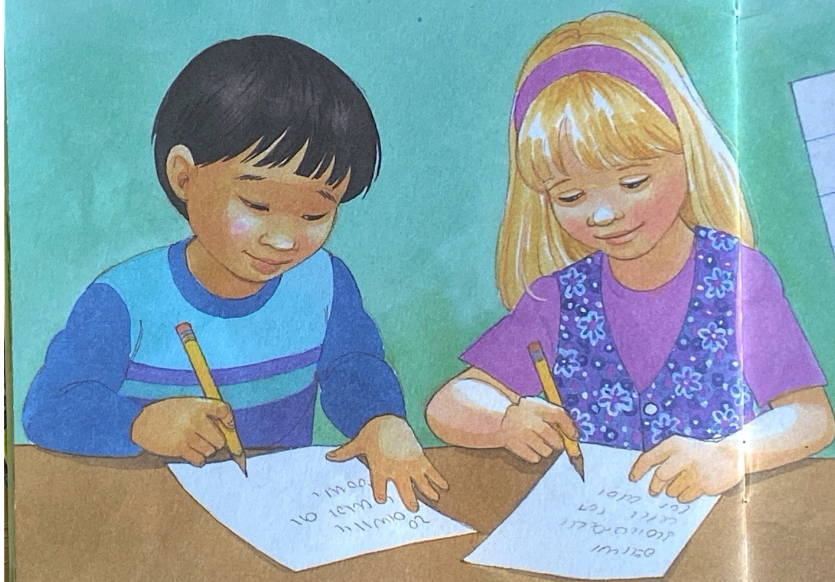
Now if you really knew He was
The Lord to whom you pray,
I'm sure you'd thank Him for the things
He gives you every day—

Like sun and rain to make plants grow,
And loving folks who care;
For food and clothes and cuddly pets
And friends who say, "Let's share!"



Because I'm blessed by Jesus—
And this I surely know—
He will *always* love me, and
Protect me as I grow.

I love my Lord and Savior—
I pray to Him each day—
And if He came to visit me,
These are the things I'd say:



Dear Parents:

As you talk with your child about this book, explain that Jesus loves all people—big and small. God chose your child to be His own in Baptism, and will continue to strengthen your child's faith through the guidance of His Holy Spirit.

Talk and pray with your child about some ways you might share Jesus' love with others. You could invite a neighborhood friend to Sunday school, make a family banner about Jesus to display, include school friends invited for sleepovers in family devotions. Thank Jesus for loving you and keeping you close to Him.

The Editor



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