God, I Need to Talk to You

STORIES *ABOUT* GOD'S LOVE *AND* FORGIVENESS

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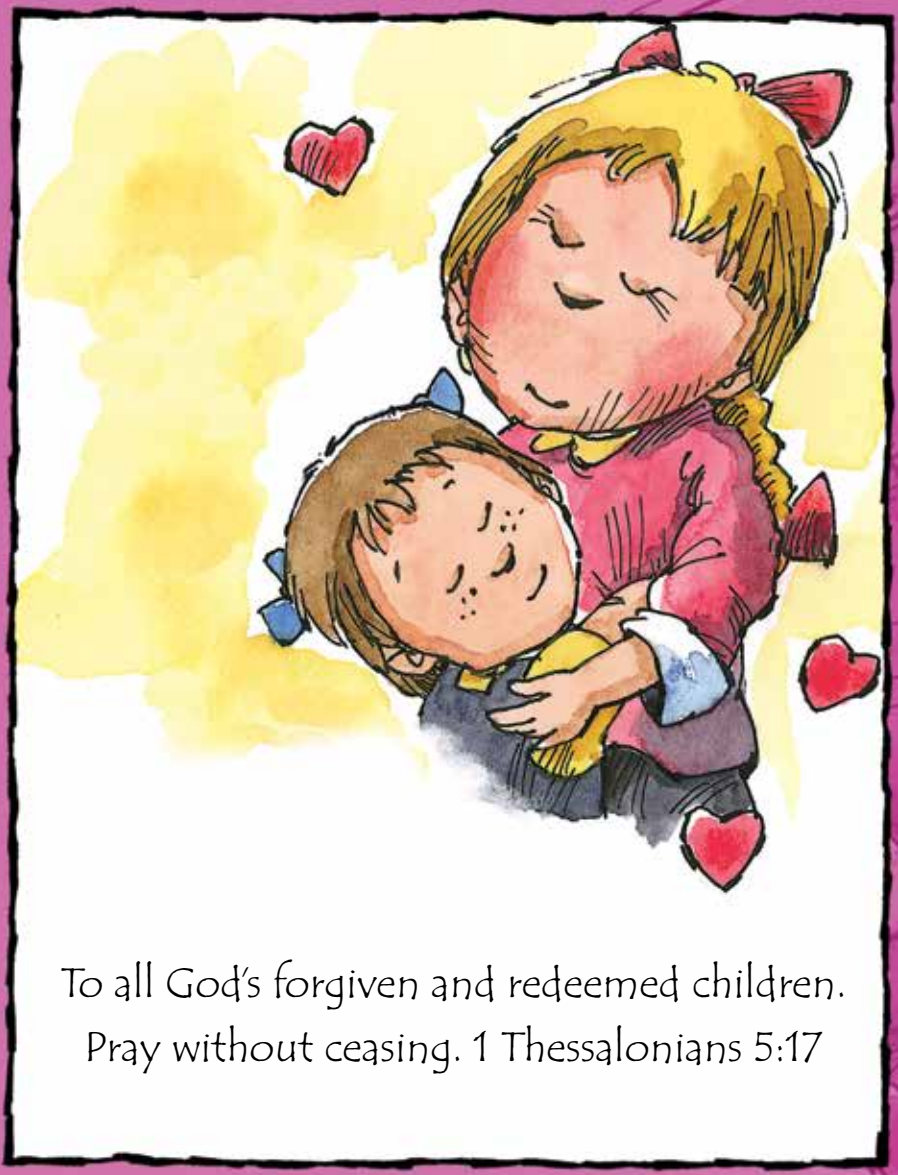

To all God's forgiven and redeemed children.
Pray without ceasing. 1 Thessalonians 5:17

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Do not be anxious about anything,
but in everything by prayer and supplication
with thanksgiving let your requests
be made known to God.
Philippians 4:6

Dear Parent:

God calls you to parenthood, and along with that comes the privilege and responsibility of teaching your child about life as a Christian. You begin when he is very young by folding his little hands while you pray during the worship service and at bedtime. You expand on that by teaching mealtime prayers and the Lord's Prayer. Your child quickly learns to imitate your actions.

At first, such prayers are extensions of verbal development, like reciting the ABCs and saying "please" and "thank you." But somewhere around the age of three, your child will begin

to understand that he is praying to Someone. And by the time he has started school and is increasingly exposed to the world and other people, his comprehension of sinful behavior and the need for forgiveness expands.

Along with the model of prayer you establish in church at and home, you can use this book to help your child learn that

- God hears all prayers in Jesus' name;
- He is faithful to answer them in accordance to His will for us; and
- no prayer is too big or too little; we can pray about anything at any time.

May this book, along with other prayer books in your home, be a touchpoint as you guide and nurture your child's spiritual formation.

The authors

God, I Need to Talk to You about BAD MANNERS

Written by Susan K. Leigh
Pictures by Bill Clark

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I know all about "please" and "thank you." I **always** say those words, so I thought I had good manners. But now, Lord, I know about other manners, too. **Bad ones.**

I learned that **interrupting** the teacher is bad manners.

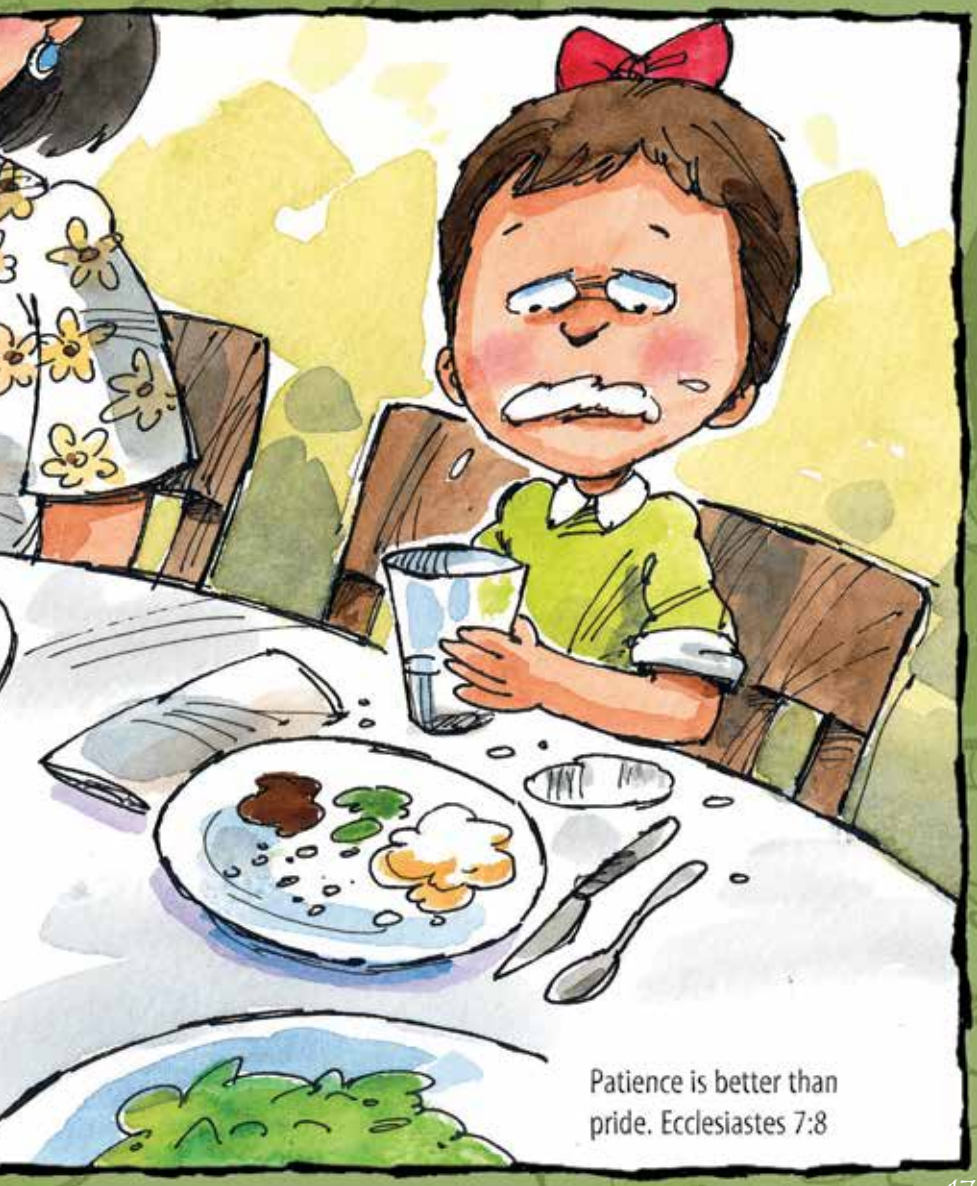
Mrs. Johnson sure didn't like it when I interrupted in class today. I was excited when I knew the answer and I wanted to say it first. I raised my hand. I waved my arm. And I shouted the answer before she called on me.

The race is not to the swift.
Ecclesiastes 9:11

I learned that not saying thank you for a gift is bad manners and is wrong.

Mom's friend brought me a birthday gift. When she asked how I liked it, I shrugged my shoulders and rolled my eyes. I didn't like it at all. Besides, my birthday was last month.

I learned that slurping my milk at the dinner table is bad manners. Actually—slurping my milk **anywhere** is bad manners.



Patience is better than pride. Ecclesiastes 7:8