



THE SHEPHERD'S MEADOW

Little Hearts for Jesus

PARENT & GRANDPARENT
WORKBOOK

12 JOYFUL
SONGS
THAT TEACH,
ENCOURAGE & HELP
LITTLE HEARTS
GROW IN **JESUS!**

12 CANCIONES
ALEGRES
QUE ENSEÑAN, ANIMAN
Y AYUDAN A LOS PEQUEÑOS
CORAZONES A CRECER
EN **JESÚS!**

ENGAGING ACTIVITIES
BIBLE TRUTHS
FUN PAGES
FAMILY TIME

ACTIVIDADES
DIVERTIDAS
VERDADES BÍBLICAS
PÁGINAS ENTRETENIDAS
TIEMPO EN FAMILIA



BIBLE TRUTHS
VERDADES BÍBLICAS



FUN ACTIVITIES
ACTIVIDADES
DIVERTIDAS



ENGLISH, ESPAÑOL
& BILINGUAL
VERSIONS
VERSIONES EN
INGLÉS, ESPAÑOL
Y BINGÜES



PARENT &
GRANDPARENT
GUIDE
GUÍA PARA
PADRES Y ABUELOS



FAMILY
DEVOTIONS
DEVOCIONALES
EN FAMILIA

Sing. Learn. Grow. All for Jesus!

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¡Canta. Aprende. Crece.
¡Todo para Jesús!

Growing Little Lambs
A Parent & Grandparent Guide to

The Shepherd's Meadow
Little Hearts for Jesus

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Published by Joe Soares Music

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Introduction

Dear Parent,

Dear Grandparent,

God has given you one of life's greatest privileges.

He has entrusted a little heart to your care.

No one spends more time with your child than you do.

No one has more opportunities to talk about Jesus, answer questions, pray together, sing together, and demonstrate what it means to love Christ.

That is why this guide exists.

These songs were never intended to be background music.

They are conversation starters.

Every song teaches one simple biblical truth about Jesus that can be reinforced during ordinary moments throughout the day.

While driving in the car...

During bath time...

Before bedtime...

Reading the Bible together...

Or simply watching birds outside the window.

Children learn through repetition.

They remember what they sing long after they forget what they hear in a sermon.

That is why every song points directly to Jesus by name.

Our goal is not merely to teach good behavior.

Our goal is to introduce children to the Savior who changes hearts.

As you sing these songs together, pray that God would use them to plant seeds that will one day bear fruit for His glory.

May your home become a place where Jesus is loved, His Word is treasured, and little hearts grow to follow Him.

Joe Soares

How to Use This Guide

This workbook is designed to be simple.

For each song you will find:

- The main Bible truth.
- Key KJV Scriptures.
- Questions to ask your child.
- Everyday teaching moments.
- A simple family prayer.
- An activity to reinforce the lesson.

You do not need to complete everything at once.

Sometimes a five-minute conversation is enough.

Sometimes your child will simply enjoy singing.

Both are valuable.

Why We Sing About Jesus

Children are constantly learning.

The question is...

Who is teaching them?

Many children's songs today teach kindness, sharing, feelings, or self-confidence.

Those things have value.

But none of them can save a child.

Only Jesus can.

That is why every song in this collection centers on Him.

We want children to know:

Jesus made me.

Jesus loves me.

Jesus hears my prayers.

Jesus gave me His Word.

Jesus is my Shepherd.

Jesus is with me day and night.

From the earliest years of life, we want His name to become familiar, comforting, and precious.

How Young Children Learn

Toddlers learn differently than adults.

They learn by:

Repeating.

Watching.

Moving.

Singing.

Playing.

Listening.

Talking.

That is why these songs include simple actions.

When children clap...

Point...

March...

Pretend...

Or hug themselves...

They connect movement with truth.

Those moments become memories.

And memories become lifelong foundations.

Daily Family Worship in Five Minutes

You do not need a complicated plan.

Five minutes can make a lasting difference.

Sing one song.

Read one Bible verse.

Ask one question.

Pray one simple prayer.

Repeat tomorrow.

Consistency matters far more than length.

CHAPTER 1

Clap for Jesus

Main Truth

Jesus alone is worthy of our praise.

Children naturally clap when they are happy or excited. This song teaches them that the greatest reason to clap is not for a performer, a game, or a favorite television character. The greatest reason to clap is because Jesus is worthy of praise.

Long before children understand deep theology, they can begin learning a simple truth that will shape the rest of their lives: Jesus deserves our worship.

The goal of this song is not merely to entertain children. It is to gently direct their joy toward Christ.

When children clap their hands while singing about Jesus, they are learning that worship is joyful. Praising Jesus is not something reserved only for church services. It can happen in the living room, in the car, outside on a walk, or before bedtime.

Little hearts learn through repetition. Every time your child sings, "Clap for Jesus," that truth is being planted a little deeper.

Key Scriptures (KJV)

Psalm 47:1

"O clap your hands, all ye people; shout unto God with the voice of triumph."

Psalm 150:6

"Let every thing that hath breath praise the LORD. Praise ye the LORD."

Luke 19:37–40

When the disciples praised Jesus, some asked Him to silence them. Jesus replied that if they held their peace, even the stones would cry out.

What an amazing picture for children! All of creation points to Jesus and declares His greatness.

What This Song Teaches

Children naturally celebrate the things they love.

Watch a toddler when bubbles float through the air.

When a puppy runs into the room.

When Grandpa arrives for a visit.

They smile.

They laugh.

They clap.

God created children with joyful hearts.

Our responsibility is to help direct that joy toward its greatest purpose: worshiping Jesus.

This does not mean children should never clap for a sibling at a ballgame or celebrate a birthday. Those moments are part of family life. But we want them to understand that no person deserves the honor that belongs to Jesus Christ alone.

As parents and grandparents, we have the privilege of showing children that worship is not something we do because we have to. It is something we do because we love the One who first loved us.

One of the sweetest things you can do is let your child see you genuinely worship Jesus. Sing with joy. Pray with sincerity. Read the Bible with

expectation. Children learn far more from what they observe than from what they are told.

Talking With Your Child

Ask simple questions like these:

Who are we clapping for?

Why do we love Jesus?

Who made you?

Who loves you more than anyone?

Can we praise Jesus at home?

Can we praise Jesus every day?

There are no perfect answers. The conversation itself is the goal.

Everyday Moments

When your child finishes singing the song, clap together and say, "Thank You, Jesus!"

After reading a Bible story, ask, "Should we clap for Jesus?"

When your child sees a beautiful sunset, a rainbow, flowers, birds, or butterflies, remind them that Jesus made those too. Then clap together and thank Him.

The more naturally Jesus becomes part of everyday conversations, the more naturally your child will think about Him throughout life.

Family Activity

Choose one day this week to have a five-minute family praise time.

Sing "Clap for Jesus."

Read Psalm 150 together.

Ask one simple question:

"What is one thing Jesus did for us today?"

Allow everyone to answer.

Then clap together and thank Jesus for His goodness.

Simple moments often become lifelong memories.

Family Prayer

Dear Jesus,

Thank You for loving us so much.

Thank You for making us.

Thank You for taking care of us every day.

Help us praise You with happy hearts wherever we are.

We love You.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.

Digging Deeper (For Parents)

One of the greatest dangers in our culture is that children are taught to celebrate almost everything except Christ.

They cheer for athletes.

They applaud entertainers.

They admire influencers.

There is nothing inherently wrong with appreciating the gifts and abilities of others. But when admiration for people overshadows worship of Christ, our priorities become misplaced.

The purpose of this song is to establish a foundation early in life. Before children learn to admire the world, help them learn to adore the Savior.

When Jesus becomes the center of a child's joy, many other pieces of life begin to fall into their proper place.

Memory Verse

Psalm 47:1

"O clap your hands, all ye people; shout unto God with the voice of triumph."

Practice saying the verse together a few words at a time until your child begins recognizing familiar phrases.

Don't worry if they cannot memorize the whole verse yet. Hearing God's Word repeatedly is already planting seeds in their heart.

A Final Word to Parents and Grandparents

You do not have to be a Bible scholar to disciple your child.

You simply need to love Jesus enough to talk about Him.

Don't underestimate the power of one song sung in the car.

One bedtime prayer.

One Bible story.

One conversation.

One hug.

One joyful "Let's clap for Jesus!"

Those moments may seem small today, but God often uses small, faithful acts to accomplish eternal purposes.

Your greatest success as a parent or grandparent will never be measured by the activities you provided or the possessions you gave. It will be measured by whether you faithfully pointed the little ones God entrusted to you toward Jesus Christ.

CHAPTER 2

Jesus Made Me

Main Truth

Jesus made me, loves me, and has a wonderful purpose for my life.

Every child eventually begins asking questions like, "Who am I?" and "Why am I here?" Long before they understand the complexities of life, they can begin learning the simple truth that they were lovingly created by Jesus.

This song teaches children that they are not accidents. They are not mistakes. They are not forgotten. They were created by the One who knows them completely and loves them perfectly.

When children understand that Jesus made them, they begin to see themselves through God's eyes instead of the world's opinions.

Key Scriptures (KJV)

John 1:3

"All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made."

Colossians 1:16

"For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible... all things were created by him, and for him."

Psalms 139:14

"I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made..."

What This Song Teaches

Children notice differences very early in life.

One child is taller.

Another has curly hair.

One wears glasses.

Another runs faster.

Before long, comparisons begin.

Our culture often tells children that their worth comes from how they look, what they own, how popular they are, or what they can accomplish. God's Word teaches something much better.

Our value begins with the One who created us.

Jesus intentionally made every child unique. No two fingerprints are alike. No two voices are identical. Every child reflects the creativity of our wonderful Creator.

That uniqueness is not a reason for pride. Neither is it a reason for insecurity. It is a reason for gratitude.

As parents and grandparents, one of the greatest gifts we can give our children is helping them understand that they do not need to become someone else to be loved by Jesus. They can thank Him for the way He made them while growing to become more like Him in character each day.

Being thankful for how God made us is very different from believing the world revolves around us. This song points children away from self-centeredness and toward gratitude for their Creator.

Talking With Your Child

Ask questions like these:

Who made you?

Who made Mommy and Daddy?

Who made Grandma and Grandpa?

Who made your eyes?

Who made your hands?

Does Jesus make mistakes?

Why can we thank Jesus for making us?

Keep the conversation joyful and simple. The goal is not perfect answers but helping your child connect everything back to Jesus.

Everyday Moments

When your child looks in a mirror, remind them:

"Jesus made your smile."

When they run outside, say:

"Jesus made your strong legs."

When they draw a picture, tell them:

"Jesus gave you hands to create."

When they laugh, remind them:

"Jesus loves hearing your happy heart."

These simple comments help children connect everyday experiences with their Creator.

Family Activity

Stand together in front of a mirror.

Point to different parts of your body and thank Jesus for each one.

"Thank You for my eyes."

"Thank You for my ears."

"Thank You for my hands."

"Thank You for my feet."

Finish by singing *Jesus Made Me* together.

This simple activity helps children understand that every part of them is a gift from God.

Family Prayer

Dear Jesus,

Thank You for making me.

Thank You for giving me eyes to see, ears to hear, hands to help, and feet to follow You.

Help me love You every day and become more like You.

Thank You for loving me just as I am and for helping me grow.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.

Digging Deeper (For Parents)

Today's children are growing up in a culture filled with confusion about identity.

The Bible provides clarity.

Our identity is not determined by our achievements, our appearance, our feelings, or the opinions of others. It begins with the God who created us.

Teaching a child that Jesus made them provides a stable foundation for life. They learn that their worth is rooted in God's love rather than changing circumstances.

As your child grows, they will face many voices competing for their attention. Friends, teachers, social media, entertainment, and advertising will all tell them who they should be.

Prepare them now to recognize the most important voice of all—the voice of their Good Shepherd.

The more deeply children understand that they belong to Jesus, the less likely they are to seek their identity somewhere else.

Memory Verse

John 1:3

"All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made."

Read the verse together several times during the week. Even if your child cannot memorize every word, hearing Scripture repeatedly allows God's truth to become familiar and comforting.

A Final Word to Parents and Grandparents

Your child will probably never remember the first time you told them, "Jesus made you."

But they will remember hearing it over and over again.

One day, perhaps years from now, when they begin asking deeper questions about who they are and why they matter, those simple words you've faithfully repeated may come back to them:

"Jesus made me."

That truth becomes an anchor. It reminds them that their life has meaning because it began with a loving Creator, not with chance.

As you sing this song together, remember that you are doing far more than teaching lyrics. You are helping your child build a biblical understanding of who they are—someone lovingly created by Jesus, deeply loved by Him, and invited to follow Him for the rest of their life.

CHAPTER 3

Thank You, Jesus

Main Truth

Every good thing we have comes from Jesus, so we can thank Him every day.

One of the sweetest phrases you will ever hear from a little child is, "Thank you."

Long before children understand all that Jesus has done for them, they can begin learning to recognize His goodness and respond with thankful hearts.

This song teaches children that gratitude is much more than good manners. It is an act of worship.

Every smile...

Every meal...

Every hug...

Every beautiful day...

Every answered prayer...

Every blessing ultimately comes from the gracious hand of God.

When children learn to thank Jesus regularly, they begin seeing life through the eyes of gratitude instead of entitlement.

Key Scriptures (KJV)

James 1:17

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights..."

1 Thessalonians 5:18

"In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."

Psalm 107:1

"O give thanks unto the LORD, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever."

What This Song Teaches

Children naturally notice the gifts they receive.

A new toy.

A favorite snack.

A fun trip.

A birthday present.

Those are wonderful opportunities to gently teach a deeper truth.

Before we thank the person who gave us the gift, we can also thank the One who made every blessing possible.

The Bible reminds us that every good gift comes from God.

That doesn't mean we ignore the kindness of people. We should always teach children to thank parents, grandparents, teachers, and friends. Good manners honor others.

But beyond every human kindness stands an even greater Giver.

Jesus gives us life.

He gives us our family.

He gives us food.

He gives us strength.

He gives us sunshine and rain.

Most importantly, He gave Himself so that we could be forgiven and know Him forever.

Gratitude changes the way children see the world.

Instead of asking, "What else can I have?"

They begin asking, "What can I thank Jesus for today?"

That simple change can shape a heart for a lifetime.

Talking With Your Child

Ask questions like these:

What are you thankful for today?

Who gave us our family?

Who made the sunshine?

Who gave us food to eat?

Can we thank Jesus when things are going well?

Can we thank Jesus even on hard days because He is always good?

Help your child answer in simple words. The goal is to develop a thankful heart, not perfect answers.

Everyday Moments

Before every meal, pause for a simple prayer of thanks.

When you see a beautiful sunset, stop and say,

"Thank You, Jesus, for making such a beautiful sky."

When your child receives a gift, encourage them to thank the person who gave it, then thank Jesus together for His kindness.

At bedtime, ask,

"What is one thing you want to thank Jesus for today?"

These small habits teach children that gratitude belongs in everyday life, not just at church.

Family Activity

Get a small jar and decorate it together.

Call it your **"Thank You, Jesus Jar."**

Throughout the week, write or draw one blessing on a small piece of paper and place it in the jar.

At the end of the week, read them together before singing *Thank You, Jesus*.

Children quickly discover that God's blessings are everywhere when they begin looking for them.

Family Prayer

Dear Jesus,

Thank You for loving me.

Thank You for my family.

Thank You for my home.

Thank You for food to eat and friends to love.

Help me remember to thank You every day for all the wonderful things You give.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.

Digging Deeper (For Parents)

Gratitude does not come naturally.

Children naturally notice what they do not have.

Adults often do the same.

That is why thankfulness must be intentionally taught.

When gratitude becomes a family habit, complaining begins to lose its power.

A thankful heart sees God's goodness even in ordinary moments.

Children who regularly thank Jesus learn to recognize His hand in everyday life.

That perspective becomes an anchor during difficult seasons.

Life will not always be easy.

There will be disappointments, sickness, unanswered questions, and sorrow.

Yet a child who has learned to thank God for His unchanging goodness is better prepared to trust Him through every season.

Teaching gratitude is really teaching trust.

We thank Jesus because we believe He is always good, even when we do not fully understand His plans.

Memory Verse

James 1:17

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights..."

Repeat this verse often during the week.

As your child begins recognizing blessings, remind them where those blessings come from.

Every good gift points us back to the Giver.

A Final Word to Parents and Grandparents

Children become like what they see.

If they hear us complaining all the time, they will learn to complain.

If they hear us thanking Jesus throughout the day, gratitude will begin to shape their own hearts.

Don't wait for special occasions to thank God.

Thank Him for ordinary mornings.

For bedtime hugs.

For scraped knees that heal.

For birds singing outside the window.

For rain that waters the flowers.

For laughter around the dinner table.

Those ordinary moments become extraordinary when children learn to see them as gifts from Jesus.

As you sing this song together, remember that you are teaching far more than polite words. You are helping your child develop a heart that recognizes God's goodness, responds with joyful gratitude, and learns to say one of the sweetest prayers a child can pray:

"Thank You, Jesus."

CHAPTER 4

I Can Pray

Main Truth

Jesus always hears me when I pray.

One of the greatest privileges we have as Christians is prayer.

Prayer is simply talking to Jesus.

Children do not need impressive words. They do not need long prayers or perfect sentences. Jesus delights in hearing the simple prayers of little children.

This song teaches children that they can talk to Jesus anytime, anywhere, about anything.

Whether they are happy...

Scared...

Excited...

Confused...

Or thankful...

Jesus is always ready to listen.

Prayer is not just something we do before meals or bedtime. It is the way we build a relationship with our Savior throughout every day.

Key Scriptures (KJV)

Jeremiah 33:3

"Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not."

Philippians 4:6

"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God."

1 Thessalonians 5:17

"Pray without ceasing."

What This Song Teaches

Children love to talk.

They tell us about butterflies, toy trucks, scraped knees, funny dreams, and things they notice that adults often miss.

Jesus invites them to talk to Him with that same openness.

Prayer is not about using special words.

It is about speaking honestly with Someone who loves us perfectly.

Children quickly learn that they can tell Jesus when they are happy.

They can thank Him when something wonderful happens.

They can ask for help when they are afraid.

They can pray for Mommy, Daddy, Grandma, Grandpa, friends, neighbors, missionaries, pastors, and even people they have never met.

As parents and grandparents, one of our greatest opportunities is to let children hear us pray naturally.

Not only during church.

Not only before meals.

But throughout ordinary life.

"Jesus, thank You for this beautiful day."

"Lord, please help us drive safely."

"Thank You for helping us today."

When children hear prayer woven into everyday conversations, they begin understanding that Jesus is involved in every part of life.

Prayer becomes as natural as breathing.

Talking With Your Child

Ask questions like these:

Who can you talk to anytime?

Does Jesus hear little children?

Can we pray when we are happy?

Can we pray when we are sad?

Can we pray when we are afraid?

What would you like to tell Jesus today?

Listen carefully to their answers.

Sometimes the simplest prayers reveal the deepest faith.

Everyday Moments

When your child falls down and gets hurt, pray together before putting on the bandage.

When you hear an ambulance, pause and pray for the people involved.

When someone is sick, stop and ask Jesus to help them.

When your child sees something beautiful, thank Jesus together.

Prayer should become part of everyday life, not something reserved for special occasions.

Family Activity

Create a simple "Prayer Time."

It only takes five minutes.

Sit together.

Ask everyone to share one thing they are thankful for.

Then ask everyone to share one thing they would like to ask Jesus about.

Take turns praying one sentence each.

Children quickly discover that prayer is simply talking with Someone who loves them.

Family Prayer

Dear Jesus,

Thank You for listening when I pray.

Thank You that I can talk to You anytime.

Help me remember that You are always with me.

Please help my family love You more every day.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.

Digging Deeper (For Parents)

One of the greatest gifts you can give your child is confidence in prayer.

Children who learn to pray early often continue praying naturally throughout life.

That does not happen because they memorize formal prayers.

It happens because they see prayer lived out at home.

Let your children hear you pray when you are thankful.

Let them hear you pray when you are worried.

Let them hear you ask God's forgiveness when you fail.

Those moments teach humility, dependence, and faith.

Remember that your child is learning as much from your example as from your instruction.

If prayer is important to you, it will gradually become important to them.

Memory Verse

Jeremiah 33:3

"Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not."

Read this verse together often.

Even if your child cannot understand every word yet, they can remember the wonderful invitation:

"Call unto me..."

What an amazing promise from God.

A Final Word to Parents and Grandparents

Never underestimate the prayers of a child.

Jesus welcomed little children during His earthly ministry.

He listened to them then.

He listens to them now.

Your child does not need perfect words.

They simply need a willing heart.

One day, your child may face questions you cannot answer.

There will be moments when you are not beside them.

But Jesus always will be.

That is why teaching children to pray may be one of the greatest gifts you ever give them.

As you sing *I Can Pray* together, remember that you are not merely teaching a song.

You are introducing your child to a lifelong conversation with their Savior.

And perhaps the sweetest prayer your child will ever pray is also the simplest:

"Dear Jesus..."

CHAPTER 5

My Little Bible

Main Truth

The Bible is God's Word, and it teaches me about Jesus.

One of the greatest gifts you can give your child is a love for the Bible.

Before they can read...

Before they understand every story...

Before they memorize long passages...

They can learn that the Bible is a very special book because it tells us about Jesus.

Many children grow up thinking of the Bible as a collection of exciting stories.

It certainly contains wonderful true accounts of God's work throughout history.

But the greatest purpose of the Bible is much bigger than that.

The Bible tells one amazing story.

It tells us about Jesus Christ.

From Genesis to Revelation, God's plan of redemption points to His Son.

When children learn to treasure God's Word, they are learning to treasure the One whom the Scriptures reveal.

Key Scriptures (KJV)

2 Timothy 3:15

"And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus."

Psalm 119:105

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

John 5:39

"Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me."

What This Song Teaches

Children quickly become attached to things they love.

A favorite blanket.

A stuffed animal.

A special toy.

Many children also develop a deep affection for their own Bible.

That is something to encourage.

But help them understand that the Bible is not special because it is a beautiful book with a nice cover.

It is special because it is God's Word.

Every page teaches us something about Him.

Every story points to His faithfulness.

Every promise reminds us of His goodness.

Most importantly, the Bible introduces us to Jesus.

As parents and grandparents, we are not simply trying to raise children who own Bibles.

We are praying that they become children who love reading them.

Even before they can read for themselves, they can enjoy hearing God's Word read aloud.

Those moments together become precious memories.

One day your child will read those same passages on their own, and they will remember sitting beside you, hearing those words for the first time.

Talking With Your Child

Ask simple questions like these:

What is this book called?

Who gave us the Bible?

Who does the Bible tell us about?

Can we read God's Word every day?

What is your favorite Bible story?

Who made Noah?

Who made David?

Who made you?

Help your child connect every Bible story back to the God who lovingly gave us His Word.

Everyday Moments

Let your child carry their own Bible to church.

Allow them to help turn the pages while you read.

Keep a children's Bible within easy reach instead of putting it away on a high shelf.

Let your child see you reading your own Bible.

Children are far more likely to value God's Word when they regularly see you valuing it.

If they notice you reading your Bible because you enjoy it—not merely because it is your responsibility—they will naturally become curious.

Family Activity

Choose one Bible story each week.

Read it together several times.

After reading, ask your child to draw their favorite part of the story.

Talk about what the story teaches us about God.

Then sing *My Little Bible* together.

The goal is not artistic ability.

The goal is helping God's Word become familiar, joyful, and loved.

Family Prayer

Dear Jesus,

Thank You for giving us the Bible.

Thank You for teaching us about Yourself.

Help us love Your Word.

Help us obey what it says.

Please help our family read the Bible together often.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.

Digging Deeper (For Parents)

One of the greatest privileges you have is opening God's Word with your child.

Do not worry if they seem distracted.

Do not become discouraged if they wiggle, ask unexpected questions, or only listen for a few minutes.

Remember that you are planting seeds.

Every verse they hear...

Every story they remember...

Every conversation you have...

Is another opportunity for God to work in their heart.

The Bible tells us that God's Word never returns void.

Children may not remember every lesson immediately, but the Holy Spirit often brings those truths back to mind later in life.

Keep reading.

Keep praying.

Keep trusting God to accomplish His work through His Word.

Memory Verse

Psalms 119:105

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

Read this verse together throughout the week.

Explain that God's Word helps us know the right way to live, just as a lamp helps us see where we are walking in the dark.

A Final Word to Parents and Grandparents

Some of the sweetest memories your child may ever have will not involve expensive vacations or elaborate toys.

They may remember sitting beside you on the couch...

Holding their little Bible...

Listening as you quietly read God's Word.

Those moments often seem ordinary.

But eternity may reveal that they were among the most important moments of all.

Never underestimate the influence of faithfully opening the Scriptures with your child.

Long after the songs have ended...

Long after childhood has passed...

God's Word will still be speaking.

As you sing **My Little Bible**, remember that your greatest goal is not simply to help your child love a book.

It is to help them love the Savior whom that Book reveals.

Because, as Jesus Himself said,

"...they are they which testify of me." (John 5:39, KJV)

That is why we read the Bible.

That is why we sing about it.

And that is why we pray our children will grow to treasure it all the days of their lives.

CHAPTER 6

Jesus Is My Shepherd

Main Truth

Jesus is my Good Shepherd. He knows me, loves me, leads me, and cares for me every day.

One of the most beautiful pictures the Bible gives us of Jesus is that of a shepherd.

A shepherd does not simply own sheep.

He knows them.

He calls them.

He protects them.

He leads them.

He searches for them when they wander.

He willingly lays down his life for them.

Jesus chose this picture because it perfectly describes His love for His people.

Even very young children can understand that sheep need someone to care for them.

That is exactly why Jesus calls Himself our Good Shepherd.

Key Scriptures (KJV)

John 10:11

"I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep."

John 10:27

"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me."

Psalms 23:1

"The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want."

What This Song Teaches

Children naturally understand the idea of following someone they trust.

They hold a parent's hand while crossing the street.

They follow Grandma through the grocery store.

They reach for Grandpa when they feel uncertain.

Trust comes naturally when someone has consistently cared for them.

That is exactly the relationship Jesus wants us to have with Him.

He is not distant.

He is not indifferent.

He knows each one of His children personally.

Just as a shepherd carefully watches over every sheep in his flock, Jesus watches over those who belong to Him.

He guides us when we do not know which way to go.

He protects us from dangers we cannot see.

He comforts us when we are frightened.

He never grows tired of caring for us.

Children may not understand everything about life, but they can understand this simple truth:

Jesus is taking care of me.

That truth becomes a source of peace long before they fully understand the rest of the Christian life.

Talking With Your Child

Ask simple questions like these:

Who is our Shepherd?

Who takes care of the sheep?

Who takes care of you?

Why do sheep stay close to their shepherd?

Does Jesus know your name?

Can Jesus help us when we are afraid?

Does Jesus ever stop loving us?

These questions are not meant to test your child.

They are invitations to talk about the wonderful care of our Savior.

Everyday Moments

When you take a walk together, remind your child to stay close.

Then gently say,

"Just like you stay close to Mommy or Daddy, Jesus wants us to stay close to Him."

If you see sheep while traveling—or even pictures of sheep in a book—talk about how shepherds care for them.

When your child feels afraid during a thunderstorm or at bedtime, remind them,

"Jesus is our Shepherd, and He is watching over us."

These ordinary moments help children connect biblical truth with everyday life.

Family Activity

Play a simple game of "Follow the Shepherd."

One adult becomes the shepherd.

Everyone else follows behind.

Walk slowly around the house or yard.

Go over a pillow, around a chair, through a doorway, or across the grass.

Afterward ask,

"Why was it important to stay close to the shepherd?"

Then explain that Jesus lovingly leads us through life because He knows the safest path.

Finish by singing **Jesus Is My Shepherd** together.

Family Prayer

Dear Jesus,

Thank You for being my Good Shepherd.

Thank You for loving me and taking care of me every day.

Help me listen to Your voice and follow You wherever You lead.

Thank You for always being with me.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.

Digging Deeper (For Parents)

Few biblical pictures are as rich as the image of the shepherd.

Throughout Scripture, God repeatedly describes His loving care in these terms.

Psalms 23 has comforted believers for thousands of years.

Jesus expanded that picture in John 10 by declaring that He is the Good Shepherd.

Notice what He says.

"I know them..."

"They follow me..."

The Christian life is not merely following rules.

It is following a Person.

That is why this song is so important.

Children are not simply learning that Jesus gives good advice.

They are learning that Jesus Himself lovingly leads His people.

As parents and grandparents, our calling is not to become the shepherd.

Our calling is to continually point our children to the true Shepherd.

One day they must learn to recognize **His** voice above every other voice in the world.

That begins with faithfully introducing them to Him while they are still very young.

Memory Verse

John 10:11

"I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep."

Read this verse together often.

As your child grows, explain that Jesus did more than simply care for His sheep.

He loved us so much that He willingly gave His life on the cross so that we could belong to Him forever.

A Final Word to Parents and Grandparents

There will come a day when you cannot walk beside your child every moment.

You will not always be there at school.

Or with friends.

Or as they grow into adulthood.

That realization can be difficult for every parent and grandparent.

But take comfort in this wonderful truth:

The Good Shepherd never leaves His sheep.

He sees every step.

He knows every fear.

He understands every tear.

He rejoices in every victory.

Long after your hands can no longer hold your child's hand, the hand of the Good Shepherd will still be leading those who trust Him.

That is one of the greatest gifts you can give your child—not merely confidence in themselves, but confidence in Christ.

As you sing **Jesus Is My Shepherd**, pray that your child will one day personally hear His voice, trust His saving grace, and joyfully follow Him all the days of their life.

Because there is no safer place for any child than in the loving care of **the Good Shepherd**.

CHAPTER 7

Jesus Loves Me Every Day

Main Truth

Jesus loves me every day, no matter what kind of day I'm having.

Every child longs to know they are loved.

They need to hear it often.

They need to see it demonstrated.

Most importantly, they need to know that Jesus loves them with a love that never changes.

Some days children laugh.

Some days they cry.

Some days they obey quickly.

Some days they struggle.

Yet through every kind of day, the love of Christ remains constant.

This song teaches children that Jesus' love is not earned by being perfect. His love flows from His perfect character.

That truth becomes a secure foundation upon which faith can grow.

Key Scriptures (KJV)

Romans 8:38–39

"For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life... nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

John 15:9

"As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love."

1 John 4:19

"We love him, because he first loved us."

What This Song Teaches

Children often measure love by circumstances.

"If Mommy hugged me today, she loves me."

"If I got into trouble, maybe she doesn't."

Parents know those thoughts are not true, but young children often think this way.

That is why this song is so important.

Jesus' love is not like human emotions that sometimes change.

His love is faithful.

His love is constant.

His love is perfect.

That does not mean Jesus ignores sin.

Loving parents correct their children because they love them.

In the same way, our heavenly Father lovingly teaches, corrects, and disciplines His children.

Even correction is an expression of His love.

As children grow, help them understand that obedience is not how we earn Jesus' love.

We obey because we already know we are loved.

That simple difference shapes the entire Christian life.

Talking With Your Child

Ask questions like these:

Who loves you?

Does Jesus love you when you're happy?

Does Jesus love you when you're sad?

Does Jesus love you when you make a mistake?

Can anything make Jesus stop loving those who belong to Him?

How does it make you feel to know Jesus loves you every day?

These questions help children build confidence in the steadfast love of Christ.

Everyday Moments

When your child wakes up, smile and say,

"Jesus loves you today."

Before bedtime, whisper,

"Jesus loved you all day long."

When your child makes a mistake and receives correction, remind them,

"I love you, and Jesus loves you too."

Those words help separate discipline from rejection.

Children need to know that correction comes from love, not anger.

When your child feels discouraged, gently remind them,

"Jesus loves you every day... come what may."

That simple phrase may stay with them for the rest of their lives.

Family Activity

Draw a large heart on a piece of paper.

Inside the heart, write:

Jesus Loves Me

Throughout the week, invite your child to draw or dictate things that remind them of Jesus' love.

Perhaps a family meal.

A rainbow.

A Bible story.

A hug.

A prayer.

At the end of the week, look at everything together and thank Jesus for His faithful love.

Then sing **Jesus Loves Me Every Day**.

Family Prayer

Dear Jesus,

Thank You for loving me every day.

Thank You that Your love never changes.

Help me remember that You are always with me.

Help me love You more each day.

Thank You for loving my family too.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.

Digging Deeper (For Parents)

One of the greatest gifts you can give your child is security.

Not financial security.

Not social security.

Spiritual security.

Children flourish when they know they are deeply loved.

God designed the family to reflect His love.

When parents show consistent love, forgiveness, patience, and grace, children gain a small glimpse of their heavenly Father's heart.

Of course, no earthly parent loves perfectly.

We become impatient.

We fail.

We need forgiveness too.

That is why our greatest hope is not in our own parenting.

Our hope is in pointing our children to the perfect love of Christ.

The more your child understands His love, the more confidently they will trust Him throughout life's joys and disappointments.

Memory Verse

1 John 4:19

"We love him, because he first loved us."

This short verse is wonderful for young children to begin memorizing.

Help them understand that our love for Jesus is always a response to His love for us.

He loved us first.

A Final Word to Parents and Grandparents

Perhaps no words are spoken more often in a healthy home than these:

"I love you."

Never grow tired of saying them.

Your child needs to hear them.

Your grandchild needs to hear them.

But let those words always point beyond you.

One day your child will leave your home.

They will face joys you cannot celebrate beside them and sorrows you cannot always carry for them.

Yet there is One whose love will never leave them.

Jesus Christ.

His love is stronger than fear.

Greater than failure.

Steadier than changing emotions.

Faithful through every season of life.

As you sing **Jesus Loves Me Every Day**, remember that you are doing much more than teaching a comforting song.

You are introducing your child to the greatest love they will ever know—the unchanging, faithful love of Jesus Christ.

May those simple words echo in their heart for the rest of their life:

"Jesus loves me... every day... come what may."

CHAPTER 8

Jesus Made the Animals

Main Truth

Jesus created every animal, and all of creation reminds us of His greatness.

Children are naturally fascinated by animals.

They stop to watch birds.

They laugh when a puppy wags its tail.

They point at butterflies, squirrels, horses, ducks, and rabbits.

Every one of those moments becomes an opportunity to talk about Jesus.

The Bible teaches that Jesus created everything.

That includes every tiny insect, every bird in the sky, every fish in the sea, every puppy, every kitten, every elephant, and every lamb.

The beauty and variety of animals remind us that our Creator is wise, powerful, and wonderfully creative.

As children learn to admire God's creation, help them remember to admire the Creator even more.

Key Scriptures (KJV)

John 1:3

"All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made."

Colossians 1:16

"For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible... all things were created by him, and for him."

Genesis 1:25

"And God made the beast of the earth after his kind... and God saw that it was good."

What This Song Teaches

Children often notice details that adults overlook.

A tiny ladybug.

A colorful butterfly.

A bird building its nest.

A line of ants carrying food.

Instead of hurrying past those moments, slow down.

Wonder is one of God's greatest classrooms.

When your child points excitedly at a puppy, don't stop with, "Isn't he cute?"

Ask,

"Who made the puppy?"

When your child watches ducks swimming across a pond, ask,

"Who taught them how to swim?"

When you hear birds singing early in the morning, ask,

"Who gave them their beautiful songs?"

Every answer points to Jesus.

The goal is not merely to fill your child's mind with facts about animals.

The goal is to fill their heart with awe for the One who created them.

Children who learn to see God's hand in creation often develop a lifelong habit of thanking Him whenever they enjoy the beauty of the world around them.

Talking With Your Child

Ask questions like these:

Who made the puppy?

Who made the kitten?

Who made the birds?

Who made the fish?

Who made the butterflies?

Which animal is your favorite?

Why do you think Jesus made so many different kinds of animals?

Can we thank Jesus every time we see something He made?

Don't worry if your child gives funny answers.

Enjoy the conversation.

Wonder is often the beginning of learning.

Everyday Moments

Take a walk together.

Instead of rushing, look for signs of God's creativity.

Listen for birds singing.

Watch squirrels climbing trees.

Look for butterflies landing on flowers.

Visit a farm, zoo, or aquarium when possible.

Every outing becomes an opportunity to say,

"Look what Jesus made!"

Even a family pet becomes a daily reminder of God's goodness.

Every feeding, every walk, every playful moment can end with,

"Thank You, Jesus, for making our puppy."

Simple conversations become lasting memories.

Family Activity

Go on a "Creation Walk."

Bring no toys.

No phones.

No agenda.

Simply walk together and count how many different animals, birds, insects, or fish you can find.

Each time someone spots one, stop and say together,

"Thank You, Jesus, for making the ____."

Finish by singing **Jesus Made the Animals**.

This simple activity helps children connect worship with everyday life.

Family Prayer

Dear Jesus,

Thank You for making all the wonderful animals.

Thank You for birds that sing...

Fish that swim...

Butterflies that fly...

And puppies that play.

Help me remember that everything You made shows how great You are.

Thank You for filling the world with so many wonderful things.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.

Digging Deeper (For Parents)

Children are naturally curious.

The world often uses that curiosity to promote ideas that leave God out of His own creation.

As Christian parents and grandparents, we have the privilege of helping children see the world through biblical eyes.

Creation is not an accident.

It is not the product of blind chance.

It is the work of a loving Creator.

Every flower...

Every feather...

Every fish...

Every fingerprint...

Displays His wisdom and power.

The goal is not merely to win an argument about origins.

The goal is to awaken worship.

Romans 1 teaches that creation reveals God's eternal power and Godhead.

When children learn to recognize God's handiwork in the world around them, they begin developing a biblical worldview that will help them throughout life.

Never miss the opportunity to turn curiosity into worship.

Memory Verse

John 1:3

"All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made."

Help your child memorize the first part of the verse:

"All things were made by him."

Even very young children can remember those simple words.

Every time they see an animal, gently ask,

"Who made him?"

Before long, they'll happily answer,

"Jesus!"

A Final Word to Parents and Grandparents

Some of the greatest conversations you'll ever have with your child won't happen around a table.

They'll happen while watching ducks at a pond.

Walking through a park.

Looking at a caterpillar.

Holding a tiny turtle.

Petting a puppy.

Those ordinary moments become holy moments when they lead your child's heart to worship the Creator.

Never lose your own sense of wonder.

Children quickly recognize whether adults still marvel at God's creation.

If they see you stopping to admire a sunset...

Listening to birds sing...

Smiling at a butterfly...

Thanking Jesus for a faithful old dog...

They will learn to do the same.

As you sing **Jesus Made the Animals**, remember that every puppy, kitten, lamb, bird, rabbit, butterfly, and fish is another invitation to point your child toward the One who made them all.

And perhaps one day, when your child sees something beautiful in God's creation, the first words out of their mouth will simply be:

"Look what Jesus made!"

I think that simple sentence captures exactly what this chapter is trying to accomplish. It teaches children to see the world not as a collection of random things, but as a beautiful creation that constantly points them back to Jesus Christ.

CHAPTER 9

Jesus Gave Me My Family

Main Truth

God gives us our families to love us, care for us, and help us learn about Jesus.

One of God's greatest earthly gifts is family.

Whether it is a mother...

A father...

A grandmother...

A grandfather...

Or another loving family member...

God often uses those closest to us to teach us about His love.

Children learn to walk by watching.

They learn to speak by listening.

They learn about Jesus by observing the people who love Him.

That is why family is one of God's greatest blessings.

This song helps children thank Jesus for the people He has placed in their lives and reminds parents and grandparents of the wonderful responsibility God has entrusted to them.

Key Scriptures (KJV)

James 1:17

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights..."

Deuteronomy 6:6–7

"And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children..."

Ephesians 6:4

"And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord."

What This Song Teaches

Before children understand church, they understand home.

Before they understand a sermon, they understand hugs.

Before they understand theology, they understand love.

That is why God designed the family to become a child's first classroom.

Children learn far more than words.

They watch how we speak.

How we forgive.

How we pray.

How we worship.

How we treat one another.

Every day we are teaching something.

The question is not whether we are teaching.

The question is what we are teaching.

One of the greatest ways to point children to Jesus is simply by letting them see Him reflected in our daily lives.

When they hear Mom and Dad pray...

When Grandma opens her Bible...

When Grandpa quietly thanks God before a meal...

Children begin understanding that Jesus is not only part of Sunday.

He is part of everyday life.

Talking With Your Child

Ask simple questions like these:

Who gave us our family?

Who loves you?

Who reads the Bible with you?

Who prays with you?

How can we show love to our family today?

How can we thank Jesus for our family?

Encourage your child to name specific people and thank God for each one.

Everyday Moments

Tell your child often,

"Our family is a gift from Jesus."

Pray together before meals.

Read one Bible story together each day.

Say "I love you" often.

Ask forgiveness when you make mistakes.

Children learn humility when they see adults humbly asking forgiveness.

Look for opportunities to serve one another.

Helping set the table.

Picking up toys together.

Making a card for Grandma.

Praying for someone who is sick.

These simple acts teach that love is something we do, not merely something we say.

Family Activity

Gather together and make a simple "Family Thankfulness Tree."

Draw a large tree on a sheet of paper.

On paper leaves, write or draw the names of family members.

As you add each leaf, thank Jesus for that person.

If someone in the family lives far away or has gone home to be with the Lord, talk about them with gratitude and thank God for the time He gave you together.

Finish by singing **Jesus Gave Me My Family**.

This activity reminds children that every family member is a blessing from God.

Family Prayer

Dear Jesus,

Thank You for my family.

Thank You for the people who love me and take care of me.

Help us be kind to one another.

Help our home be filled with Your love.

Please help our family follow You every day.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.

Digging Deeper (For Parents)

Children will probably not remember every toy they received.

They may forget many vacations.

They may not remember every birthday party.

But they will remember the atmosphere of their home.

Was it filled with love?

With forgiveness?

With prayer?

With laughter?

With God's Word?

Parents often worry about saying exactly the right thing.

While our words matter, our example often teaches even more.

Children notice how we respond when plans change.

When we become frustrated.

When someone hurts us.

When life becomes difficult.

Those moments reveal whether Jesus truly is the center of our home.

No family is perfect.

Every home experiences disagreements and failures.

The goal is not perfection.

The goal is faithfulness.

When children see parents and grandparents depending on Christ, confessing sin, extending forgiveness, and trusting God's Word, they learn what genuine Christianity looks like.

Memory Verse

James 1:17

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above..."

Help your child memorize the first part:

"Every good gift... is from above."

Then ask,

"What is one good gift Jesus has given you today?"

One wonderful answer will always be:

"My family."

A Final Word to Parents and Grandparents

One day your children may forget many of the lessons you tried to teach.

But they will likely never forget the feeling of being loved in a Christ-centered home.

Your greatest influence will not come from having all the answers.

It will come from faithfully loving Jesus in front of them.

Read the Bible together.

Pray together.

Laugh together.

Forgive quickly.

Serve one another.

Sing often.

And keep pointing your family to Christ.

The greatest legacy you can leave is not a larger house, a successful career, or financial security.

It is a home where Jesus was loved, His Word was honored, and His grace was seen in everyday life.

As you sing **Jesus Gave Me My Family**, remember that every hug, every bedtime prayer, every Bible story, every act of kindness, and every "I love you" becomes another opportunity to help your child understand the love of their heavenly Father.

One day, by God's grace, your greatest joy may be hearing your child say:

"Thank You, Jesus, for my family."

CHAPTER 10

March With Jesus

Main Truth

Following Jesus is the greatest adventure of our lives, and every day we can choose to walk with Him.

Children love to march.

They march around the living room.

They march in parades.

They march while pretending to be explorers, firefighters, or musicians.

This song takes something children naturally enjoy and gives it a beautiful purpose.

Instead of simply marching for fun, they learn to march with Jesus.

Every step becomes a reminder that following Him is something we do every day.

The Christian life is not standing still.

It is walking with the One who loves us, leads us, and never leaves us.

Key Scriptures (KJV)

John 10:27

"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me."

Micah 6:8

"He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good... and to walk humbly with thy God."

Colossians 2:6

"As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him."

What This Song Teaches

Children understand following long before they understand discipleship.

They follow Mom through the grocery store.

They follow Dad across the yard.

They follow Grandma into the kitchen.

They follow Grandpa down a walking trail.

Every day they are learning that following someone requires paying attention, listening carefully, and staying close.

That picture helps explain what it means to follow Jesus.

Jesus is not asking us merely to admire Him.

He calls us to walk with Him.

Sometimes that means obeying when it is easy.

Sometimes it means obeying when it is difficult.

Sometimes it means waiting patiently.

Sometimes it means helping someone else.

Each step becomes another opportunity to trust the Shepherd.

Children do not need to understand everything today.

They simply need to learn that following Jesus is always the best path.

Talking With Your Child

Ask questions like these:

Who do we follow?

Why do we follow Jesus?

Does Jesus know where He is leading us?

Can we trust Jesus?

How can we follow Jesus today?

What are some ways we can obey Him?

Remember, simple conversations repeated often shape lifelong habits.

Everyday Moments

When you take a walk together, let your child hold your hand.

As you walk, quietly say,

"Just like you're following me, we're learning to follow Jesus."

When you're in a parking lot, remind your child to stay close.

Then connect it to the lesson:

"The safest place is close to Mommy or Daddy. The safest place in life is close to Jesus."

When your child obeys quickly, encourage them by saying,

"That's one way we follow Jesus."

These ordinary moments help children understand that following Jesus happens every day, not just on Sundays.

Family Activity

Have a "Follow the Leader" walk around the house or yard.

Choose one person to lead.

Everyone else follows.

Walk slowly.

Walk quickly.

Turn left.

Turn right.

Step over a pillow.

Go around a chair.

When you're finished, ask,

"Was it easier when we stayed close?"

Then explain that Jesus always knows the right way, so we can trust Him enough to follow wherever He leads.

Finish by singing **March With Jesus** together.

Family Prayer

Dear Jesus,

Thank You for being my Shepherd.

Help me follow You every day.

Help me obey You with a happy heart.

Thank You for always leading me the right way.

I want to stay close to You.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.

Digging Deeper (For Parents)

One of the greatest challenges in parenting is remembering that children learn more from our footsteps than from our speeches.

We can tell them to follow Jesus.

But they also need to see us following Him.

They notice whether we read God's Word.

They notice whether we pray.

They notice how we respond when life becomes difficult.

They notice whether church is a joy or merely an obligation.

Children become disciples by watching disciples.

That reality should both humble and encourage us.

You do not need to be a perfect parent.

But you can be an honest one.

When you fail, confess it.

When you need forgiveness, ask for it.

When God answers prayer, celebrate it.

Let your child see what it looks like to keep following Jesus through every season of life.

Remember that discipleship is not a single conversation.

It is a thousand ordinary days faithfully lived before watching little eyes.

Memory Verse

John 10:27

"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me."

Practice saying the last four words together:

"...they follow me."

Then ask,

"Who are we following?"

Help your child joyfully answer,

"Jesus!"

A Final Word to Parents and Grandparents

Every parent wonders from time to time,

"Am I making a difference?"

The answer is almost always yes.

Every prayer.

Every bedtime Bible story.

Every hymn sung in the car.

Every act of forgiveness.

Every patient conversation.

Every time you choose to follow Christ in front of your child...

You are leaving footprints.

One day your child will choose whose footsteps they will follow.

Our prayer is that they will have watched us long enough to recognize the beauty of following Jesus.

Not because we were perfect.

But because Christ was faithful.

As you sing **March With Jesus**, remember that every step of obedience is another opportunity to point your child toward the Good Shepherd.

And perhaps, years from now, when your child faces a difficult decision, they will remember this simple song and quietly say,

"I want to follow Jesus."

If that happens, every song, every prayer, every conversation, and every faithful step will have been worth it.

CHAPTER 11

Jesus Made Day and Night

Main Truth

Jesus made the day and the night, and He watches over me all the time.

Children quickly notice the difference between day and night.

The bright sunshine.

The singing birds.

The glowing moon.

The sparkling stars.

For some children, nighttime brings excitement.

For others, it brings questions and even fear.

This song gently reminds them that the same Jesus who created the sunshine also created the moon and stars.

He is Lord over the daytime.

He is Lord over the nighttime.

Nothing changes His loving care.

Whether the sun is shining brightly or the room is completely dark, Jesus is still watching over His children.

Key Scriptures (KJV)

Genesis 1:3–5

"And God said, Let there be light: and there was light... And the evening and the morning were the first day."

Psalm 121:4

"Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep."

Psalm 139:12

"Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day..."

What This Song Teaches

Young children often believe that daytime and nighttime are completely different worlds.

Everything feels familiar during the day.

At night, familiar rooms can suddenly seem unfamiliar.

Shadows appear.

The house becomes quiet.

Imaginations begin to work.

Rather than focusing on those fears, this song gently redirects a child's attention to Jesus.

Who made the sun?

Jesus.

Who made the moon?

Jesus.

Who made the stars?

Jesus.

Who watches over us while we sleep?

Jesus.

The more children think about Christ, the less room fear has to grow.

We are not teaching children simply to be brave.

We are teaching them to trust the One who never sleeps.

Talking With Your Child

Ask questions like these:

Who made the sunshine?

Who made the moon?

Who made the stars?

Does Jesus ever go to sleep?

Is Jesus with us during the daytime?

Is Jesus with us during the nighttime?

Can we trust Jesus while we sleep?

Help your child answer these questions with confidence.

They are learning much more than facts.

They are learning where to place their trust.

Everyday Moments

When the sun rises, say,

"Jesus made another beautiful day."

When the first stars appear, step outside for a moment.

Point upward and say,

"Look what Jesus made."

At bedtime, open the curtains and look at the moon together.

Remind your child,

"The same Jesus who made the stars is watching over us tonight."

Those quiet bedtime conversations often become treasured memories.

Family Activity

Choose one clear evening.

Go outside together.

Look for the moon.

Count as many stars as you can see.

Talk about Genesis chapter one.

Then read Psalm 121:4 aloud.

Explain that while everyone else goes to sleep, Jesus never does.

Finish by singing **Jesus Made Day and Night** together.

Children often remember experiences like these for years.

Family Prayer

Dear Jesus,

Thank You for making the sunshine.

Thank You for making the moon and stars.

Thank You for watching over me while I sleep.

Help me trust You every day and every night.

Thank You for always being with me.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.

Digging Deeper (For Parents)

Fear often begins in the imagination.

The solution is not simply convincing children that there is nothing to fear.

The greater solution is teaching them who is with them.

Throughout Scripture, God's answer to fear is His presence.

Again and again He says,

"I am with thee."

The greatest comfort we can offer our children is not merely reassurance from ourselves.

It is confidence in Christ.

Eventually there will be nights when you are not beside them.

Summer camp.

A sleepover with trusted family.

College.

Marriage.

Life.

But wherever they go, Jesus goes with them.

That truth becomes one of the strongest antidotes to fear.

Parents cannot watch over their children every moment.

Jesus can.

That reality should encourage every mother, father, grandparent, and caregiver.

Memory Verse

Psalm 121:4

"Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep."

Explain it simply.

Ask,

"Does Jesus ever get tired?"

Your child will smile and answer,

"No."

Then remind them,

"So Jesus is always watching over us."

A Final Word to Parents and Grandparents

Bedtime is one of the most important discipleship moments of the day.

The world grows quiet.

Distractions disappear.

Little hearts often become more open.

Don't rush those moments.

Pray together.

Read one verse.

Sing softly.

Answer questions patiently.

Remind your child that Jesus is near.

Long after your child outgrows stuffed animals and night-lights, they may still remember hearing your gentle voice say,

"Jesus is watching over you tonight."

What a beautiful truth to carry into adulthood.

As you sing **Jesus Made Day and Night**, remember that you are giving your child something far greater than a peaceful bedtime routine.

You are teaching them to rest in the faithful care of the One who created both the day and the night, who never sleeps, never leaves His children, and never stops watching over them.

And perhaps, years from now, when your child faces a dark night of a different kind, they will remember these simple words:

"Jesus watches over me."

If that truth settles deeply into their heart while they are still little, it may comfort them for the rest of their life.

CHAPTER 12

Goodnight, Jesus

Main Truth

I can rest peacefully because Jesus is always with me.

Few moments in a child's day are as precious as bedtime.

The house becomes quiet.

The toys are put away.

The excitement of the day begins to fade.

It is during these quiet moments that many of life's sweetest conversations take place.

Questions are asked.

Prayers are whispered.

Hugs are given.

Songs are softly sung.

This song reminds children that bedtime is not the end of Jesus' care.

It is another opportunity to trust Him.

As children close their eyes, they can do so with confidence because Jesus never leaves those who belong to Him.

Key Scriptures (KJV)

Psalm 4:8

"I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep: for thou, LORD, only makest me dwell in safety."

Psalm 121:4

"Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep."

Matthew 19:14

"Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me..."

What This Song Teaches

Every child eventually asks questions about the night.

Some ask about thunderstorms.

Some ask about the dark.

Some simply want to know that someone is nearby.

The greatest comfort we can offer is not merely,

"Mommy is here."

Or,

"Daddy is downstairs."

The greatest comfort is this:

Jesus is here.

Throughout the day we teach our children to walk with Jesus.

At bedtime we teach them to rest in Him.

That is a lesson they will need for the rest of their lives.

Adults often carry worries into the night.

Children do too.

As parents and grandparents, we have the privilege of teaching them to give those worries to Jesus before they close their eyes.

Bedtime becomes more than the end of another day.

It becomes an opportunity to place ourselves once again into the loving hands of our Savior.

Talking With Your Child

Ask simple questions like these:

Who is with us tonight?

Does Jesus ever leave us?

Can Jesus hear our bedtime prayers?

What would you like to thank Jesus for today?

What would you like to ask Jesus tonight?

Can we trust Jesus while we sleep?

These quiet conversations often become some of the most meaningful of the day.

Everyday Moments

Don't rush bedtime.

Even five extra minutes can become precious memories.

Read one Bible verse.

Sing one song.

Pray one simple prayer.

Give one hug.

Tell your child,

"Jesus loves you."

Those small moments communicate security, love, and faith.

If your child wakes during the night, gently remind them,

"Jesus is still here."

Not every fear disappears immediately.

But every reminder helps build confidence in Christ.

Family Activity

Create a simple bedtime routine.

Turn off the television.

Put away distractions.

Read one Bible verse together.

Sing **Goodnight, Jesus**.

Pray together.

End with a hug and these simple words:

"Jesus loves you. Sleep well."

Children thrive on loving routines.

When Jesus becomes part of that routine, bedtime becomes one more opportunity for discipleship.

Family Prayer

Dear Jesus,

Thank You for today.

Thank You for loving me.

Thank You for watching over my family.

Please help me sleep peacefully tonight.

Thank You for always being with me.

I love You.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.

Digging Deeper (For Parents)

One of the greatest gifts you can give your child is a peaceful ending to the day.

The world is noisy.

Busy.

Constantly demanding attention.

Bedtime provides a beautiful opportunity to slow down and refocus on Christ.

Your child will not remember every conversation.

But they will remember how bedtime felt.

Was it hurried?

Stressful?

Or peaceful?

As parents, we cannot control everything our children will experience.

But we can help create a home where the final thoughts of the day are centered on Jesus.

That habit may remain with them long after childhood.

Perhaps someday, when they are adults putting their own children to bed, they will find themselves singing the very same song.

That is how faith is passed from one generation to the next.

Memory Verse

Psalm 4:8

"I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep: for thou, LORD, only makest me dwell in safety."

You may wish to teach your child just the first few words:

"I will both lay me down in peace..."

Then explain,

"Jesus helps us sleep peacefully because He is watching over us."

A Final Word to Parents and Grandparents

As we come to the end of this guide, I want to leave you with one encouragement.

Do not underestimate the ordinary moments.

You may never preach a sermon.

Write a book.

Lead a Bible study.

Or stand before a large audience.

But if you faithfully point one little child to Jesus day after day, year after year, you are participating in one of the greatest ministries God has entrusted to His people.

The songs in *The Shepherd's Meadow* were never intended to replace the Bible.

They were written to lead children to it.

They were never intended to replace parents.

They were written to support them.

And they were never intended simply to entertain.

They were written to help little hearts come to know, love, and follow Jesus Christ.

One day these songs will come to an end.

The bedtime routine will change.

The little hands you hold today will grow strong.

The little feet that march around the living room will someday walk into adulthood.

Our prayer is that when that day comes, they will still be following the Good Shepherd.

If these songs have helped your family talk about Jesus...

If they have encouraged one more bedtime prayer...

If they have led one child to treasure God's Word...

Then we thank the Lord for allowing us to be a small part of His wonderful work.

May your home always be filled with His love.

May His Word always be honored there.

And may every child who sings these songs one day be able to say with joy:

"Jesus is my Shepherd, and I will follow Him all the days of my life."

God bless you, **Joe Soares**

"Feed my lambs."

John 21:15