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## Dedicated to the memory of our seventh grandchild Annie Grace Barriault

Before her birth our family prayer was that Annie Grace's life would be a celebration of God's glorious grace and that she would always rest in the sufficiency of His grace.

In eleven brief weeks she accomplished that mission.

Because God entrusted Annie Grace to our family,
we know Him better, and we love Him more.

Through her life and death, the body of Christ demonstrated the reality of grace as they enfolded us in love.

This covenant child is safe in the arms of Jesus.

My prayer is that this book will be used to guide other little ones to know the wonder of His amazing grace.



#### My ABC Bible Verses

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Unless otherwise designated, Scripture references are taken from the New King James Version.

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Scripture references designated KJV are taken from the King James Version of the Bible.

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Dear lover of children,

The psalmist said, "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee" (Psalm 119:11 KJV). God's Word fortifies our children against sin because it tells them about Jesus and their need for Him. The person who helps a child hide the Word in his or her heart gives that child a rich inheritance. Many testify that they have never forgotten the verses they memorized as children. Many also testify that they have never forgotten the person who taught them the Word. This book is written to help you give a precious legacy to the children you love. The stories in it are designed for you to read aloud to them.

The Scripture verses are from the New King James Version or the King James Version of the Bible. There is a beauty, dignity, and a cadence about the King James Version that I believe is beneficial for memorization.

God's Word is the infallible, authoritative rule for faith and practice. Most of the verses in this book are about how we practice what we believe, but our practice must never be separated from what we believe. I have written these stories to teach children about grace. We must never hold God's Word before our children as a standard of behavior that they can achieve in their own effort. These stories remind the child about his or her need for the Holy Spirit to give grace to obey. We are saved by grace, and we live by grace. We must not teach our children anything less than the splendor and the sufficiency of God's grace.

For His glory,

Susan Hunt

Dear little friend,

The Bible is God's Word. It is His love letter to His people. In the Bible God tells us what He wants us to know and what He wants us to do.

Psalm 119:11 says, "Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You."

To hide God's Word in our hearts means to memorize it. When we hide God's Word in our hearts, we have a priceless treasure that no one can ever take away from us. We have a treasure that will help us know, love, and obey the holy and majestic God of heaven and earth.

God gives us another gift. He gives us His Holy Spirit to help us understand and obey His Word. As you memorize Bible verses, always remember to ask the Holy Spirit to help you understand and obey the verses you hide in your heart.

I pray that this book will help you hide God's Word in your heart, and I pray that His Spirit will give you grace to obey God's Word.

For God's glory,

"Miss" Susan

# A soft answer turns away wrath.

PROVERBS 15:1

The Bible is not just a book that some people wrote. It is the Word of God. The Bible is a precious gift from God to His children. When we hide it in our hearts, it will help us keep from sinning against God.

Proverbs 15:1 tells us that a soft answer turns away wrath. A soft answer is a kind and gentle answer. Wrath means anger.

This verse from God's Word teaches us that when someone is mean or unkind to us, we should respond by giving a kind answer. A gentle answer will turn away, or stop, an argument.

Missy memorized Proverbs 15:1. Every day she prayed that God would help her to give soft answers if someone was unkind to her.

Missy and her friend Janet were playing with Missy's dolls. Janet said, "Let's put the dolls in the bathtub and give them a bath."

Missy said, "Oh no, Mom told me never to put these dolls in water."

Janet became angry. "Missy," she said, "I'm going home if you won't give the dolls

a bath! I'm not going to be your friend anymore!"

Before Missy learned Proverbs 15:1, she would have said, "Well, you just go home. I don't want to be your friend either." But Missy remembered, "A soft answer turns away wrath." Then she said to

Janet, "I'm sorry. I want you to be my friend, but I can't disobey my mom."

Janet was angrily stomping out the door, but when she heard Missy speak so sweetly, she turned around and smiled. "Oh, Missy, I'm sorry. You're my best friend. It was wrong for me to ask you to disobey your mom."

The Holy Spirit helped Missy remember and obey God's Word that was hidden in her heart. Missy obeyed God and gave a kind answer to her friend, and it stopped the argument.

Something even more wonderful happened. God was glorified when Missy obeyed His Word.

### LET'S TALK

When her friend was unkind, who helped Missy remember that "a soft answer turns away wrath"?

Who helped Missy give a kind answer? Hide Proverbs 15:1 in *your* heart. Say it three times.

### LET'S PRAY

Ask God to help you remember and obey this verse from His Word, even when someone is unkind to you.



## Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

MATTHEW 5:9

When we are peacemakers, we show that we are God's children. We are all sinners. When we believe that Jesus died on the cross for our sins, God forgives us. Then we have peace with Him. We become members of His family. We are His children, and He is our heavenly Father. He gives us His power to be peacemakers. •

Missy hid Matthew 5:9 in her heart, and the Holy Spirit helped her to be a peace-maker. One rainy afternoon Missy and her brother Bill were playing with their toy cars and trucks. There was one little dump truck that Bill got for his birthday that they both loved to play with. When Missy picked it up, Bill grabbed it from her and said, "No, that's mine, and you can't play with it. I'm going to play with it."

Missy was so frustrated. Some harsh words were ready to jump out of her mouth. She started to say, "You are just mean and selfish! You don't know how to share."

Then something very wonderful happened. Missy remembered Matthew 5:9: "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God."

Missy did not want to be a troublemaker. She wanted to be a

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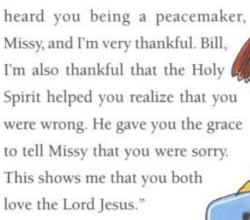
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B

peacemaker. "You're right, Bill," Missy said. "It's yours, and I should have asked you first. I'll play with something else."

Bill looked ashamed. He felt awful and was quite sorry. "I'm sorry, Missy. I was being a troublemaker, but you decided to be a peacemaker. Here, you can play with the dump truck."

Their mom walked into the room and gave Missy and Bill a great big hug. "I



## LET'S TALK

Who helped Missy to be a peacemaker? Who helped Bill to be sorry for his sin? Say Matthew 5:9 three times.

Say the A and B verses.

### LET'S PRAY

Thank God that Jesus died on the cross for your sins so you can have peace with God. Ask God to help you to be a peacemaker.