



For Clever Readers

Clever Cub is a curious little bear who **LOVES** to cuddle up with the Bible and learn about God! And it's so fun to snuggle together under a starry night. You could cuddle up and read this whole story from the Bible, in Luke 2:1–20.

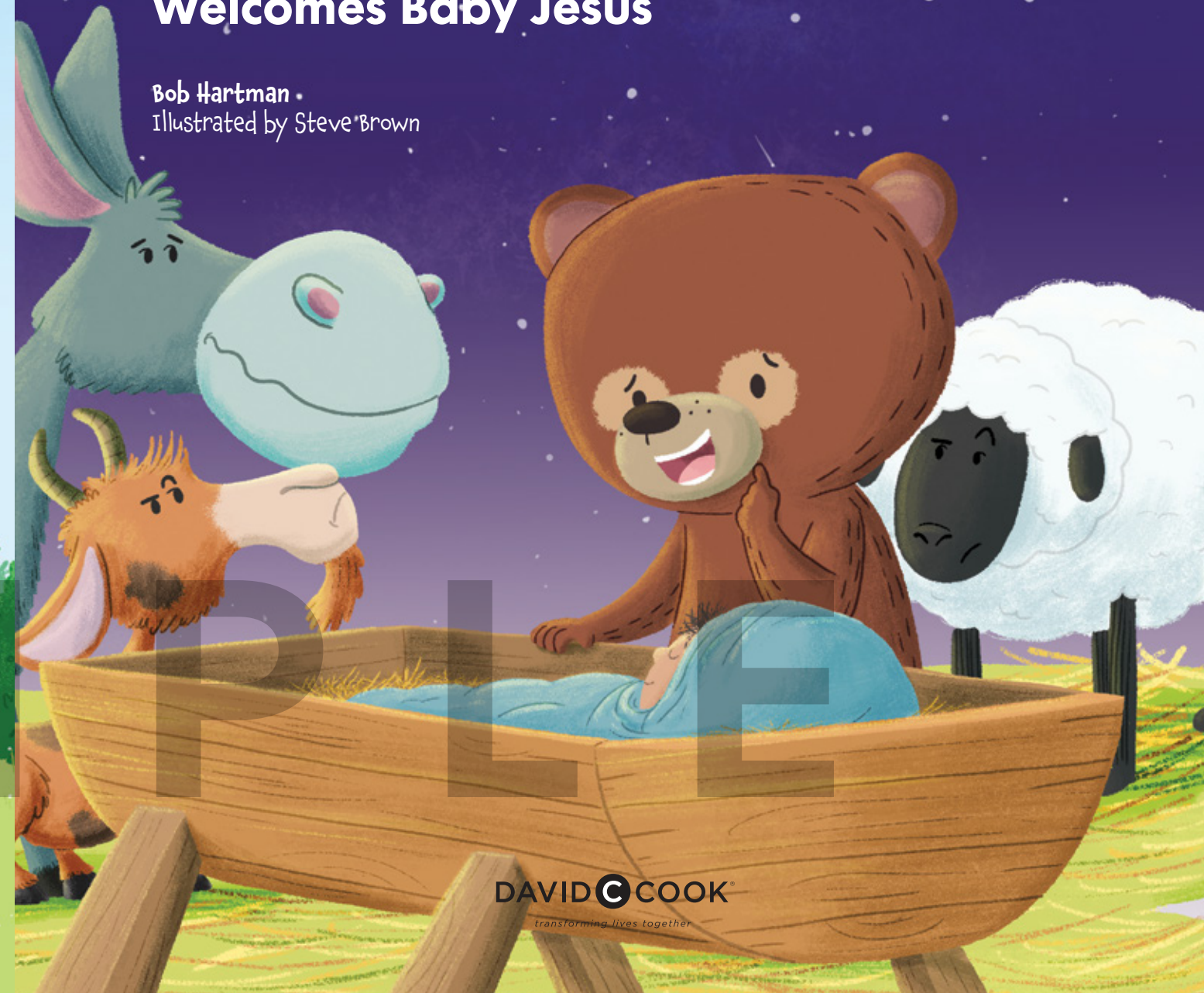
Clever Cub imagined what it would have been like to see baby Jesus when He was born under the stars long, long ago.

What do you think it would have been like?
What would you say to baby Jesus?

CLEVER CUB

Welcomes Baby Jesus

Bob Hartman •
Illustrated by Steve Brown



"**BABY JESUS!**" shouted Clever Cub. "Lying in a manger! But ..."

"Yes?" Mama Bear waited.

"What is a manger?" Clever Cub asked, scratching his nose.

"It's a place for animal food, like hay."

Mama chuckled at Clever Cub's surprised look.

"Baby Jesus was born in a place where the animals were kept."



It was the only place that the baby's mother, Mary, and her husband, Joseph, could find to stay."

"What kinds of animals were there?" asked Clever Cub.

"The Bible doesn't say," Mama Bear replied, "but probably everyday farm animals like woolly sheep and silly goats and gentle cows and noisy—"

"**DONKEYS!**" Clever Cub guessed. "**HEE-HAW!**"



For Clever Readers

Clever Cub is a curious little bear who **LOVES** to cuddle up with the Bible and learn about God! He loves to explore his world and see all the very good things God made for us to enjoy.

What are your favorite animals?
What are your favorite plants?

Go back through the story one more time, and say a thank-you prayer to God. You can also read the whole story from the Bible in Genesis 1. Thank God for every good thing He has made!

CLEVER CUB

Explores God's Creation

Bob Hartman

Illustrated by Steve Brown



DAVID COOK
transforming lives together

“God thought we might like to look into the water and see something swimming.

So He said, ‘Fish.’ And fish came, splashing and jumping and **WRIGGLING**.

He thought we might like to look up at the sky and see something living there too.

So He said, ‘Birds.’ And they flapped and fluttered and **FLEW**.”





For Clever Readers

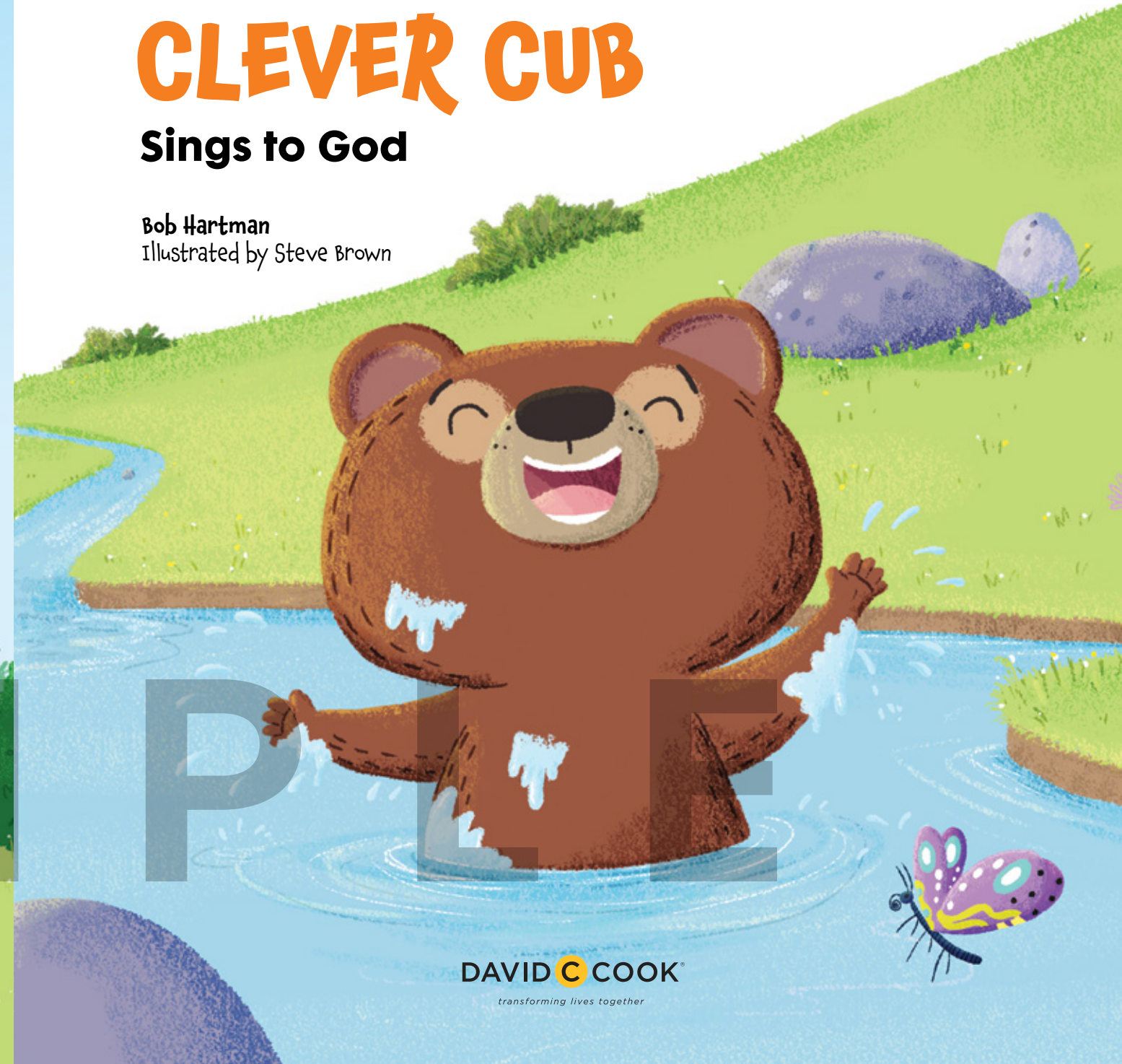
Clever Cub is a curious little bear who **LOVES** to cuddle up with the Bible and learn about God! In this story, Clever Cub sings a psalm—Psalm 104, to be exact. A psalm (with a silent p) is a special song, written to be sung as a way to worship God. Some psalms praise God for all the wonderful things He has done. Some psalms ask God for help with big problems.

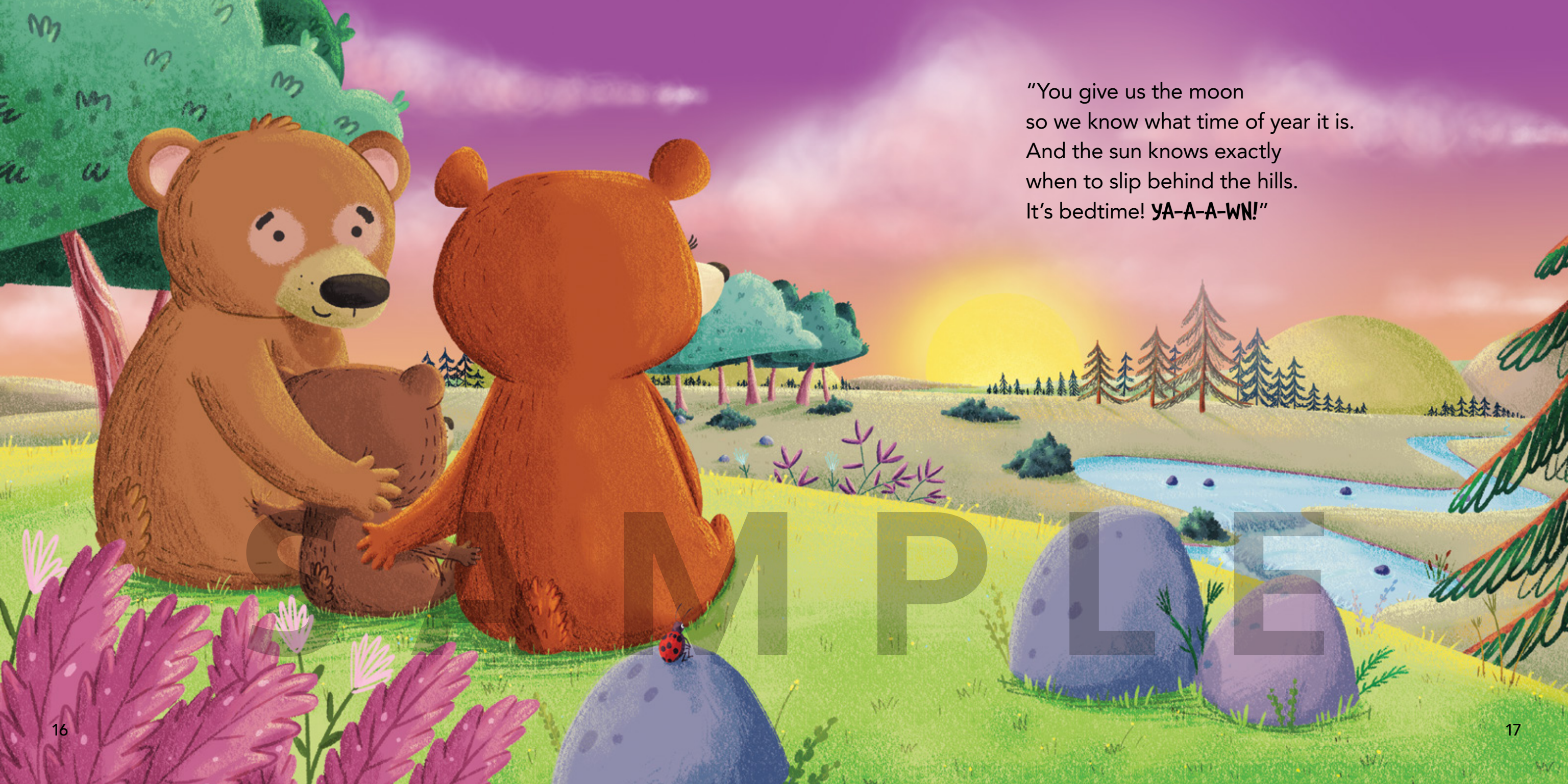
The psalms from the Bible were written thousands of years ago, but we can still praise God today! Just like Clever Cub, we can look around us and tell about all the amazing things God has done for us. What amazing things do you see today?

CLEVER CUB

Sings to God

Bob Hartman
Illustrated by Steve Brown





"You give us the moon
so we know what time of year it is.
And the sun knows exactly
when to slip behind the hills.
It's bedtime! **YA-A-A-WN!**"

"That's when the nighttime animals
come out, and **ROAM** about.
And the lions hunt and **ROAR!**
RA-A-A-WR!"





For Clever Readers

Clever Cub is a curious little bear who **LOVES** to cuddle up with the Bible and learn about God! In this story, Clever Cub hears a story from the Bible that shows him new ways to give thanks to God. You can read this same lively story in Acts 3:1–10. There are so many things we can thank God for and so many ways to show our thanks!

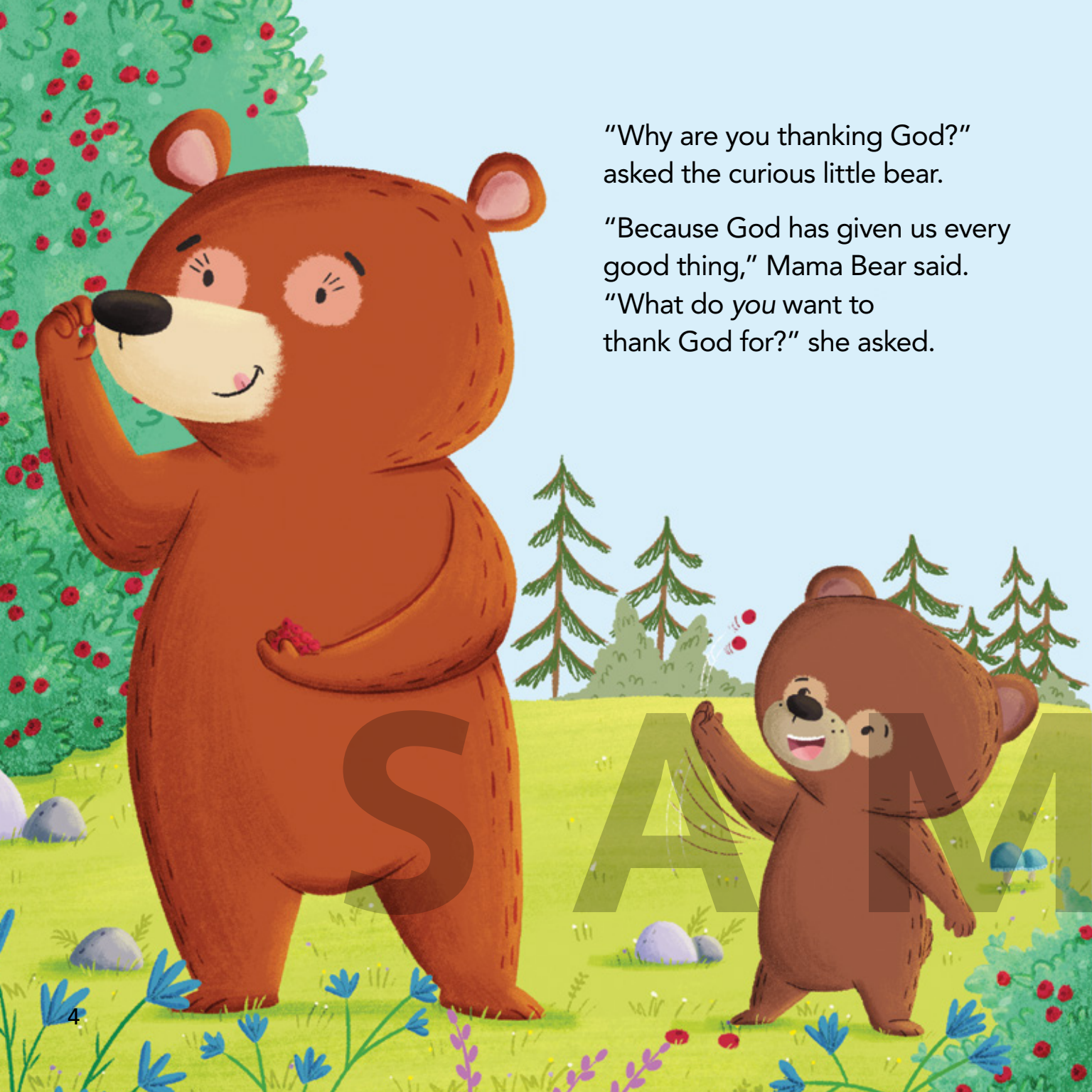
What are you thankful for today?
How do you want to give thanks to God?

CLEVER CUB

Gives Thanks to God

Bob Hartman
Illustrated by Steve Brown





"Why are you thanking God?"
asked the curious little bear.

"Because God has given us every
good thing," Mama Bear said.

"What do you want to
thank God for?" she asked.



"Hmmm." Clever Cub thought hard.
"FLOWERS!"

"I like flowers too," Mama said.
"What else are you thankful for?"



"**BUNNIES!**" Clever Cub said.
"Fuzzy, **FLUFFY** bunnies—like Fred!"
Clever Cub scooped up his favorite
little bunny friend.

