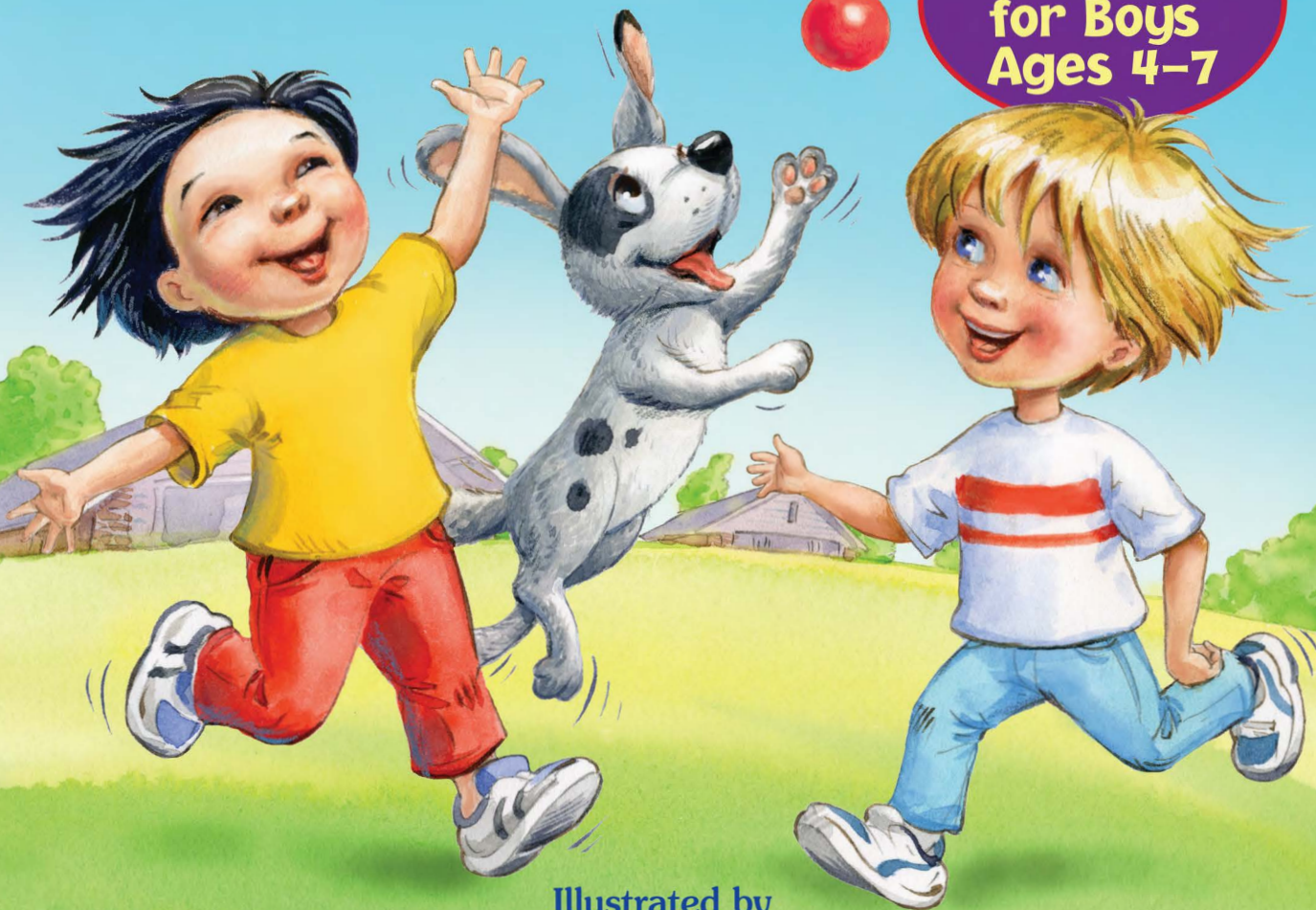


# GOTTA HAVE GOD

A  
Devotional  
for Boys  
Ages 4-7



Illustrated by  
Olga & Aleksey Ivanov

**This is a Preview of  
Gotta Have God, a  
Devotional for Boys  
Ages 4-7**

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To

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From

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Date

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A Read-It-to-Me Book

Gotta Have God A Devotional for Boys Ages 4-7

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***“To all children of God”***

O.&A. I.

## Day 1: I Am Kind

**Be kind to one another.** Ephesians 4:32

Daddy called, "Boys, let's go to the hardware store. Then we will get ice cream."

Ben clapped his hands. "Ice cream!" His big brother Josh jumped up. "The hardware store!"

Daddy loved to surprise his boys. At the store, Ben sat in the cart. Josh walked beside, while Daddy pushed. There was so much to see! Daddy bought things he needed, and then they went to the ice cream store, where Daddy got three ice cream cones. They walked with their cones to sit under a big tree to eat them.





Suddenly, Ben's ice cream fell right off the cone. Oh, NO! But there it was, on the ground, all dirty. Ben started to cry. Josh felt sad for Ben. He remembered times when his ice cream had fallen to the ground.

"Don't cry," said Josh. "Here. Have a bite of my ice cream." Ben smiled and took a bite. YUM!

Daddy said, "Thank you for being kind, Josh. That makes God happy. It makes me happy, too! In fact, you can give your cone to Ben. Because I will give my cone to YOU. We can all be kind!"

## Talk About It

Who was sad? Who was kind?

How do you feel when someone is kind to you?

What are two ways you can be kind to someone in your family?

## Try This!

Use your finger to trace the path from the ice cream store to the big tree.  
Point to some kind people there!





I Am Kind



Prayer

God, thank You for being  
kind to us. Please help us to be  
kind. We know it makes You happy.  
It makes us happy, too!  
Amen.



## Day 2: I Can Obey

**Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.**

**Ephesians 6:1**

It was nearly time for Logan's birthday party, and Michael was all ready to go!

"Can I play outside until we leave?" Michael asked.

"No," Mom said. "Please stay indoors. You are all clean for the party. It's muddy outside."

But Michael still wanted to play outside with his dog, Spot! So when Michael's mother went to get ready, he went out to the porch. Then he stood on the sidewalk and picked up Spot's ball.

Spot came running! He wanted to play! UH-OH! Spot jumped up on Michael, and pushed him into a muddy puddle! Now Michael was dirty and wet. He heard his mother calling.

"Michael? Where are you?" Mom came out onto the porch. "I can see you did not obey me," she said. "Now you have to take another bath. You will be late for Logan's party."

Michael sat in the tub, sad and mad. But he knew he did not obey his mom. If he had obeyed, they would be at Logan's party now.

Michael sighed. He said, "God, I am sorry. Please help me to obey next time." Now he felt clean on the inside AND the outside. He jumped out, dried off, and put on clean clothes. Ready again!



## Talk About It!

What happened when Michael did not obey?

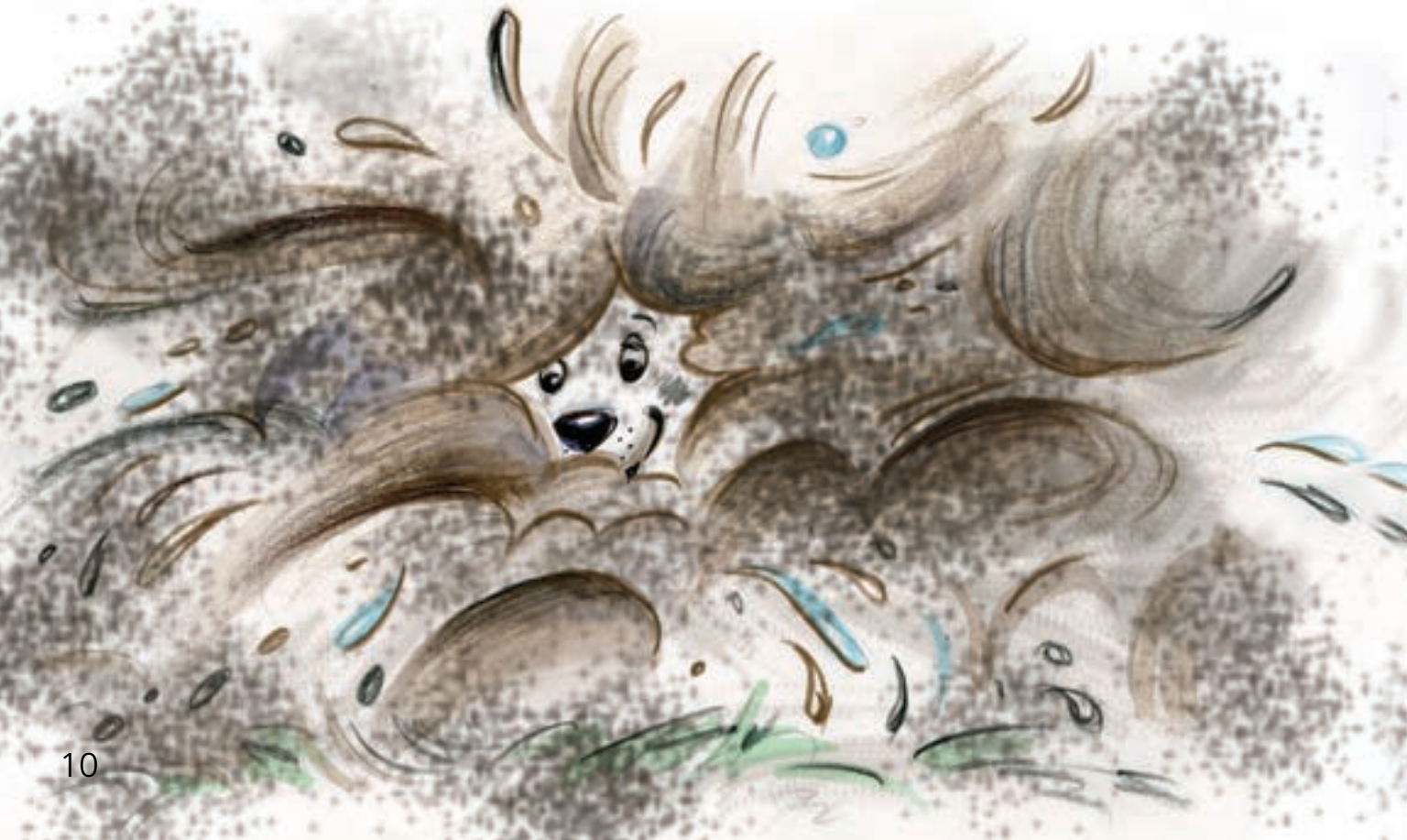
How did he feel? What did he miss?

What are times you obey your parents?

How do you feel when you obey your mom or dad?

## Try This!

When have you gotten muddy? There is a lot of mud in this picture. But there is something else. Can you see what it is?





**I Can Obey**

## Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank You for  
loving me, even when I mess up.  
Please help me obey my mom and dad.  
Amen.



## Day 3: I Am Thankful

**Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. Psalm 136:1**

Ethan opened his eyes and sat up. Then he remembered—TODAY is ZOO DAY! He jumped out of bed and found his elephant shirt. He put on his pants and shoes, then jumped, bump, bump, bump, down the stairs.

“Good morning, Ethan!” Daddy said. “I think you’re ready for our adventure!”

“YES!” said Ethan. Let’s GO!” Daddy laughed.

“Let’s eat first,” Mommy said. “That will give us lots of energy for our time at the zoo.”





Ethan said, "Daddy, can I pray before we eat?" They held hands and closed their eyes.

"Dear God," Ethan prayed, "thank You for the animals You made. Thank You for Mommy and Daddy. Thank You that I get to go to the zoo. Thank You for this food. You are good! Amen."

Daddy said, "Amen. You're right, Ethan. God is good!"

Mommy said, "And we are thankful!"

## **Talk About It!**

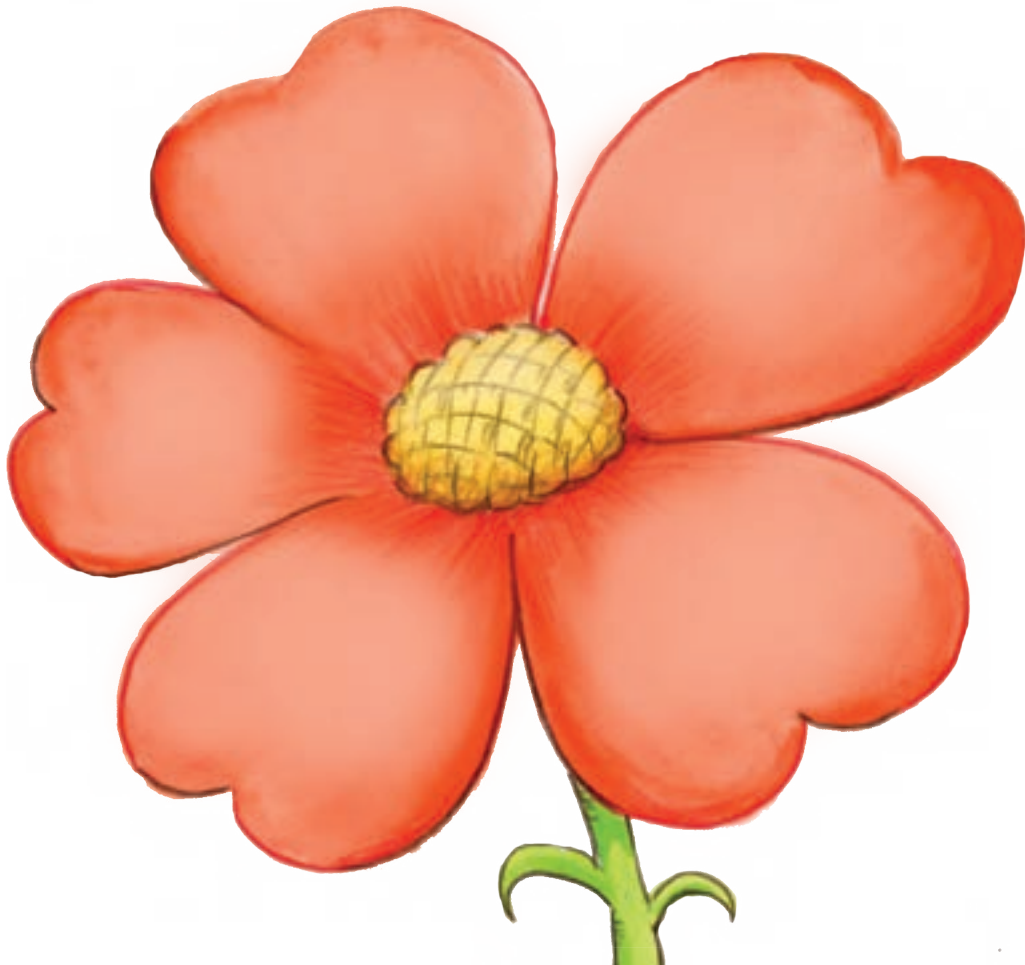
Name your favorite animal. Who made that animal?

What is a food you like to eat? Who gives us food?

Name a person who loves you. Who made that person?

## **Try This!**

Touch each petal of the flower. With each touch, name something that makes you glad. Say, "Thank you, God!" for each thing you name.





**I Am Thankful**



Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank You for  
giving me people who love me.  
Thank You for happy times.  
Help me to be thankful  
**ALL** the time!  
Amen.

