

A yellow backhoe loader is the central focus, positioned on a gravel surface. The machine has a large front loader bucket and a rear-mounted backhoe arm. A person wearing a blue hard hat and a blue shirt is seated in the operator's cab, which is partially covered by a metal roof. The side of the machine features the model number "745H-B". In the background, a large, conical pile of light-colored gravel or crushed stone dominates the right side of the frame. The setting appears to be an outdoor construction or quarry site, with a dense forest of green trees visible in the distance. The entire image is framed by a thick black border.

**MIGHTY  
MOTORS  
AND  
MACHINES**

**NED—02**

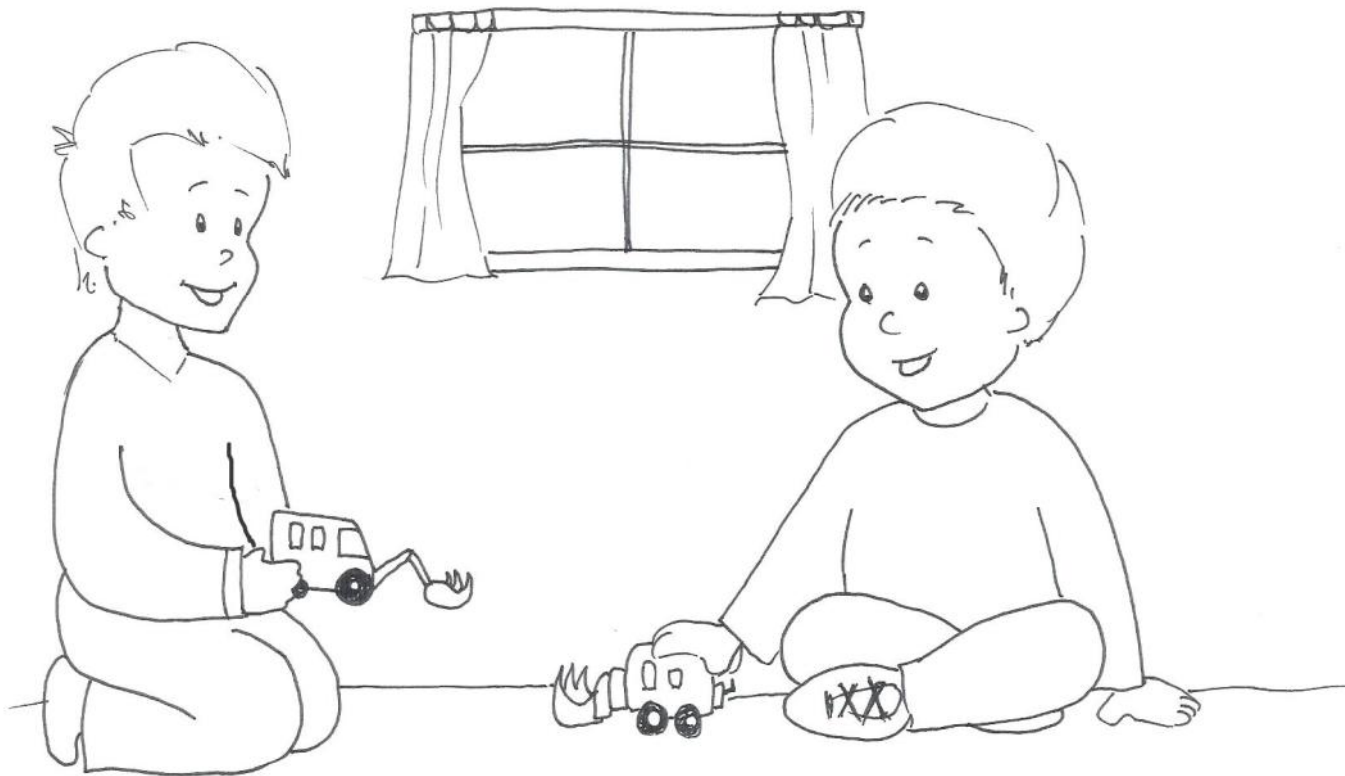
# **Mighty Motors and Machines!**

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Illustrated by Fleur Celeste

*Dedicated to my three wonderful boys!*

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“Wow!” said Ned as he and his brother Tony looked out their window to the street and passing cars.

“Did you see that amazing digger? It had two kinds of scoops on it! One at the back and one on the front. I wonder where it was going?”

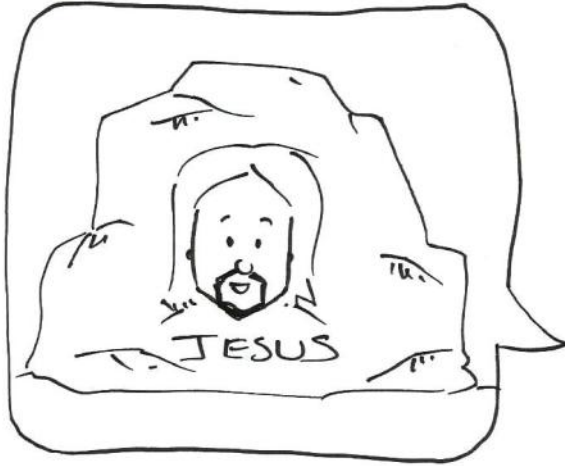
They sat down to play with their toy diggers, and imagined the big job that digger was off to do.



“Time to clean up the toys. It’s Bible story time now,” said Mother. “Let’s read while Teddy is napping.”

“Okay,” said the boys. They’d had a great time, and now were looking forward to their story and prayer time. It was always special and lots of fun.

When Ned and Tony sat down they wanted to start by thanking Jesus for work vehicles and machines that they liked, and say how each reminded them of the things Jesus does for us.

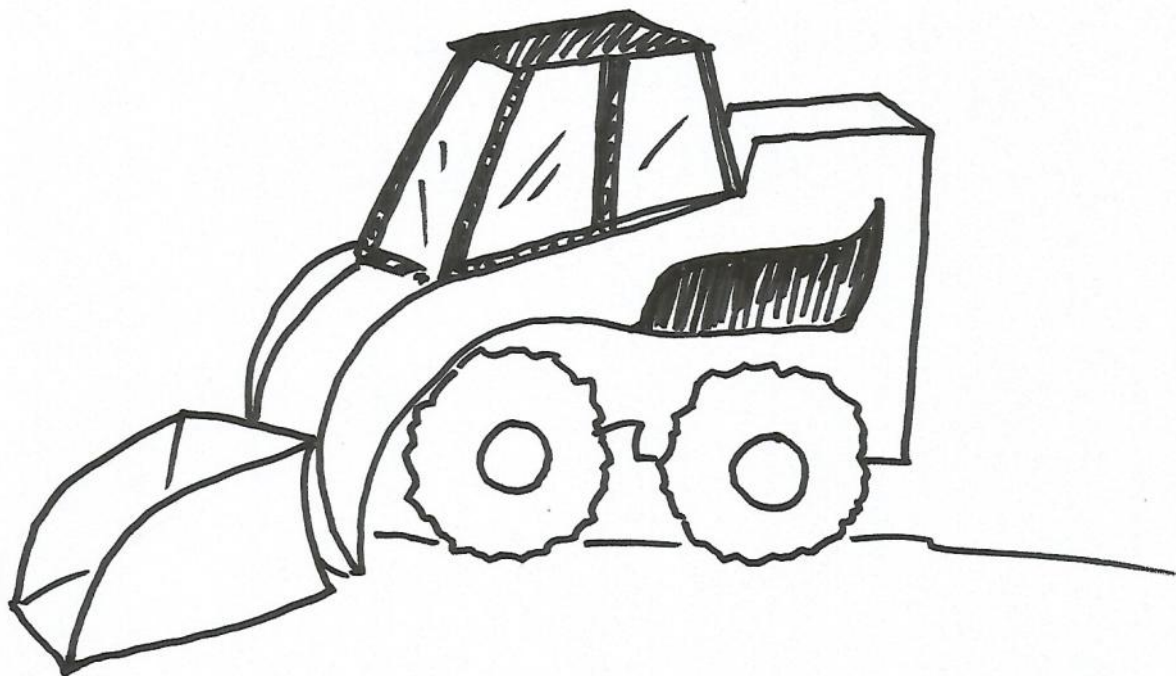


Ned started,

“I’m thankful for the diggers and dump trucks, because they can help to clear away rocks and dirt when people need to build something.

“And it reminds me how when we build our life on Jesus the rock, we’ll be strong. He’s a good foundation and keeps us sturdy.”

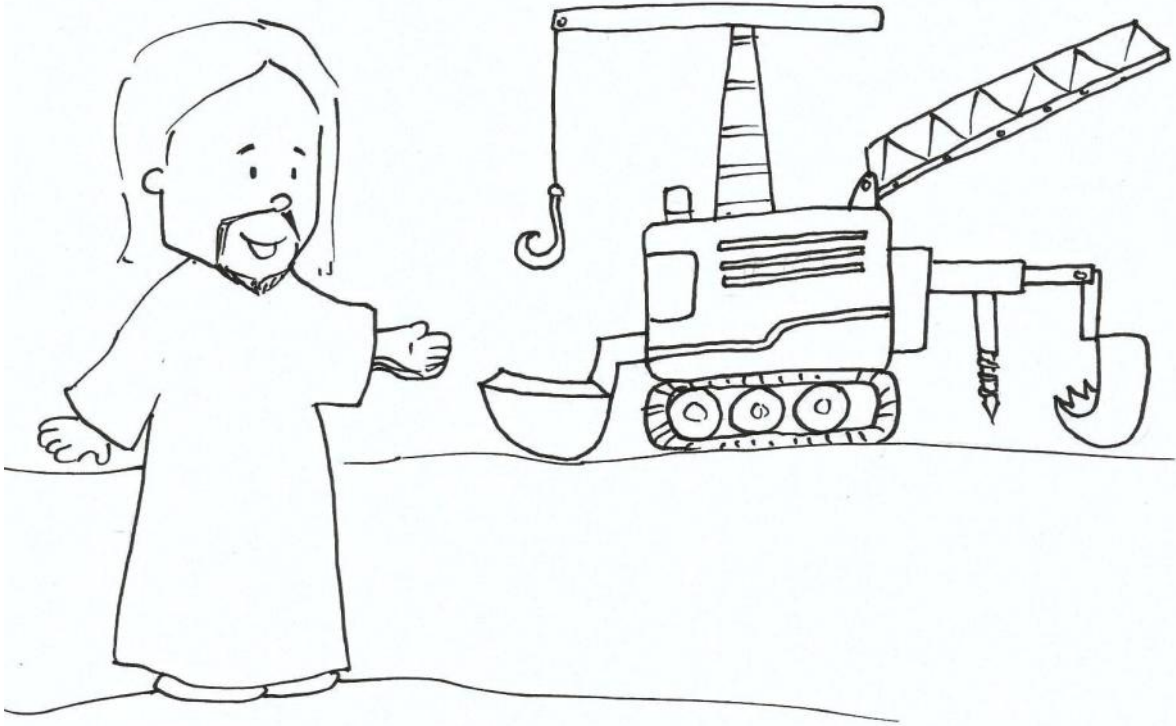




Tony said,

“I like the bobcats, because they can do so many kinds of jobs and can drive around easily in smaller types of places. Even though a bobcat is smaller than many other types of work vehicles, it can still lift and move heavy things.

“Jesus can help me do whatever I need to do, even though I’m not so big yet. Jesus is the strongest guy!”



Tony continued,

“Jesus is not just like one kind of machine, but He’s like all of them, and can do whatever needs to be done.

“Jesus is like a machine that has all the attachments and can do all the jobs at the same time. He’s like a driller-digger-scooper-scraper-crane-fire engine.”

The boys and Mother laughed.

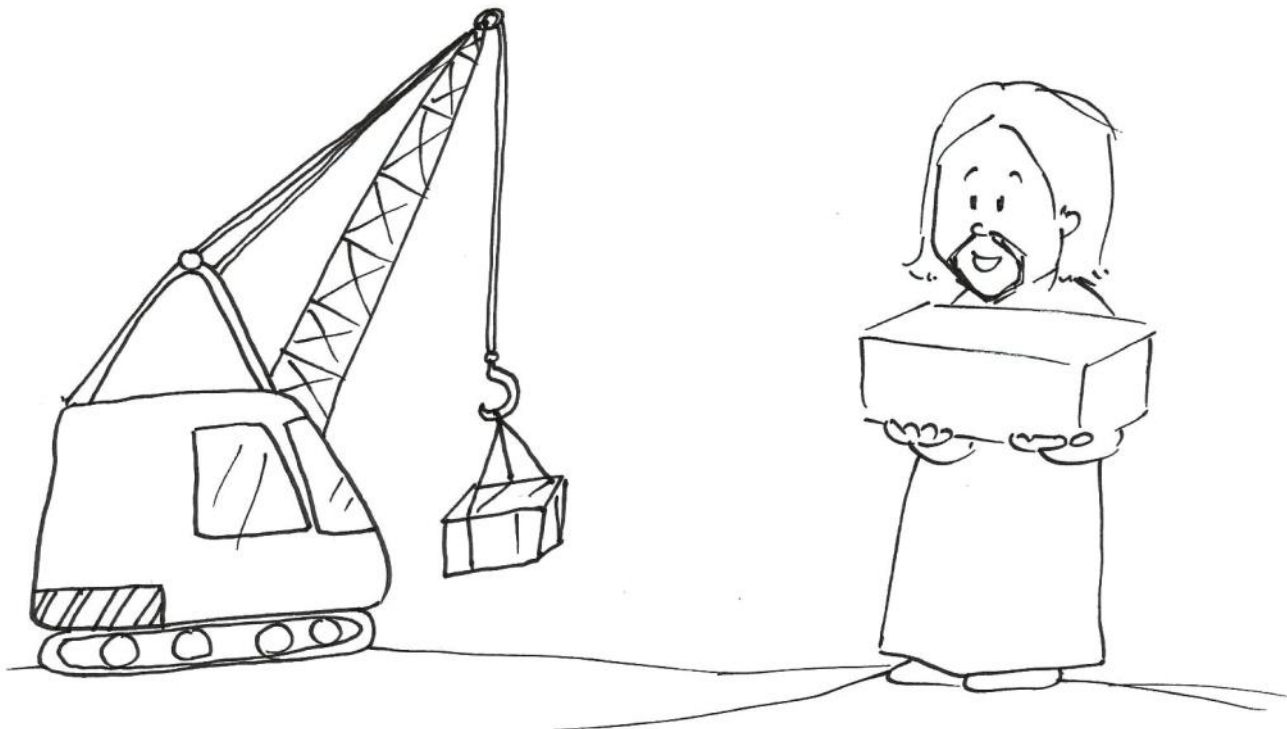


Just then daddy walked in and joined them.

“Hmmm, let’s see. I think I like the tow truck,” Daddy said, “because when my car got stuck in some deep mud, I was able to be pulled out.

“It makes me thankful to I know that when I can’t get out of something on my own, that Jesus can pull me out of any problem. I’ll never be stuck in one problem forever. When I pray and call for His help, the Heavenly tow truck—His angels and power—will rescue me.

“I guess Jesus is also like a mechanic, and if there’s something wrong, He can help us to fix it too. He’s the best mechanic there is.”

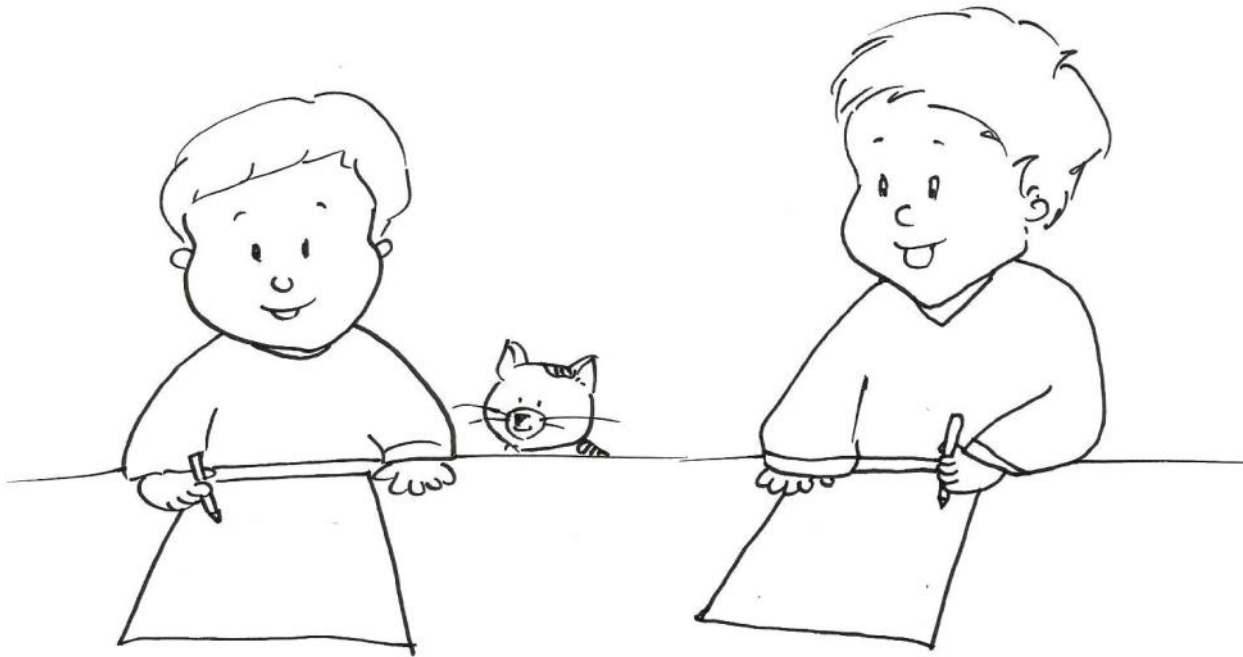


It was Mother's turn then.

“I'm thankful for cranes—both the truck kinds and the tall stand-up cranes. They can do things that people can't. The things that are heavy for us seem light and easy to lift when you use a crane.

“I'm thankful for Jesus' strong arms that can lift any of our loads. When we claim God's promises and pray, it's like using a crane because then the difficult things are easy for us, with Jesus' help.”

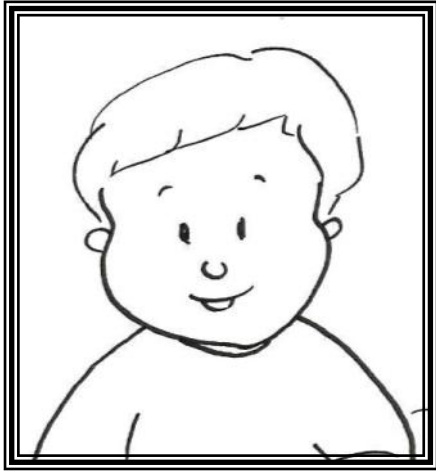




After reading some Bible stories the boys drew pictures of some of their favorite work vehicles, while listening to Bible story songs.

Beside their pictures Mother helped them to write a list of things that were hard for them, that they needed Jesus to help them learn and do.

Together they prayed for Jesus to help them.

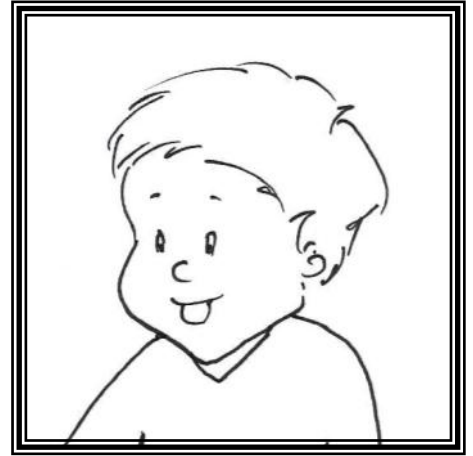


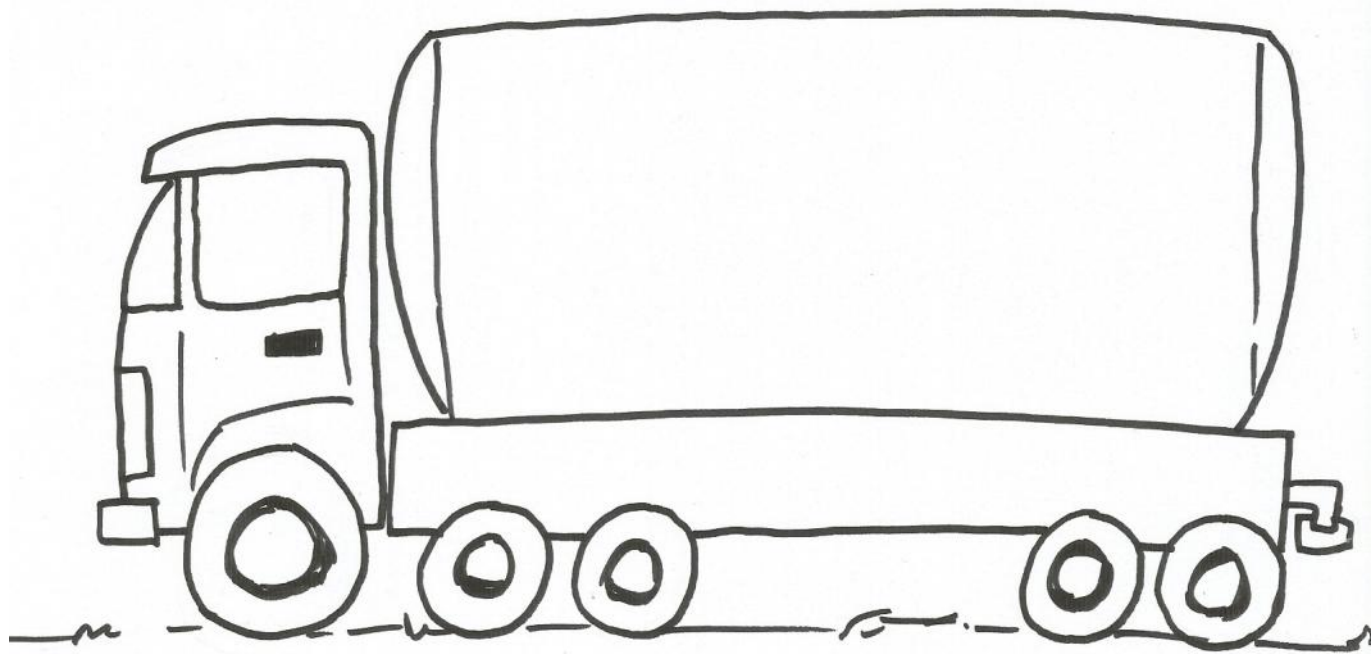
## **Tony's list was:**

- To put away the toys and not to keep playing, when Daddy or Mother asked him to stop.
- Also to learn to tie his shoes on his own.

## Ned's list was:

- To share with his brother when it was something he'd rather keep for himself.
- Also to learn to be cheerful even when something wasn't just the way he wanted it to be.





They were just finishing their Bible story and prayer time when suddenly a loud “brruum” noise was heard. Running quickly to see, it was the largest tanker truck the boys had ever seen driving down the road.

“That’s just like us now!” Mother laughed. “We’re all tanked up and filled up with God’s Word and power, and now we can really drive and do our jobs today!”

“And we can help to fill up other people’s empty tanks too!” said Ned.

“If we see someone sad, we can tank them up with kindness and love!” added Tony.



