

**TALKS AND TIPS**



# Talks and Tips

Dictated and illustrated by:  
Liam (7) and Charles (5)

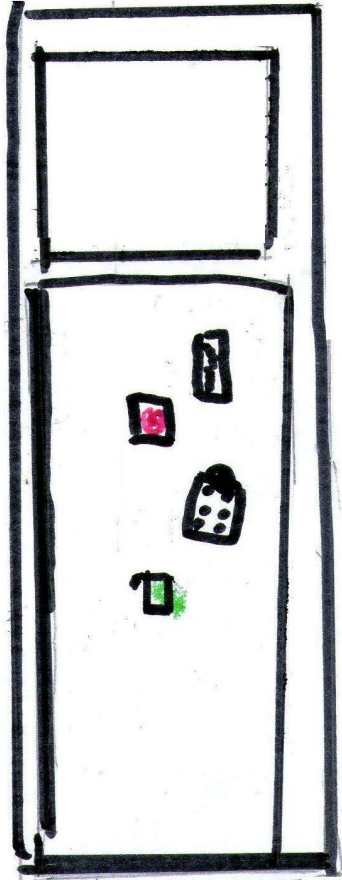
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# **Titles**

- **A Giving Story**
- **Strong House**
- **Watered by the Word**
- **Gideon's Test**
- **About Gideon**
- **Obey Jesus**
- **Pray Then Play**
- **Tips on Praying**
- **Bikes and Bonks**
- **Tips on Sharing**
- **Friendship Tips**
- **The Story of the Pink,  
Bouncy Ball**
- **Joseph the Carpenter**
- **Diligence**
- **Patience**
- **Run the Race**
- **Strength to Climb**
- **Following Jesus Now**
- **Do What You Can**
- **Safety with Prayer**
- **Goals**
- **Jesus Gives Rest**
- **Noah**
- **Firemen**
- **Do It**
- **Days of Creation**
- **Adam and the World**
- **God is Around**
- **Hide God's Word**
- **God's Word is Like...**
- **Mary Jones**
- **Kings and Servants**
- **Notice the Good**
- **Listening and Talking**
- **Everyone Needs  
Encouragement**
- **Change and New Things**

- A Man Called Jude
- Trusting Jesus
- Be an Example
- Positive Thoughts
- Being Faithful
- Faithful Daddy
- About Abraham
- Abraham
- Joseph
- About Joseph in Egypt
- About Nehemiah
- Samuel
- About Samuel
- A Little Child
- Bezaleel
- David's Songs
- King David
- Mistakes
- Jacob's Dream
- Blind Man
- Boy Jesus
- Jairus' Daughter
- Jesus and Children
- Lunch for All
- Two Mites
- Baptism of Jesus
- Elijah
- Fiery Chariot
- Angel Chariots
- Job
- Mary and Martha
- Daniel Prayed
- Daniel's Food
- Storm Stilled
- Sickness
- Doctor Jesus
- Moses and Miracles
- A Glass of Lemon Juice
- Oil and Water
- Naaman
- Fishermen
- Jonah
- Christmas Angels
- Christmas Story



## A Giving Story

Here's a story about how when you give, it comes back to you again.

When we moved into a new house, we really needed a refrigerator.

Some friends were selling their old refrigerator, but they decided to give it to us for free.

We were so thankful for the refrigerator that we wanted to give them something in return.

We didn't have very much money so we started saving any coins that we could. After many months of saving coins in a jar, they added up to a pretty good amount. It was actually the amount of money our friends wanted to sell the fridge for.



So we gave them the saved coins, and told them how much we appreciated the fridge. A long time later we got a special card from them, and in it was a gift for us. They were thanking us for letting our daddy play music for their event.

The amount of money they gave us was twice as much as we had shared with them.

It was just the right amount for our whole family to be able to go to the circus! So we went, and it was on my birthday too!





## **Strong House**

Jesus said to listen to Him and obey Him. It's like building a house on a strong rock.

But if you listen to Him and you don't obey Him, it's like a foolish man who is building his house on the sand.

## **Watered by the Word**

King David liked to think about God's Word day and night. If we want our life to be like a strong tree, we need to be guided by God's word.



## **Gideon's Test**

The people of Israel hadn't followed in God's way, and then troubles came. The Midianites were making things very difficult for them, and were taking their food.

God called Gideon to do an important job. It was a very big job, and he didn't know if he could do it. Gideon knew God was strong enough.

If God was on his side, he knew it would work.

Gideon prayed and asked God to show him a sign to prove to him that he was the one God wanted to use to chase the Midianites away.

The sign Gideon prayed for was to make a fleece of wool wet when it was placed on the ground.

He asked for the ground to be all dry in the morning, but the fleece to be wet. In the morning the fleece was so wet Gideon squeezed a whole bowl of water from it, and the ground was totally dry!

Gideon still wanted to be sure he was God's chosen man, so he asked for one more sign.



The second sign he asked for was for the ground to be wet, but the fleece to be totally dry.

That next morning the ground was all wet, but the fleece was completely dry. Then Gideon had the faith then to obey whatever God told him to do, and he was victorious as he obeyed what God told him.

## About Gideon

Here are some things about Gideon:

- He was humble.
- He had a caring heart.
- He was obedient to God.
- He respected the Lord.
- He had faith that God's plan would work.
- He didn't stop until his job was done.

## **Obey Jesus**

When Jesus came to heal Lazarus, He told the people to roll away the stone. They had to do what they could do before Jesus could do the miracle. Sometimes there are things that Jesus is asking us to do first, and if we obey them then He'll do miracles for us.







## Pray Then Play

A couple of days ago Mommy asked us to come and pray--to have a safe and happy day. But we were busy playing, and didn't respond.

Soon after that I had an accident. A big flashlight we were playing with fell on my face. It bumped my lip and hurt a lot.

The next day when Mommy called us to come and pray, we came right away, and we had a good day with no accidents!

## Tips on Praying

- \*Think about the person and how *you* would feel if it happened to you. This will give you good ideas of what to ask Jesus to do for them.
- \*Quote a Bible verse promise -something God has promised He would do, and ask Him to do it and keep his Word. This will give *you* faith too.
- \*Thank Jesus for what He has already done, and what He will do in advance—even before He answers your prayer.



## **Bikes and Bonks**

I was riding my bicycle and I had a big fall. Before that happened, my daddy told me not to go down the steep hill on my bike. But I really wanted to go anyway, so Daddy let me go.

Then I had a big fall, but thankfully I just got a little scratch. When Daddy tells me to not do dangerous things, I won't do them.

## Tips on Sharing

- People are more valuable and longer lasting than things.
- If you give to others, they'll want to show kindness too, and it will make you happy.
- Think of the many things that you have that others don't have.
- Be glad for all that you still have, even if you give something away.

## Friendship Tips

Here are some good ideas on how to be a good friend:

- You shouldn't be angry always.
- You don't need to be so selfish.
- You need to give love to your friend.
- Talk gently and kindly, and then Jesus will be happy.



## The Story of the Pink, Bouncy Ball

When I was younger I had a little, pink, bouncy ball and I really liked it. One time we took it out to the porch.

My mommy was with me and she was telling me, "Don't throw it! Don't throw it!" But I threw it right then, and it bounced, and bounced right over the wall.

It fell in a place where we couldn't really get it. We couldn't get it until finally Daddy came back from his trip, and he was able to get the ball in a tricky way.





I was sad about my lost ball, but Jesus wanted to encourage me, so while the pink ball was lost over the wall where it bounced, I found another red ball on a walk.

I was so happy. Then when we got the pink ball back I had two balls for awhile, but they kept having turns getting lost.

Good thing we had two balls, so we always had a ball. Now, many years later I still have both those balls.



The lesson of that story that I just told is sometimes our parents tell us not to do things because they don't want things to get lost, or us to get hurt in some way, so they tell us not to do them.

But sometimes we don't know why so we just keep on doing it, and sometimes there comes a consequence or a result that we don't like.

So then what happens is we get a little prize or encouragement in the meantime, while we are waiting and experiencing the consequence, if we are choosing to learn to take care of our things, and take care of ourselves.

Then when Jesus knows we have learned our lesson, He might give us a way to get back what we lost.

# Joseph the Carpenter

Here are some things about Joseph:

- He listened when God talked to him.
- He obeyed right away.
- He took good care of Mary and baby Jesus.
- He was a good daddy.
- He worked hard being a good carpenter.



# Diligence

Being diligent means to do things like:

- Not being wasteful.
- Being careful with things.
- Using time well by doing good things.
- Doing jobs well.
- Trying again to get things right.
- Focusing on what you are doing so important things aren't missed.





## Patience

Farmers have to be patient for the crops to grow. We have to be patient too, for other things. Like maybe you're waiting for something to happen. If it's hard to wait, then you need patience. Patience keeps you safer than if you are always in a rush. Friendship takes patience too, because you need to wait for people to do things—like to play games or give people the first turn. Acting patiently can make you be a good friend to others.





## Run the Race

We are running a race, and the race is like what we are doing for the Lord. The watchers of the race are like the angels watching what we are doing for the Lord.

So if you want to get a surprise in Heaven, you will need to do things for the Lord, and do what He tells you to do. So obey the Lord. Run your race for Him, and you'll get a gold medal!



## **Strength to Climb**

Our family was going for a walk up a hill, and Mommy was praying for me to have strength, and I actually got ahead of her.

At first I felt tired, but amazingly enough I got ahead of all the others.

I remembered the verse, "I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me."

We got to see a sunset, and the whole valley below! I was so glad I made it to the top.





## **Following Jesus Now**

We can follow Jesus when we read His Word, and we pray, and when we listen and do God's will.

## **Do What You Can**

God can help you to do the things you see need to be done. Even if you can't do things perfectly, it's good to try anyway and do what you can.

Whenever you see there is a need, do whatever you can do to help.



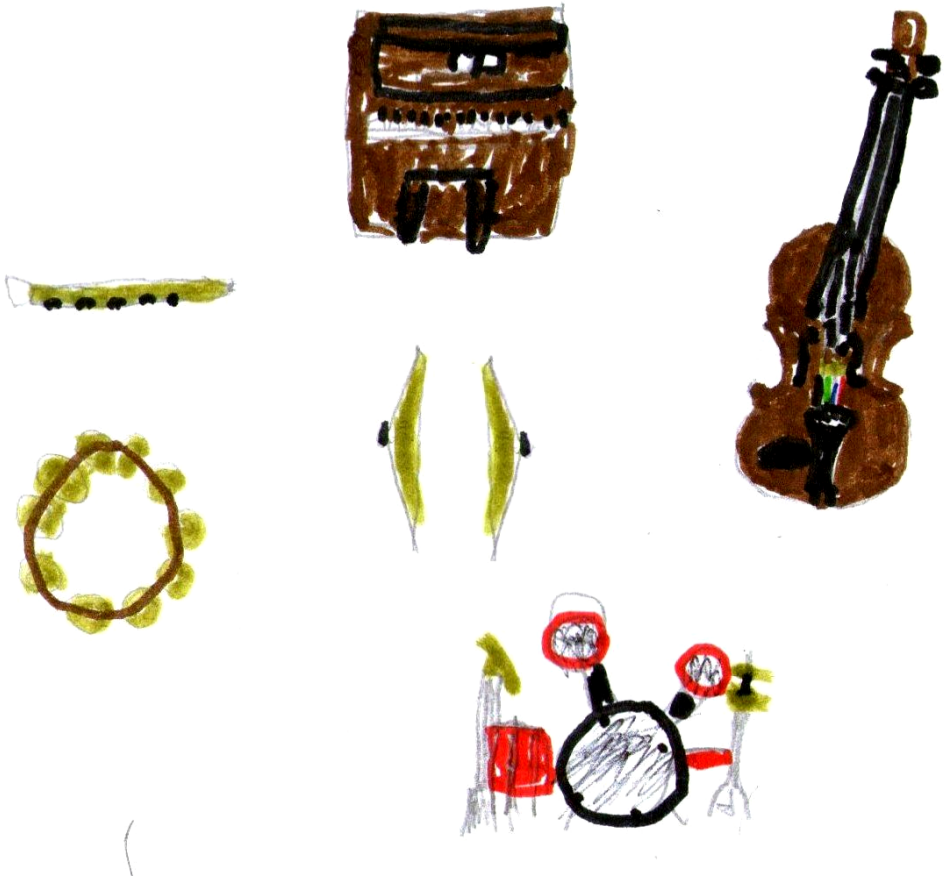
## Safety with Prayer

On my seventh birthday I had a bit of an accident as we were playing cricket. The cricket stump had a spring and sprung back and hit my eyebrow.

When we prayed and my mommy asked the Lord about the accident, He reminded us how important it is to pray for safety.

I am learning to pray and the more I practice the easier it will be. I realized that it was a miracle that I wasn't hurt worse.

The stump could have hit my eye and injured me, but it didn't. Thank God for that! Even when we do get hurt, there are lots of ways that Jesus has protected us, and it's good to thank Him for His loving care.



## Goals

It's fun to have goals because it's fun to have a finished project.

We are working on a Christmas show with our family band. We practice every day. First of all we chose the Christmas songs, and now we are practicing them.

The songs we chose were "Little Drummer Boy", "Silent Night" and "Hark the Herald Angels Sing." Even though it's hard work to do it, thinking about reaching the goal is what makes it fun!



## Jesus Gives Rest

When you are worried or upset about something, that is the time to stop and get quiet and give your concerns to Jesus.

You can rest and be at peace knowing He will take care of everything you ask Him to. Jesus can be like a big, strong dump truck. He can take all the rocks and dirt of your problems away.

Just drive the digger of prayer, and put your load into Jesus' arms, and He'll take it away and do the hard work of fixing things for you.





## Noah

One day God told Noah to build an ark. Noah warned the people. God told him to put animals in the ark.

Noah's family was in the ark and God shut the door. The flood shook the boat from side to side.

It rained for 40 days. The ark landed on a mountain. It all dried up and they all went on the land. God put a rainbow in the sky.

If you are wise like Noah and obey what God says, He can keep you safe. "Blessed are all they that put their trust in Him."

## Firemen

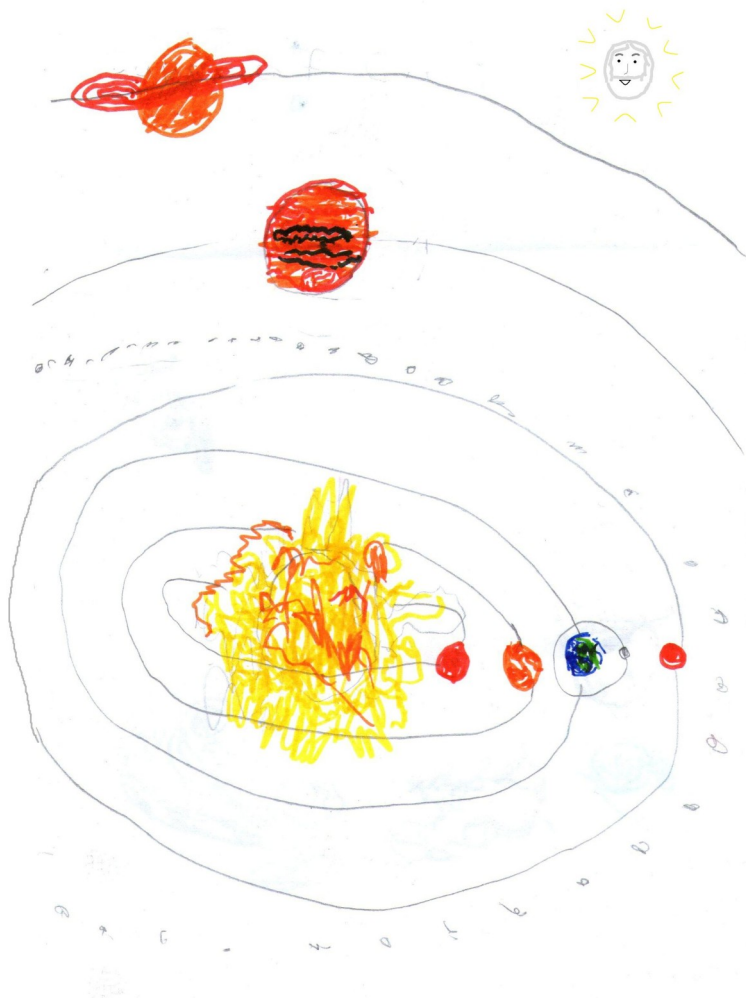
Firemen respond quickly to get to a fire in time, and they don't delay when someone needs help. The firemen's example can remind us to be ready when Jesus needs us to help someone to come to know Him. They can be rescued and get saved.



## Do It

Rescue workers need to respond quickly when there is a need. Sometimes the job is difficult or unpleasant, but they do it anyway, right away, and in the end they and others are glad they did the job.

Today Jesus told me, "Clean up, even though you don't like to because when you are done you will like it." We need to obey Jesus to make Him happy when He wants us to do something.



## Days of Creation

God said, "Let there be light!" and there was light.

Then God put some water on the land and some in the sky.

Then He said, "Let there be plants growing, and let there be seeds in them."

Then He made the sun, the moon and the planets. Then He made the stars.

Then He made the fish and the birds.

Then on the last day after creating all the animals and stuff like that, He made a man and a woman and then rested.



## **Adam and the World**

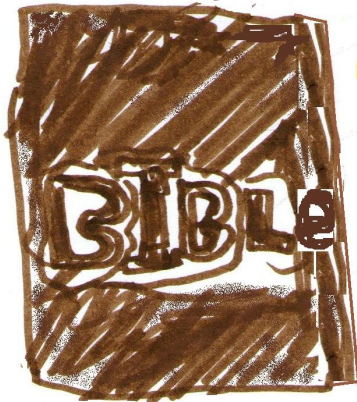
God gave Adam a job to do when he was in the Garden of Eden. He said, "Take care of the garden and take care of the animals, and also name the animals."

Now we can still do a good job for God too, and we can be kind to the animals and take care of the world.

## **God is Around**

When we look at creation, we know God is around because He created it and made it. It's just like if your friend in a far-away place sent you a package on your birthday. You still knew your friend was around even though you couldn't see him.





## Hide God's Word

"Thy Word have I hid in my heart that I might not sin against thee." We can hide God's Word in our heart by memorizing Bible verses.

The verses we've memorized will help us if we are in a situation without a Bible. It's like a Bible in our heart. If we are wondering what to do, we might remember a verse that will help us.

## God's Word is Like...

God's Word is like a lamp to light our way.

God's Word is like fresh water for our spirit to drink.

God's Word is like a strong foundation for us to build on.



## Mary Jones

There was a girl called Mary. She really wanted a Bible, but she was too poor so she had to save coins. Sometimes she only saved coins that were worth half a penny.

When she had enough coins to buy a Bible she walked a long way. At last she had her Bible. She loved it more than anything else. She read it. She memorized it.

She taught others about it, and worked and saved money to help others who didn't have enough money, to be able to get a Bible.



## Kings and Servants

I like to feel like a king and be treated very nicely, and have people doing nice things for me. Mommy told me that if we all took turns being servants then everybody would feel like a king.

If we each took turns helping each other and making each other feel important and cared for, then we will all get a chance to feel like kings and queens, like we are each important, and loved, and cared for.

That's like what Jesus taught His disciples. Even though He was very important, He took a turn to be a servant to help His disciples feel loved and cared for, and feel like they were important.



## **Notice the Good**

"In everything give thanks." Sometimes it's harder to think more about the good things that are happening than the bad things. But I'm learning to notice the good even when there's something that's happening that I don't like. Then it makes me feel happier, because I'm thinking of the good things. Have a happy day!



## Listening and Talking

There's a verse in the Bible that says this:

"Let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, and slow to wrath." That means to listen more to others than you speak yourself. And don't get upset about things easily. Every word we say can have an effect on others. The best way to be more helpful is to pray before you say. Jesus knows what will be the best thing to say right at that time.





## Everyone Needs Encouragement

We can get along well with others if we remember to do to them, as we'd like them to do to us. Everybody needs encouragement.

If somebody needs help, we should help them.

Here's a good verse:

"Be kind one to another, tender-hearted forgiving one another."

Everyone has something good about them, and it helps if we notice the good the most.

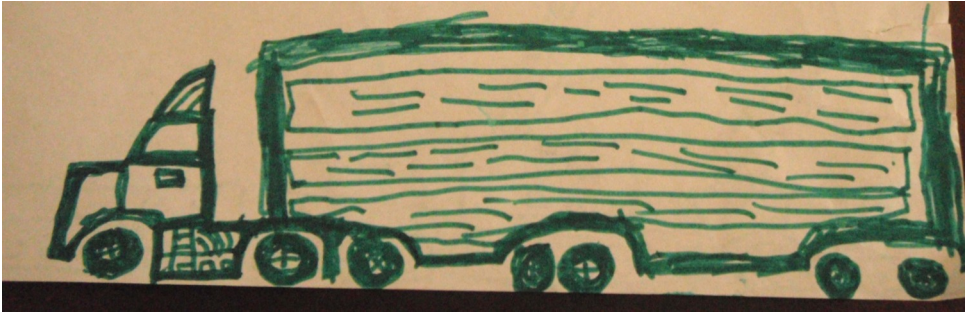


## Change and New Things

Nothing is the same for everyone all the time. It's like our apple tree outside. Every day it changes. Every season it looks different. It changes every day, even if it just changes a little bit —like just several petals from the apple blossoms fall.

Changes are good for us. They teach us how much we need Jesus. They make us appreciate that Jesus is always with us. He never changes.

Lots of things change as we grow up. For example, when I was young I rode a tricycle, but now that I am older I can ride a big bicycle. That is one thing we can be sure of in our lives—that things will change.



There are some things we wish could always be the same, and sometimes changes can be difficult, when it's something that we want to always stay one certain way. But God likes for us to do new things all the time. It keeps us fresh and alive, and learning new things.

If people never changed and made new inventions we would never have computers, cars, electric lights, indoor bathrooms, telephones or many of the things that are used today.

Maybe you will get a new idea today, and if it's the Lord's plan and His idea, it will be better than the old way.

Jesus never changes. Like this verse, "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today and forever."

That means we can count on Him doing what He said He would do. He'll always keep His promises and He'll always love us.

He may lead us to do new things.





## **A Man Called Jude**

Jude wrote a book in the Bible called Jude. He was the brother of James, and he served Jesus. Here are some things he wrote in his book:

- Honestly contend for the faith.
- Peace and love be multiplied.
- Have compassion.
- Make a difference.
- Remember the words of Jesus Christ.



## Trusting Jesus

"If you're trusting you're not heard to fret. If you're fretting you're not trusting yet." That's a little poem to teach us to trust the Lord.

"I'll give you rest" is what Jesus said. King David said, "Rest in the Lord, and wait for Him."

If things are not going well, maybe it's best to pause and take time to talk to Jesus about it. Trusting in Jesus to help you is like resting on a big comfortable bed.



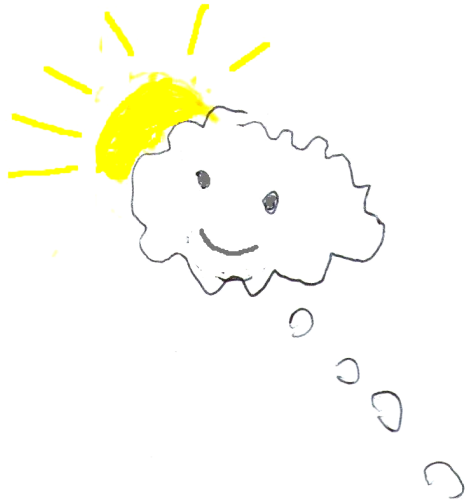


## Be an Example

Here's a little rhyme: "Thoughts and little deeds done in a loving way, tell more of caring kindness than any words could say."

That means people watch what we do, and will remember it more than the words we say. If we want people to be kind, we need to demonstrate kindness by our actions. If we want people to be helpful, we need to be helpful to others.

I'm the older brother, and what I do will be copied. So I need to be a good example of what we want our family to be like. If I act in a loving and caring way, my brothers will learn how to be loving and caring too.



## Positive Thoughts

No matter what happens, even if everything is going bad, we can still find something good in it. It's called thinking positively when you try to notice the good.

If we start our day with a smile noticing the good things, we'll probably have a good day. But if we start our day with a frown, complaining about what we don't like, it will probably seem like a sad day.

The best thing to do is to think about Jesus and praise Him for the good, and notice the good in others and appreciate them too.



## Being Faithful

Being faithful means being dependable, and doing what we need to do and not giving up.

Here's a good verse about it:

"Let us not be weary in well doing, for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." (Galatians 6:9)

## Faithful Daddy

Here are some ways our daddy shows that he is faithful:

- He exercises each day.
- He helps to clean up in our house.
- He works hard on his work and finishes his projects.
- He takes good care of things so they don't get lost.
- He helps to fix our broken toys.
- He makes sure we have enough food to eat.
- He makes sure the car is always working well, and takes it to get fixed whenever it needs repairs.

**Continued in Part 2**