

# GOD CARES FOR ME

Illustrated by  
Trish Mahoney

by  
SCOTT  
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Helping Children Trust God When They're Sick

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Give all your worries and cares to God,  
for he cares about you.

1 Peter 5:7 NLT

Dear Parent or Caregiver,

I wrote this book because I know how difficult it can be to walk through times of pain and suffering with a sick child. As a pediatrician, I have the great privilege of ministering to children and families in such times of need. Praise God, I am often able to minister through the art of healing and restoration, but whatever the prognosis, my job is to love and care for families who have been brought low into the valley. As a parent, I know what it's like to walk that valley myself.

No matter what the illness, it's hard to watch children suffer. It's scary for them to have to face being sick, but it often leaves those of us caring for them feeling scared and anxious too. We want to provide comfort, but sometimes we struggle to find the right words for these difficult conversations. How can we continue to faithfully point our children to God?

*God Cares for Me* shows children that even when we are sick, God is right there with us. We can trust him. He loves to take care of his children, and he calls us to imitate him by caring for those around us. Each and every one of us can run to him in times of need, and each of us can be a help to others in their time of need. My hope is that this book will help your family celebrate these foundational truths about the "God of all comfort" (2 Corinthians 1:3) and then springboard you into many rich conversations about how he is with you even when you walk through the valley.

In Christ,  
**Scott James**



One chilly Monday morning,  
Lucas woke up with a sore throat.  
Everything else hurt too and he was so hot.  
He tried to yell, "Mama" from his bed,  
but all that came out was a croak.

"Lucas," Mama shouted from downstairs,  
"time to get up and get ready for school."  
Again Lucas tried to talk. Again all he could do was croak.

*I sound like a frog,*  
he thought as he fell back to sleep.

And that's how Mama found him.  
She touched his head and said,  
"Lucas, you are burning hot!"

Lucas rasped,  
"My throat hurts so much. I can hardly talk."

"No school for you! You are going to see Dr. Jenn.  
Papa can take you this morning."

Lucas groaned. He didn't like doctors very much.



Papa came in to help Lucas get dressed.

“I don’t want to go to the doctor,”  
said Lucas as he burrowed  
deeper under the covers.



“I know,” said Papa, “but God gave us doctors  
to help keep us safe. And you know Dr. Jenn—  
you see her in church every Sunday.  
She just wants to help you get better.”

“Lucas, remind me—what verse do we say every night before bed?”

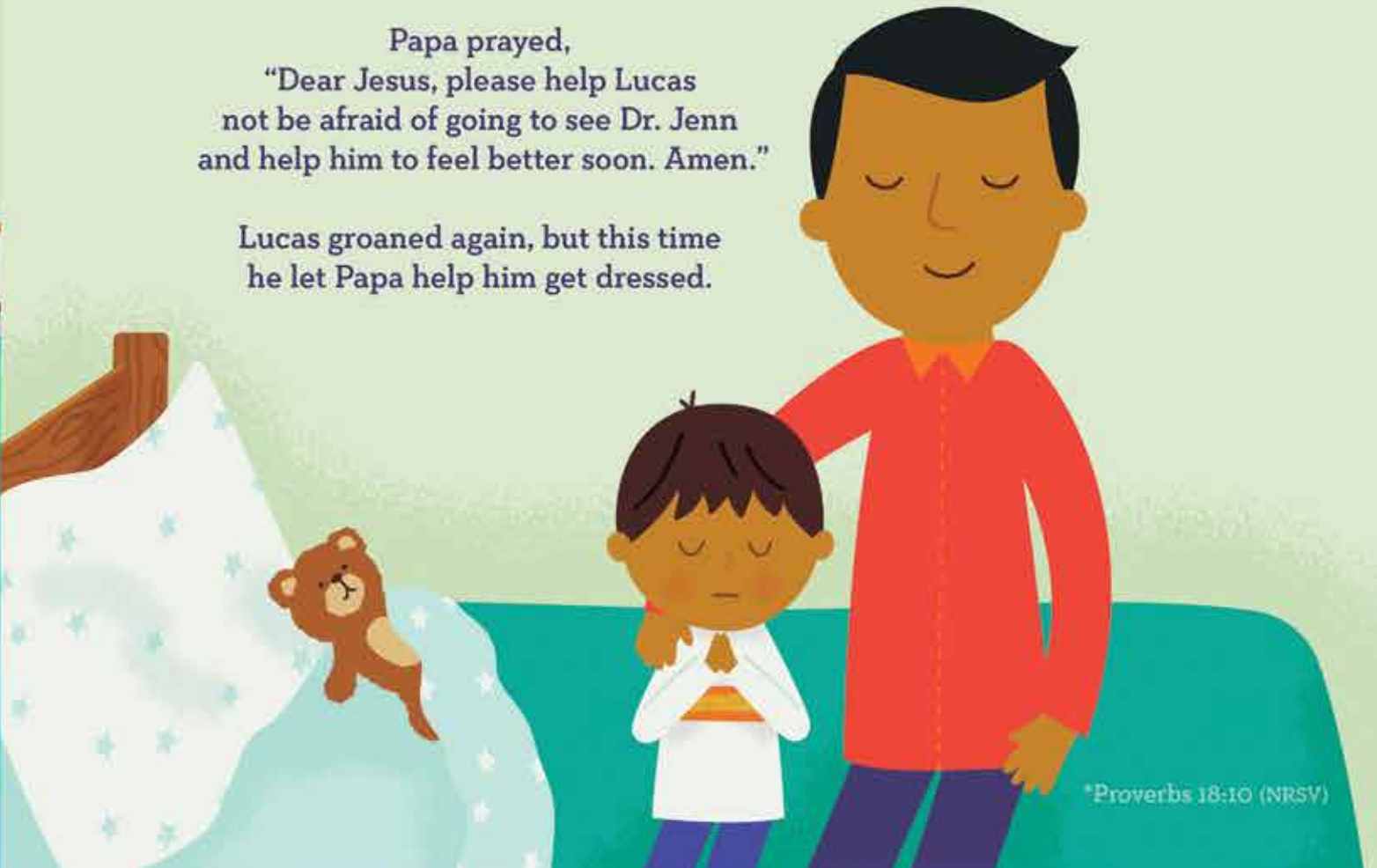
Not even pausing for a second, Lucas said,

**“The name of the Lord is a strong tower;  
the righteous run into it and are safe.”\***

Papa said, “I know you don’t feel like running right now,  
but we can ask Jesus to help you. That’s what it means to run to him.”

Papa prayed,  
“Dear Jesus, please help Lucas  
not be afraid of going to see Dr. Jenn  
and help him to feel better soon. Amen.”

Lucas groaned again, but this time  
he let Papa help him get dressed.



\*Proverbs 18:10 (NRSV)



Papa helped Lucas  
get in the car, and they  
drove to Dr. Jenn's office.



When they got there, Papa handed Lucas a mask.

"Don't forget that we have to mask up," he said.

"It's one way we can help keep others safe.  
We don't want them to get whatever you have."

Lucas and Papa both put on their masks  
and walked into the doctor's office.

Miss Anne greeted them cheerfully  
and told them to sit on the left.  
Lucas knew that's where all  
the sick kids waited.



"Dr. Jenn will be right with you,"  
Miss Anne said.

Lucas leaned against  
Papa's shoulder.

*His head hurt.  
Everything hurt.*



◀ SICK  
WELL ▶