

Welcome!



Happy Times

These are *Happy Times*!



***Happy Times* is dedicated to young children and their parents and other caregivers. Our goals:**

Share the Good News of Jesus, our Savior, through stories, activities, poems, and projects.

Provide practical, useful “Parent Talk” and other resources to help parents nurture faith and growth.

Encourage children and parents in worship and Bible learning.

What can we do with our voices? We can sing a song, tell a story, and say, “I love you.” We can also tell others about Jesus! We can use the gift of our words to share that Jesus is the Son of God, our Savior. He died and rose again, defeating sin and death. He will come back someday, and all believers in Him will shout with joy! That’s a great way to use our voices! As you talk with your child, try speaking quietly, loudly, high, and low. When you talk to Jesus in your prayers, you can speak out loud or even silently. Jesus always hears!

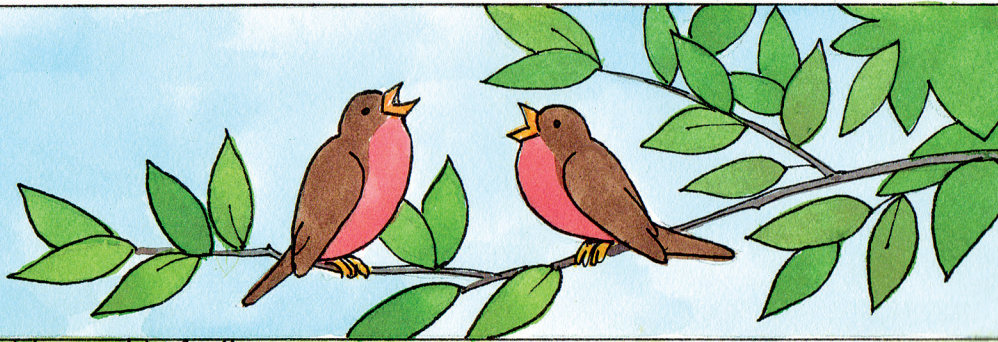
Jesus loves to listen to all our prayers when we ask for help, share our worries, ask forgiveness for our sins, thank Him, or just share about our day. Pray together, asking for help in using your words wisely today.

Lisa M. Clark, Editor

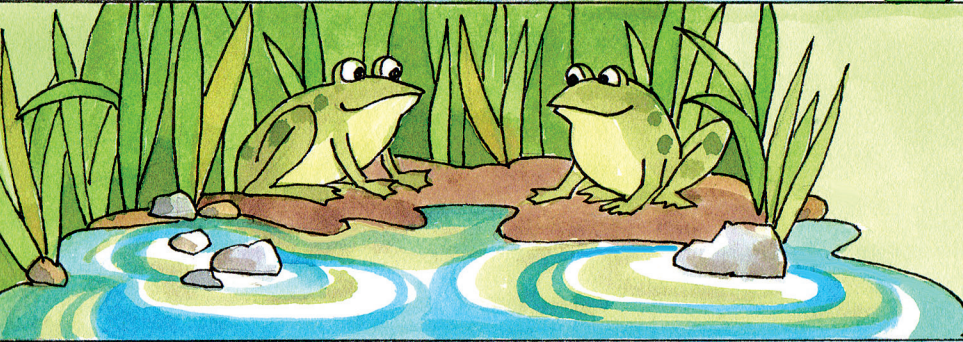
HAPPY TIMES (USPS 234-880) vol. 60, no. 4. Copyright © 2018, 2024 by Concordia Publishing House, 3558 S. Jefferson Ave., St. Louis, MO 63118-3968. Call toll-free 1-800-325-3040, or go to www.cph.org. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without the prior written permission of Concordia Publishing House. Author: Lisa Hahn. Artist: Kathryn Mitter (pp. 3–8, 10–13, 20–21, 23–24); Bill Clark (pp. 14–17). Editor: Pam Nummela and Lisa M. Clark. Designer: Chris Johnson. Cover photo: © iStock. Scripture: ESV®. Published bimonthly by Concordia Publishing House, 3558 S. Jefferson Ave., St. Louis, MO 63118-3968. Subscription rates: 1 year—\$20.50; quantity rates are available on a bimonthly and an annual basis. Single copy—\$5.75. Periodicals postage paid at St. Louis, MO, and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to HAPPY TIMES, 3558 S. Jefferson Ave., St. Louis, MO 63118-3968. Manufactured in Effingham, IL – 036670 – 724443/01

Listen and Tell

Listen to the springtime birds
Chirping all around.
Listen to them quietly.
Tell me how they sound.



Listen to the springtime frogs
Peeping all around.
Listen to them quietly.
Tell me how they sound.



Listen to the promises
In God's Holy Word.
Find someone who needs to know.
Tell them what you've heard!



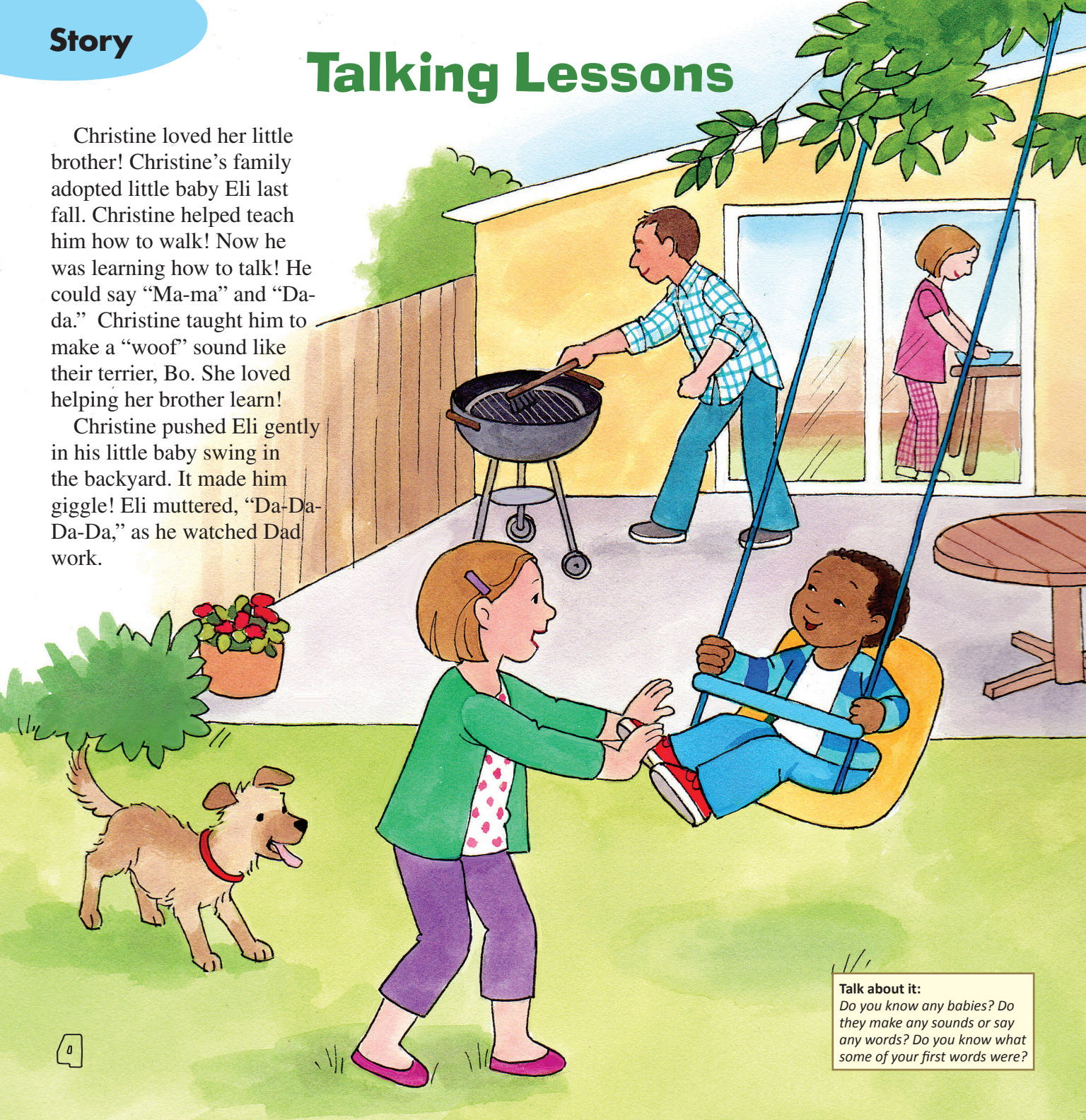
**Parent
Talk**

As you enjoy time outside with your child, mimic the sounds of animals! Tell God's promises to your child and then take a turn and listen to him or her tell one! Words like "Jesus is with us always," "Jesus forgives our sins," "God made me His own dear child," and "God gives us everything we need" are great promises to "listen and tell!"

Talking Lessons

Christine loved her little brother! Christine's family adopted little baby Eli last fall. Christine helped teach him how to walk! Now he was learning how to talk! He could say "Ma-ma" and "Da-da." Christine taught him to make a "woof" sound like their terrier, Bo. She loved helping her brother learn!

Christine pushed Eli gently in his little baby swing in the backyard. It made him giggle! Eli muttered, "Da-Da-Da-Da," as he watched Dad work.



Talk about it:

Do you know any babies? Do they make any sounds or say any words? Do you know what some of your first words were?



“Daddy,” Christine said, “did you know that I have been teaching Eli to say my name?”

“That’s a great idea, honey! Say it to him over and over. Babies learn by hearing or doing something lots and lots of times!” So, Christine said her name each time the swing came toward her. Eli smiled and made his baby sounds until Mom took him in for his nap.

Talk about it:

What are you learning to do? Who helps you learn? Do you get better when you try something lots of times?



Talk about it:

*What things do you like to help with?
What would you enjoy being able to
help with when you are older? God
always uses us to help others around
us no matter what our age!*

While Eli was napping, Christine and Dad set up the patio for their first picnic of the year. When Eli woke up, Christine pushed him in the swing while Mom set the table. Dad grilled the hot dogs! Eli was happy to swing again!