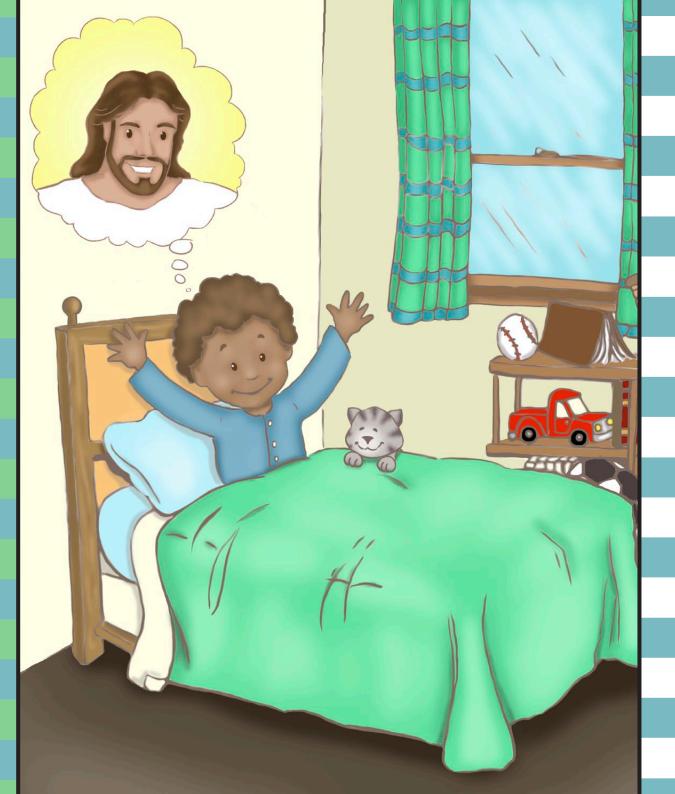
## Spend Time with Me-It Makes Me Happy!

COCK-A-DOODLE-DOO! Derek sat up in bed when he heard the rooster crow. He stretched his arms and smiled. Mimi, his cat, jumped up on the bed and purred good morning.

The sun was shining and Derek felt happy. "Jesus, thank You for this new day," Derek prayed. "It always makes me happy when the sun shines. Help me throughout my day. Amen."

Derek liked to talk to Jesus first thing in the morning, because he knew that Jesus always had a way of making the day better.



At breakfast, Derek's mom asked him if he would like to go to the park with his friend Nicole. "Yes, please," Derek answered. "That would be a lot of fun."

While they were at the park, Nicole told Derek how she liked to imagine that Jesus is at the park with her. "Sometimes I pretend that He is pushing me on the swing," Nicole told Derek. "And I go so high that I feel like I'm flying."

Derek laughed. "That sounds like a lot of fun."



"My mommy says that we can talk to Jesus no matter where we are," Nicole said. "And Jesus will speak to us too. So sometimes, when I'm reading a story about Jesus, I pretend that He is reading it to me, and it makes me feel happy." "I know!" Derek

exclaimed. "Why don't we pretend that Jesus is here playing with us, just like He played with children when He was on earth? Maybe we can play hide and seek." Nicole happily agreed.



"My mommy says that spending time with Jesus makes Him happy," Nicole said. "We can make Jesus very happy today."

The two friends ran off to play their game.

You, too, can look for time in your day to spend with Jesus. Jesus can be your best friend.

> I am with you always. (Matthew 28:20 NIV)

Authored by Devon T. Sommers. Illustrations by Leila Shae. Design by Christia Copeland. Published by My Wonder Studio. Copyright © 2011 by The Family International

