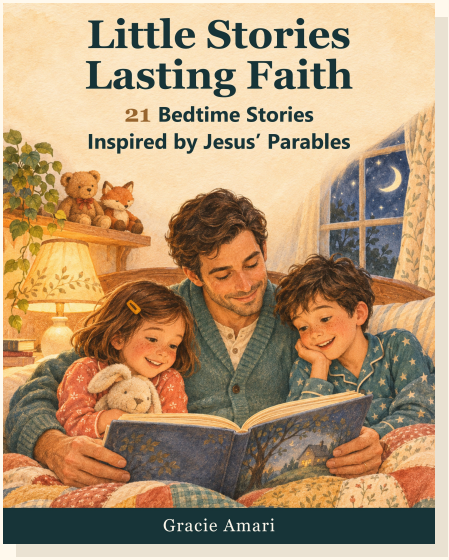
LIVING WORD PLAZA PRESENTS

A bedtime story to share.



THE ROCKET ON THE TOP SHELF

One complete story from

Little Stories Lasting Faith

By Gracie Amari

For children ages 4–8 and the grown-ups who love them

FREE STORY SAMPLE



The Rocket on the Top Shelf

Eli's cardboard rocket stood on the top shelf, ready for the school display. Its silver fins shone. Its red nose pointed toward the ceiling.

"Please ask before you touch it," Eli told Nora.

But while Eli was outside with Dad, Nora imagined one small flight. She stretched up, took the rocket, and whispered, "Three, two, one."

The red nose bumped a chair. A silver fin bent backward.

Nora pushed the rocket behind the sofa.

At dinner, Eli talked about the display. Nora moved three peas around her plate. After dinner, she brushed her teeth for a very long time.

Mom knocked on the bathroom door. "Ready for your story?"

Nora shook her head. Keeping the secret felt like holding a marble in her throat.

"I touched Eli's rocket," she whispered. "I broke it. Then I hid it."

Mom knelt beside her. "Thank you for telling me. Come here if you'd like."



Nora leaned against her.

"Will Eli be sad?"

"Probably. We'll listen to him. Then we'll see what can be repaired."

Together they found Eli. Nora brought out the rocket and told him what had happened. Eli's face fell. He needed a few quiet minutes before he wanted to talk.

Later, Dad found glue. Eli held the fin while Nora passed small pieces of tape. Mom helped straighten the nose. A crease remained, like a tiny lightning bolt.

At bedtime, Nora asked, "Are you still glad to read to me?"

Mom opened the book. "Yes. I'm glad you're here."

The rocket needed more drying time. Eli still wished it hadn't been bent. Tomorrow Nora would help carry it carefully to school.

Tonight there was room beside Mom, and no secret stuck in Nora's throat.

One little question

What helped Nora tell the truth?

A bedtime prayer

Father, help us come to you honestly. Give us courage to say sorry and repair what we can. Amen.

A story to carry into tomorrow.

The lost son • Luke 15:11–24

In Jesus' story, a son returns after doing wrong, and his father welcomes him with compassion. God invites us to turn back to him. Being welcomed does not mean pretending that harm never happened; we can also begin making things right.

Tomorrow, if you like

Practice saying, "I did it. I am sorry. How can I help make it right?"

There are more little stories to share.

The full collection includes 21 illustrated bedtime stories inspired by Jesus' parables, with questions, prayers, and biblical connections for grown-ups.

Find book updates and family reading ideas at **@livingwordplaza** on Instagram and Facebook.

An original fictional story inspired by a parable, not a Bible quotation.
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