

Will you read me a story?

Start by reading
LUKE 10:25-37
together as a family.



Good Night Tales

contains twenty beautifully-illustrated stories that your family will treasure.

Each story parallels a Bible passage.

There are discussion prompts for rich family discipleship in the back of the book.

The Good Mouse, on the pages to follow, is one of three stories in which readers get to use their own words.



CONTENTS

FOREWORD 8 + TO THE READER 10 + GOING DEEPER: DISCUSSION PROMPTS 172



1 SAMUEL 8
Kings of the Forest
12



MATTHEW 13:44
*Of Trolls and
Treasure*
32



PSALM 23
A Sheep's Journey
52



PSALM 139:14
*The Extraordinary
Ordinary Snail*
64



PHILIPPIANS 2:3
*The Song
of the Cricket*
72



LUKE 10:25-37
The Good Mouse
86



MATTHEW 25:14-30
*The Wood Elf
Who Wouldn't*
96



LUKE 15:3-7
The Toy
110



JOHN 8:1-11
*The Plum-Eating
Giant*
120



JOHN 12:23-26
Fell into the Earth
132



GENESIS 7:1-5
The King Is Calling
140



1 JOHN 4:7-19
Do You Love Me?
156

✠ TO THE READER ✠

*Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children,
you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.*

MATTHEW 18:3, NIV

The imagination of a child is a thing of wonder, isn't it?

Children see the world in living color. Rain is music. Fingers are paintbrushes. Meals are a palette. Every wall is a canvas.

Above all, children have an incredible mind for story. They see a world brimming with possibility. Any given moment of their day could be prefaced with “Once upon a time . . .”

We never quite lose that connection with story as we grow older. No matter our age, stories can be transformative, a way of expanding our imaginative borders, driving us to explore and reach for heights unseen.

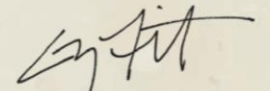
You hold in your hands twelve stories that point to the Grand Story—God’s redemptive story, the truest and greatest of stories. Its wonders fill oceans. These stories will capture your imagination, but they’re not meant to leave you there. As you read stories of trolls

and treasures, crickets and songs, I hope you’ll see the Grand Story running under them and stretching beyond them.

At the beginning of each story is the reference to Scripture that sparked my imagination, and at the end of this book are some questions to help you draw your children into conversations about the character of God and the reality of his grace. As you read these stories and questions together, I encourage you to listen to your children’s answers rather than offering your own. See how their understanding grows each time you return to the story.

We all have been given an incredible ministry and opportunity to point the precious children in our lives to the one who made them and loves them. And story—the richness of imagination—can be a way to lead them there.

I pray that you connect deeply with the children in your life through these pages. But above all, I pray that they are drawn to the glorious King who is calling their names as you seek him together.



C. S. FRITZ











The Good Mouse

READ LUKE 10:25-37 TOGETHER

1. The mouse in this story helped the owl even though the mouse had to go out into the cold to do it (and owls are scary to mice!). Sometimes loving other people is hard. Who is someone you have a hard time loving? Why?
2. The neighbor in Jesus' story was the man who showed mercy. Mercy means choosing to help other people even when they might be hard to love. How can you be a neighbor to the person who you have a hard time loving?
3. Name three ways you and your family can show mercy to others who need help. Be brave and actually do these things together!

Would you like more *Good Night Tales*? You can buy the book at your favorite store or at NavPress.com.