

Goodbye, Goldie

GOD'S WORD

“Yahweh is near to those who have a broken heart, and saves those who have a crushed spirit.”

Psalm 34:18 (WEB)



THE STORY

LJ finds his goldfish Goldie floating still in her bowl. Mom gently tells him Goldie has died and holds him while he cries: “It’s okay to be sad. God sees every single tear.” Dad tells LJ about Buddy, the dog he loved as a boy, and the true verse his own dad taught him. Then their neighbor Mr. Walter brings orange flowers to plant for Goldie.

On the garden bench Grandma tells LJ that Jesus cried too, when His friend Lazarus died (John 11:35). Then Jesus called, “Lazarus, come out!” Jesus is sad with us, and He is stronger than even death.

TALK ABOUT IT TOGETHER

1. Have you ever lost a pet or something you loved?
How did it feel?
2. What did Mom, Dad, Mr. Walter and Grandma each do to help LJ?
3. Jesus cried with His friends. How does it help to know that Jesus is sad with us when we are sad?

PRAY TOGETHER

God, thank You for the people and pets we love. When my heart hurts, help me remember that You are close to me and You see every tear. Amen.

TRY THIS WEEK

Make a remembering stone. Paint or draw on a smooth stone (or a paper circle) for someone or something your family has loved and lost. Set it somewhere you’ll see it, and when you pass it, thank God together for the good memories.

DRAW IT

Draw someone or something you love, and write one thing you are thankful to God for about them.