



THE LITTLE RED BUS

“Mommy, look at this bus!” Five-year-old Thomas was pointing at a picture in a toy catalogue.

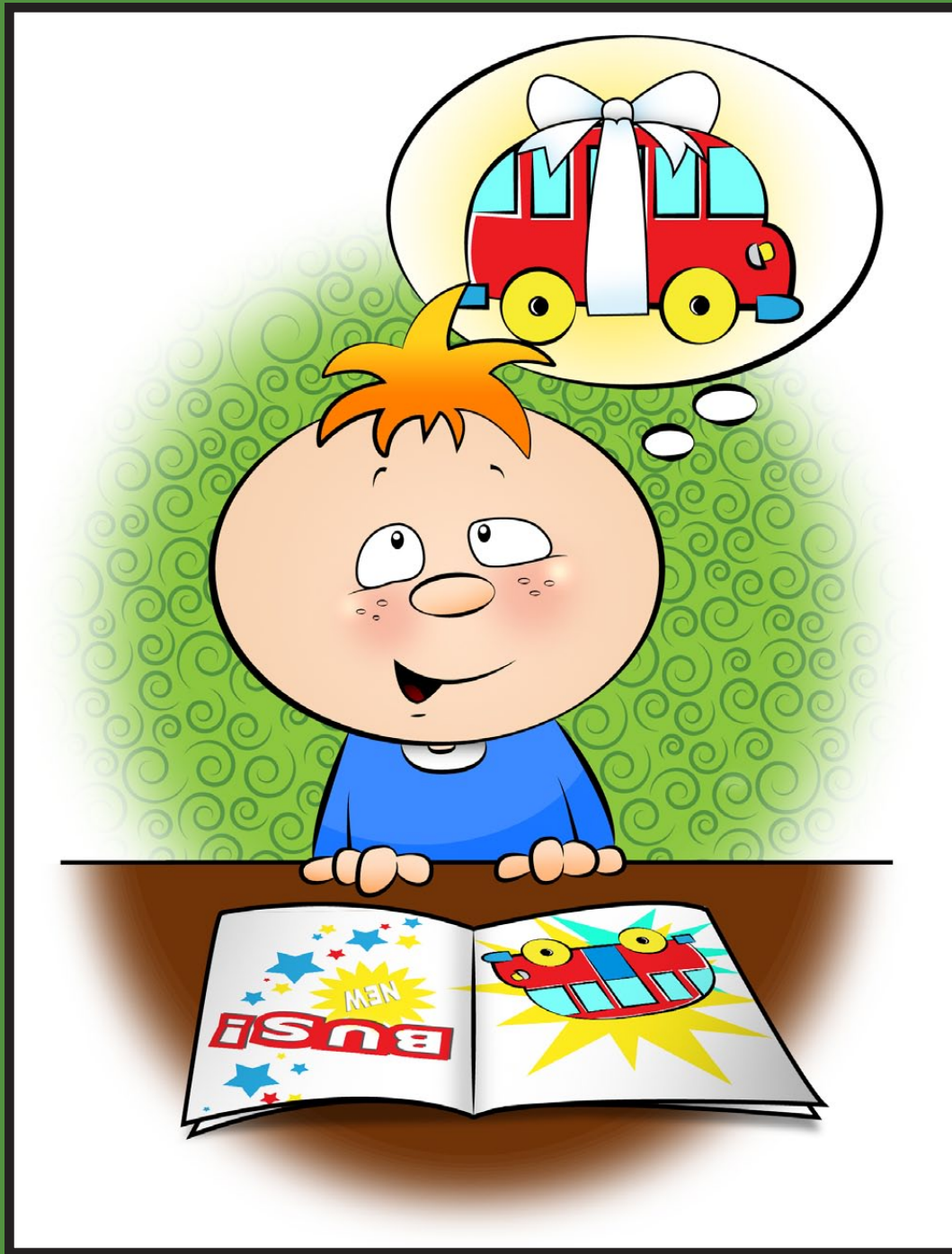
“It’s just like the little red bus I had before we moved.” Thomas and his family had recently moved to a new neighborhood, and Thomas had to leave some of his toys behind.

“So it is!” said Mother.

“I would very much like to have another toy like that,” said Thomas.

Mother paused from preparing dinner. “Do you remember what Philippians 4:6 says?”

““Let your requests be made known unto God.”” Thomas had recently memorized that verse with his older sister, Kate.



“Yes,” said Mother. “You can pray and ask Jesus to give you a bus.”

“Can I pray right now?” asked Thomas eagerly. Mother nodded, and Thomas closed his eyes. “Jesus, I used to have a bus like this one, and I really liked it. I had to leave it when we moved, but I would like to have this bus again.”

Thomas opened his eyes, “Mommy, did Jesus hear my prayer?”

“Of course He did! Jesus hears every prayer.”

“Mommy, I believe that Jesus heard my prayer and is going to answer it, too.”

“Yes. Jesus loves you very much, and even if you don’t get everything that you want right away, Jesus knows what is best for you, and He wants you to be happy. There’s another verse in Psalms that says, ‘Delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you the



desires of your heart.’ When you love Jesus and you try to obey what His Word tells you to do, He is able to bless you.”¹

That evening when Thomas’s father came home from work, Thomas was in for a great surprise.

“Guess what I got for you.” Father pulled out a package wrapped in brown paper—“It’s a little treat for being faithful with your chores.”

“A treat for me? Thank you, Daddy. Oh, I wonder what it is...”

Thomas excitedly tore through the wrapping. “Oh, look! Mother, look! It’s a red bus, just like the one I prayed for.”

“But how did you know?” Mother asked Father.

“How did I know what, dear?” said Father.

¹Psalm 37:4 NIV



“We prayed for this same bus this afternoon.”

Father smiled from ear to ear. “Is that so? Well, today while I was coming home from work, I passed by a toy shop and saw this bus in the window. Jesus reminded me that you had left your red bus behind when we moved, so it was Jesus’ idea to get you a new one.”

Thomas was very happy. “Jesus heard my prayer!” he said.

“Yes,” agreed Father. “Jesus loves you very much.”

Verse: Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours (Mark 11:24 NIV).

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