Kent? I whispered into the dark, but my brother was already asleep. Just minutes ago we had raced downstairs, said our prayers, and hopped into bed. How could he fall asleep so fast?

“Kent!”
Still nothing.
I squirmed down under my covers until my eyes barely peeped out above my cowboy blanket.
I glanced to the left. There was my favorite stuffed animal. It should have made me feel better. But my stomach flip-flopped inside of me. What if a tiger crept out of the laundry room next door?
I glanced to the right. There was the hat I got at an amusement park this summer. But my heart was thumping-thumping. What if spiders attacked from under the porch?
I glanced up. Hanging from the ceiling were the model airplanes Dad and I had pieced together and painted so carefully. I squeezed my eyes shut and imagined them flying above me at night, warning me of danger.

My eyes popped open. I had an idea! On the dresser by my bed was a picture of Jesus that I had gotten in Primary. Slowly I reached out and propped up the picture. The light from our nightlight seemed to make the words at the bottom of the picture glow.
Jesus at My Bedside

I am the way. Come and follow me.

I rolled onto my side so that I could see the picture and read those words again and again. I looked at Jesus's hands and thought about how He blessed little children. My stomach stopped flip-flopping. I looked at Jesus's feet and thought about how He went to find people who needed help. My heart stopped thump-thumping. I looked at Jesus’s face and thought about how He knew my name.

Tigers and spiders faded from my mind as I snuggled into my blankets. Heavenly Father and Jesus loved me! I felt warm and peaceful and safe.

And very, very sleepy.

The authors live in Utah, USA.

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Near to Jesus

By Barbara Wren Tuttle

How can I feel near
To Jesus each day?
By reading the scriptures
And kneeling to pray.

How can I serve Him?
That's easy to see—
By doing kind things for
My dear family.

How does it feel when
His Spirit is near?
I feel peaceful and calm,
With faith and not fear.

How can I show Him
That I love Him too?
I try to be like Him
In all that I do.

Cut out and color this bookmark as a reminder that Jesus Christ loves you. Print more copies at friend.lds.org.