

# BAPTIST FEATURES

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CHILDREN'S PAGE  
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## JIMMY LIGHTS A CANDLE By Grayce Krogh Boller

Jimmy sat down quietly in the Sunday school room. He was so early, no one else was there yet. Only Miss Nancy, the teacher.

"Would you like to look at our songbook, Jimmy?" she asked kindly. "Perhaps you would like to pick out our first song for today."

"Thank you, Miss Nancy," Jimmy smiled, taking the book carefully.

The book was nice. Every song had a picture with it. The pictures were gay and colorful. Jimmy liked to look at them. He liked one best of any. It was, "I Can Light a Candle, God Can Light a Star." There was a picture of a boy just like Jimmy, lighting a candle. There were other happy boys and girls watching.

After Jimmy had decided they would sing that for their first song, other boys and girls began to come in. One was Mark, the new boy from down the street. This was his first Sunday here. He stood right by the door. Miss Nancy did not notice him. Jimmy got up and walked over to him. He smiled.

"Hello," Jimmy nodded. "Come on over and sit with me. We have fun here."

"Hi," Mark smiled back, and walked over with Jimmy.

"This is Mark, Miss Nancy," Jimmy told their teacher. "This is his first day here."

"Well, hello, Mark," Miss Nancy smiled. "I'll introduce you to all the children. You'll soon know everybody."

Mark sat down beside Jimmy. Jimmy gave him a song book in case he did not know some of the songs.

"After this, we go into the big room for a while," Jimmy whispered just before the class began to sing.

Mark nodded gratefully. It was nice to know what came next when you were new. It was nice to have someone be kind, the way Jimmy was. Mark's eyes were shining with happiness.

All the boys and girls were singing, "I can light a candle." Jimmy smiled as he sang. He looked at Mark. He saw how happy Mark looked.

"His eyes are shining like candles," Jimmy thought. "Why, I guess those are candles of happiness that I lit in his eyes. It is like the song we are singing!"

Jimmy felt very happy. It was lots of fun to light candles of happiness in the eyes of other boys and girls. Jimmy planned to see how many candles he could light all day long.

"I can light candles in Mother's and Daddy's eyes, too," he smiled to himself.

After Sunday school was over, Jimmy led Mark into church. When church was over, he introduced Mark to several of the other boys and girls and their parents.

"I'll walk home with you if you like," Jimmy offered.

"You make me feel good," Mark smiled, as they went along. "I felt so alone and strange. Now I feel as if I know lots of people. As if I belong. I feel warm and shiny inside."

"That is because I lit a candle," Jimmy laughed.

Then he explained about the song and lighting candles of happiness.

"I'll try it, too," Mark promised. "It sounds like fun."

"It is fun," Jimmy nodded. "It is the most fun there is!"

That afternoon when he told his mother about his experience she said, "Jimmy, just why did you do it?"

He answered, "I remembered what the pastor said in Vacation Bible School last summer. He told us, "A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly" (Prov. 18:24).

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