

Hi parents. This is Miss Robin and you are listening to the Different Isn't Bad podcast for kids. I'm so glad you have found us.

I wanted to make sure you knew that today's episode will help you and your child talk about some difficult things like loved ones and pets getting sick and sometimes passing away. Sickness and death are not an easy subject to talk about so if you don't think your child is ready for this, skip this episode and come back to it when you need it.

If this is a subject you need to talk about with your child, there are 2 other stories you could listen to that would help with your conversation. Episode 2 - Through the glass door and episode 67 - Not Today.

Thank you for trusting me with your child's imagination.

Welcome, I'm Miss Robin and this is the Different Isn't Bad podcast for kids.

Have you ever loved someone so much that when they were gone you cried?

Me too!

Today's episode is a little sad and happy at the same time. Have you ever felt that way before?

I have.

Listen in.

Stubby the cat was different. Born with only three legs and one blind eye, Stubby stayed close to his mama.

"Mama," Stubby asked one day. "Why was I born different?"

Mama cat loved her little boy.

"Stubby, One day you will understand why you are different and how you can help others be brave and kind.

Stubby didn't know what she meant until the day mama got very sick.

"Mama, are you going to die?" Stubby asked as he stood next to her in the big backyard they called home.

"Yes," she replied. "But not today."

Months passed and mama cat got sicker and sicker. He would bring her catnip everyday to cheer her up and push the water bowl closer and closer to her bed so she didn't have to get up to drink.

One day while Stubby was out playing with his friends, his mama died.

Stubby watched as the nice humans placed mama cat in a box and buried her in the big backyard. He cried so hard and so loud all his friends came running over.

“Do you want to chase the ball with me?” Lucy the dog barked, trying to cheer Stubby up.

“No,” Stubby replied. “I just want to be sad for a while.”

“I brought you my favorite chew toy,” Buddy the cat said. He wanted his old friend to feel better but nothing he did seemed to work.

“No,” Stubby replied. “I just need to cry.”

So for the next couple days Lucy the dog and Buddy the cat just laid next to Stubby, letting him cry and bringing him food to eat.

Then it happened one warm sunny day. Stubby lifted his head and opened his eyes. He felt a little happier. As if the big backyard was calling him to play.

Stubby followed Lucy & Buddy out of his bed and into the red wagon where they watched lizards and birds and talked about how wonderful mama was.

“You are brave, kind and different,” Stubby heard his mama's voice in his head.

And Stubby knew that she was right and that he would be ok.

Now it's time to talk about the story. Remember to pause the podcast after each question.

What happened to Stubby's mama?

What did Stubby do after his mama died?

Who helped Stubby feel better and what did they do?

Have you ever had someone you love die?

What made you feel better?

Ok boys and girls here is our verse to say and remember. I'll say it first, then you say it with me, ok?

John 11: 35-36 Jesus wept. Oh how He loved him.

Now, you say it with me. Here we go.

John 11: 35-36 Jesus wept. Oh how He loved him.

Did you know that Jesus cried when he found out his good friend died?

Yes.

The whole story is in the book of John chapter 11, verses 1-44 have your adult read it to you or read it yourself if you can.

Jesus had a friend named Lazarus. One day while Jesus was gone, Lazarus got sick. His sisters Mary and Martha sent a message to Jesus.

It might have read like this:

Dear Jesus,

Come quickly! We know you can make your friend and our brother well again because you have healed many people. He is going to die if you don't come right away.

Hoping to see you soon.

Your friends Mary & Martha

But Lazarus died and was put in a tomb where he laid for four days.

What is a tomb, Miss Robin?

A tomb is an enclosed area that people who die are put into. It's different from a grave which is dug in the dirt. Most tombs back in Jesus day were carved into the sides of mountains, caves and big rocks were placed in front of them so no one could come in.

When Jesus arrived just outside of the village Martha ran to him and said. "If you had been here sooner my brother would not have died!"

Then Jesus told her "Your brother will not stay dead. He will rise!"

Then he followed Martha and Mary and all the friends that were sad and the Bible says Jesus wept or cried, but not because Lazarus was dead but because those that loved him were so sad!

Jesus knew that they would be happy soon.

“Take away the stone,” Jesus told them. As soon as the stone was removed Jesus did something awesome!

He called Lazarus by name.

“Lazarus, come out!”

And Lazarus came back to life!

The Bible said Jesus did this so the people would believe that he was God.

Some believed but some still refused to believe.

On April 17, 2022 Christians all over the world will celebrate Jesus coming back to life. It's called Resurrection Sunday or Easter.

Unlike Lazarus, Jesus didn't need men to remove the stone from his tomb, angels did. But by the time the angels got there, Jesus was already gone!! That's the good news of the gospel.

In the next couple weeks we will be working our way towards Easter. You don't want to miss any of these episodes!

So remember, even though our loved ones may die, just like Stubby's mama did, if they are God's children they are with Jesus in Heaven. It's ok to be sad for a while, but we should remember that we will see them again in heaven someday.

So be brave, be kind. Love God and love people, especially when they are sad.

See you next time.

