

Sing Songs & Night-time Prayers

By Pastor Mike Bohr

We have a routine at the Bohr home. Every night, just after we put our sweet Ellie Grace down, we jump on Ethan's bed for our usual song and prayer time. Ethan knows it as "sing songs and night-time prayers." It's a special time for us as we wind down from the crazy day, ending it with singing songs about Jesus and praying together. Coming off the month of December our songs have been the beloved Christmas Carols. One of Ethan's favorite carols is *We Three Kings*. He knows it and sings it pretty well! Except for some reason he thinks the last word of the chorus is "life" instead of "light." We correct him most every time but "life" has been set in stone in his mind. Hey...he's only three. We'll let that one slide! Danielle and I love to hear his little raspy voice as he sings songs about the Lord. It's gotta be one of the most precious moments of my entire day. Every once in a while he'll just stop singing along with us so he can listen to his mommy's beautiful voice. That's understandable too. We love singing the carols in December however, throughout the rest of the year it's usually the classic Sunday school songs like *I Will Sing of the Mercies*, *Jesus Loves the Little Children*, and *The B-I-B-L-E*. For those of you who prefer the hymns, we sing those too. It's really a "blended" sing-song time. ☺

One of Ethan's all-time favorite songs is known to him as *The Matthew Song*. What's *The Matthew Song* you ask? The official title is actually *The End of the Beginning* but...ever since Ethan heard the first verse talking about the disciples Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, the title "officially" was changed to *The Matthew Song*. Some of you might remember the song from Easter last year. It was the one that...uh...had a beat to it? Okay so we rocked out a bit on this one! The chorus lyrics go like this:

*He was born of a virgin one holy night in the little town of Bethlehem
Angels gathered 'round Him underneath the stars singing praises to the great I AM
He walked on the water, healed the lame, and made the blind to see again
And for the first time here on earth we learned that God could be a friend*

*And though He never ever did a single thing wrong
The angry crowd chose Him
Then He walked down the road
Died on the cross and that was the end of the beginning*

Remember that one? Not sure exactly why our Ethan boy loves that song so much but he does and that's enough reason to keep on singing it. The song tells the story of Christ from His birth in Bethlehem, to His life on earth, to His crucifixion on the cross and then concluding with a triumphant declaration that "HE ROSE." Wow! What a great song! What a great reminder! To have the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ all covered in one song just makes for a good song in my humble opinion.

So that's the evening routine at the Bohr home. We sing songs, we pray, and we say goodnight. It's a priceless time for us.