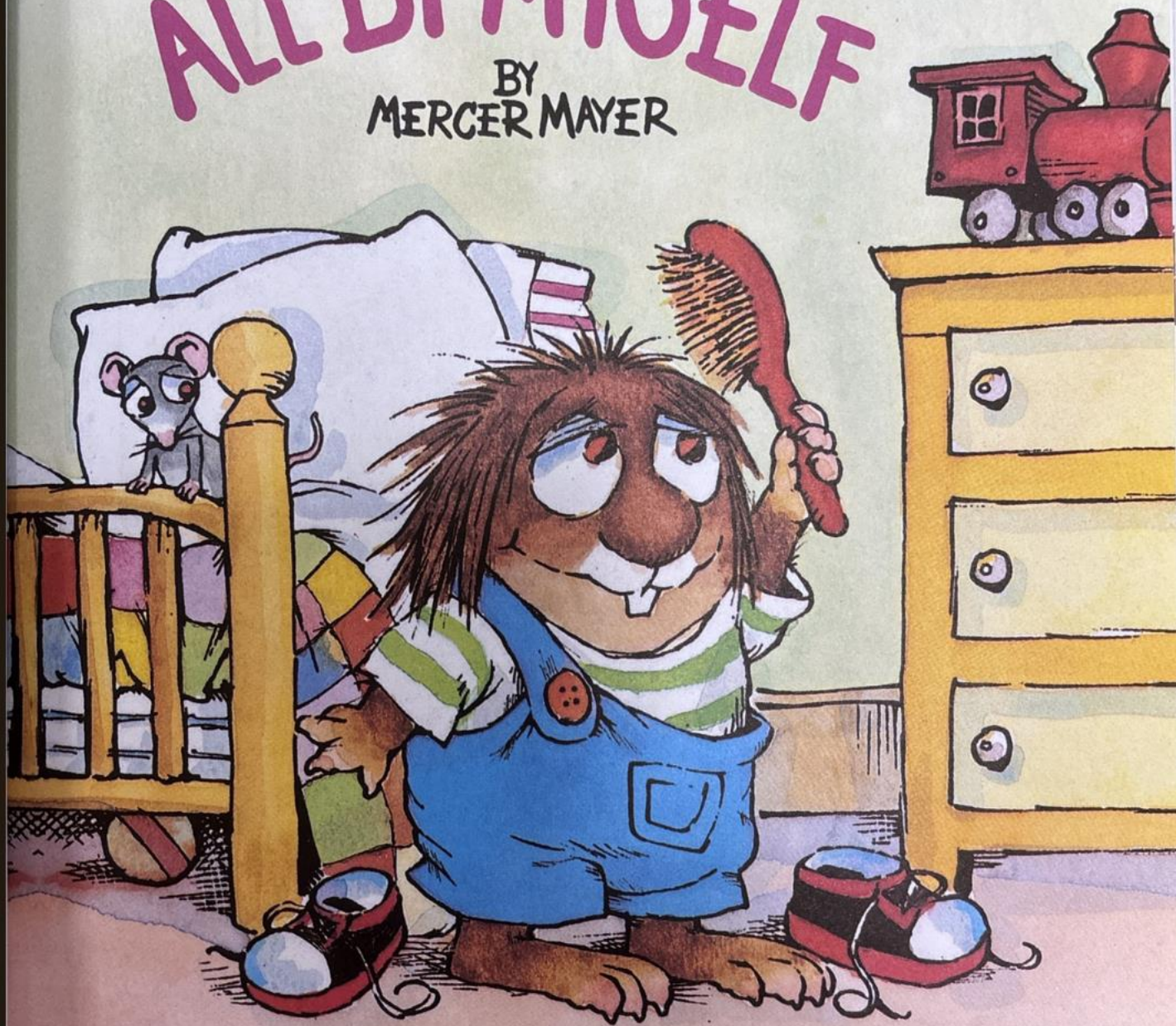


ALL BY MYSELF

BY
MERCER MAYER



I can pour some juice
for my little sister . . .



I can help Dad
trim a bush . . .



or ice a cake for Mom.



I can put myself to bed . . .



but I can't go to sleep
without a story.



Grantham
Church
BRETHREN IN CHRIST

Child-Like Dependence



SCRIPTURE

Mark 10:13-31

SCRIPTURE

Mark 10:13-31



Child-Like *Dependence*



Child-Like *Dependence*

- Stains
- Tears
- Irrational Fears
- Sickness





Maybe it means coming as one who is out of control. Who wants things they can't have, especially if someone else is playing with them. Who gets so exhausted they can't sleep. Who is, metaphorically but also literally, a driveling mess and just wants to wipe their snot and tears on someone's brand new jumper. Who is afraid of the dark. Who is always thirsty. Who consistently, and willfully, does exactly the thing they have been told not to do. Who hates to hear no. And finds Jesus crouching down, with laughter and tears and love in his eyes. Ready to embrace all the mess, and pain, and big feelings. Ready to pull my sin-infected self close to his chest. Ready to listen to my irrational tears and keep on speaking his works of love. Even, perhaps especially, at 3 a.m."

Jonny Torrance, "Unless You Become Like Children...But Which Ones?"



Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

Genesis 1:26 ESV

Resisting Jesus' Invitation

1. Too high a view of ourselves - resist our dependence



Resisting Jesus' Invitation

1. **Too high a view of ourselves** - resist our dependence
2. **Too low a view of the love of Jesus** - refuse our acceptance



Mark 10:29-30 NIV

“Truly I tell you,” Jesus replied, “no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age: homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields—along with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life.”

Mark 10:27 NIV

Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God."

Upside-down Kingdom of God

Mark 8:35 “For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it.”

Mark 9:35 “Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all.”

Mark 10:31 “But many who are first will be last, and the last first.”

Mark 10:43-45 “Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”



Child-Like Dependence

Our response:

1. Come to Jesus



Child-Like Dependence

Our response:

1. **Come to Jesus**
2. **Practice surrender**



Child-Like Dependence

Our response:

1. **Come to Jesus**
2. **Practice surrender**
3. **Spend time with the vulnerable**





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Child-Like *Dependence*

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