

## **FURSKIN BEAR WITH DEMONS**

On October 31, 1986, our fourth child, Stephen, was born. We have a son, Daniel, who was 4 years old at the time of Stephen's birth. My oldest brother and his wife sent Daniel a Furskin bear named Dudley. They thought Daniel could take care of the bear while I took care of the new baby. They call Daniel Nerdsley, as a term of endearment, so Daniel named his bear Nerdsley.

Daniel formed an attachment to Nerdsley. We took the bear on trips. He slept with it, and he would take him everywhere he went. Daniel started kindergarten the next year, and he hated school. We had a hard time convincing him to go back to school for first grade. He told us that he had already been to school one year, and that was enough. I thought that Daniel just didn't like to sit still and work. His teachers told me that he had trouble with day dreaming and a short attention span. We tried every sort of discipline to encourage Daniel to do his work. We prayed with him and talked to him, but no improvement in his performance. He made it through first grade, but I dreaded school for Daniel nearly as much as he did. Second grade was much harder than the first two years. Daniel was under extreme pressure. He would go to bed at night, curl up with Nerdsley, and cry about unfinished work at his desk at school. I began to notice that the only time he really became distraught was when he would be going to bed with Nerdsley.

My husband goes to a one day Ministers' Seminar given by the Institute in Basic Life Principles. He came home one time and told me of children with Cabbage Patch dolls that had unusual types of problems. I was cleaning house one day when I noticed writing on Nerdsley's foot. It was the same signature I had seen on the Cabbage Patch dolls. It was like the Holy Spirit set off an alarm. This is Daniel's problem!

I told my husband, Ricky, about my finding, and he did some further investigation on the label of the bear. Sure enough, it was the same company and signature. We prayed about what to do with Daniel's dear little friend. Daniel had to repeat second grade, and school was about to begin. We decided for Daniel's sake that we had to destroy the bear.

School started, and Daniel's teacher could not believe the change in Daniel. He could sit at a desk, he could complete his assignments, he seemed to be a different child. I am so grateful to God for revealing this to us. We are also grateful to the Institute in Basic Life Principles and their studies in spiritual warfare. My husband and I have attended several basic seminars, and he has attended the advanced seminar. The principles we have learned have helped us not only in the ministry but also in our family.