

# Be Not Afraid

By Katie Crowe

God created everyone with worth and value. A child who is born with a facial defect is still special. Parents who have a child with a facial defect are probably scared on what people will say, do, or think. Nobody should be afraid because Jesus is always with us. I can see where parents can be afraid but they shouldn't be because they know who their child is and what their personality is like. Parents are also probably afraid or upset to see their child depressed. Nobody should be afraid of words.

Children don't always know what to do or say when they see a child that looks different. That's when parents can get scared because to them their child looks like everyone else in the world. To other people that child doesn't look normal. Instead they look different. Different is a good thing and nobody should be afraid to be different. Parents love their children more than anything in the world. So of course they are going to care about what other people say to their child. They shouldn't be afraid though, because Jesus is protecting their child and He is always with them. Have you ever read the book *Wonder* by Raquel Jaramillo? In *Wonder*, the main character is Auggie Pullman. Auggie was born with a facial defect and now he was entering fifth grade. He was always home-schooled. When Auggie started the fifth grade, nobody would sit with him, talk to him, or touch him because they thought what he looked like was contagious. Imagine how you would feel if your child is getting left out and bullied just because of how he or she looks. "Never judge a book

by its cover.” -George Eliot. This quote means that you should never judge somebody based on how they look.

You may not be able to see Jesus with you, but he is always there protecting you. You should never be afraid to be yourself or to be different. What people say to you doesn't matter because what they say to you is just words. As Brooke Gibbs quoted, “Words can't hurt you without your permission.” I always tell everyone not to care or worry about what other people think because what they say doesn't matter. When you are hurt, injured, upset, or depressed just know that Jesus is always with us no matter what. The times when you say prayers to God and you hope that He hears them you should always know that He is listening and He is protecting you.