



## I wonder...

- How different Jesus looked after he walked out of the tomb.
- How you would know you were near to God.
- If I've seen Jesus in others and not recognized him.

## Different, But Still Here

Nolan's mom has been in the hospital a long time, but the nurses keep mentioning that she'll get to come home soon. Nolan can't wait. It's been months since she was home; the car accident was that bad. In fact, Officer Robinson said that if his mom hadn't been wearing a seat belt, she wouldn't have made it out alive. He was the policeman who came to get him at school. Nolan will remember the day for the rest of his life.

But she made it. She's alive. That's what matters. Still, Nolan is trying to brace himself for when the bandages come off. The plastic surgeons spent hours repairing the damage. She had four different surgeries. Because the injuries to his mom's face were so severe, his dad said she won't look the same. Nolan isn't sure how different she'll look. Will he even recognize his mom? Her face has been wrapped with gauze forever. Nolan and his mom joke that she is his mummy.

When the doctor comes in to take off the bandages Nolan can tell his mom is nervous too. Nolan feels some tears in his eyes. And then, there she is. There's still swelling, but aside from that, she looks so different. A lot different. But then his mom smiles and talks to him in her familiar voice. She's changed, but she's still the same. And she's still here.

