

Sacred Heart Church, Peoria, IL



This book belongs to

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This book is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and in memory of Mary Anastasia Bain and Mr. and Mrs. Dell R. and Geraldine Reed.

Imprimatur: ✠Most Rev. Thomas J. Olmsted
Bishop of Phoenix
September 17, 2021



Works Cited

© Fr. Thomas Weinandy, “Let the Children Come: The Sacrament of Reconciliation and Children,” accessed January 22, 2019,
<https://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/sacraments-and-sacramentals/penance/sacrament-reconciliation-children-examination-conscience>.

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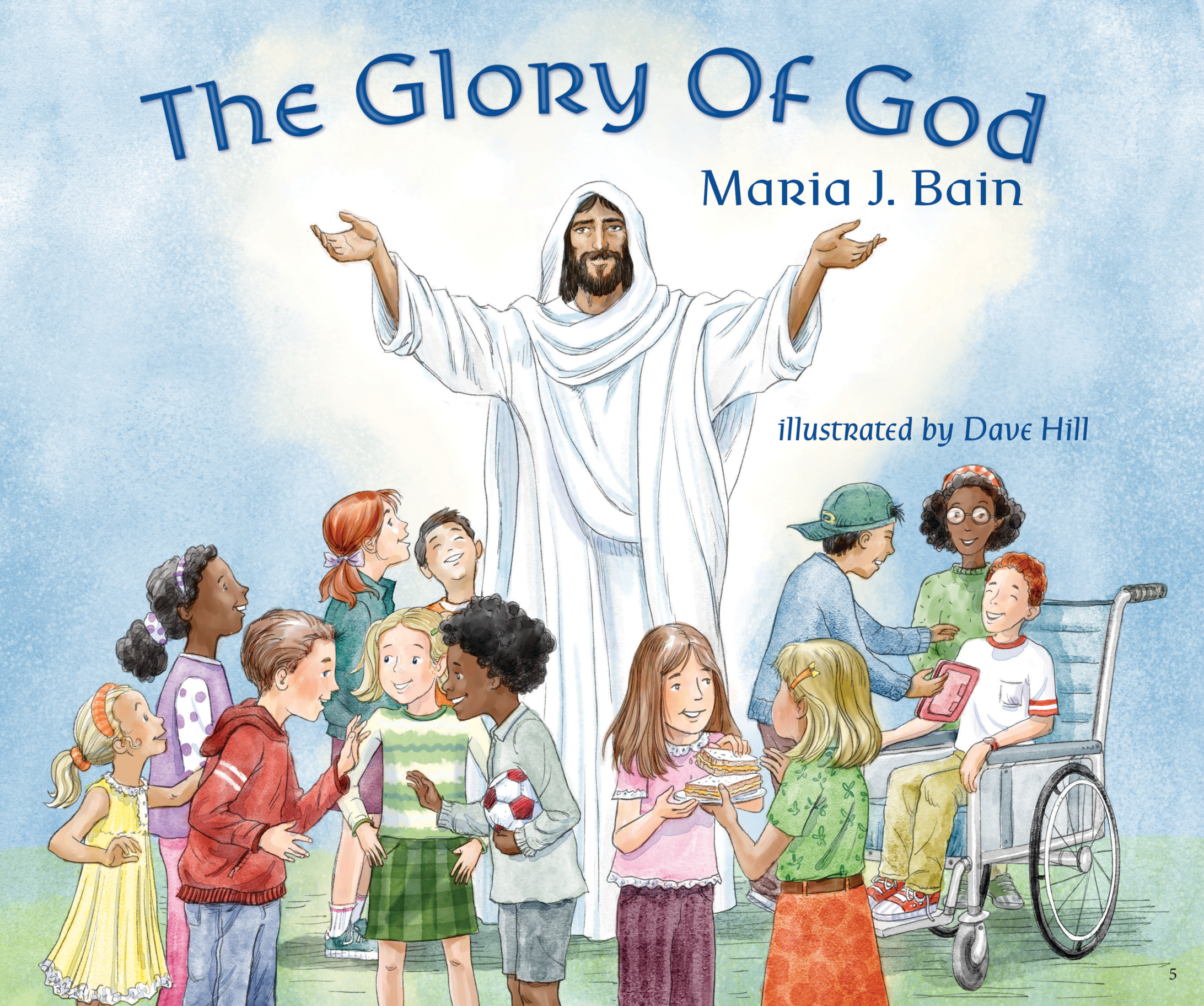
Author’s Note

The quote that appears on page six is inspired by the words of St. Irenaeus, a second-century bishop. The saint’s original quote, translated from his book, *Against Heresies*, states, “The glory of God is the living man; but the life of man is the vision of God.” I chose to print the version often attributed to St. Irenaeus, “The glory of God is a human being fully alive,” as it inspired the vision for this book and neatly captures its message: encouraging children to live fully in Jesus’ presence and choose the good, every day. In reading this book, I hope children will discover that they are the glory of God, and that they, too, can transform the world through their actions.

The Glory Of God

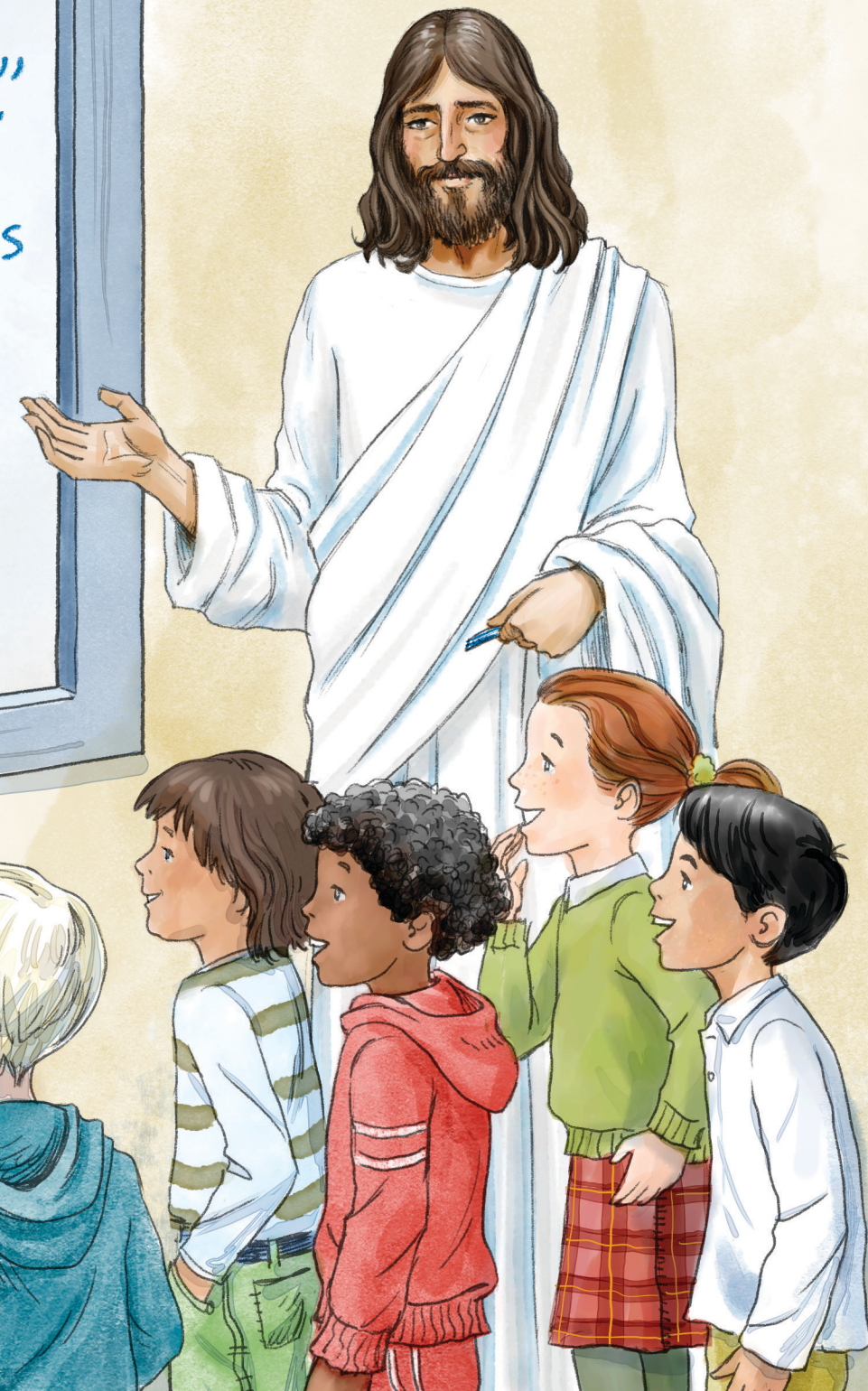
Maria J. Bain

illustrated by Dave Hill

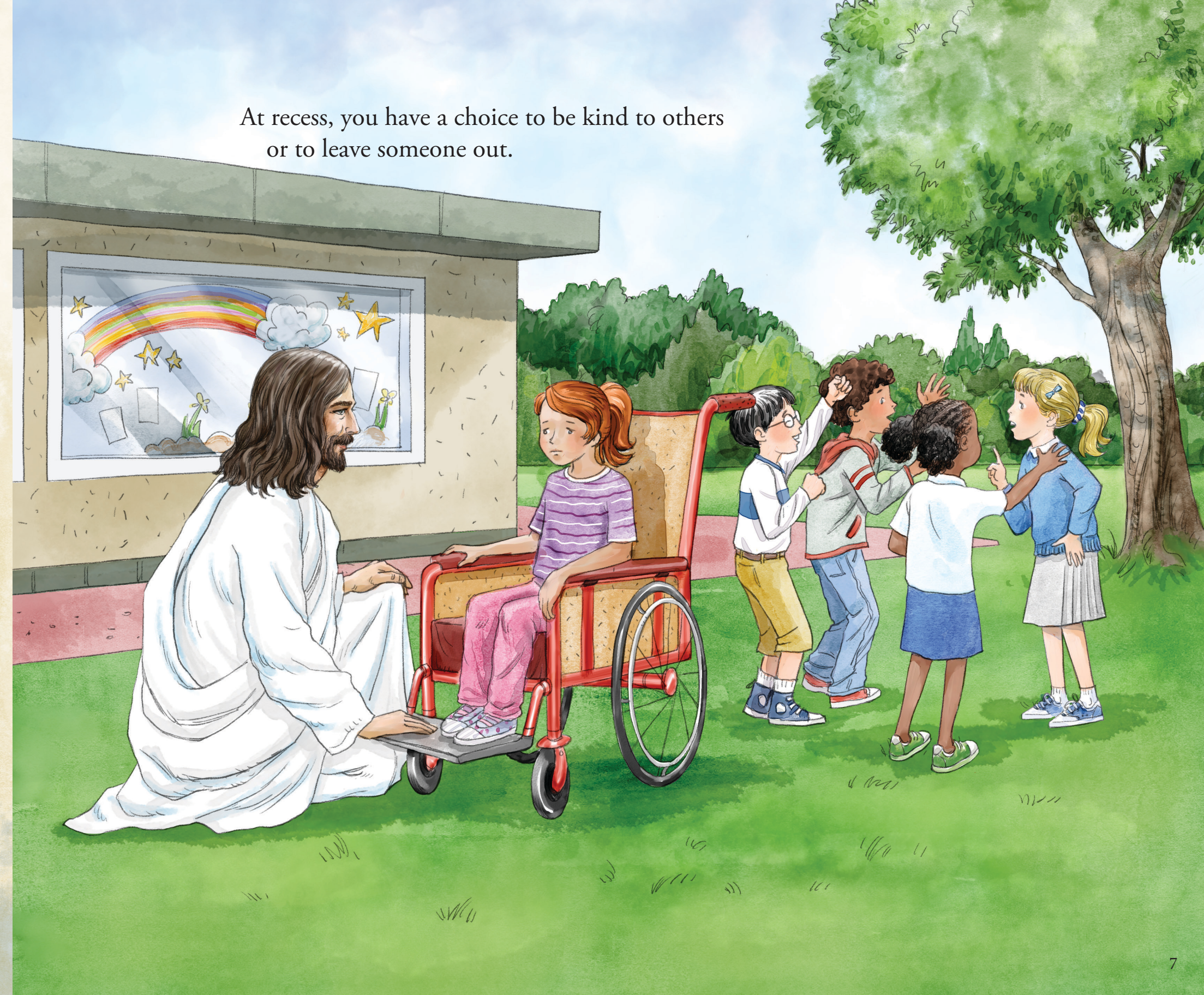


"The glory of God
is a human being fully alive."
St. Irenaeus

What does this mean?

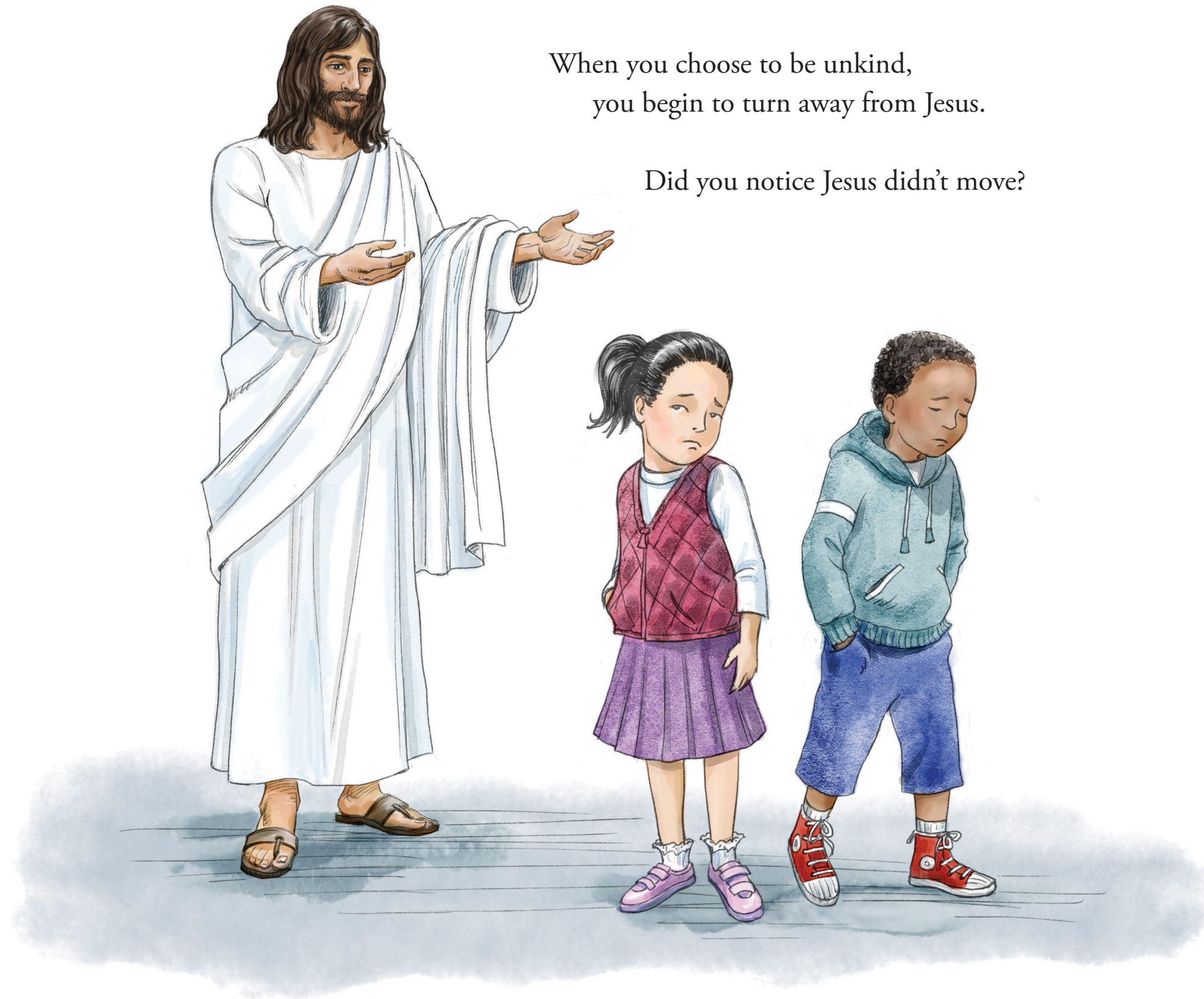


At recess, you have a choice to be kind to others
or to leave someone out.

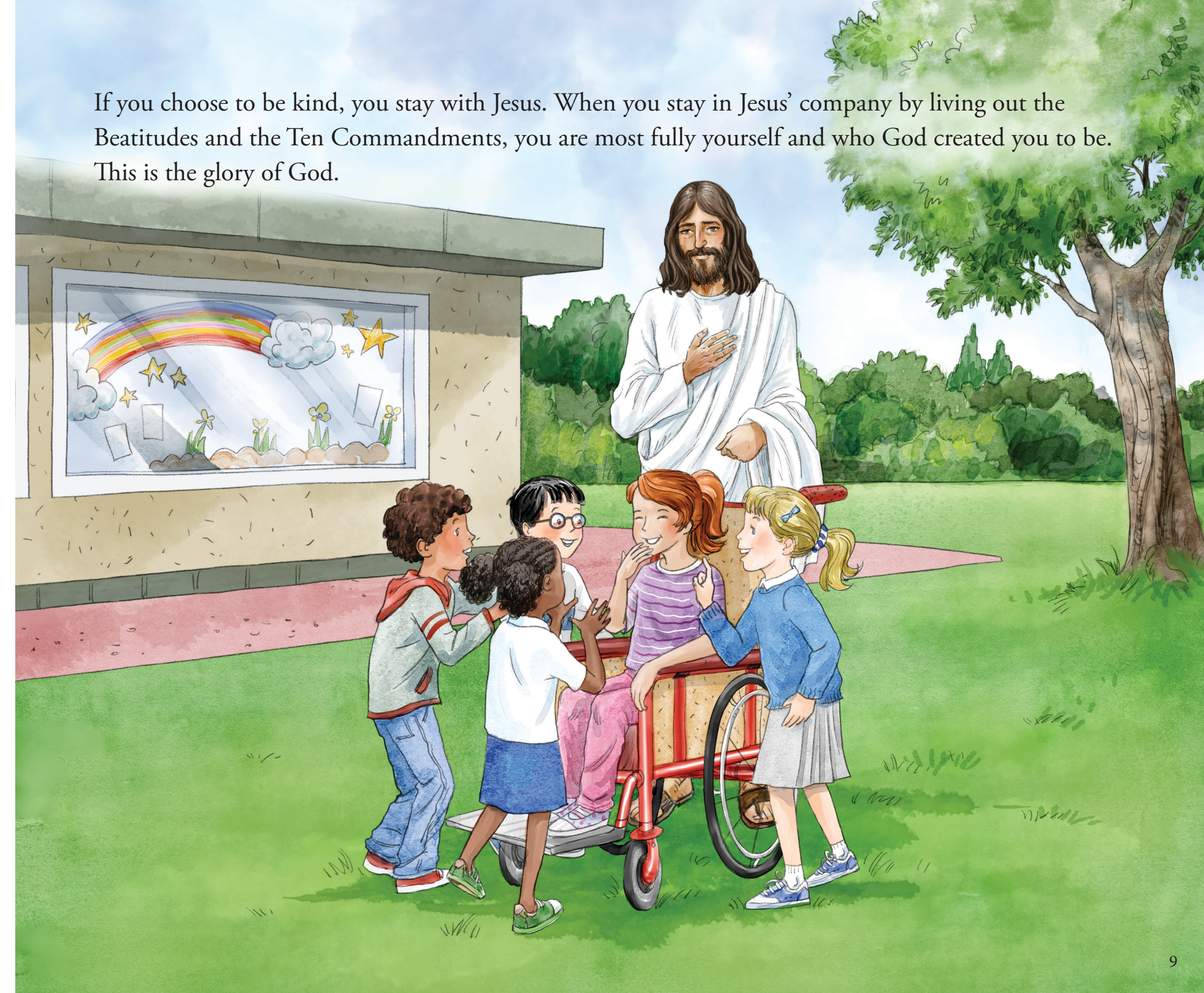


When you choose to be unkind,
you begin to turn away from Jesus.

Did you notice Jesus didn't move?



If you choose to be kind, you stay with Jesus. When you stay in Jesus' company by living out the Beatitudes and the Ten Commandments, you are most fully yourself and who God created you to be. This is the glory of God.



The Beatitudes

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land.

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God.

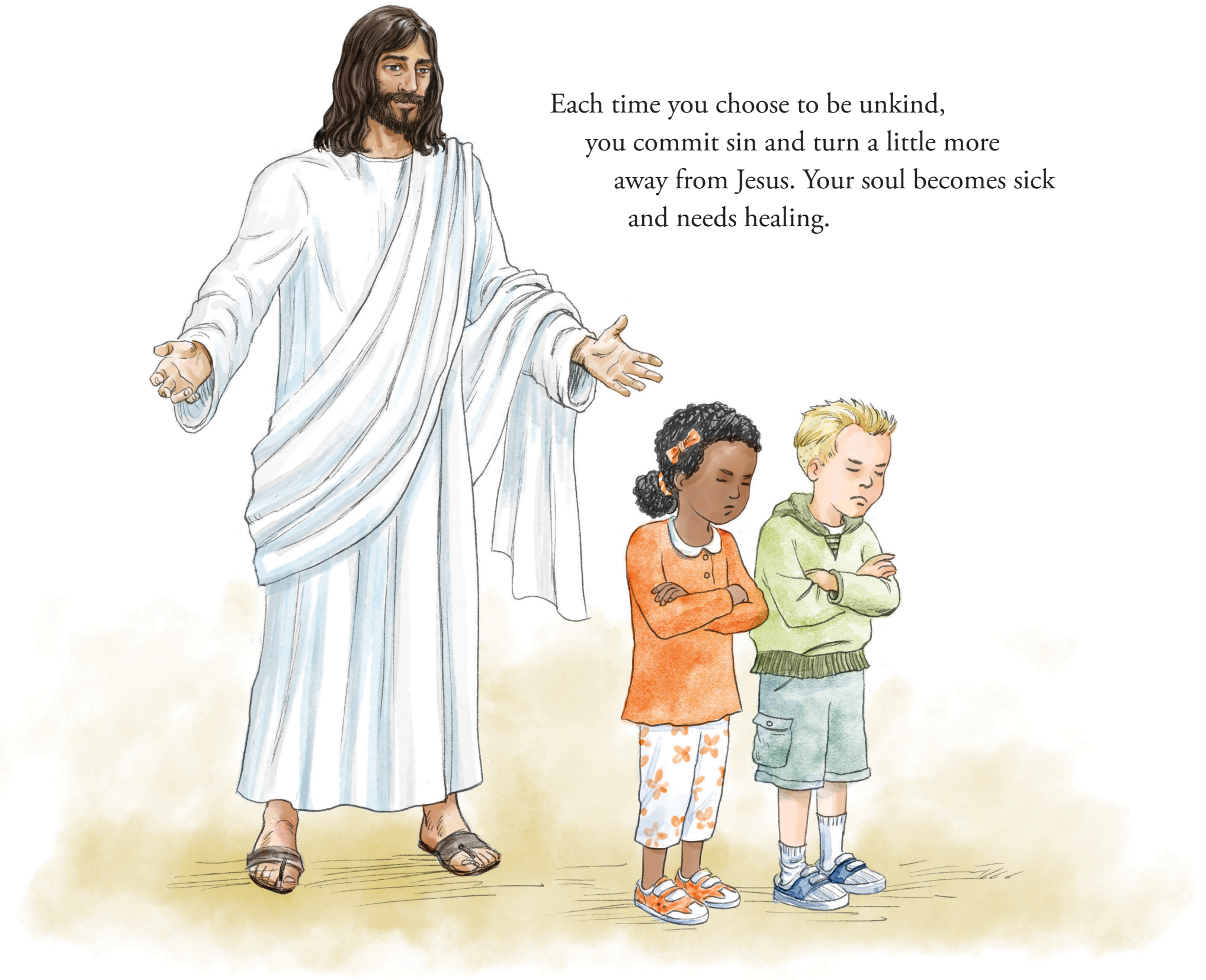
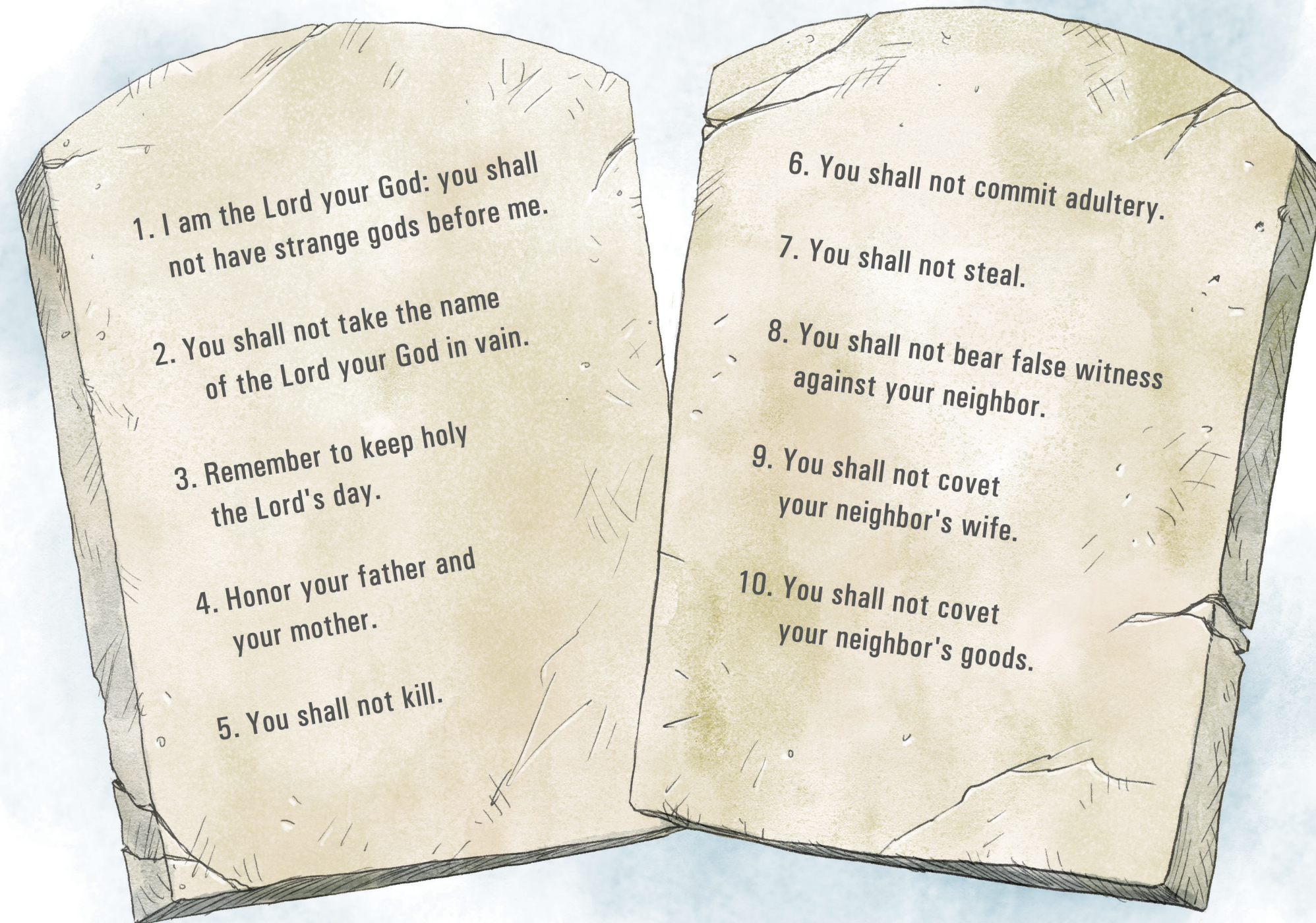
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

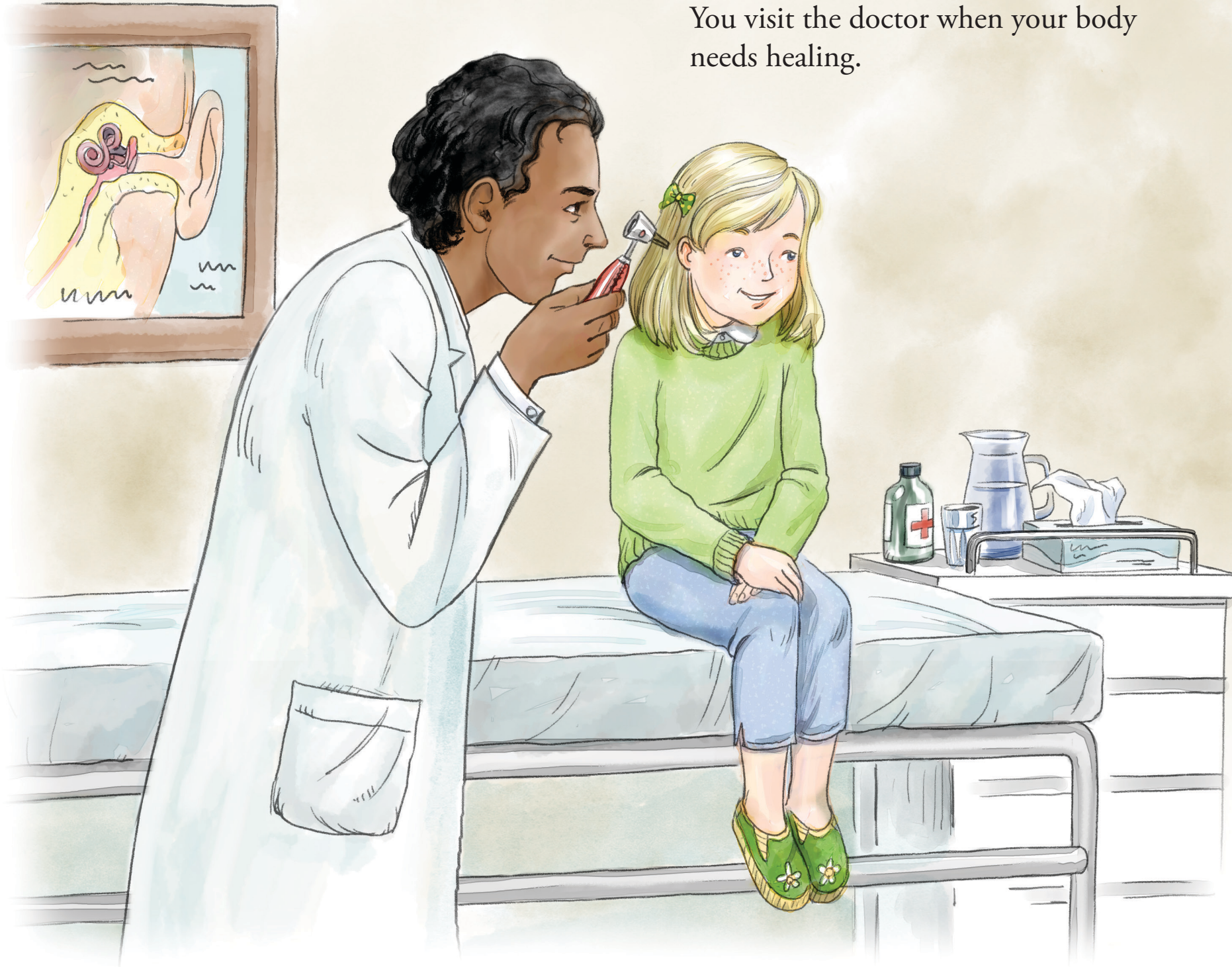
(Matthew 5:3-10)



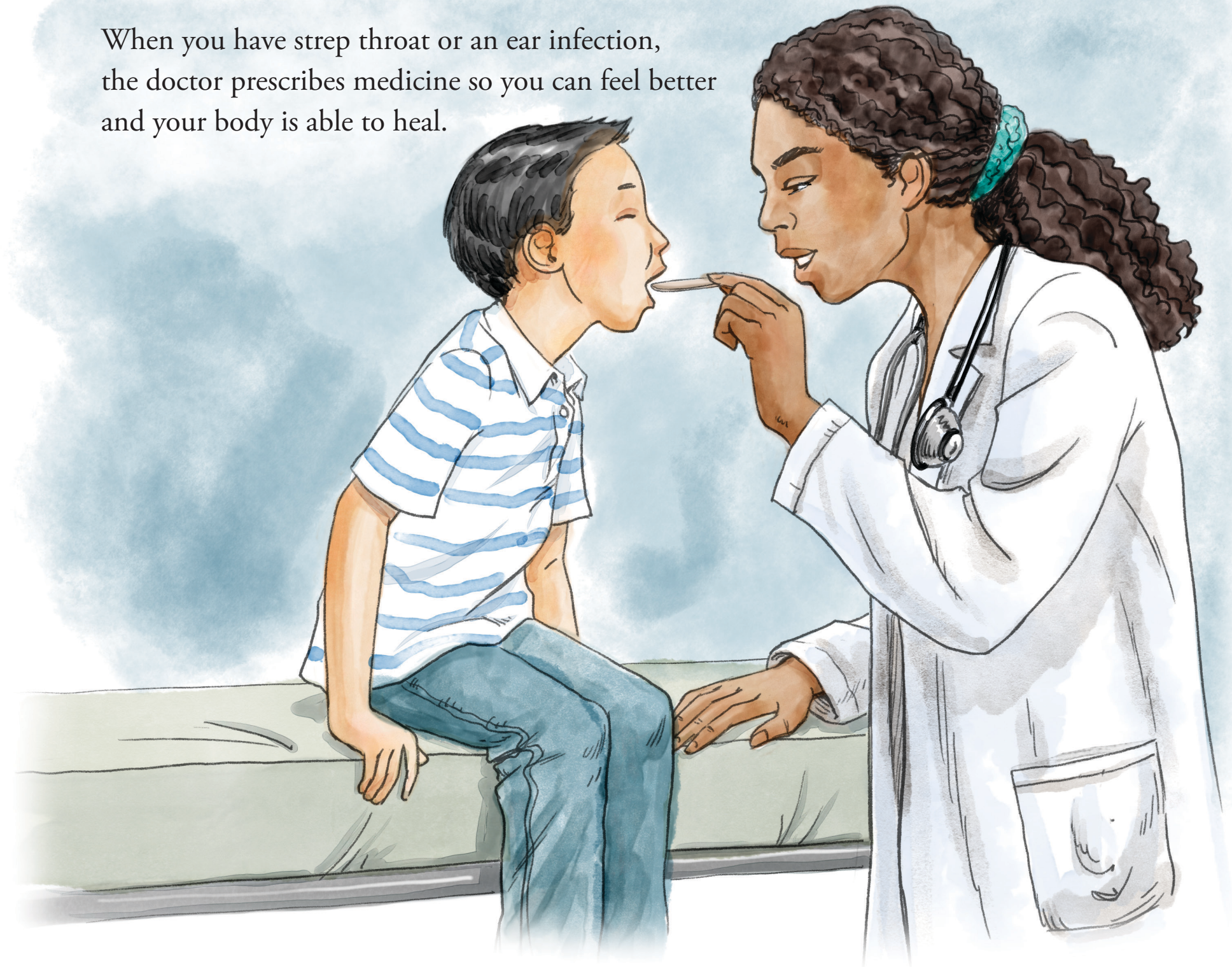
The Ten Commandments



You visit the doctor when your body needs healing.

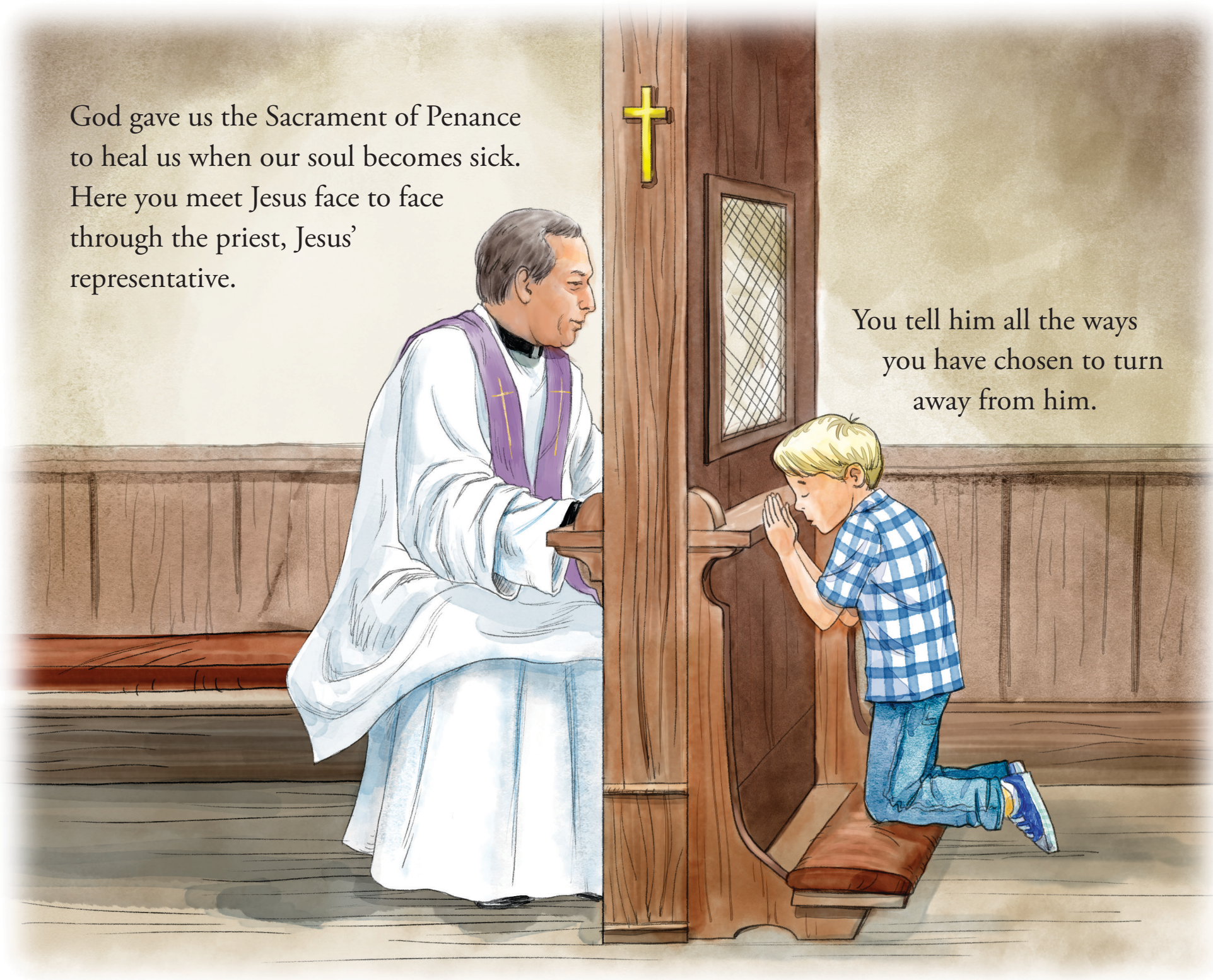


When you have strep throat or an ear infection, the doctor prescribes medicine so you can feel better and your body is able to heal.



God gave us the Sacrament of Penance to heal us when our soul becomes sick. Here you meet Jesus face to face through the priest, Jesus' representative.

You tell him all the ways you have chosen to turn away from him.



You express your sorrow for offending Jesus and hurting yourself and others by reciting a prayer called the Act of Contrition.

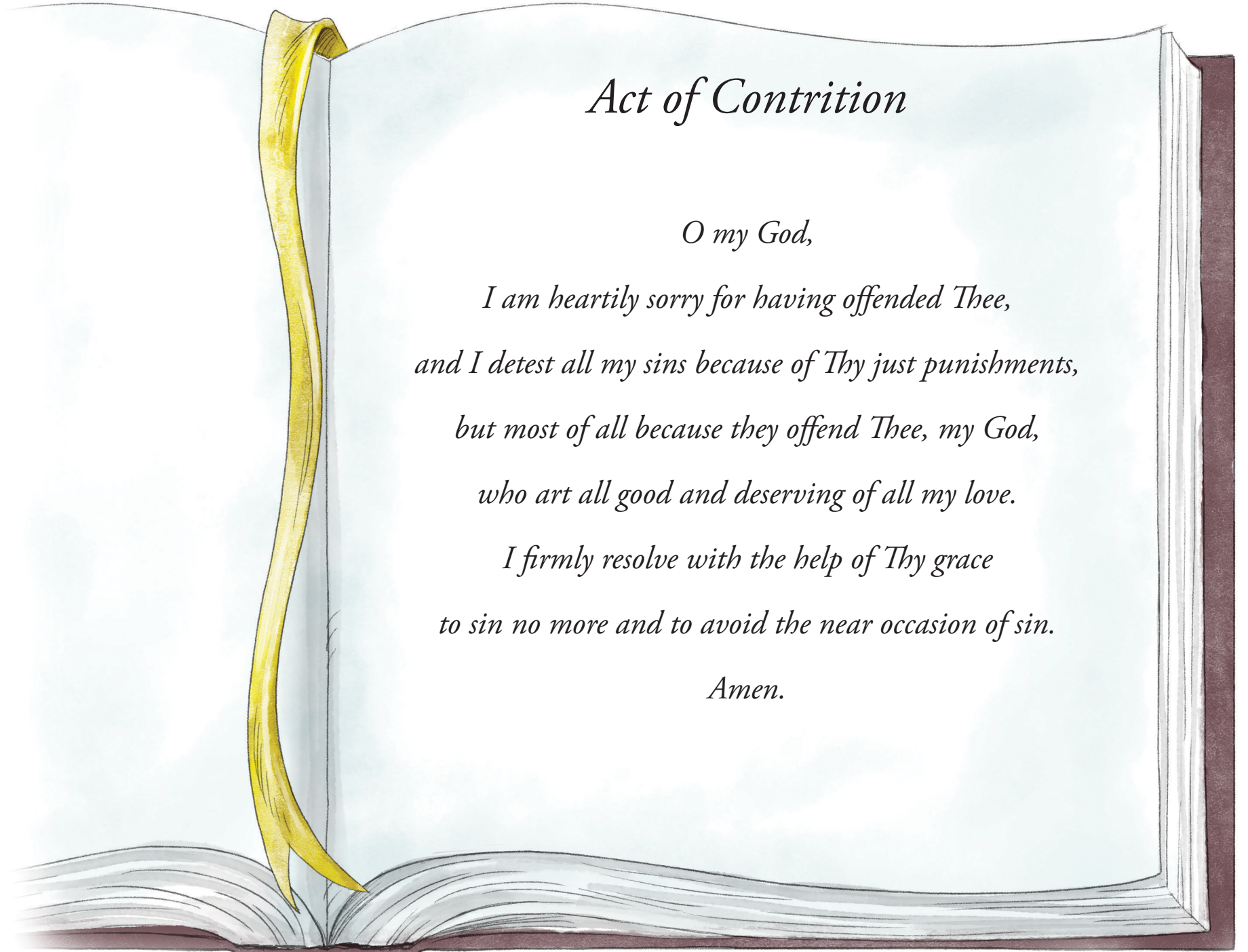
Act of Contrition

O my God,

*I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee,
and I detest all my sins because of Thy just punishments,
but most of all because they offend Thee, my God,
who art all good and deserving of all my love.*

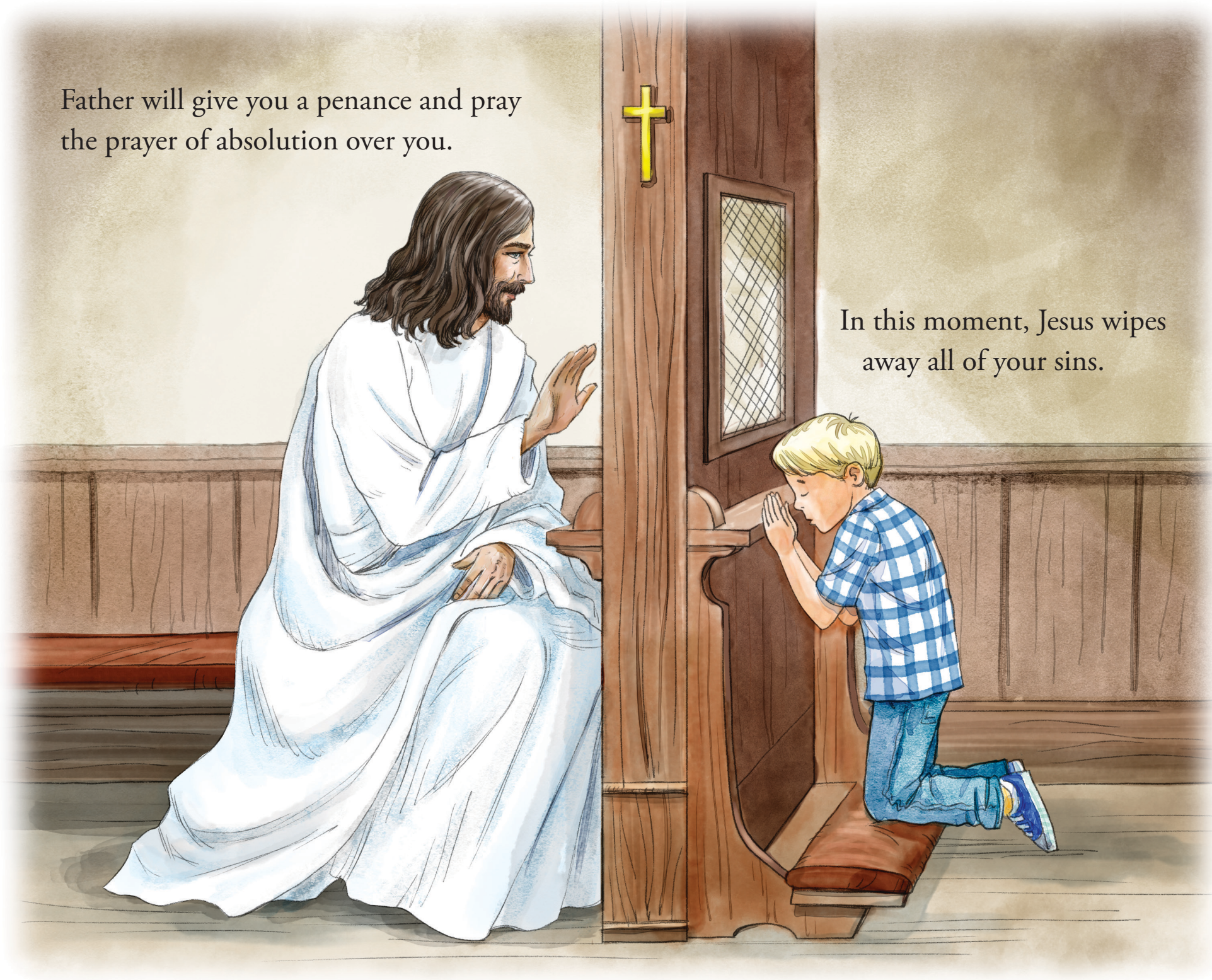
*I firmly resolve with the help of Thy grace
to sin no more and to avoid the near occasion of sin.*

Amen.



Father will give you a penance and pray
the prayer of absolution over you.

In this moment, Jesus wipes
away all of your sins.



It is just like messing up a drawing you have been working on and then your mom and dad hand
you a clean piece of paper to start over.



Now it is time to fulfill your penance. This is when you make reparation for your sins, show God you are truly sorry, and thank him.



Every day you will have many choices.



All you have is the moment you're in. That is where you are face to face with God. What choice will you make? Will you stay in Jesus' company or turn away from him?



Just remember, when you choose to be in Jesus' company, you are a reflection of God's glory because you are being who God created you to be.



An Examination of Conscience for Children

Responsibilities to God:

- Have I prayed every day?
- Have I prayed my morning prayers and night prayers?
- Have I prayed with my parents and family?
- Have I been moody and rebellious about praying and going to church on Sunday?
- Have I asked the Holy Spirit to help me whenever I have been tempted to sin?
- Have I asked the Holy Spirit to help me do what is right?

Responsibilities to others:

- Have I been obedient and respectful to my parents?
- Have I lied or been deceitful to them or to others?
- Have I been arrogant, stubborn or rebellious?
- Have I talked back to parents, teachers or other adults?
- Have I pouted and been moody?
- Have I been selfish toward my parents, brothers, and sisters, teachers, or my friends and schoolmates?
- Have I gotten angry at them? Have I hit anyone?
- Have I held grudges or not forgiven others?
- Have I treated other children with respect or have I made fun of them and called them names?
- Have I used bad language?
- Have I stolen anything? Have I returned it?
- Have I performed my responsibilities, such as homework and household chores?
- Have I been helpful and affectionate toward my family?
- Have I been kind and generous with my friends?

Fr. Thomas G. Weinandy, OFM Cap.



Discover the Glory of God

One of the most important aspects of our relationship with Jesus is to understand more fully how much he loves and cares for us, and that we are most fully alive when we are in relationship with him.

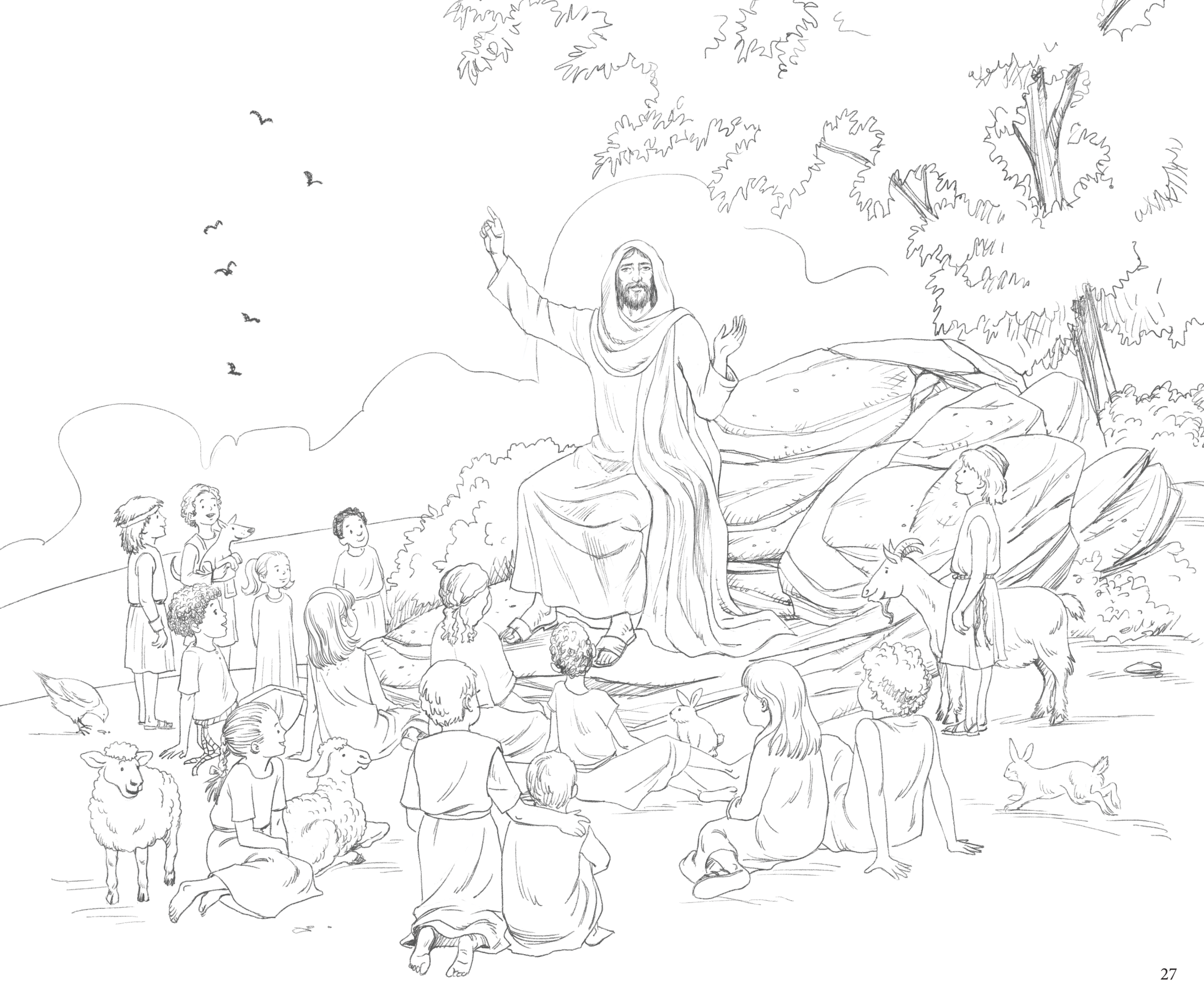
The gift of salvation given to us through his suffering and death reveals this profound love. Pope Francis, in the Year of Mercy, wrote in *Misericordiae Vultus*, “Jesus Christ is the face of the Father’s mercy. These words might well sum up the mystery of the Christian faith.”

We know that mercy is at the heart of the Church’s mission and the heart of our relationship with the Lord. The Father “never tires of casting open the doors of his heart and of repeating that he loves us and wants to share his love with us.” The Holy Father was clear in saying that the Church is most authentic and credible only when she becomes a convincing herald of mercy.

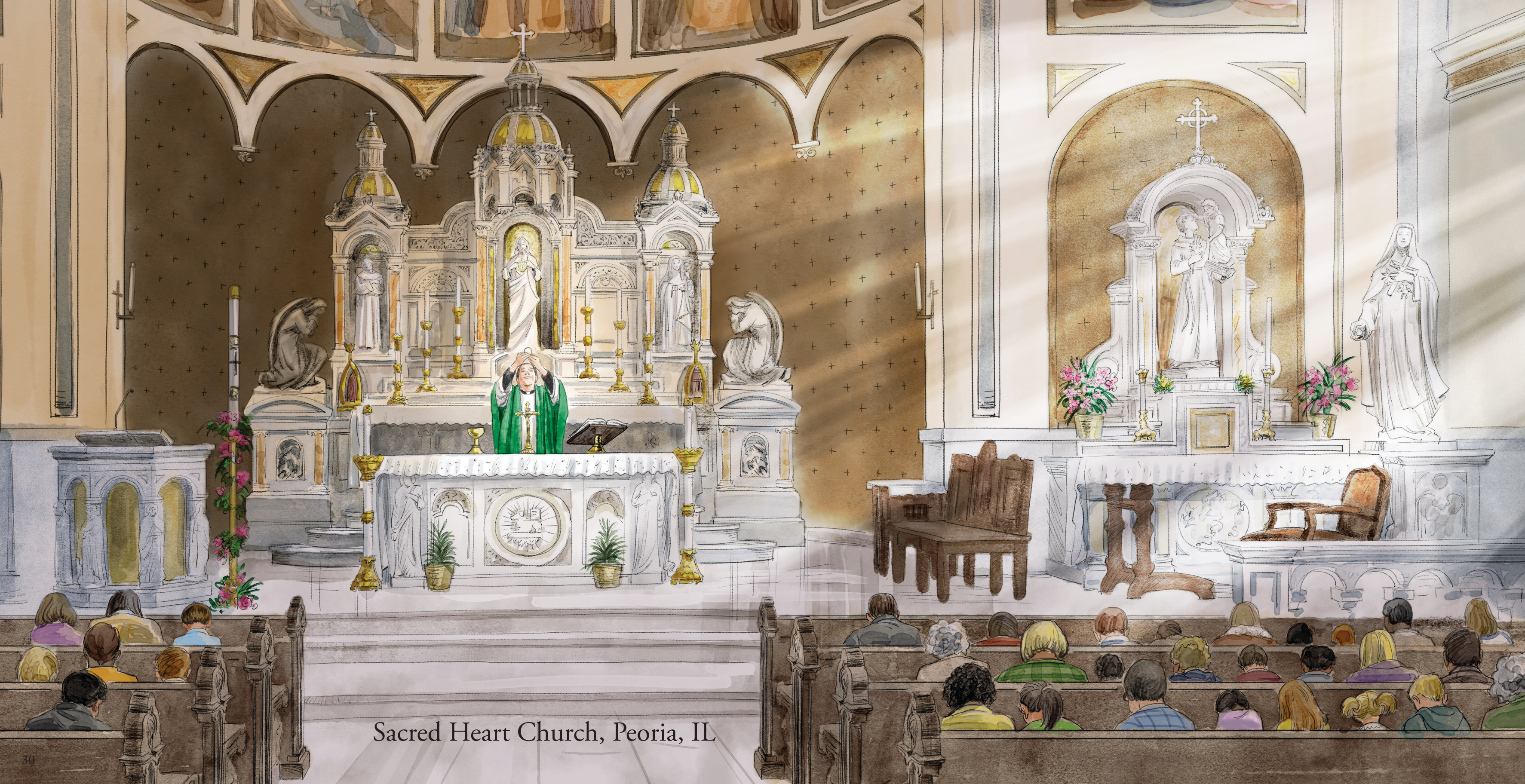
It is not very often a bishop is asked to provide a few thoughts on the spiritual work of someone else. As bishop of Saginaw, Michigan, it is an honor for me to present this splendid children’s book written by Maria J. Bain entitled *The Glory of God*. This simplistic and yet profound work helps children come to know how they can remain in a beautiful relationship with Jesus while discovering the glory of God within themselves through the everyday choices they make.

Bain’s perceptive insight coupled with the use of common childhood analogies will speak to your child’s heart and will inspire him or her to bring delight to the heart of God. I highly recommend this book as a powerful resource for both parents and educators in helping children live in the glory of God’s presence.

- Most Rev. Robert D. Gruss







Sacred Heart Church, Peoria, IL



Maria J. Bain is president and CEO of JMJ Press™, a Catholic publishing company. She has spent the past twenty years serving people of all faith backgrounds by founding a nonprofit Catholic healing ministry and serving as general manager for Catholic radio and director of institutional advancement for The CatholicTV Network. Maria is married, has two sons, and was raised in a large Catholic family, one of thirteen children. She believes in the great love God has for everyone and that by being who God created us to be, we can transform the world. For more information, please visit www.jmjpress.org.



Dave Hill, B.A. Hons, is a professional illustrator from Glasgow, Scotland, who has been illustrating books for over twenty-five years. Dave is married, has a son and daughter ... and a very talented cat! www.davehillsart.co.uk

