



Revised Edition

**THE MESSAGE  
OF THE CROSS**

**For Children  
and Youth**

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## **THE MESSAGE OF THE CROSS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

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### **DISCLAIMER**

The featured images are artistic expressions of the illustrator and therefore not intended to be used as religious objects of worship or veneration.

God's words are written in blue.



A very long time ago Father God was sitting on His throne in heaven with a concerned look on His face. His only Son, Jesus, bowed before Him and asked,

“Father, what is the matter?”

Father God answered,

“Oh, my beloved Son, my heart hurts whenever I look down from heaven and see the people on earth doing bad things.”

Jesus nodded.

“I know it brings you great pain, Father.”



"Some of them believe I don't even exist."

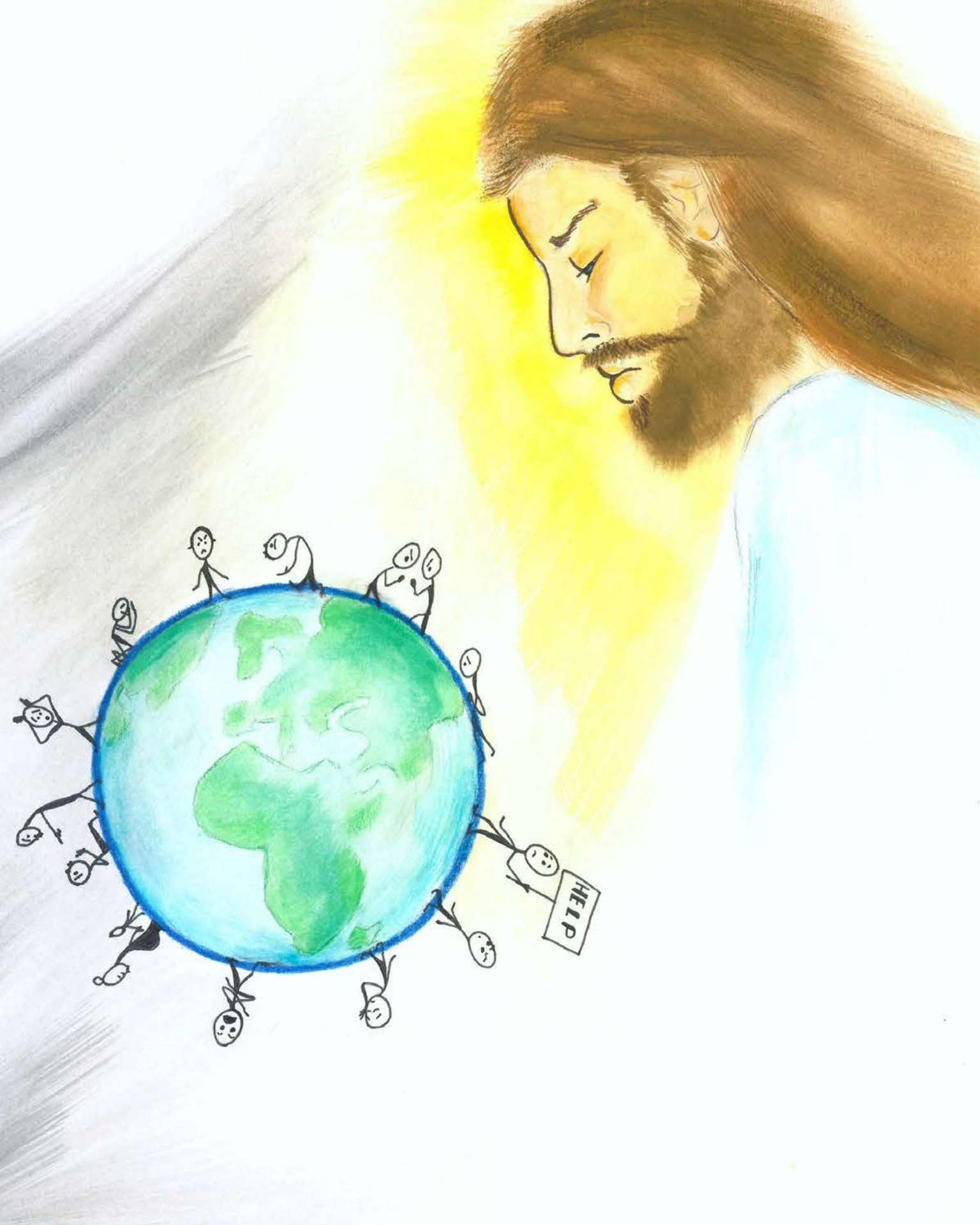
A single tear trickled down Father God's cheek.

"It breaks my heart even more to know many of them will not come and live with me in heaven when their time on earth ends."

"The people on earth know what is good but so often seem to choose what is bad," Jesus replied. "We have already sent so many messengers to talk to them."

"I know, my Son. Many of them love darkness more than light."

Father God brushed the tears from His eyes.





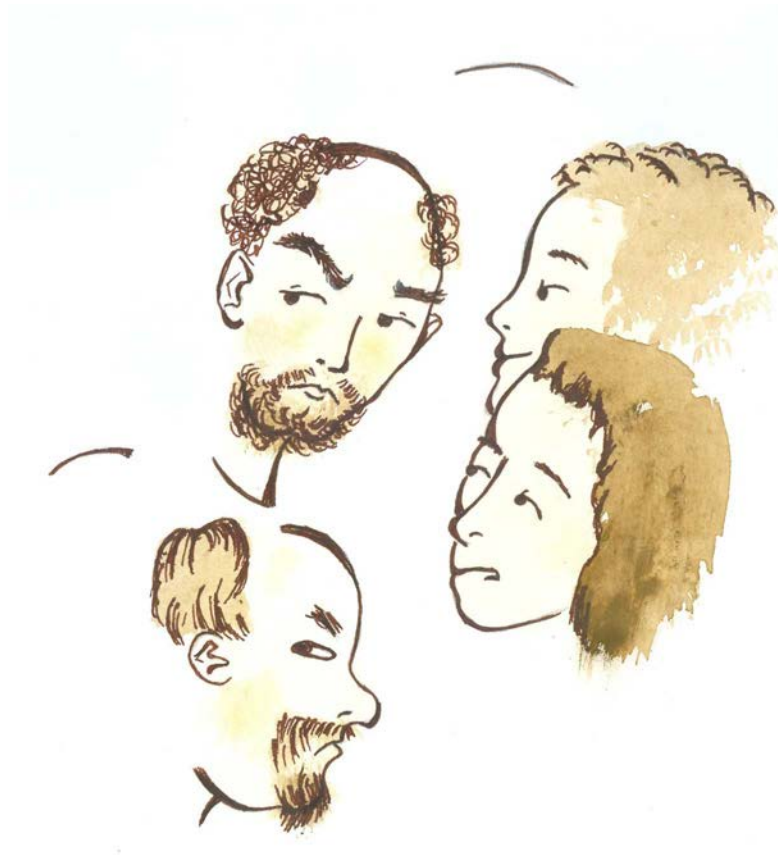
“Father, your prophets have told them how much you love them and that you can help them, no matter what problem they are facing.”

Jesus thought for a moment in silence and then continued.

“They were also warned that bad behavior must be punished, but even with all this, they refuse to change. What else can we do?”

“Should we send another messenger?”  
Jesus asked.





"I don't want to send messengers  
every year."

Father God held up one finger.

"I know exactly what to do."

"What will you do, Father?"



"I will do something new.  
Instead of saving only a few, I will save  
all the nations of the world."

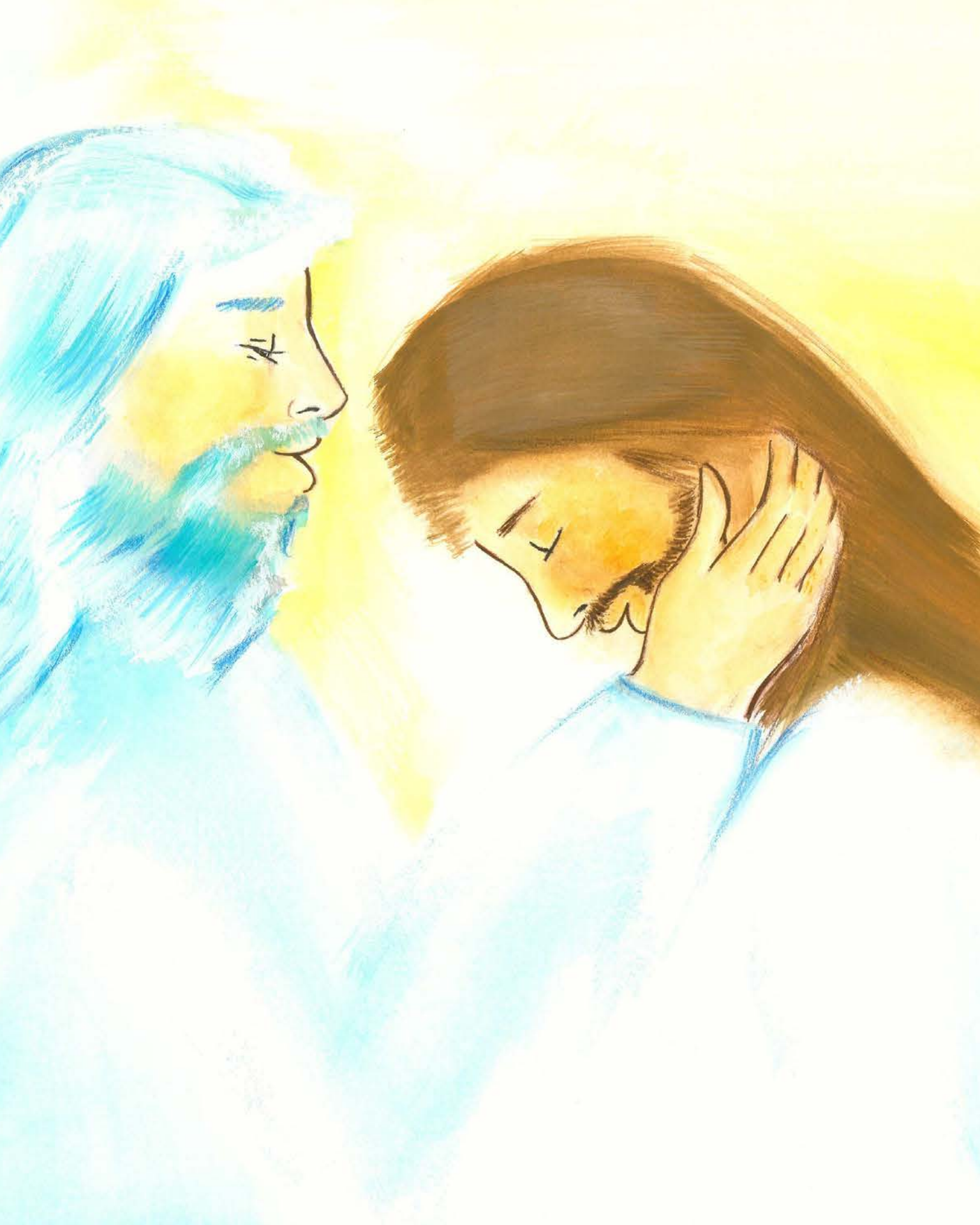
“How, Father?” Jesus asked.

“I need someone who is willing to be punished for the sins of the entire world.”

Jesus peered deeply into his Father’s eyes.

“I think I understand your plan.”

“It must be someone I deeply trust. Someone who is innocent and pure like a spotless lamb.”



“Father, send me.”

Jesus knelt before His Father and pleaded,

“Let me be the Lamb who will take away their sins.”

The sad look on God’s face completely disappeared and was replaced by a smile.

“Oh, my Son, my heart is now rejoicing! I will send you. Whoever listens to you and repents of their sins, will be forgiven.”





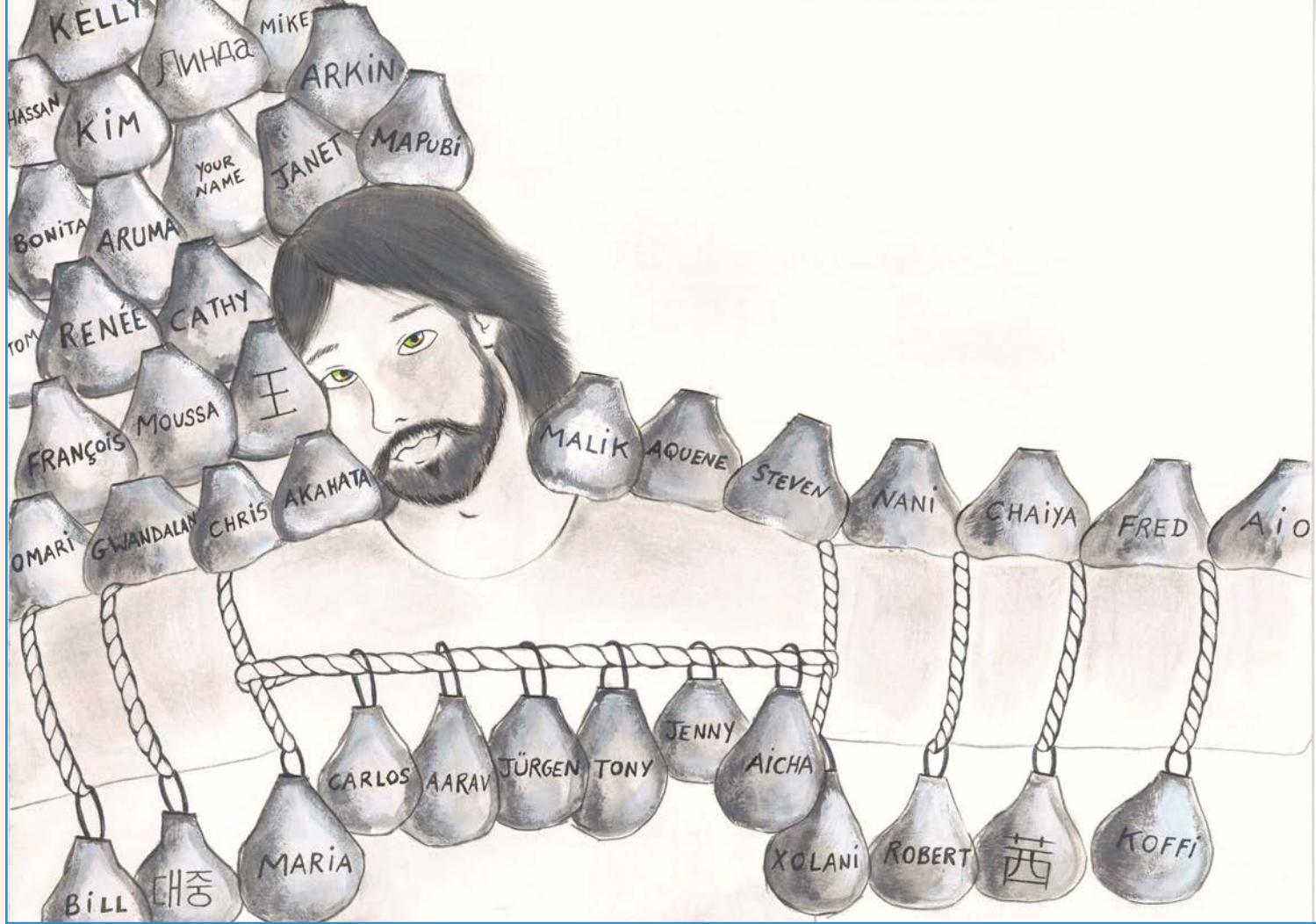
“And we will build them beautiful homes where they can live with us forever.”

Jesus threw His arms around His Father’s neck.

“Oh, Father, you are so good and make the unthinkable possible.”

After a long hug, Father God said,

“Now listen, my Son. Because you will receive the punishment for the people of this generation and all the generations to come, the punishment will be very painful.”



"I think I understand the price."

Jesus stared through the portals of heaven and caught a glimpse of the earth.

"I will I also be punished for the sins of those who will be born in the future and do bad things in the future?"

"Yes, that's correct, my Son."

Father God placed his arm around Jesus's shoulder.

"You must also become a human being like them. It is the only way to teach them what they need to learn."

"Yes, Father."

Jesus thought of all the people in need of His Father's help. Then He asked,



"Father, may I ask how I will be punished?"

Father God clutched Jesus's hands and answered,

"My beloved Son, your body will go through a lot of pain."

God pointed to Jesus's hands and feet.

"Your hands and feet will be nailed to a cross."

"I understand. I must be wounded so they can be healed."

Jesus looked at His hands.



"You will die a painful death on a cross."

"I must go through pain so their pain can be taken away, and I must be nailed to a cross so their sins can be nailed to the cross."

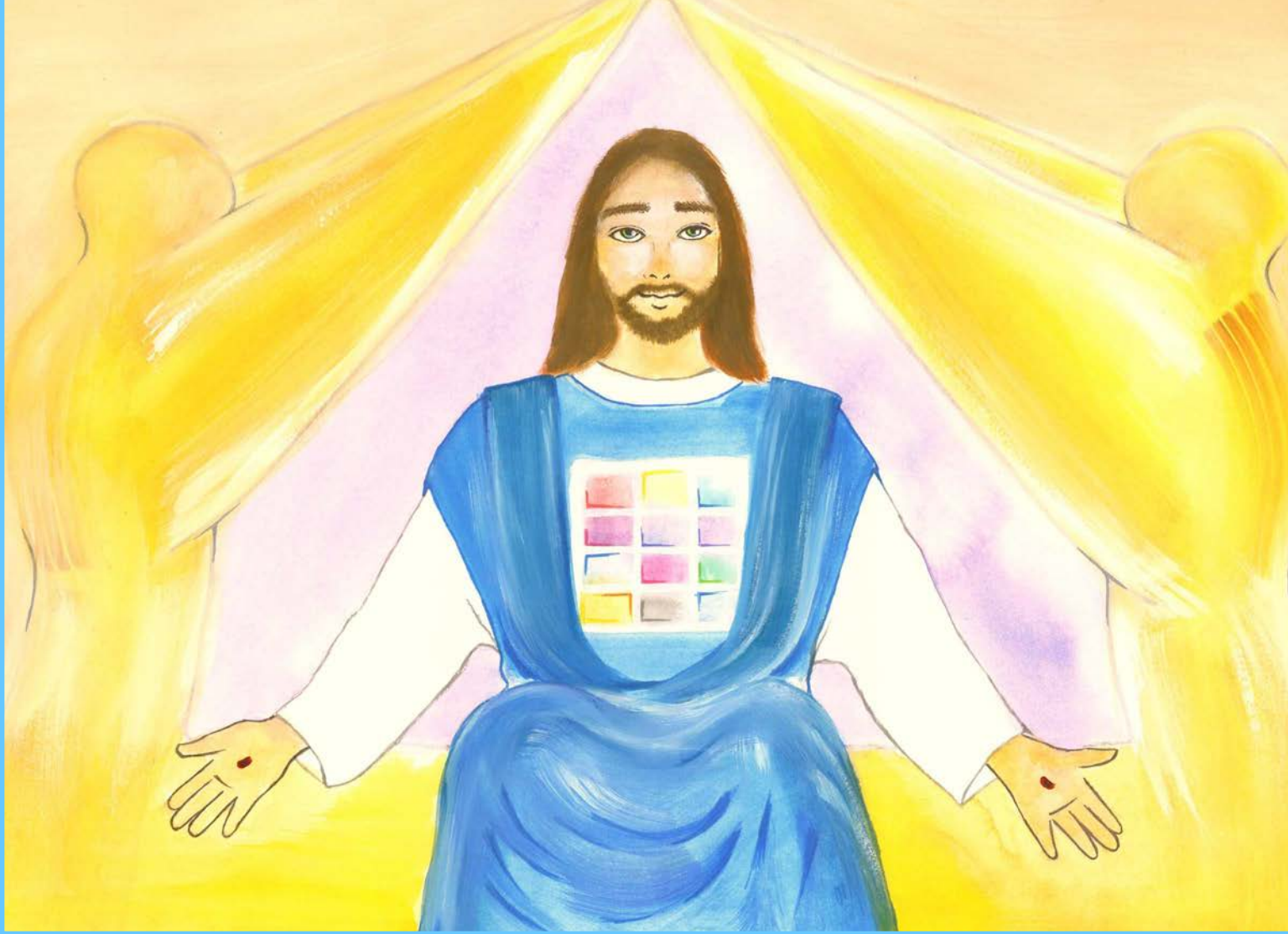
"That's right. And three days after your death, I will raise you back to life."

"I will be raised back to life, so they can have a new life."

Father God lifted His arms triumphantly.

“And you will live forever  
so they can live eternally as well!  
The cross will then become a symbol  
of my love and hope for all humanity.  
The cross will also become  
a symbol for you—Jesus the Messiah—  
who comes to give, heal, and restore.”





Jesus is alive and loves you very much.



Readers will get a peek behind the scenes of heaven into Father God's tender heart when He talks to his only Son Jesus about a plan to redeem the people He loves so much.

Children will have a deeper understanding about Jesus's mission to teach, heal, and save us so we can one day live with Him forever in heaven.

This Christian picture book is a wonderful resource for families, churches, Sunday schools, homeschoolers, and Christian educators hoping to teach the younger generation about Jesus's death on the cross and His resurrection.

The inspirational Christian art hits the heart and beautifully complements the truth the book delivers.

