

BIBLE STORY 1

OLD TESTAMENT

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EUNOK JO



JESUS AND CHILDREN

This book is released and distributed for free on missionary purpose.

We pray for this book to be used for children to give them the hope
by leading them to face our living God almighty.



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1. Who made this world?

Genesis 1:1-2:3

God created the sky and the land before he created the earth we live.

At that time, It was so dark that there were no difference among the sky, land and the water. Only there was the Spirit, Holy Sprit of God above them.

God decided to make the world so that people can live in it.

“Let there be light”

As soon as God said so, there was light and became bright.

“It looks good.”

God separated the light from the darkness.

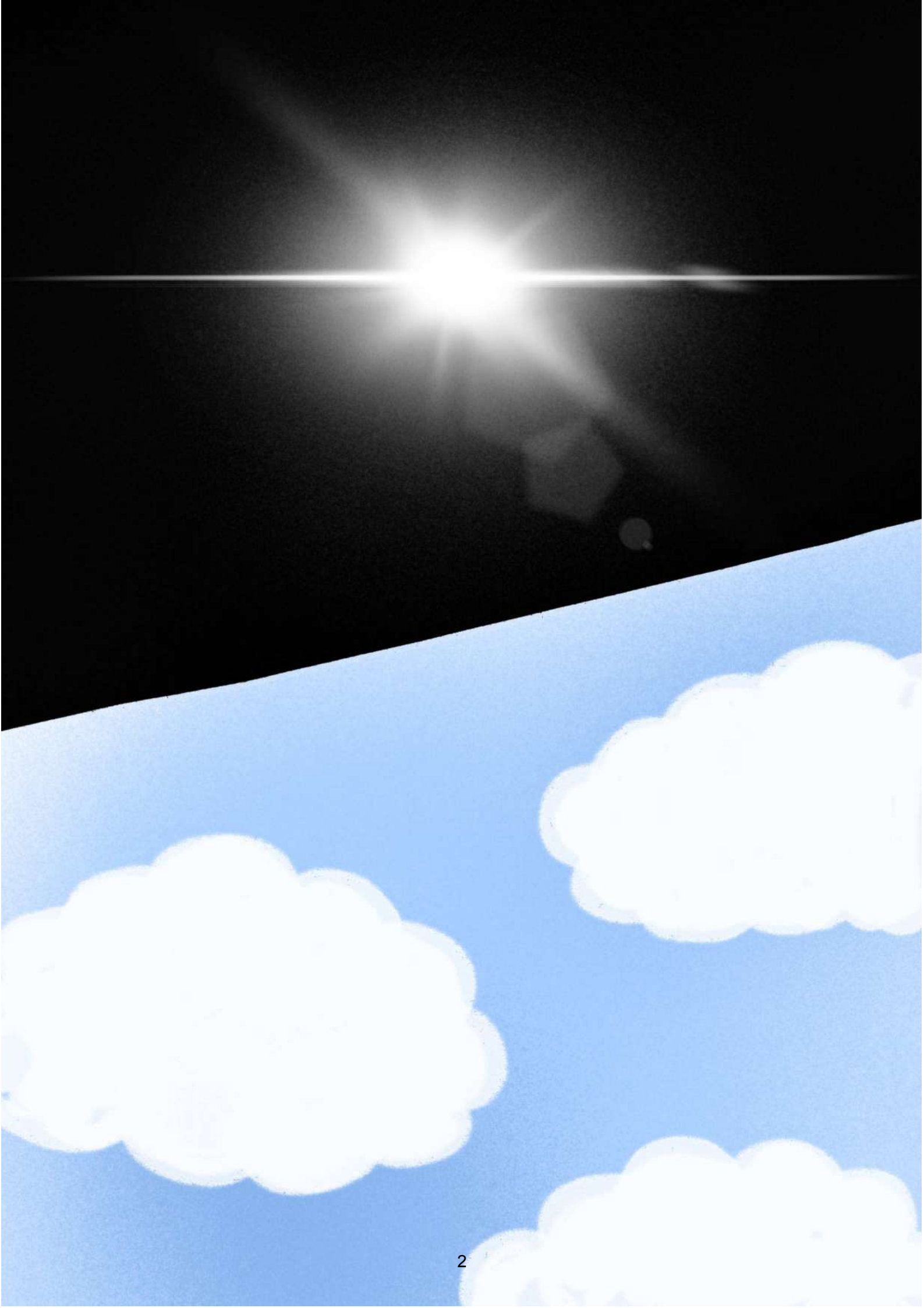
“Call the light ‘day’, and the darkness ‘night’.”

Then, there was evening, and there was morning, a first day.

"Let there be huge space between the waters to separate water from water."

Just as God said so, there was huge space and God separated the water under it from the water above it. God called this huge space "sky." There was evening and there was morning, a second day.

"Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry land appear." And it was so.



“Call the dry land ‘earth’, and the gathering of the waters, ‘seas’. Awesome.”

God said again.

“Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds.”

And it was so. God was pleased.

There was evening and there was morning, a third day.

"Let there be lights in the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years and let them give light on the earth“

God made the two great lights, the greater light to govern the day, and the lesser light to govern the night; He made the stars also to give light on the earth. God also separated the light from the darkness; And God saw that it was good.

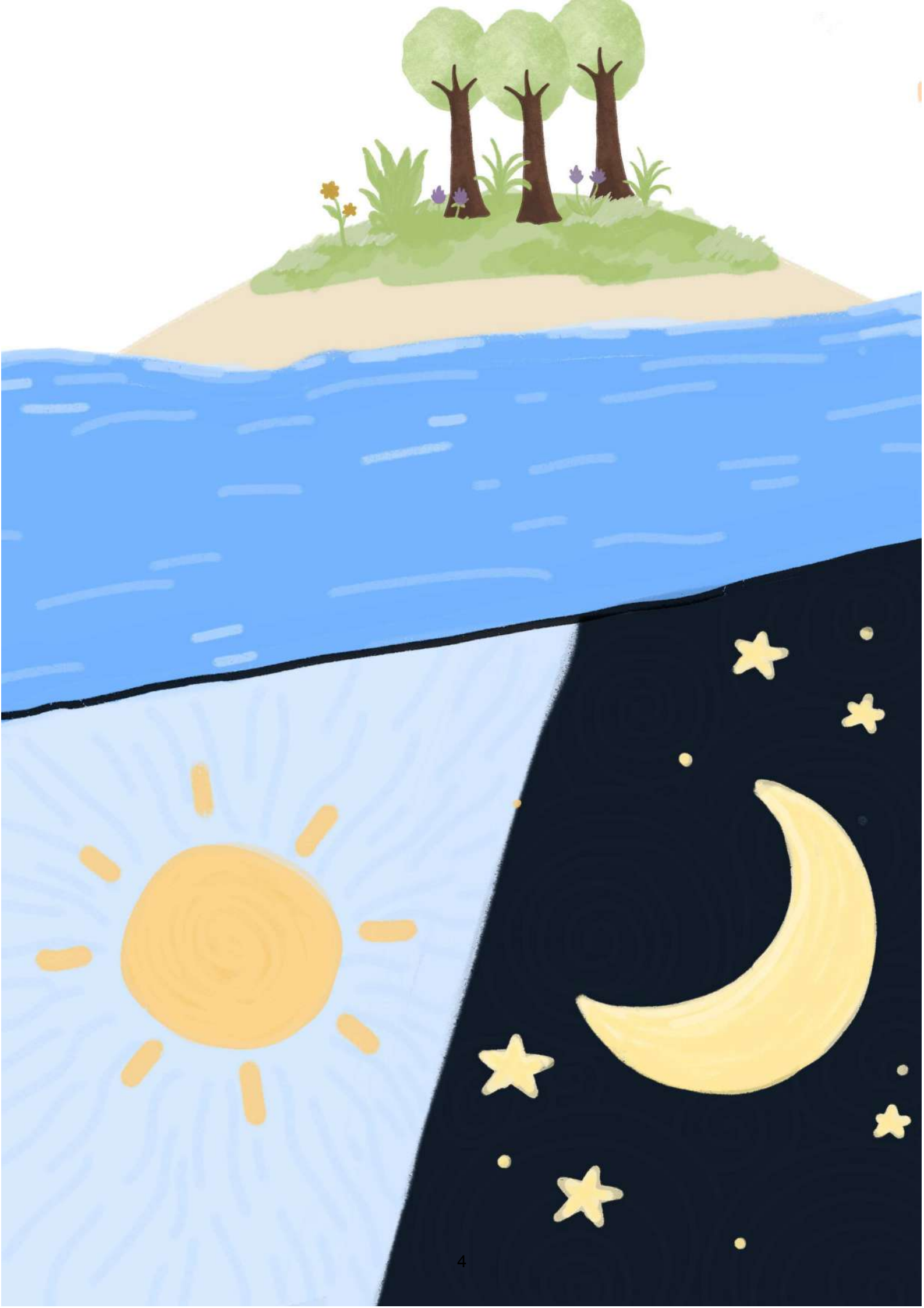
There was evening and there was morning, a fourth day.

"Let the waters teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth in the air.“ God said.

God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the water teems, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

God blessed them, saying,

“Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.”



There was evening and there was morning, a fifth day.

“Let the land produce wild animals, livestock, creatures that move along the ground, each according to its kind.”

Just like what God said, they were there, and God saw that it was good.

“Let Us make man in Our image, in Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the livestock and over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”

After God said, God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created man and woman He created them. God blessed them, saying

“Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and rule over it, over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and every living creature that moves on the ground.”

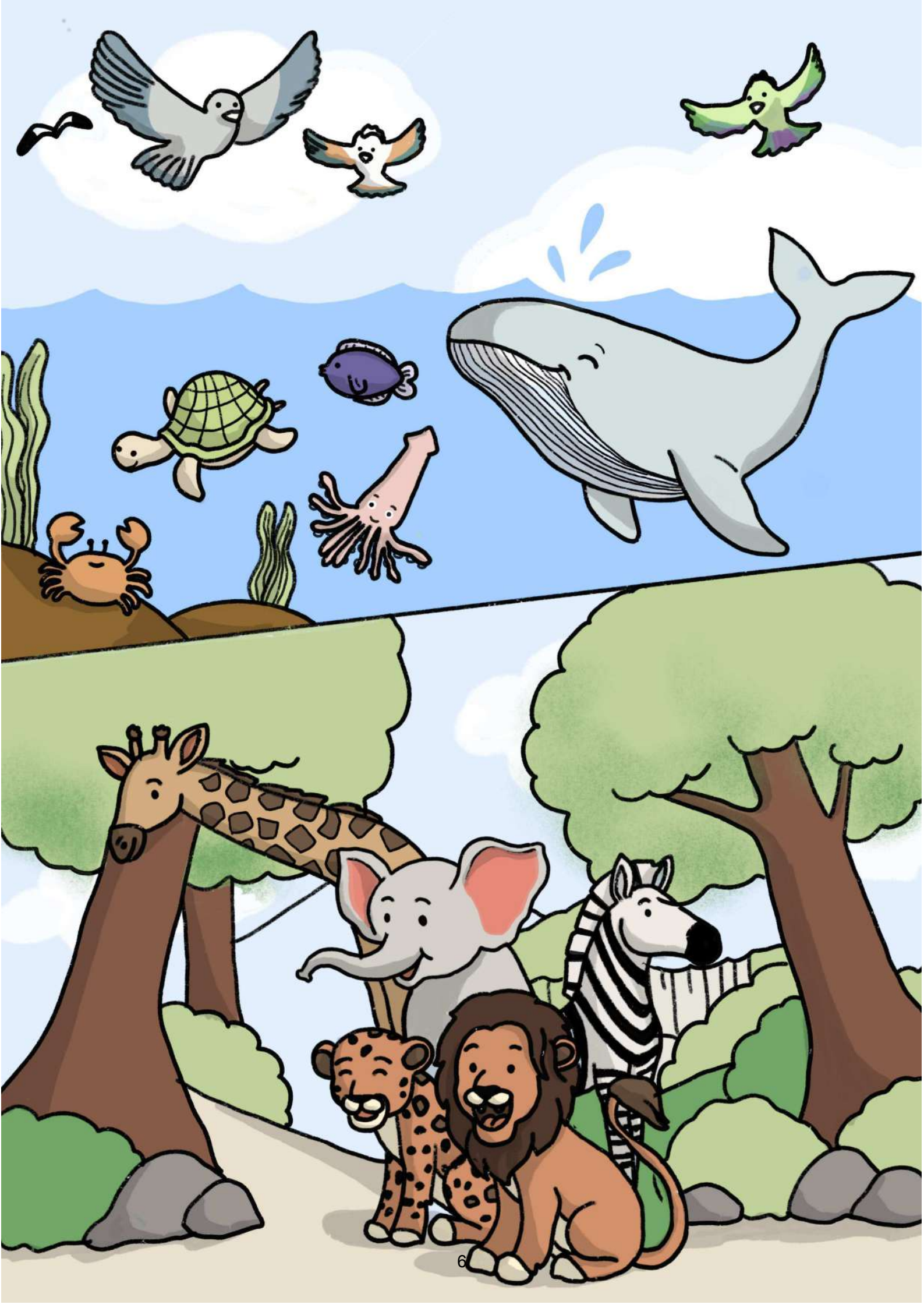
“I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air and all the creatures that move on the ground that has the breath of life in it. I give every green plant for food.”

God saw all that He had made, and it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

He created all the world for us to live in and by the seventh day, God completed His work and rested on the seventh day. God blessed the seventh day and made it holy.

Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.

Genesis 2:3



Beloved my children!

I hope you live well in this world where I made for you. In the beginning, when my Spirit was above on the earth, It was so dark and so mess. So I made the light, the sky, the land, and the sea.

It was okay but something was missing. So I made food in the land, like rice, vegetation, fruits. And I made the sun, the moon and the stars to help them to grow well. Then, I made fish in the sea and birds in the sky. The world became more desirable and beautiful. Lastly, I made wild animals, livestock for people. So that they can live in plenty, Finally I made a man and a woman looked just like me and let them rule over all that I made.

I want you to love this world that I made, the people I made. That is the life that I want you to live. After then, come to me.

I love you my children.

Much Love. God

Dear God

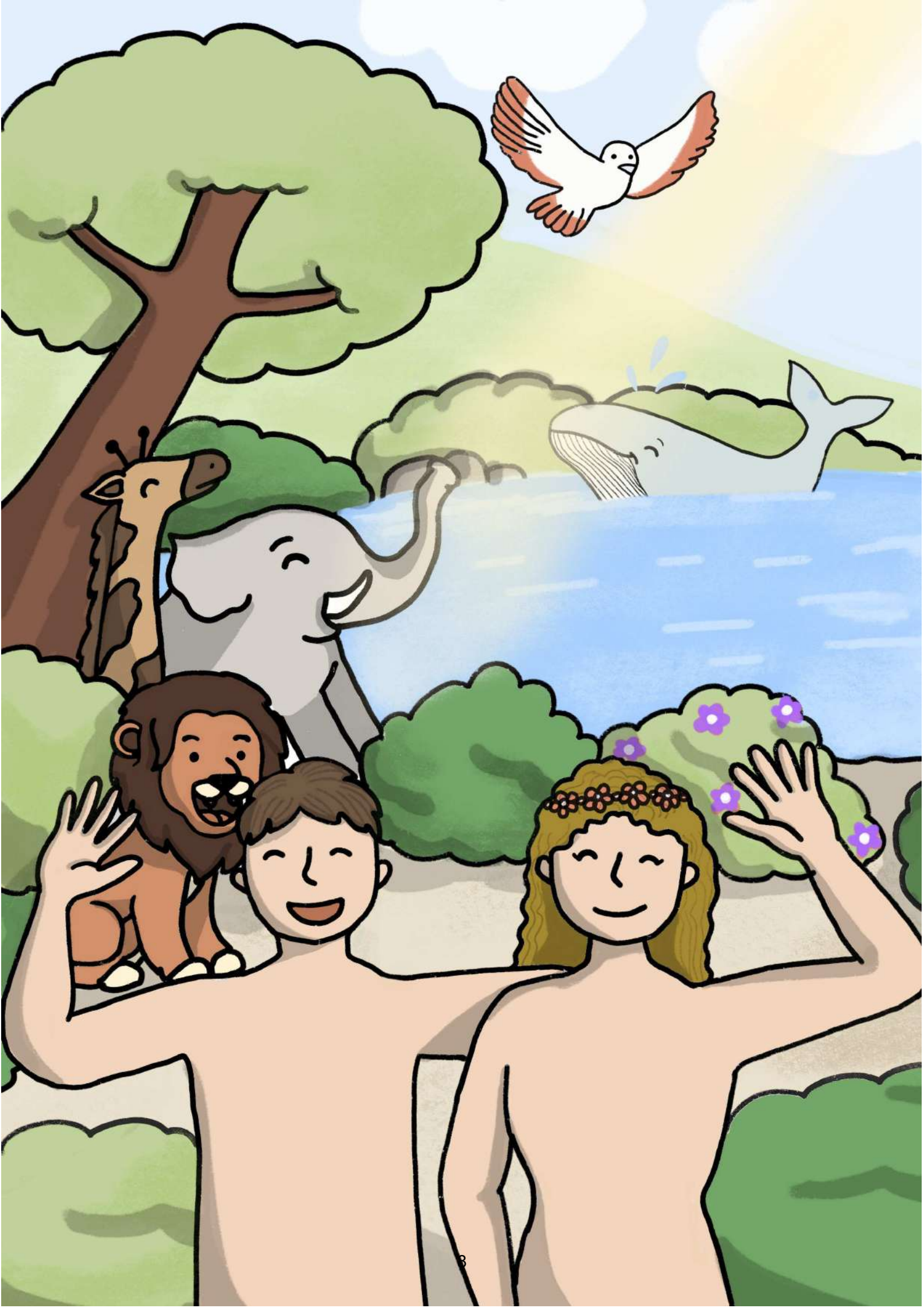
My God! Wow. Am I made like you? I thought I am like my dad! Maybe he is like you then. I read Genesis chapter 1, a lot. I made up my mind to read the bible and gave up while I read book of Genesis.

Now It's clear that you made the world like this.

1. Light 2. The sky 3. The land, the sea and vegetation
4. The sun, the moon, and the stars 5. Birds and fish 6. Every living things and me!

I love you too.

Yours forever. I



2. Adam and Eve

(Genesis 2:4~2:25)

God formed the man from the dust of the land.
He is just like God.

“Wooosh~~”

God breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.
He started to communicate with God.

“ Hey, Adam.”

“Yes God~”

God planted a garden toward the east, in Eden; and there He put Adam to stay in. The garden was beautiful.
God made every tree that is pleasing to the sight and good for food.

There is the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

And a river went out of Eden to water the garden, from there it divided and became four rivers.

The name of the rivers are these: Pison, Gihon, Hiddekel, Euphrates.

And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to keep it and let him eat from it.

“Adam! You can eat whatever you want from any tree of the garden.”

“Yes God! Every fruit is so yummy. I’m full.”

“Adam! But from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you must not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die ”



“What? I will die?? Oh, God! I would never eat it. I promise.”

Out of the ground God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the sky, and brought them to Adam.

“Adam! Call whatever you want for them.”

“Oh, It is big elegant creature. I would say Elephant.”

“Now It is called ‘Elephant’”

“Hi~ Elephant.”

Next, something that had long neck had passed.

“Gee~! It has long neck! Now you are Geeraff. Giraffe! ”

“You are crying like scratching something so you are Scratch owl”

“You are saying cuckoo, I would call you Cuckoo!!”

Adam gave names to all the cattle such as cow, sheep, pig and also to the birds of the sky- eagle, dove, sparrow and to every beast of the field including lion, deer, zebra.

At that time, Adam had a good time eating fruits from the trees and hanging out with animals he named in Eden.

But God didn't like Adam being alone.

“ It is not good for the man to be alone; He looks lonely. I will make him a helper for him”

So God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam.

“Adam! Sweet dreams. I will take one of your ribs.”

Then God took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh at that place.

And God had taken from man, made a woman, and brought her to the Adam.



“Adam! Tada~!”

“Wow! God~! Who is it??”

“I made her as your helper out of your ribs.”

“She is so beautiful, God! I’m so excited!! I can make a song!”

“Ha ha! Sing a song for her!

“This is now bone of my bones, And flesh of my flesh~”

Adam was so happy to live with beautiful wife.

“God! I will name her too! I would call her ‘Woman’ Because she was taken out of Man.”

Adam had lived happily in the garden of Eden. They were both naked and were not ashamed. Because they had no sin at that time.

From that time on, a man shall leave his father and his mother, and marry to his wife; and they shall become one body.

For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.

Genesis 2:24



Beloved my child!

Dear my sons and daughters!

When I first made humans, I made them as male and female.

Therefore a man shall grow and become an adult and leave his parents, and shall

make a family with woman he loves.

But these days, awful things are happening around the world.

Man marries man, Woman marries woman. Same sex love is wrong. It is sin.

It breaks my order for this world. Every life and creature.

Pray for them to get out of their sins.

And Be aware of not following their ways.

This is a strict warning, my child. Because you are the children of God, not this world.

I love you my child.

Much Love. God

Dear God

I wish I lived in the garden of Eden eating fruits you made for me. When I go to heaven, then I can live like it, right?

God! I have concerns, too.

At school, we learn about father and father, mother and mother.

Everyone says it is good and natural. Because they don't know about you.

So I fought with them.

Now what should I do in this world?

I am worried about this world.

God! But you have a super-power, right? You can protect us, right?

I have faith in you to keep us safe.

Yours forever. I



3. No Excuses

(Genesis 3:1~3:24)

The snake was more crafty than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he approach to the woman and said

"Are you sure, has God said, 'You shall not eat from any tree of the garden'?"

"Nope. We may eat from the fruit of the trees of the garden."

"And?"

"But from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat from it or touch it, or you will die.'"

The snake knew what God had said to her. But, darting his tongue in and out, he thought to himself.

"God has said 'You shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die'. But look at her. 'You shall not eat from it or touch it, or you will die? "

She is confused!! You are my target, now.

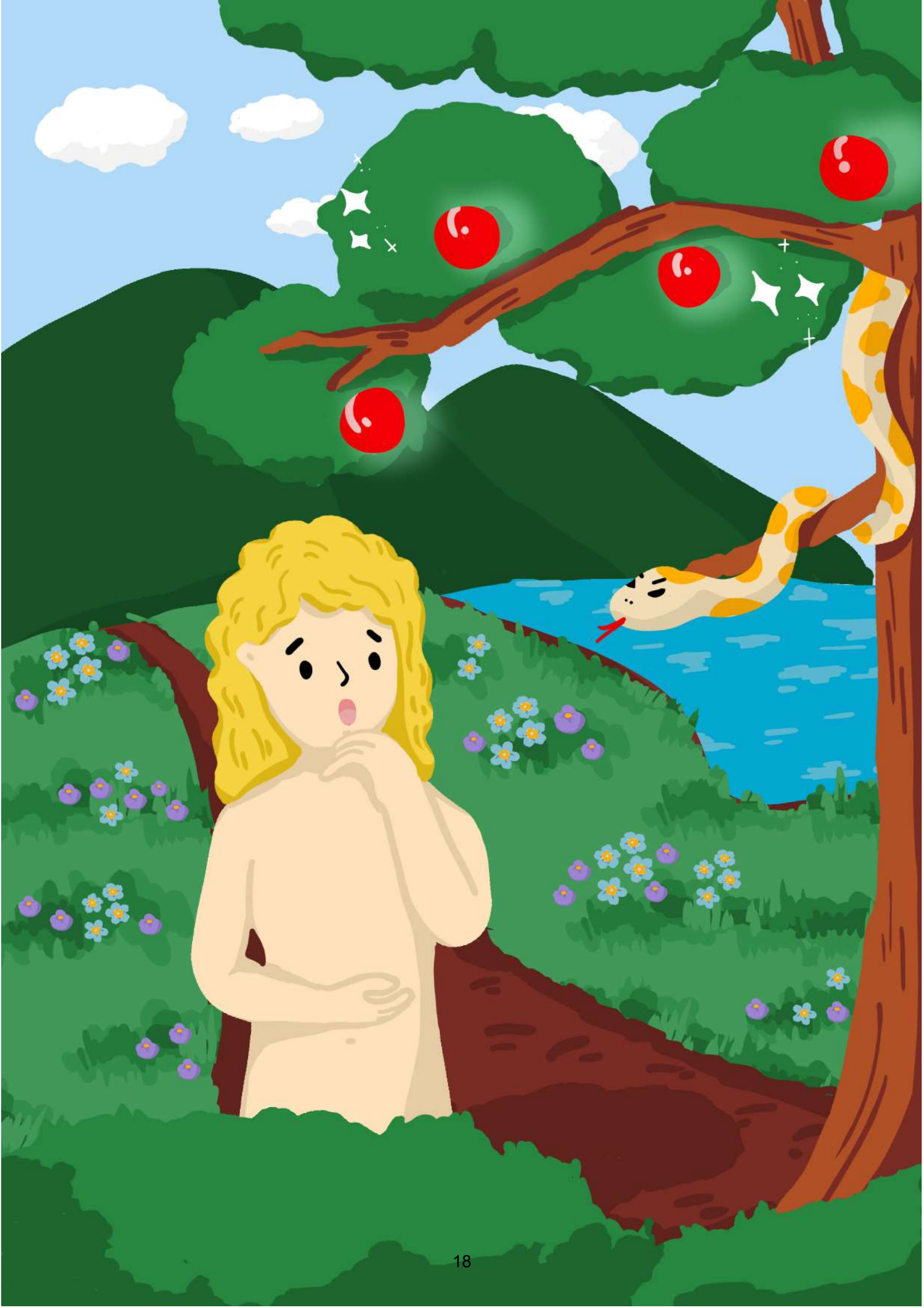
The snake pretended to be innocent and said to her.

"No. You will not certainly die. You can eat from it."

After hearing his words, the woman saw the tree which is in the middle of the garden.

"Wow. It looks so tasty, so desirable. If I taste it little bit, I will be wise. "

The woman's hand is already at the fruit of the tree.



She can't resist anymore and ate it. And she gave also to her husband with her.

"Adam. Take this. It's so delicious."

"I don't think it's good idea. But.. Umm.. Wow.. So tasty."

Then the eyes of both of them were opened,

"Oh my God! I am so embarrassed. Why are we naked?"

"Here, let's cover our body with this fig leaves. It's big enough to cover ours."

Adam and his wife sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day:

"Adam! God is taking a walk around the garden."

"Let's hide from him, hurry!"

Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God.

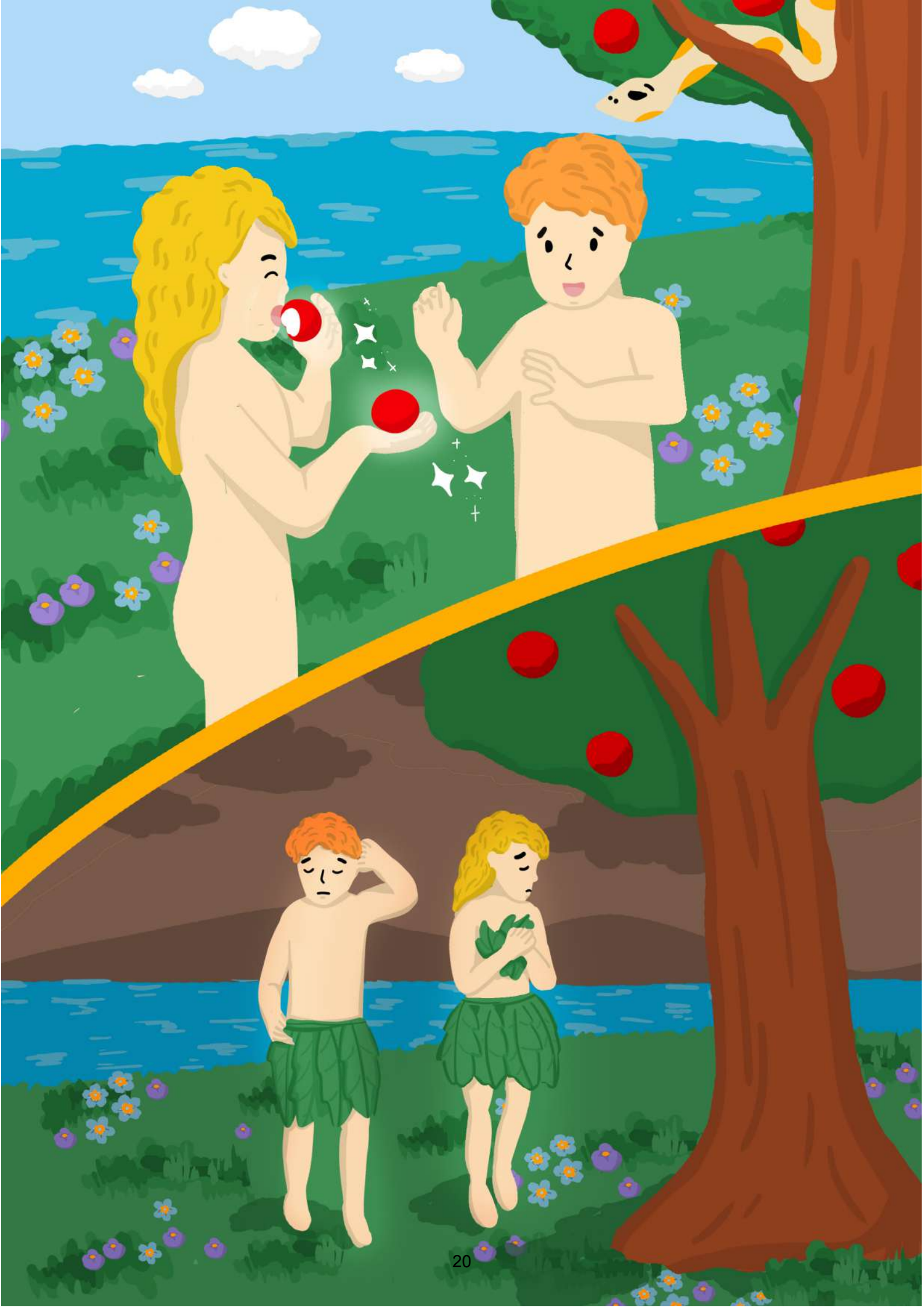
Then the LORD God called to the man, and said to him,

"Where are you, Adam?"

"I heard the sound of You in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid myself."

"How do you know you are naked? Who told you that? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?"

"The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me from the tree, and I ate."



Then the LORD God said to the woman,

"What is this you have done? Why? Not just yourself, but also to your husband!"

"God! I didn't mean to eat it. The snake! He came to me saying it's okay and made me eat it."

"No more excuses."

God had a decision.

Beloved my child! Ding, ding, ding.

"You, snake. Because you have done this, Cursed are you more than all the creatures. On your belly, you will go, And you will eat dust, all the days of your life!

"I will make you against the woman, And between your child and her child; He will crush your head, And you will strike his heel."

"Woman, the wife of Adam! I will make your pains in childbirth, In pains you will give birth to children; Your desire will be for your husband, And he will rule over you."

"Adam! In toil, you will eat of the ground, all the days of your life. You will eat the plants of the field; By the sweat of your face You will get food, For you are dust, And to dust you shall return."

Now Adam called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all the living.

The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and clothed them instead of killing them. Then he let them out of the garden of Eden.

*The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife,
and clothed them. Genesis 3:21*



Dear my sons and daughters!

At first, Adam and Eve didn't even know they were naked before they had sinned.

Their eyes were opened when they ate the fruit that I commanded not to eat from that tree.

They hid themselves in the bush. Because they felt ashamed of their nakedness.

I knew as soon as I was aware that they hid from me. They disobeyed my command. I gave them a choice to follow my command or not. That is called, 'Freewill'

What if they used their freewill for a better way that made me pleased.

And why did not they just confess their sin honestly?

They kept making excuses.

But my love for them doesn't change at all. Even all the bad things they had done.

Instead of giving them up, I chose to cloth them with skin of my flesh. That is my love. Remember, my love, dear children!

Much Love. God

Dear God

Thank you God! You didn't say

"You are the mistakes. I will make another instead of you."

Instead of crushing and dumping, you clothed us garments of skin, not leaves that could wither soon.

I know you need something dead when you made us garments of skin.

And I have learned that body was your son, Jesus.

You had planned to send Jesus to us even at that time?

Thank you God. Thank you for sending Jesus to us.

I love you just as you have done to me.

Yours forever. I



4. Cain and Abel

(Genesis 4:1~4:15)

After God let Adam and Eve out of the garden of Eden,
He allowed them to manage the land.
So in soil, they grew plants and ate from them.
Adam and his wife, Eve loved each other.
And Eve conceived a baby.

“Adam, how lovely he is! What should we call him?”

“Let’s name him, Cain.”

“Wow. I have a baby. Thanks to you, my God!”

Again, Eve gave birth to his brother Abel.
Cain and Abel were growing loved by their parents.
They became young men.

“Father! I love to work the soil. I wanna be a farmer!”

“Father! I love to keep the flock. I wanna be a shepherd!”

Cain became a farmer and Abel became a shepherd,
just as they said.
When the harvest time came, the time that they should
give God what they had gotten with grateful.

Cain said.

“Brother, as I am a farmer. I will give God with the fruit of
the ground. What about you?”

“Brother, I will give him the firstborn of my sheep and its
oil.”



“Good! Let’s give offerings to God!”

Cain and Able both gave offerings to God.

But somehow, God only received Abel’s offering not Cain’s.

Cain was so furious that his face was downcast.

God said to Cain.

“Cain! Why are you angry with me? Why is your face downcast?”

God kept telling him.

“If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at the door; and its desire is for you, but you must master it.”

Cain still got angry even God told him so.

“Able! Come with me to the field.”

When they were in the field, Cain rose up against Able his brother and killed him.

“Die!! I am your older brother, but God only accepted you not me? I can’t stand it! Die!!”

Ah! Cain killed his brother Able and became the first murderer in history.

God called Cain.



“Cain! Where is your brother Abel?”

“I don’t know, God. Am I my brother’s keeper?”

“What have you done?”

“I said, I don’t know!!”

“The voice of your brother's blood is crying to Me from the ground.”

“

“The ground has opened its mouth to receive your brother’s blood from your hand. Now you are cursed from it.”

“

“When you work the ground. you will no longer get anything from it. you will be a restless wanderer on the earth.”

“God! My punishment is too great for me to bear!” said Cain.

“God! Today you are driving me from the land, and I can’t see you anymore. If I am a restless wanderer on the earth, whoever finds me will kill me.”

God answered to Cain.

"Not so, Cain. If anyone kills you, he will suffer vengeance seven times over."

Then the LORD put a mark on Cain so that no one who found him would kill him.

If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must master it." (Genesis 4:7)



Dear my sons and daughters!

After Adam and Eve had sinned, their son, Cain also had sinned and all the people in the world have sinned from then. So we called the sin of Adam and Eve, 'Original Sin' But I love you people so much that I clothed them with garments of skin. Moreover, I put on even Cain the first murderer a mark so that he would not be killed. I have always worked hard to give you my love and the life. All you have to do is just search me and hold the life I give you. Just remember this, okay?

I love you my child.

Much Love. God

Dear God

It was so sad to see Cain, my God.

You asked him why, several times to give him a chance to come back. But he did not come back to you. He was just kicked out of his land and he couldn't be a farmer no longer, just wandering on earth with restless.

If I do wrong then I will immediately come back to you and ask forgiveness, God.

And actually, I have a sister and mom always looks after only her not me. So I was so sad and I hate her. But I try to be nice, not to harm her.

Because I don't wanna be like Cain. I love you, God!

Yours forever. I



5. Noah

(Genesis 5:25~6:22)

Methuselah was the grandfather of Noah. He is the longest living person in the bible. Methuselah lived 187 years, and became the father of Lamech who was the father of Noah. He lived 782 years after he became the father of Lamech, and he had other sons and daughters. So all the days of Methuselah were 969 years, and he died. Lamech lived 182 years, and became the father of a son.

“I call his name Noah, he will comfort us working hard from the ground which the LORD has cursed.”

Then Lamech lived 595 years after he became the father of Noah, and he had other sons and daughters. So all the days of Lamech were 777 years, and he died. Noah was five hundred years old, and became the father of Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

Now people began to multiply on the earth and the sins of them were great and that every imagination of the thoughts of their heart was only evil continually.

The LORD was in deep thought that He had made man on the earth, and He was suffering in His heart and said.

"Oh dear.. I can't stand it any longer. I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land, from man to animals to creeping things and to birds of the sky; for I was so sad that I have made them."

But Noah found grace in the unconditional love of the LORD.



At that time, People were so mean and evil that all the world were filled with sins of them. Only Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his time; Noah walked with God. So God saw him and told him.

“Noah! For the earth is filled with violence because of them. So I am about to destroy them with the earth.”

“Now, do as I say.”

“Yes, Lord.”

"Make for yourself an ark of gopher wood; you shall make the ark with many rooms, and shall cover it inside and out with pitch.“

“Oh, because of pitch, the water can't come inside of the ark.”

"That's right. This is how you shall make it: the length of the ark 135m, its breadth 22.5m, and its height 13.5m. You shall make a window for the ark, and finish it to 45cm from the top; and set the door of the ark in the side of it; you shall make it with lower, second, and third decks.”

“Yes Lord. It is a huge ark! I can make it! There are a lot of gopher woods around here.”

"Noah! Listen carefully what I am going to tell you. I am bringing the flood of water upon the earth, to destroy all creatures on earth. But I will protect you, I promise. When you finish building the ark, you shall enter it--you and your sons and your wife, and your sons' wives with you. And of every living thing, you shall bring two of every kind into the ark, to keep them alive with you; they shall be male and female. And prepare some food for you and your family.”

Noah called his wife, sons and their wives.

“We will build a huge ark on the mountain.”



“Huh? Build an ark? On the mountain??”

“God will destroy whole land of the earth. It will be covered with water. On the mountain, we can easily get woods. When the flood comes, the ark will float. on the surface of the water.”

Noah and his family had built the ark just as the way God told them. His sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth also helped his father.

“We will build a three-story ark.”

“Okay.. But father, people are whispering behind us.”

“What are they whispering?”

“Just because.. Building an ark, And even.. On the mountain.”

“Shem! Ham! And Japheth!! My sons! Don’t worry about what people say. Just listen what God says. We obey his word not theirs. ”

“We will, father. What should we do next?”

“Coat the ark with pitch inside and out.”

“Okay.”

“Make a window for the ark, and finish it from the top so that we can get sunlight.”

Noah did everything just as God commanded him.

Noah was six hundred years old when the ark was finished. It took 120 years.

*Noah did everything just as God commanded him.
(Genesis 6:22)*



Dear my sons and daughters!

Noah had never disobeyed me. He always obeyed me and was glad to do that.

Noah's great-grandfather was Enoch, he walked with me and I took him to me. Enoch didn't die to get to heaven. He just came up here, not through death.

Enoch and Noah were the chosen children. I chose Noah to survive the flood of Judgement. I hope you to walk with me just like them.

I love you, my sons and daughters.

Much Love. God

Dear God

I think Noah was amazing man! I can't imagine how big the ark is. So I asked my dad. He said it is just like the stadium and its taller than a three-floor apartment. It's unbelievable.

Not 12-years, it was 120-years to build the ark. This is so amazing!

I bet people were whispering each other and pointing finger at Noah.

I am so nervous to tell people about you. But Noah wasn't afraid what people thought. I will try to be like him. I will try to tell people about you, my God!

I love you so much, God!

Yours forever. I



6. The Flood and The Rainbow (Genesis 7:1-9:17)

Noah finished building the ark and God said to him.

“Go into the ark with your whole family, Just as I told you before, take with you seven of every kind of clean animal, a male and its mate, and two of every kind of unclean animal, a male and its mate, and also seven of every kind of bird, male and female, to keep their various kinds alive throughout the earth. Seven days from now I will send rain on the earth for forty days and forty nights, and I will wipe from the face of the earth every living creature I have made.”

And Noah did all that for 7days, just like the LORD commanded him.

Noah and his wife and his sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth and his sons' wives entered the ark. Pairs of clean and unclean animals, of birds and of all creatures that move along the ground, male and female, came to Noah and entered the ark.

Then God shut the door of the ark.

In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, on the seventeenth day of the second month—on that day, the floodwaters came on the earth.

“Father!! There is such a downpour!! I can't see at all! How long this will be?”

“God said 40 days, my sons.”

“Now I can't see the mountains, houses, and people. There's nothing left.”

“Nothing left but water..”



For forty days the flood kept coming on the earth, and as the waters increased they lifted the ark high above the earth.

The waters rose and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the surface of the water.

They rose greatly on the earth, and all the high mountains under the entire heavens were covered. The waters rose and covered the mountains to a depth of more than twenty feet.

Every living thing that moved on the earth were dead--birds, livestock, wild animals, all the creatures that swarm over the earth, and all mankind.

“We are the only ones who survived in this flood. We are the only creatures left in the world.”

Now the springs of the deep and the floodgates of the heavens had been closed, and the rain had stopped falling from the sky. The waters flooded the earth for a hundred and fifty days.

“I remember Noah. He and his family and those with him in the ark. must have a hard time. I am going to make it stop.”

God sent a wind over the earth, and the waters receded. At the end of the hundred and fifty days the water had gone down, and on the seventeenth day of the seventh month the ark came to rest on the mountains of Ararat.

The waters continued to recede and and after three months the tops of the mountains became visible.



After forty days Noah opened the window in the ark.

“Fly! Raven!”

Noah sent out a raven, and it kept flying back and forth until the water had dried up from the earth. Then he sent out a dove.

“Let’s see if the water had receded from the surface of the ground.”

But the dove could find no place to set its feet because there was water over all the surface of the earth; so it returned to Noah in the ark.

“Ah! Not yet. Okay. Come on, I will take you back in.”

He waited seven more days and again sent out the dove from the ark.

The dove returned to him in the evening,

“Oh! Isn’t it olive leaf in your beak? Now I know the water had receded from the earth.”

He waited seven more days and sent the dove out again, but this time it did not return to him.

By the first day of the first month of Noah's six hundred and first year, Noah removed the covering from the ark and look out the outside. By the twenty-seventh day of the second month the earth was completely dry. Then God said to Noah,

"Come out of the ark, all of you. Multiply on the earth and be fruitful and increase in number upon it. Never again I will destroy all living creatures, as I have done. I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the promise between me and you."

I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth. (Genesis 9:13)



Dear my sons and daughters!

it was heartbreaking for me to destroy what I made with my own hands. I couldn't even watch because I was so sad. Also more than an year, Noah and his family and those creatures with him were kept in the ark. But the sins of the world were as terrible as the flood. I had to get rid of them. I had to. I hope one day, you can understand it. Because I couldn't help but save my child, Noah who had those sins that I can not stand. So I promised to myself, never again I will judge the world with water. This sign of my promise is the rainbow. Just as I see the rainbow and remember the promise I made for Noah, I see the cross of Jesus, my son, and remember the promise I made to save you.

I want you to remember the promise that Just to believe in Jesus, you will be saved and live here in heaven with me forever.

I love you my child.

Much Love. God

Dear God

Father! I looked into the sky and saw the rainbow, today. After raining, the rainbow came up. It was so beautiful just like your promise. I wanted to see it much longer, but It disappeared soon.

And I was wondering about the ark, so asked my Sunday School Pastor.

"How could a huge dinosaur get in the ark?"

"Maybe it could be a baby dinosaur."

Aha!! Problem solved. You are so smart!

Father! Just as I remember the promise through the rainbow, I remember your promise to save me through the cross of Jesus.

I love you so much, Father!

Yours forever. I



7. The tower of Babel

(Genesis 10:1-11:9)

In the beginning, the whole earth used the same language and the same words.

After the flood, The sons of Noah were fruitful and multiply on the earth as God blessed them. Shem, Ham and Japheth, Noah's three sons, had many sons.

Shem was the ancestor of the Hebrew. The sons of Shem spread out over the earth by their clans and languages, in their territories and nations.

The sons of Ham were Cush, Mizraim, Put and Canaan. Cush was the father of Nimrod, who grew to be a mighty warrior before the LORD. That is why it is said,

"Like Nimrod, a mighty hunter before the LORD."

Nimrod had fought against weaker clans than theirs and his first kingdom was in Shinar. From that land he went to Assyria, where he built Nineveh, Rehoboth Ir, Calah. and the borders of Canaan reached from Sidon toward Gerar as far as Gaza, and then toward Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah and Zeboiim, as far as Lasha.

The sons of Japheth, lived near the ocean and became the maritime peoples spread out into their territories by their clans within their nations, each with its own language.

These are the families of the sons of Noah, by their nations; and out of these the nations were separated on the earth.



As men moved eastward, they found a plain in Shinar and settled there.

“Wow! This is a wonderful place to live.”

“Yes, yes! Let’s settle here.”

“Good. We want to stop moving around.”

“Just settle on this open field, safe and sound.”

On arriving there, they loved that place.

They said to each other.

"Come, let's make bricks instead of stone and tar for mortar.."

They built the city and thought themselves about the flood that they had heard from their forefathers.

“Come, let us build ourselves a castle and middle of it, build the tower.”

“Pile up the stones not to damage when the flood comes again. ”

“Great! Build this tower that reaches to the heavens.”

“ Yeah! So that we may make a name for ourselves and not be scattered over the face of the whole earth.”

They had built the tower together wholeheartly.

But the LORD came down to see the city and the tower that the men were building.



"If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them."

and said.

"Come, let us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other."

When God confused the language, people building the tower were in panic.

"Pass the baked bricks!"

"Yeppi."

"What the.. not the water! the bricks!!"

"Why is he angry at me? He said water!"

They couldn't communicate with each other.

Finally, they stopped building the tower.

"I give up! I can't do it anymore!"

"Yeah, me too. We are leaving here."

So the LORD scattered them from there over all the earth, and they stopped building the city.

That is why it was called Babel meaning confusion. Because there the LORD confused the language of the whole world.

Therefore its name was called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of the whole earth; and from there the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of the whole earth. (Genesis 11:9)



Dear my sons and daughters!

There are more than six thousands of language in the world. Even the bible translated in 1600 of languages. There was only one language but, because of the tower of bable, now we have thousands of language.

I commanded them to scatter and multiply. That was a blessing. But they didn't listen to my words and tried to settle in Shinar. Building the tower was a challenge on me. They even wanted to make a name for themselves. They just didn't listen to me.

Dear my children.

I know you even before you were born in this world. You just don't trust me and my plan. Because you are so proud. I want you to listen to my words and obey them so that my power becomes yours.

I love you more than anything in the world.

Much Love. God

Dear God

I hate those who built the tower of bable.

There would be only one language at school If it wasn't for them. I have to study and practice because of them. I can't believe I have to learn other language until I go to heaven! It's sad but what can I do. I will listen to your words. Not like them, I will obey your command. Love you, Father!

Yours forever. I



8. Abram, The Root of Every Blessing

(Genesis 9:18~9:27,12:1~12:20)

After coming out of the ark, Then Noah began farming and planted a vineyard.

One day, He drank of the wine and became drunk, sleeping naked inside his tent. Ham, the son of Noah, saw the nakedness of his father, and told his two brothers outside, Shem and Japheth.

“Brothers! Come quickly! Dad is drunk and sleeping naked! HaHa”

But Shem and Japheth took a cloth and laid it upon both their shoulders and walked backward and covered the nakedness of their father; and their faces were turned away, so that they did not see their father's nakedness. When Noah awoke from his wine, he knew what his youngest son, Ham, had done to him.

"Ham, the father of Canaan! Cursed be Canaan. He shall be a servant of servants to his brothers."

He also said,

"Blessed be the LORD, The God of Shem; And let Canaan be his servant. May God bless Japheth, And let him dwell in the tents of Shem; And let Canaan be his servant."

Abram was a descendant of this Shem.



The LORD had said to Abram,

"Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

"Yes Lord, I will leave here, Haran, right away."

Abram was 75 years old when he set out from Haran. He took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, all the possessions they had earned in Haran, and they set out for the land of Canaan, and they arrived there.

Abram passed through the land as far as the site of Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. The LORD appeared to Abram and said,

"To your offspring I will give this land."

So he built an altar there to the LORD, who had appeared to him.

From there he went on toward the hills east of Bethel and pitched his tent, between Bethel and Ai, he built an altar to the LORD and called on the name of the LORD. Then Abram set out and continued toward the south of Canaan.

Now there was a famine in the land so no food could be found there.

"This famine is too severe. We can't live here. Let's go down to Egypt. "

when he came near to Egypt, he was nervous about her beautiful wife.



Then he said to Sarai his wife,

"See now, I know that you are a beautiful woman. When we get there in Egypt, the Egyptians will kill me because I am your husband."

"No, they will not, Abram."

"Now, listen carefully what I am going to say. Please say that you are my sister so that it may go well with me because of you, and that I may live. Okay?"

When Abram came to Egypt, the Egyptians saw that she was a very beautiful woman. And when Pharaoh's officials saw her, they praised her to Pharaoh, saying

"My Lord, a man came here who is called Abram, his sister is so beautiful."

"I have never seen such a beautiful woman!"

"Is she? Take her into me, right now and treat Abram well for her. "

Pharaoh gave him sheep and oxen and donkeys and male and female servants and female donkeys and camels. But the LORD struck Pharaoh and his house with serious diseases because of Sarai, Abram's wife.

"Pharaoh! The woman you took is a wife of Abram not sister. You are going to be punished for taking her."

Pharaoh called Abram and said,

"What have you done to me? Why didn't you tell me she was your wife? Why did you say, 'She is my sister,' so that I took her to be my wife? Now then, here is your wife. Take her and go!"

Then Pharaoh gave orders about Abram to his men, and they sent him on his way, with his wife and everything he had.

"I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing.

(Genesis 12:2)



Dear my sons and daughters!

The reason that I loved Abram was that he obeyed everything I said to him.

I commanded him to leave everything he had including his home and families. But he trusted me and left everything behind except his wife and nephew Lot.

There was no destination. He was ready to settle and to leave wherever I said he would. Moreover, he always built an altar and worship me.

Just watch and learn how Abram became Abraham and follow just what he did.

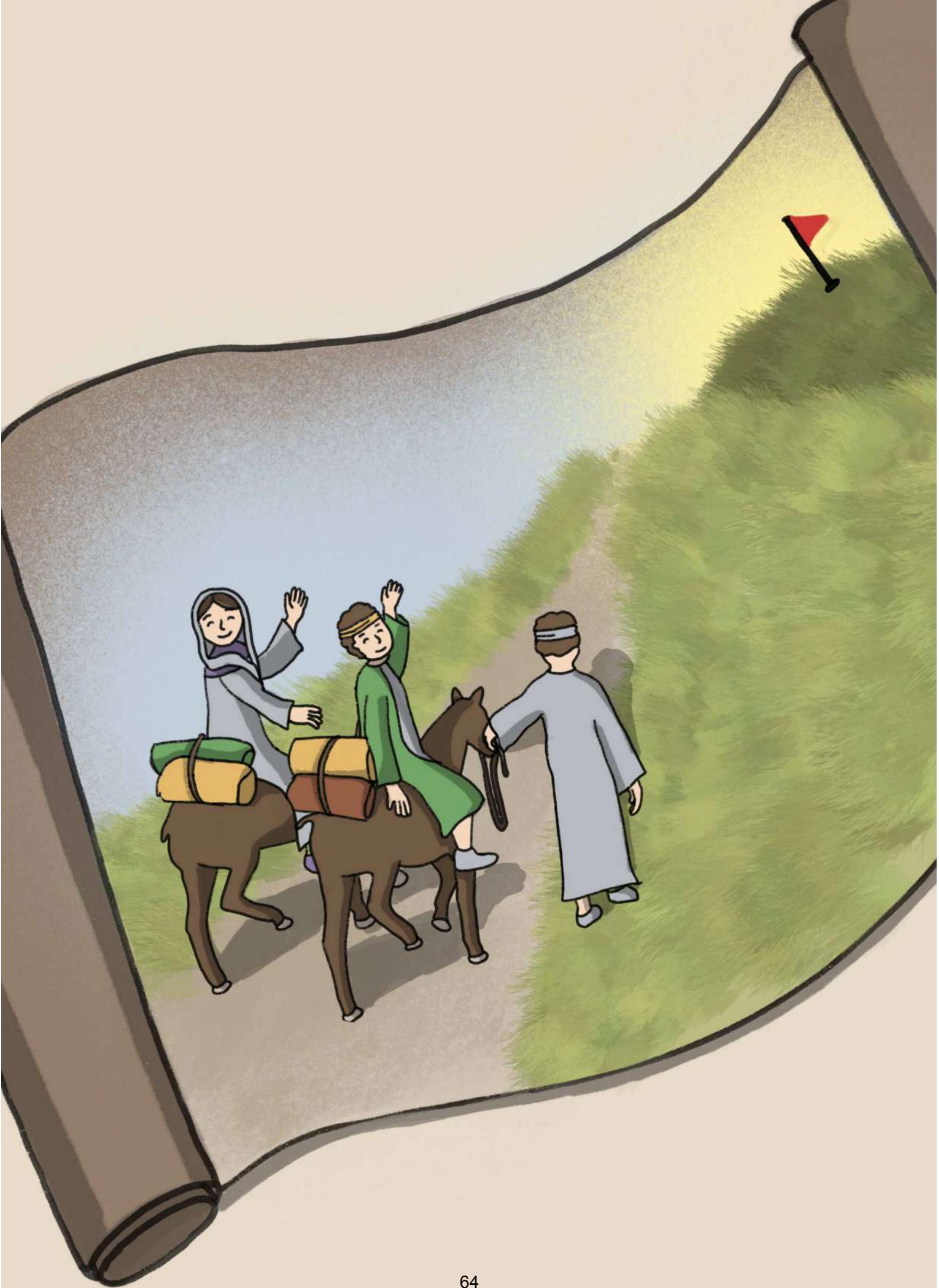
I love you so much my children.

Much Love. God

Dear God

Aren't I in your grace just like Noah who was chosen to be saved? Aren't I blessed like Abram who was called before you? For I know who you are and what you have done for me. It is the proof that I believe in your name and try to follow your words. But the thing is.. Abram wasn't that impressive. You know, he made her wife lie and used her to protect himself. Though he should be the one who protects his wife! But besides all these, you took his side and protected their marriage and lives. God, please protect my life as well. Because I am just like him, always making mistakes. But I won't leave you. I will follow you despite of all my faults. You would do that for me, too, right? I love you my God! I do!

Yours forever. I



9. Abraham, the new name of Abram.

(Genesis 17:1-27)

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to him and said,

"I am God Almighty; walk before me and obey my command. Be blameless."

"Yes, Lord!"

"I will confirm my covenant between me and you and will greatly increase your numbers. You will be the father of many nations."

Abram fell facedown, and God said to him,

"No longer will you be called Abram."

"Then, what would you call me?"

"Your name will be Abraham."

"Abraham?"

"It means father of many nations"

"Yes, my God."

God blessed Abraham.

"I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you."

"I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you.."



God continued to bless on Abraham.

“The whole land of Canaan, where you are now an alien, I will give as an everlasting possession to you and your descendants after you; and I will be their God.”

“Yes, Lord!”

God kept on saying.

“As for you, you must keep my covenant, you and your descendants after you for the generations to come.”

“Lord! Then, tell me about the covenant.”

“This is my covenant. Every male among you must be circumcised.”

“Circumcised?”

“Yes. It will be the sign of the covenant between me and you.”

Abraham kept this in mind to remember and keep the covenant.

“Okay, when should I do this?”

“When they become eight days old.”

“Then, only our family member should do that?”

“No, not just your family, but also those born in your household or bought with money from a foreigner should be circumcised.”

“I get it, Father.”

“My covenant in your flesh is to be an everlasting covenant.”

Circumcision is a sign of the descendants of Abraham and of God.

“Lord! What if someone doesn't want to be circumcised?”



“Any uncircumcised male, who has not been circumcised in the flesh, will be cut off from his people; he has broken my covenant.”

“Yes, I will keep that in mind.”

After God said these to Abraham, he called all the men of his household.

“God gave me the covenant, today. If we keep this covenant well, we have an everlasting sign that we are the children of God and we have our whole lives in blessing of God.”

“What is this covenant?”

“All male should be circumcised.”

“We servants, as well?”

“Sure, every male of this household.”

Ishmael, the son of Abraham, the servants born in his household and bought with money from a foreigner, every male among the family of Abraham was circumcised that day.

Abraham was circumcised, too. He was 99 years old and his son, Ishmael was 13 years old.

That day, the family of Abraham kept the covenant of God through this circumcision.

“Abraham will surely become a great and powerful nation, and all nations on earth will be blessed through him. “ (Genesis 18:18)

Everlasting Covenant



Dear my sons and daughters!

I showed myself to Abraham again and made sure that my promise was real.

The promise that I have made to Abraham, to be a father of many nations.

I told him more details. First, I gave him the new name, the name of the meaning 'A father of many nations' Then, I gave him a visible sign that every male of his household should be circumcised. So when their descendants increase, they set apart from other nations.

What about now, you guys?

In Old Testament, circumcision is the sign, while in New Testament, the baptism is the sign. You, my children, believe in Jesus, confess Jesus is your savior and get baptized when you grow up.

I love you so much my children.

Much Love, God

Dear God

Oh, we have a sign, too! The baptism! I can't be baptized for I am too young. But when I grow up then I will be. I can't wait to be baptized! Until then, I will make you happy and pleased with my every day. Just like Abraham worshiped everywhere he went so I will worship every day, everywhere I go with joy.

Every day I will read your covenant bible! And pray for my unbelieving family and friends. Because through Abraham, his household also became yours, not just Abraham himself. I will try myself, too.

Thank you and love you.

Yours forever, I



10. The falling of Sodom and Gomorrah

(Genesis 18:16-19:29)

The Lord appeared to Abraham and said,

“The outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is so great and their sin so bad, that I will go down and see if what they have done is as bad as the outcry that has reached me. If not, I will know..”

The angels turned away and looked down toward Sodom, but Abraham remained standing before the LORD.

Then Abraham approached him and said

"Will you sweep away the good with the bad? What if there are fifty good people in the city? Will you really sweep it away and not spare the place for the sake of the fifty good people in it?

Far be it from you to do such a thing--to kill the good with the bad, treating the good and the bad alike. You can't do that. I know you are the righteous Judge of all the earth."

"Abraham, my son! If I find fifty good people in the city of Sodom, I will spare the whole place for their sake."

Then Abraham spoke up again,

"Though I am nothing but dust and ashes, I speak to you now, my Lord, What if the number of the good is five less than fifty? Will you destroy the whole city because of five people?"

"If I find forty-five there, I will not destroy it."

"What if only forty are found there?"

"For the sake of forty, I will not do it."

"May the Lord not be angry, but let me speak. What if only thirty can be found there?"



"I will not do it if I find thirty there."

"Now that I have been so bold as to speak to the Lord, what if only twenty can be found there?"

"For the sake of twenty, I will not destroy it."

"May the Lord not be angry, but let me speak just once more. What if only ten can be found there?"

"For the sake of ten, I will not destroy it."

As soon as he had finished speaking to Abraham the LORD left and Abraham returned home.

The two angels arrived at Sodom in the evening, and Lot was sitting in the gateway of the city. When he saw them, he got up to meet them and bowed down with his face to the ground.

"My lords, please turn aside to your servant's house. You can wash your feet and spend the night and then go on your way early in the morning."

"No, "we will spend the night in the outside."

But he insisted so strongly that they did go with him and entered his house. He prepared a meal for them.

"Bang! Bang! Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us so that we can have some fun with them."

Lot went outside to meet them and shut the door behind him and said,

"No, my friends. Don't do this bad thing. Look, I have two daughters who have never slept with a man. Let me bring them out to you, and you can do what you like with them. But don't do anything to these men,"

"Get out of our way, You are acting like a judge. Now we will treat you worse than them. We will kill you."



Then the angels inside reached out and pulled Lot back into the house and shut the door. Then they struck the men who were at the door of the house, young and old, with blindness so that they could not find the door. The two angels said to Lot,

"Do you have anyone else here--sons-in-law, sons or daughters, or anyone else in the city who belongs to you? Get them out of here, because we are going to destroy this place. The outcry to the LORD against its people is so great that he has sent us to destroy it."

So Lot went out and spoke to his sons-in-law. But his sons-in-law thought he was joking. With the coming of dawn, the angels urged Lot, saying that they should runaway outside of the city right now, but he hesitated. So the angels grasped their hands and led them safely out of the city,

"Go, quickly! Don't look back, and don't stop anywhere in the plain! Flee to the mountains or you will be swept away!"

"No, my lords, please! I can't flee to the mountains; this disaster will overtake me, and I'll die. Look, here is a town near enough to run to, and it is small. Let me flee to it--it is very small, isn't it? Then my life will be spared."

"Very well, I will grant this request. I will not do anything until you reach it."

The name of the town was called Zoar. By the time Lot reached Zoar, the sun had risen over the land. Then the LORD rained down burning sulfur on Sodom and Gomorrah--from the LORD out of the heavens. God overthrew those cities, and all the valley, and all the inhabitants of the cities. Ahhh... But Lot's wife looked back!!! So she became a pillar of salt.

*But Lot's wife looked back, and she became a pillar of salt.
(Genesis 19:26)*



Dear my sons and daughters!

People ran toward the way that made themselves destroy and fall. They just didn't know the end of their sins. People in Sodom and Gomorrah are so naughty and bad. They always tried to harm each other and never stopped.

I couldn't stand it anymore. Did you see how hard Abraham prayed for them to me? So I listened to his prayer. If only 10 good people have been there, I would not have destroyed them. The family of Lot got saved for Abraham prayed for him. So when you have problem, you have to ask for pray to your believing friends and family, of course you should pray, too. And try not to leave those who have really good faith, faithful leaders. Just stay with them, learn from them and be like them. I love you my children.

Much Love. God

Dear God

God! I think Sodom and Gomorrah still exist! Sometimes, when I watch Tv, I am so terrified and feel bad. Bad people and bad cities are here in these days, as well.

My parents said about gay people who tried to make a voice about their marriage and rights and we need to pray for them not to be against your law. Also they said about Sodom and Gomorrah. Because at that time in Sodom and Gomorrah, people did man and man, woman and woman relations and that were really bad behaviors. It is really sad that in those cities, there were no good people, not even 10. You wanted there were 10 good people, right? So that you could forgive. For you are pleased to forgive. I don't want to make you sad. I won't be against your law. Because I love you more than my rights, Father.

Thank you for forgiving my dirty sins and saved me.

I love you God!

Yours forever. I



11. Sacrifice your son Isaac as an offering (Genesis 17:15~19, 18:9~15, 21:1~22:19)

One day, at the age of 99, God said to Abraham,

"As for Sarai your wife, you are no longer to call her Sarai; her name will be Sarah.

"My LORD? Sarah means the mother of all nations, but we have none."

I will bless her and will surely give you a son by her. I will bless her so that she will be the mother of nations; kings of peoples will come from her."

Abraham fell facedown; he laughed and said to himself,

'Will a child be born to me, one hundred years old? And will Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear a child?'

"Your wife Sarah will bear you a son, and you will call him Isaac. I will establish my covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his descendants after him."

The LORD appeared to Abraham near the great trees of Mamre and asked him,

"Where is your wife Sarah?"

"There, in the tent,"

"I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife will have a son."

Now Sarah was listening at the entrance to the tent, which was behind him and she laughed to herself as she thought,



"After I have become old and my husband is older than me, will I now have a baby?"

Then the LORD said to Abraham,

"Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Will I really have a child, now that I am old? Is anything too hard for the LORD? I will return to you at the appointed time next year and Sarah will have a son.'"

Then the LORD took note of Sarah as He had said, and the LORD did for Sarah as He had promised. Sarah became pregnant and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the very time God had promised him. Abraham gave the name Isaac to the son Sarah bore him. When his son Isaac was eight days old, Abraham circumcised him, as God commanded him.

When Isaac grew old enough to carry the woods, God tested Abraham. He said to him,

"Abraham!"

"Here I am,"

"Take your son, your only son, Isaac, whom you love, and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains I will tell you about."

Early the next morning Abraham got up and saddled his donkey. He took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. When he had cut enough wood for the burnt offering, he set out for the place God had told him about. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. He said to his servants,

"Stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. We will worship and then we will come back to you."



Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife.

"Dad?"

"Yes, my son?"

"The fire and wood are here, but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?"

"God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son."

They went on together. When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. But the angel of the LORD called out to him from heaven,

"Abraham! Abraham!"

"Here I am,"

"Do not lay a hand on the boy, "Don't do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son."

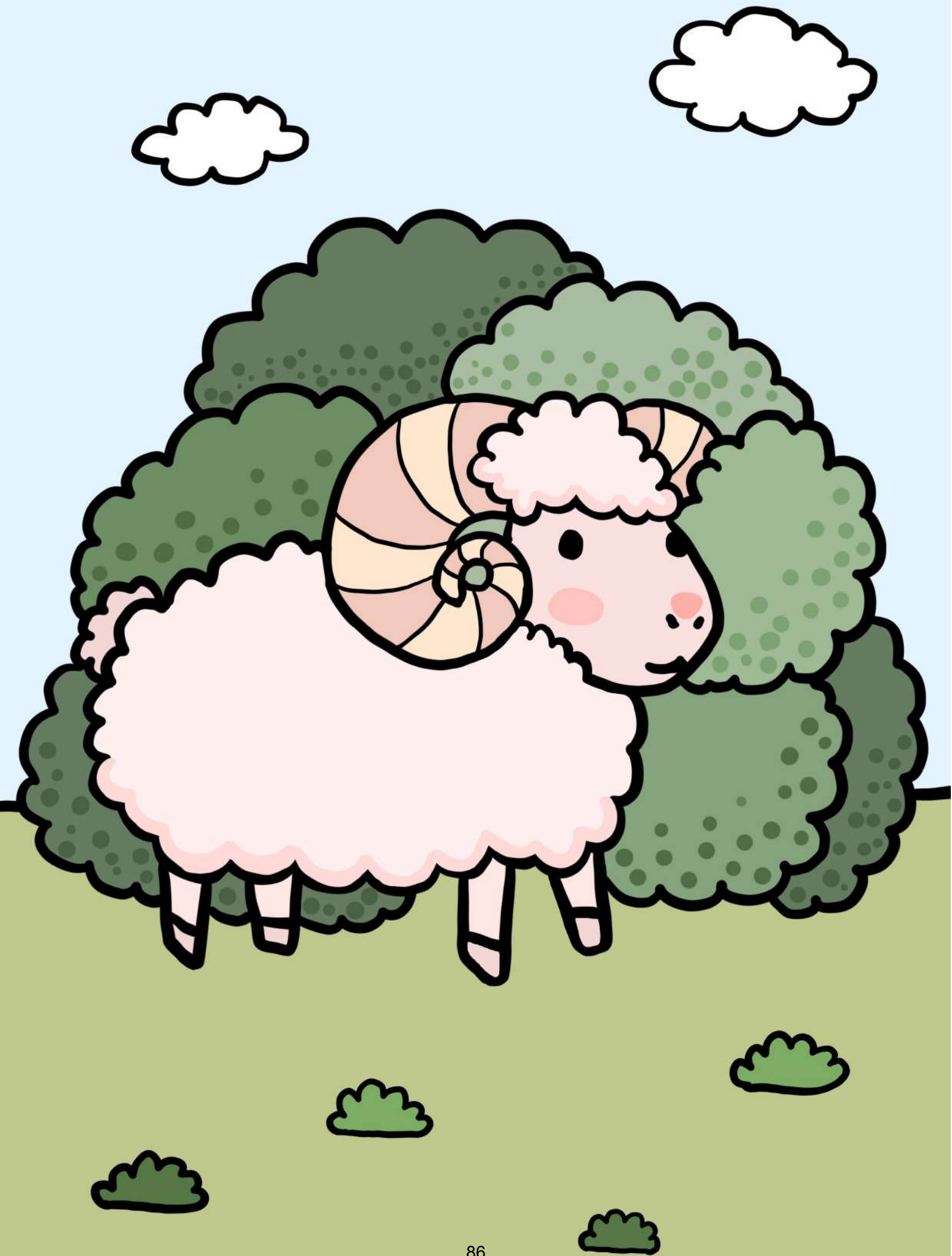
Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. The angel of the LORD called to Abraham from heaven a second time and said,

"I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me."

Then Abraham returned to his servants, and they set off together for Beersheba. And Abraham stayed in Beersheba.

"Do not lay a hand on the boy," he said. "Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son."

(Genesis 22:12)



Dear my sons and daughters!

Abraham had never disappointed me. It's not easy to obey my command that sacrifice his only son. But he didn't hesitate for a moment, just left early the next morning. Just imagine how he felt during that journey with his son to the mountain in Moriah. He had his son Isaac at the age of 100 years old and he took care for him but that! I asked him to sacrifice him to me. Maybe he felt angry at me. But when he bound his son Isaac, laid him on the altar, and took the knife to slay his son for me, I was so impressed. He surrendered his feelings and thoughts and 100% trusted me that I am a good good father. That's why he became the father of faith. I love you my children.

Much Love. God

Dear God

Wow, it is true God that Abraham is the father of faith. He deserves to be respected. But his son Isaac, he was great, too! He carried the woods for himself! It's just like Jesus carrying the cross for himself. Instead of burnt offering, his father bound him and lay on the altar, but Isaac didn't resist at all the whole time. You didn't either, Jesus. You didn't resist when God the father asked you to carry the cross. And the lamb! God prepared the lamb for himself, it reminded me of you. Instead of our sins, you took our places. How can I thank you enough Jesus, thank you for protecting me all the time. I love you so much.

Yours forever. I



12. Marriage of Isaac and Rebekah (Genesis 24:1-67)

Abraham became very old. He thought about the marriage of Isaac, his son. Abraham said to his servant, the oldest of his household, who had charge of all that he owned,

"Put your hand under my thigh. I want you to swear by the LORD, the God of heaven and the God of earth, that you will not get a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I am living, but will go to my country and my own relatives and get a wife for my son Isaac."

"Master! What if the woman is unwilling to come back with me to this land? Shall I then take your son back to the country you came from?"

"No! Make sure that you do not take my son back there, The LORD, the God of heaven, who brought me out of my father's household and my native land and who spoke to me and promised me on oath, saying, 'To your offspring I will give this land'-he will send his angel before you so that you can get a wife for my son from there. If the woman is unwilling to come back with you, then you will be released from this oath of mine. Only do not take my son back there."

So the servant put his hand under the thigh of his master Abraham and swore an oath to him concerning this matter.

Then the servant took ten of his master's camels and left, taking with him all kinds of good things from his master. He set out for Mesopotamia and made his way to the town of Nahor, brother of Abraham.

Outside the town, there was the well.

"Rest, kneel down here, camels."



It was toward evening, the time the women go out to draw water. Then he prayed,

"O LORD, God of my master Abraham, gives me success today, and show kindness to my master Abraham. See, I am standing beside this spring, and the daughters of the townspeople are coming out to draw water. May it be that when I say to a girl, 'Please let down your jar that I may have a drink,' and she says, 'Drink, and I'll water your camels too'-let her be the one you have chosen for your servant Isaac. By this I will know that you have shown kindness to my master."

Before he had finished praying, a beautiful young virgin came out with her jar on her shoulder. She went down to the spring, filled her jar and came up again. The servant hurried to meet her and said,

"Please give me a little water from your jar."

"Drink, my lord,"

She said, and quickly lowered the jar to her hands and gave him a drink. After she had given him a drink, she said,

"I'll draw water for your camels too, until they have finished drinking."

So she quickly emptied her jar into the trough, ran back to the well to draw more water, and drew enough for all his camels. Without saying a word, the man watched her closely to learn whether or not the LORD had made his journey successful. When the camels had finished drinking, the man took out a gold nose ring weighing a beka and two gold bracelets weighing ten shekels. Then he asked,

"Whose daughter are you? Please tell me, is there room in your father's house for us to spend the night?"



"I am the daughter of Bethuel, the son that Milcah bore to Nahor. We have plenty of straw and fodder, as well as room for you to spend the night."

Then the man bowed down and worshiped the LORD, saying,

"Praise to the LORD, the God of my master Abraham, who has not abandoned his kindness and faithfulness to my master. As for me, the LORD has led me on the journey to the house of Nahor, my master's brother."

Rebekah ran and told her family about these things. Now Rebekah had a brother named Laban, and he went out to the man and found him standing by the camels near the spring. Laban took him to his house, fed his camels and brought water for the servant and his men with him to wash their feet. Then food was set before him, but the servant said,

"I will not eat until I have told you what I have to say."

"Then tell us,"

The servant told them all about Abraham living in Canaan, the oath he swore to him, the prayer before he met Rebekah.

"Now, tell me honestly what would you do with Rebekah?"

"This is from the LORD; we can say nothing to you one way or the other. Here is Rebekah; take her and go, and let her become the wife of your master's son, as the LORD has directed."

Then Rebekah and her maids went back with the man. So the servant took Rebekah and left. Then she met Isaac. Isaac brought her into the tent of his mother Sarah, and he married Rebekah. So she became his wife, and he loved her.

And I bowed down and worshiped the LORD. I praised the LORD, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me on the right road to get the granddaughter of my master's brother for his son. (Genesis 24:48)



Dear my sons and daughters!

Abraham lived in Cannan but he couldn't get the daughter of law from Cannanite, the foreigner. So he planned to get her from his relatives and called his best servant and made him swear by me. Abraham believed in me that I could lead him and his son Isaac. Just like him, his servant also had that same faith in me. He prayed to me for details about his plan and next he moved. I loved them so much that I couldn't help getting Rebekah as wife of Isaac.

I hope you too have this same faith in me that I always lead you wherever you go.

I love you my children.

Much Love. God

Dear God

My God! I was nervous that what if Rebekah's family might say no to the servant. But Rebekah didn't say no and went with him, so I relieved. I didn't trust you even while in this story. So I was concerned, "What if he fails?" I am so embarrassed that I have no faith in you.

Isaac, a believing husband and Rebekah, a young lovely wife! Congratulation!

The wedding shows that God is always with us and lead us. I will marry the man you choose!

Love you, Father

Yours forever. I



13. God shows himself to Isaac

(Genesis 26:1-35)

Now there was a famine in the land--besides the earlier famine of Abraham's time--and Isaac went to Abimelech king of the Philistines in Gerar.

The LORD appeared to Isaac and said,

"Do not go down to Egypt; live in the land where I tell you to live."

"Yes, Lord!"

"Stay in this land for a while, and I will be with you and will bless you. For to you and your descendants I will give all these lands and will confirm the oath I swore to your father Abraham. I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky because Abraham obeyed me and kept my requirements, my commands, my decrees and my laws."

So Isaac stayed in Gerar. The men of that place asked him about his wife, Rebekah.

"Wow she is so beautiful. Who is she? Is she your.."

"She is my sister."

When Isaac had been there a long time, One day, Abimelech king of the Philistines looked down from a window and saw Isaac hug his wife Rebekah.

"What? He said she was his sister! Get him to me, right now!"

"You lied to me, Isaac. She is not your sister but your wife! Why did you say, 'She is my sister'?"



"Because I thought I might lose my life on account of her."

"What is this you have done to us? One of the men might well have slept with your wife, and you would have brought guilt upon us."

So Abimelech gave orders to all the people

"Anyone who touches this man or his wife shall surely be put to death."

Isaac planted crops in that land and the same year reaped a hundredfold, because the LORD blessed him. He became rich, and his wealth continued to grow until he became very wealthy. He had so many flocks and herds and servants that the Philistines envied him.

"I don't like them. They are not one of us but look! They are richer than us! Let's fill all the wells of them with dust."

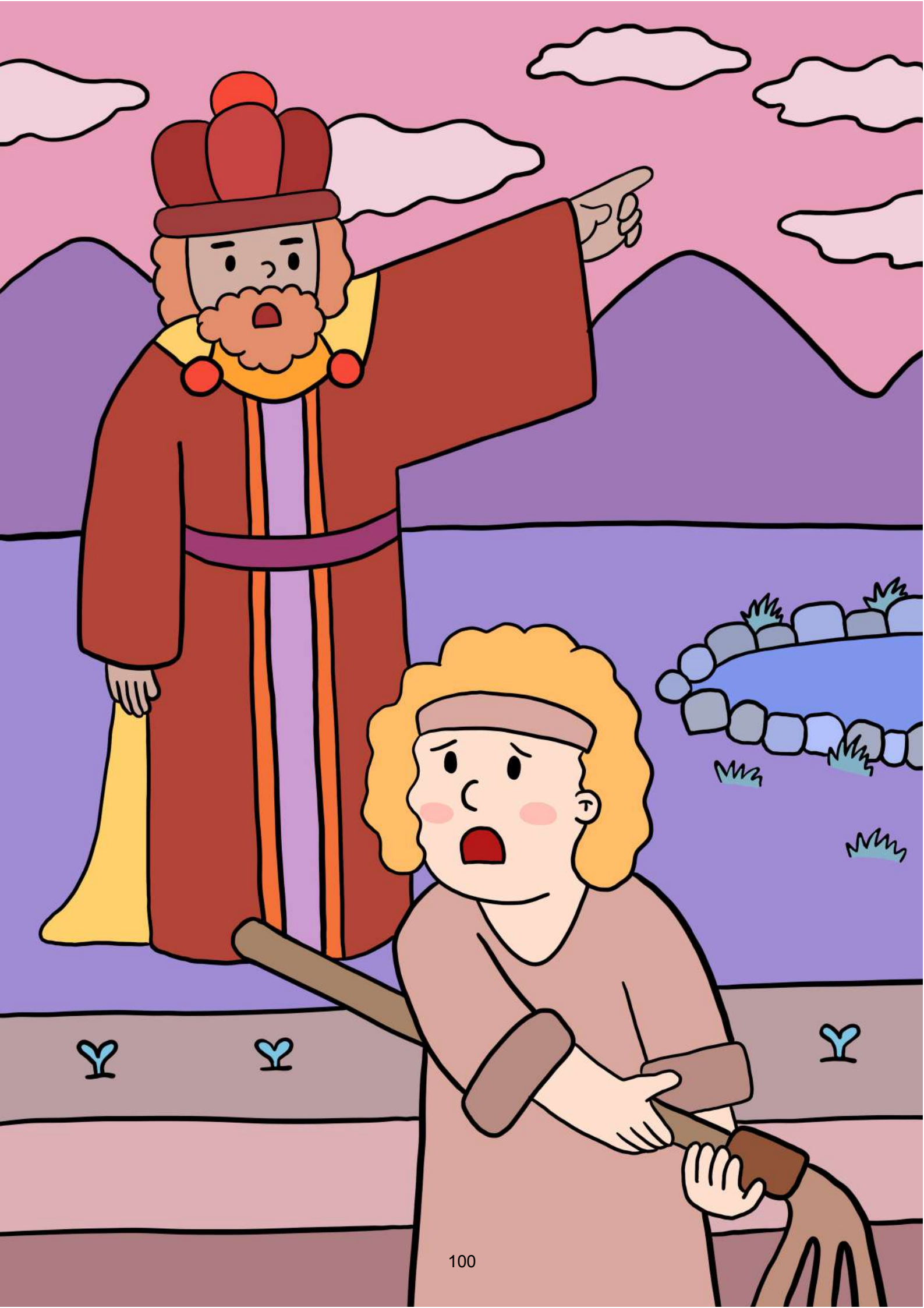
Then Abimelech said to Isaac,

"Move away from us; you have become too powerful for us."

So Isaac moved away from there and encamped in the Valley of Gerar and settled there. Isaac reopened the wells that had been dug in the time of his father Abraham, which the Philistines had stopped up after Abraham died, and he gave them the same names his father had given them. Isaac's servants dug in the valley and discovered a well of fresh water there. But the herdsmen of Gerar came and said,

"The water is ours!"

"Guys, let's go to another well, and named this well 'Esek' because they fight with us."



Then they dug another well, but they quarreled over that one also. So Isaac named it Sitnah, which means hatred. He moved on from there and dug another well, and no one quarreled over it. He named it Rehoboth, saying,

"Now we call this Rehoboth, the deep water. At last the LORD has made room for us, and we will be fruitful in the land."

From there he went up to Beersheba.
That night the LORD appeared to him and said,

"I am the God of your father Abraham. Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bless you and will increase the number of your descendants for Abraham."

Isaac built an altar there and called on the name of the LORD. There he pitched his tent, and there his servants dug a well.

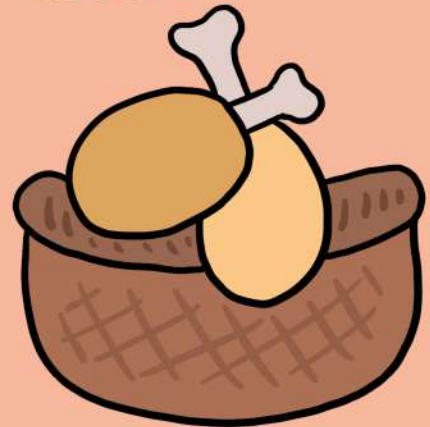
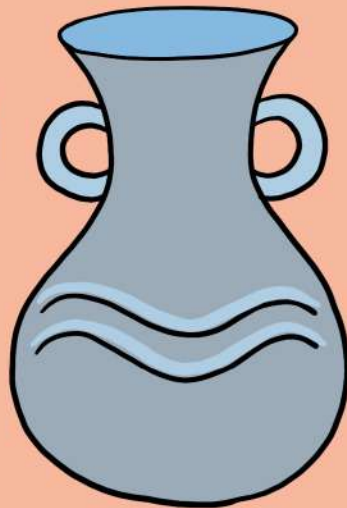
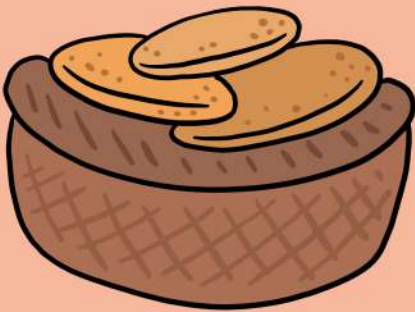
Then, Abimelech had come to him with his forces.

"Why have you come to me, since you hated me and sent me away?"

"We saw clearly that the LORD was with you; so we said, 'There ought to be a sworn agreement between us'-between us and you. Let us make a treaty with you that you will do us no harm, just as we did not touch you but always treated you well and sent you away in peace. And now you are blessed by the LORD."

Isaac then made a feast for them, and they ate and drank. Early the next morning the men swore an oath to each other. Then Isaac sent them on their way, and they left him in peace.

They answered, "We saw clearly that the LORD was with you; so we said, 'There ought to be a sworn agreement between us'—between us and you. Let us make a treaty with you (Genesis 26:28)



Dear my sons and daughters!

I showed myself to Isaac for I would keep my promise to Abraham.

I blessed him, giving lands, descendants and made him wealthy.

Abraham obeyed me and kept my requirements, my commands, my decrees and my laws. So all of his sons also got blessed through Abraham. Let's take a closer look at the family. Adam, Abel, Noah, Shem, Abraham, Isaac. I am so proud of them. Of course some of them had mistakes but they lived with faith. Through this line Jesus, my son was born as well. That is the most blessing.

I hope you to be in this line, too. Don't go anywhere.

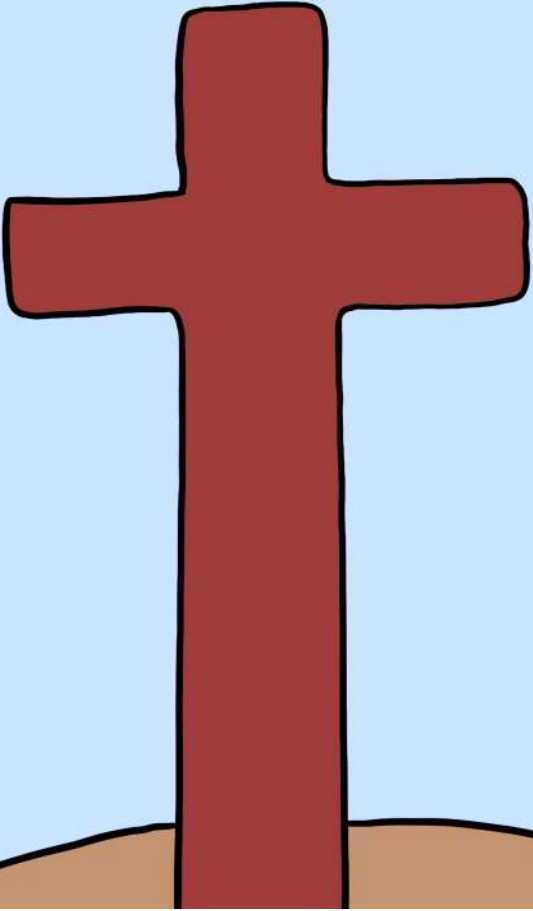
I love you my children.

Much Love. God

Dear God

I laughed a lot when Isaac lied about Rebekah as his sister. He was just like his father, Abraham. They both had beautiful wives and both had lied about them. But still you showed yourself to them both and blessed them! You are so good good Father. And I learned about the meanings of the wells of Isaac. It was so interesting! I love your story and I love you my God!

Yours forever. I



14. Jacob and Esau, Twins of Isaac

(Genesis 25:19~34, 27:1~23)

Isaac prayed to the LORD for his wife, because she couldn't have a baby. The LORD answered his prayer, and his wife Rebekah became pregnant.

"They may be twins! They are fighting each others. What should we do?"

"Oh no! Let's ask God."

The Lord said,

"Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples from within you will be separated; one people will be stronger than the other, and the older will serve the younger."

When the time came for her to give birth, there were twin boys indeed. The first to come out was red, and his whole body was so hairy. Next, his brother came out, with his hand grasping the older's heel.

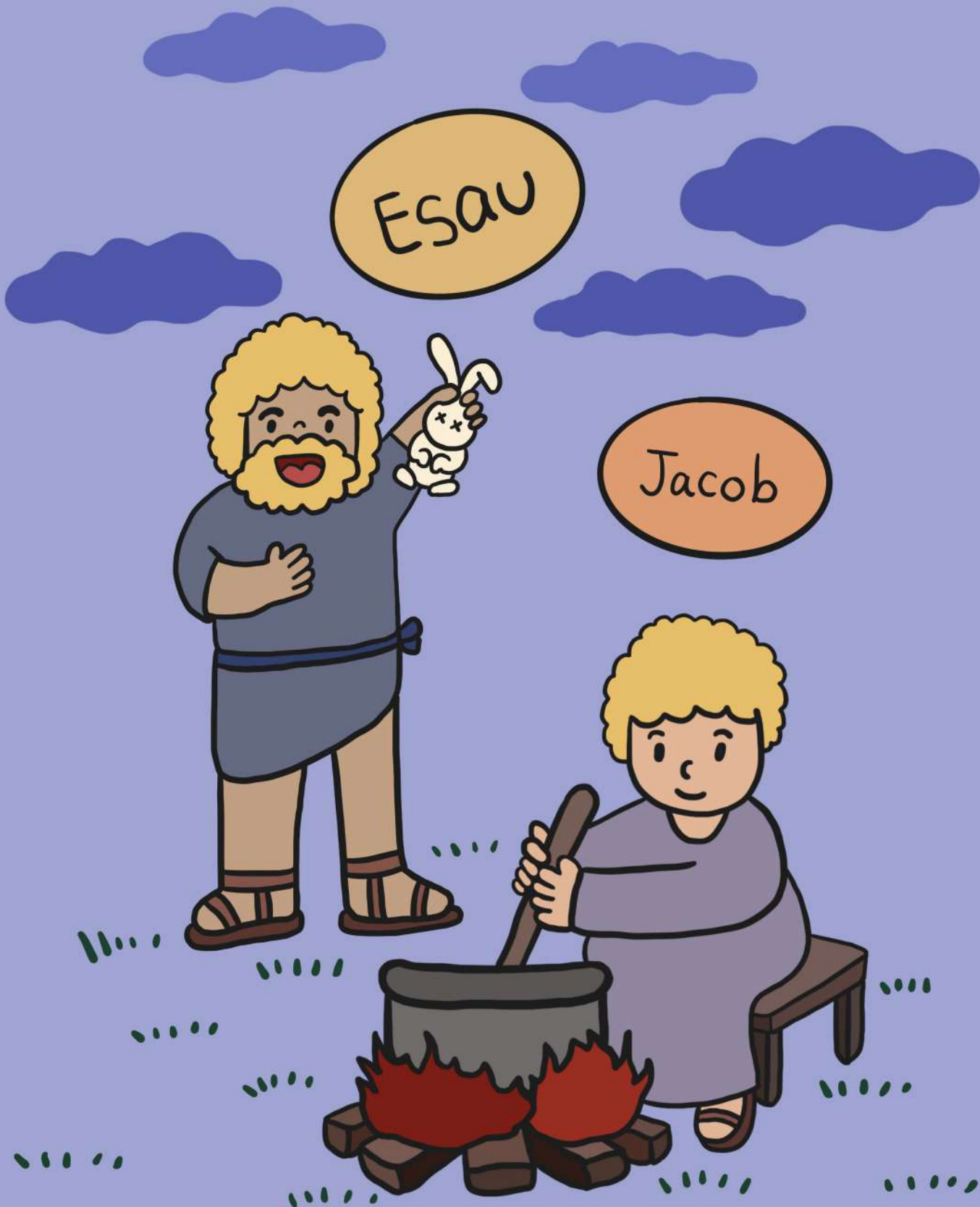
"Let's name the older Esau, the hairy one, and Jacob the grasping one."

The boys grew up, and Esau became a skillful hunter, a man of the open country, while Jacob was a quiet man, staying among the tents.

Isaac, who had a taste for wild meat, loved Esau, but Rebekah loved Jacob.

Once when Jacob was cooking some stew, Esau came in from the open country, starving. He said to Jacob,

"Quick, let me have some of that red stew! I starve to death!"



"Is that right? First sell me your birthright, and then I will give you this."

"Look, I am about to die. What good is the birthright to me? Bring it to me, right now! "

"Swear to me first, brother."

"Okay, okay, I swear to give you my birthright, okay?"

Then Jacob gave Esau some bread and some lentil stew. He ate and drank, and then got up and left. So Esau despised his birthright.

When Isaac was old and his eyes were so weak that he could no longer see, he called for Esau his older son and said to him,

"My son."

"Here I am,"

"I am now an old man and don't know the day of my death. Now then, go out to the open country to hunt some wild meat for me. Prepare me the kind of tasty food I like and bring it to me to eat, so that I may give you my blessing before I die."

Now Rebekah was listening as Isaac spoke to his son Esau. When Esau left for the open country to hunt a wild animal and bring it back, Rebekah said to her son Jacob,

"Look, I overheard your father say to your brother Esau to bless him before he dies. Now, my son, you are the one to be blessed. Listen carefully and do what I tell you"

"Tell me, mother."

"Go out to the flock and bring me two choice young goats, so I can prepare some tasty food for your father, just the way he likes it. Then take it to your father to eat, so that he may give you his blessing before he dies."



"But my brother Esau is a hairy man, and I'm a man with smooth skin.

What if my father touches me? I would appear to be tricking him and would bring down a curse on myself rather than a blessing."

"My son, let the curse fall on me. Just do what I say; go and get them for me."

So he went and got them and brought them to his mother, and she prepared some tasty food, just the way his father liked it. Then Rebekah took the best clothes of Esau her older son, which she had in the house, and put them on her younger son Jacob. She also covered his hands and the smooth part of his neck with the goatskins. Then she handed to her son Jacob the tasty food and the bread she had made. He went to his father and said,

"My father."

"Yes, my son, Who is it?"

"I am Esau your firstborn. I have done as you told me. Please sit up and eat some of my game so that you may give me your blessing."

"How did you find it so quickly, my son?"

"The LORD your God gave me success,"

"Come near so I can touch you, my son, to know whether you really are my son Esau or not."

Jacob went close to his father Isaac, who touched him and said,

"The voice is the voice of Jacob, but the hands are the hands of Esau."

He did not recognize him, for his hands were hairy like those of his brother Esau; so he blessed him.

Jacob said, "Swear to me now." So he swore to him and sold his birthright to Jacob. (Genesis 25:33)



Dear my sons and daughters!

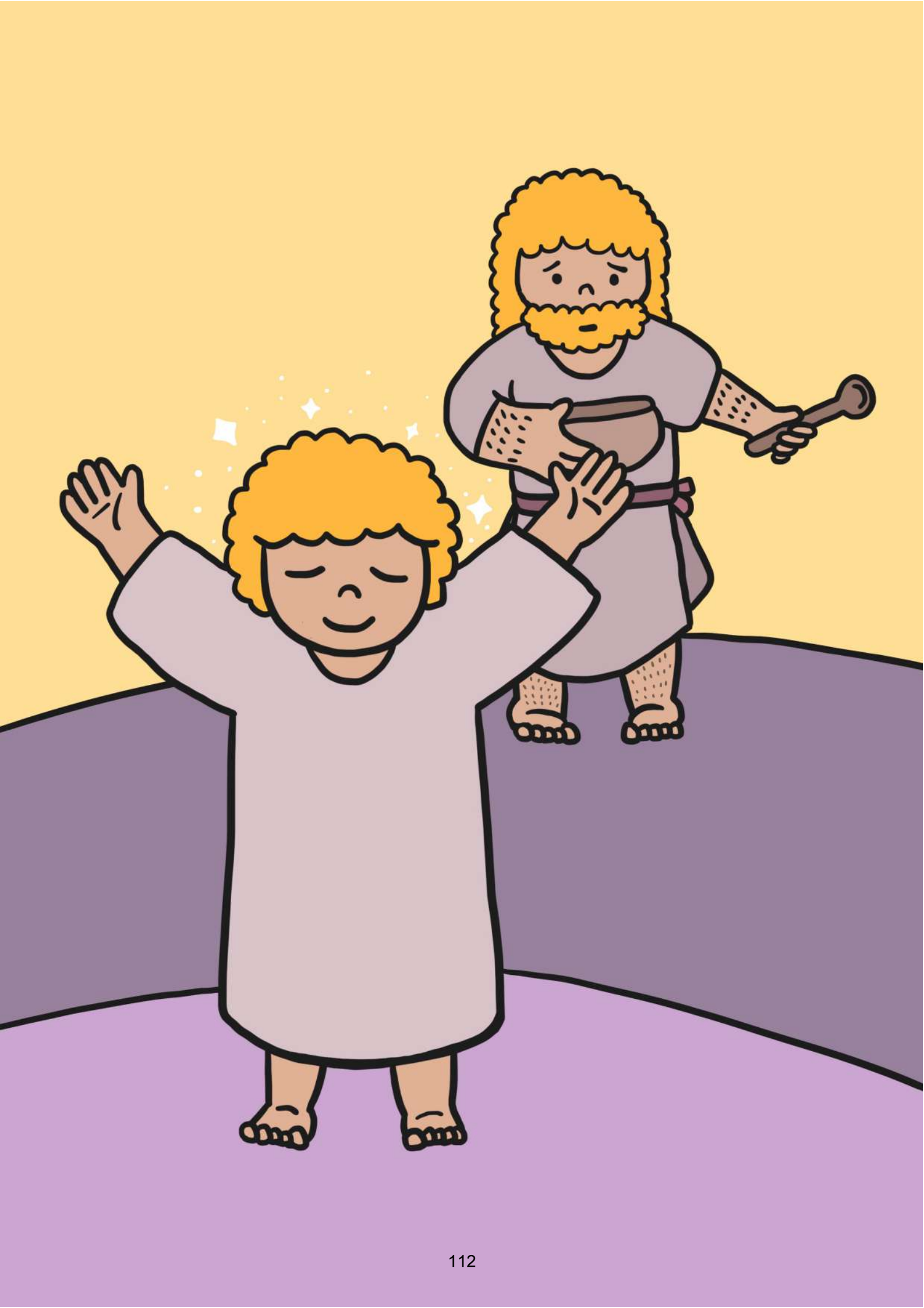
Esau didn't think the blessing of birthright was worthwhile for him. Therefore his blessing was taken away from him and Jacob took it. Abraham had Isaac and Isaac had Esau and Jacob by prayer. I told Rebekah that the older one would serve the younger before they were born. But Rebekah couldn't wait. Without these tricks, I already had in mind that I would bless Jacob. I hope you guys to trust me so that you don't have to trick or lie to get your blessing. Okay?
I love you my children.

Much Love. God

Dear God

I don't like Jacob. He was a sissy and nasty! Even when he was born, he held his brother's feet! That was so greedy. He cheated on Esau and took away his birthright, and lied to his father! I don't know how he could be blessed by those bad behaviors. I have heard this "God of Abraham, God of Isaac and God of Jacob!" How? In next story, I hope I would understand.
Still, I love you Father!

Yours forever. I



15. Jacob receives the blessing (Genesis 27:24-28:5)

Isaac blessed Jacob.

“May God give you of heaven's dew and of earth's richness-- an abundance of grain and new wine. May nations serve you and peoples bow down to you. Be lord over your brothers, and may the sons of your mother bow down to you. May those who curse you be cursed and those who bless you be blessed.”

After Isaac finished blessing him and Jacob had left his father's presence, his brother Esau came in from hunting.

He too prepared some tasty food and brought it to his father. Then he said to him,

"My father, sit up and eat some of my meat so that you may give me your blessing."

"Who are you?"

"I am your son, your firstborn, Esau."

Isaac trembled violently and said,

"Who was it, then, that hunted meat and brought it to me?"

"Huh? Dad! I am bringing this to you, now!"

"No! I ate it just before you came and I blessed him--and indeed he will be blessed!"

When Esau heard his father's words, he burst out with a loud and bitter cry and said to his father,

"Bless me--Me too, my father!"

"Your brother came deceitfully and took your blessing."



"But dad! He is different from my voice and skin. How could you be deceived?"

"Well, the voice is the voice of Jacob, but the hands are the hands of you and I could smell yours in his clothes."

"Isn't he rightly named Jacob? Just like his name means, he has deceived me these two times: He took my birthright, and now he's taken my blessing!" Then he asked, "Haven't you reserved any blessing for me?"

"I'm sorry, my son. I have made him lord over you and have made all his relatives his servants, grain and new wine. So what can I possibly do for you, my son?"

Esau cried out to his father,

"Do you have only one blessing, my father? Bless me too, my father!"

"Your house will be away from the earth's richness, away from the dew of heaven above. You will live by the sword and you will serve your brother. "

Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing his father had given him.

"After my father's death, I will kill my brother Jacob."

When Rebekah heard what her older son Esau had said, she sent for her younger son Jacob and said to him,

"My dear, Jacob. Your brother Esau is thinking of killing you. Now then, my son, do what I say"

"Tell me, mother."



“Flee at once to my brother Laban in Haran. Stay with him for a while until your brother's fury dies down. When your brother is no longer angry with you and forgets what you did to him, I'll send word for you to come back from there. Why should I lose both of you in one day?”

Then Rebekah said to Isaac,

"I'm disgusted with living because of these Hittite women. If Jacob takes a wife from among the women of this land, from Hittite women like these, my life will not be worth living."

So Isaac called for Jacob and said

"Do not marry a Canaanite woman. Take a wife for yourself from among the daughters of Laban, your mother's brother."

“Yes, father. I will go to Paddan Aram, to the house of my mother's family.”

“May God Almighty bless you and make you fruitful and increase your numbers until you become a community of peoples.

May he give you and your descendants the blessing given to Abraham, so that you may take possession of the land where you now live as an alien, the land God gave to Abraham.”

Then Isaac sent Jacob on his way, and he went to Paddan Aram, to Laban the brother of Rebekah, who was the mother of Jacob and Esau.

May he give you and your descendants the blessing given to Abraham, so that you may take possession of the land where you now reside as a foreigner, the land God gave to Abraham.” (Genesis 28:4)



Dear my sons and daughters

Jacob was eager to be blessed by me. Of course he chose wrong ways to take my blessing. But my children, the kingdom of heaven has been forcefully advancing, and forceful men lay hold of it. Just as he was blessed, Jacob had lived on good lands, producing lots of grain, he had ruled over all nations. He was with the source of blessing. But Esau had lived on rocky mountain and his people always were at war and ruled by Israelites.

So keep in mind that my blessing is going to the one who obeys me and desires me all. I wish you will be my blessed ones, my children.

I love you so much.

Much Love. God

Dear God

Jacob's story is really interesting, Father! Jacob, the liar, deceived his brother and father and took away God's blessing! He did take blessing but he had to run away from home. So that was his punishment I guess. He couldn't see his mother and lived with Laban. I was nervous that Esau wanted to kill Jacob. He was about to do it, right? But thanks to Rebekah, his mom, Jacob avoided the crisis and went to Laban with God's blessing. I can't wait for the next story!!

I love you Father!

Yours forever. I



16. Jacob met God in Bethel

(Genesis 28:10~29:14)

Jacob left Beersheba where he had lived in and set out for Haran. When he reached a certain place, he stopped for the night because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones there, he put it under his head and lay down to sleep.

He had a dream in which he saw amazing things.

“Wow, what a long ladder! It sets up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven! And look! The angels of God are ascending and descending on it!”

He couldn't take his eyes off and then, there above it stood the LORD God.

Surprisingly, God spoke to Jacob.

"I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your children the land on which you are lying.

Your children will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your children.

I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.“

Jacob awoke from his sleep with surprise and said,

"Oh! I am tremble with fear. How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven."



So Jacob rose early in the morning, and took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up as a pillar and poured oil on its top. He called the name of that place Bethel. Though, previously the name of the city had been Luz.

Then Jacob made a vow, saying,

"If God will be with me and will keep me on this journey that I take, and will give me food to eat and clothes to wear so that I return safely to my father's house, then the LORD will be my God and this stone that I have set up as a pillar will be God's house, and of all that you give me I will give you a tenth."

Then Jacob went on his journey, and came to the land of the eastern peoples. There he saw a well in the field, with three flocks of sheep lying near it because the flocks were watered from that well. The stone over the mouth of the well was large. At that time, when all the flocks were gathered there, the shepherds would roll the stone away from the well's mouth and water the sheep. Then they would return the stone to its place over the mouth of the well and move on. So Jacob wondered where they came from.

"Hello! Shepherds, my brothers, where are you from?"

"We're from Haran,"

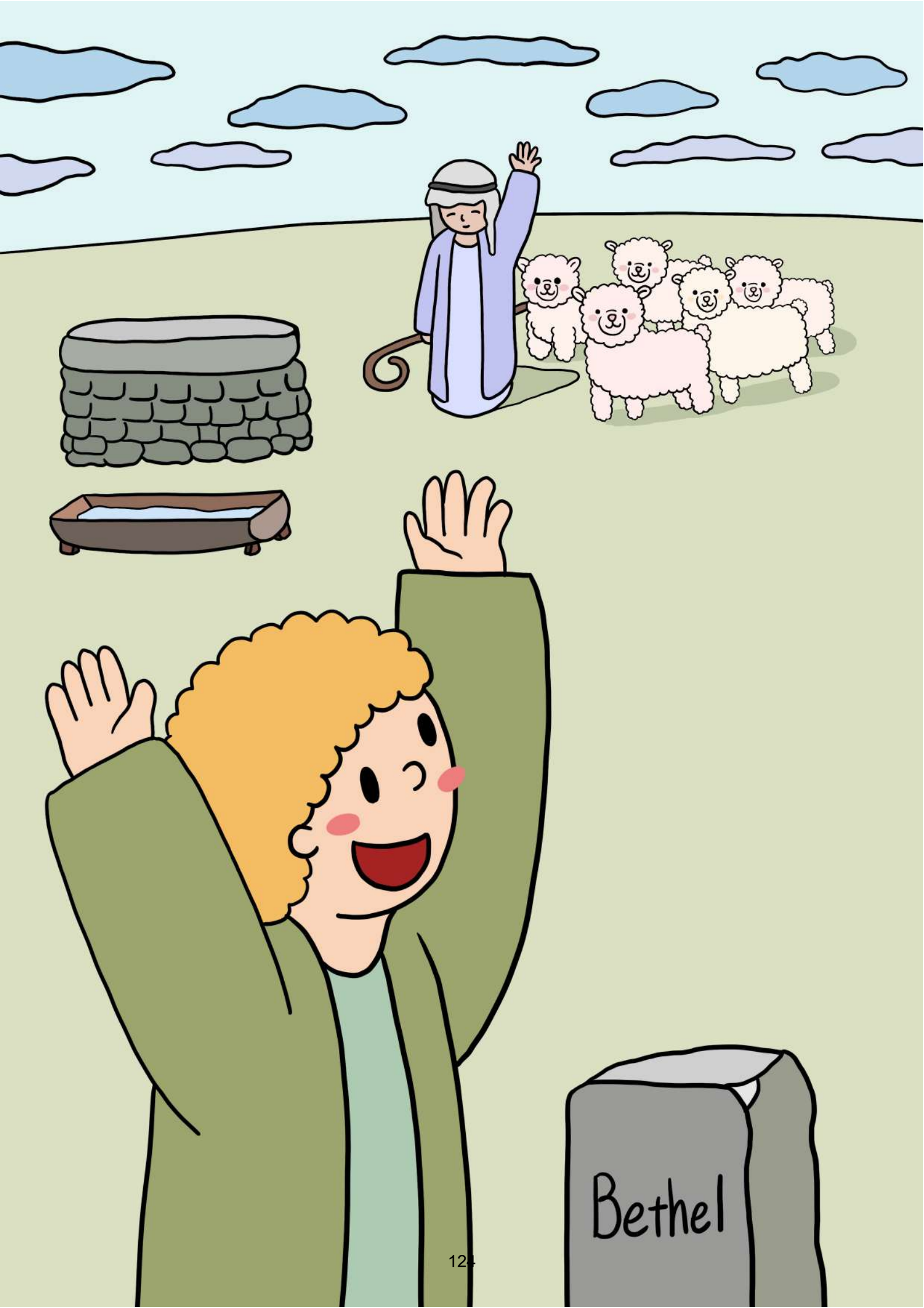
"Do you know Laban, Nahor's grandson?"

"Yes, we know him,"

"Is he well?"

"Yes, he is. Look! Here is Rachel his daughter coming with the sheep."

"Oh! I see. Thanks for letting me know. Now, the sun is still high; Water the sheep and take them back to pasture"



Bethel

"We can't until all the flocks are gathered and the stone has been rolled away from the mouth of the well. Then we will water the sheep."

While he was still talking with them, Rachel came with her father's sheep, When Jacob saw Rachel, he went over and rolled the stone away from the mouth of the well and watered his uncle's sheep. Then Jacob kissed Rachel and began to weep aloud.

"Who are you..?"

"I'm a relative of your father and a son of Rebekah."

So she ran and told her father.

As soon as Laban heard the news about Jacob, his sister's son, he hurried to meet him. He hugged and kissed him.

"Uncle Laban! It's me, Jacob!"

"Jacob! My boy, you are welcomed here. It's really good to see you!"

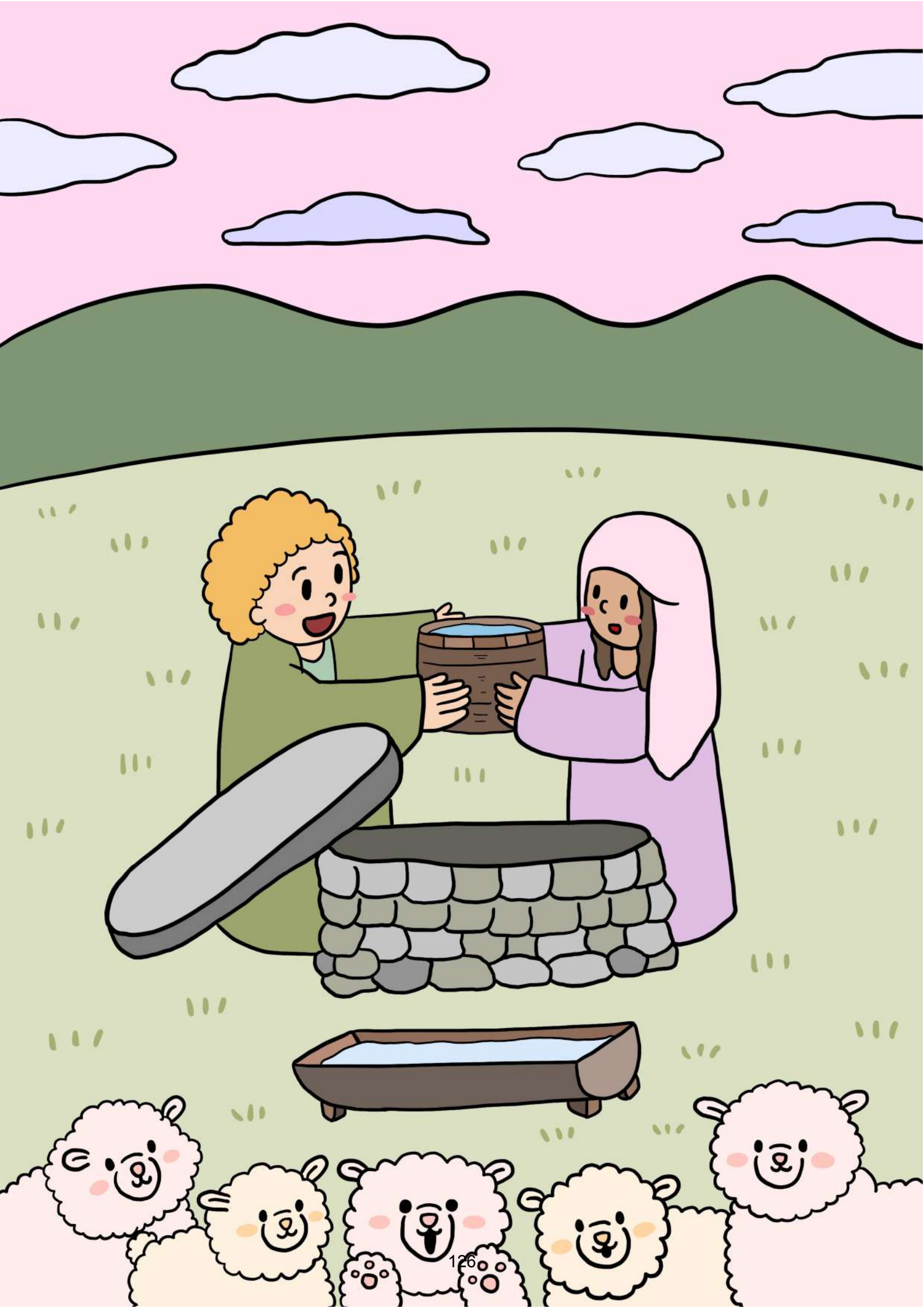
Laban brought him to his home, and there Jacob told him all these things.

Then Laban said to him,

"You are my own flesh and blood."

After Jacob had move to the house of Laban, he live with Laban`s family and Rachel tending the sheep and working for the house.

I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." When Jacob awoke from his sleep, he thought, "Surely the LORD is in this place, and I was not aware of it." (Genesis 28:15-16)



Dear my sons and daughters!

It's little sad that Jacob left his home and walked alone, even though he was blessed. Imagine how lonely and scared when he set off on a long journey alone. Besides, he was worried about Esau, who was angry with Jacob and wanted to kill him. That is why I appeared to Jacob when he lay down to sleep with a stone under his head. I wanted to tell him that I would always be with him.

You are too, my beloved children. So don't forget that I always be with you guys.

I love you so much.

Much Love. God

Dear God

Father!

When I listened to the songs about 'Bethel', I was always curious about the meaning of it. Now I know it is in the Bethel where Jacob met God. I want to meet you just as Jacob met you.

You talked with lot of people in Old Testament.

I want you to talk to me a lot just like you did to them.

Please meet me and speak to me, father!

I don't mind how you will call me "You, little naughty girl!" or "My dear sweetie!"

Either way, I would love it.

I love you, father!

Yours forever. I



17. Jacob stays in blessing of God (Genesis 30:25~32:32)

After Rachel gave birth to Joseph, Jacob said to Laban,

"Uncle, Laban! Send me on my way so I can go back to my own homeland. Give me my wives and children, for whom I have served you, and I will be on my way. You know how much work I've done for you."

"If now it pleases you, stay with me; I know very well that the LORD has blessed me because of you. Tell me your wages, and I will pay them"

"You had little before I came and it has increased greatly, and the LORD has blessed you wherever I turned. But now, I want to have my own household."

"Yeah, yeah. What shall I give you?"

"Don't give me anything. But if you will do this one thing for me, I will again pasture and keep your flock."

"Alright. What is it? Tell me."

"Let me go through all your flocks today and remove from them every speckled or spotted sheep, every dark-colored lamb and every spotted or speckled goat. They will be my wages."

"Agreed."

"Later, check on the wages you have paid me. Any goat in my possession that is not speckled or spotted, or any lamb that is not dark-colored, will be considered stolen."

"Very well, then.."

That same day Laban separated the goats and lambs just like Jacob told him to do. Then he put a distance of three days' journey between the flocks of himself and Jacob's.

Now Jacob tend the rest of Laban's flocks.



He took fresh-cut branches from poplar, almond and plane trees and made white stripes on them by peeling the bark. Then he placed the peeled branches in all the watering troughs, so that they would be directly in front of the flocks when they came to drink. The flocks came to drink and mated in front of the branches. And they bore young that were streaked or speckled or spotted. He separated flocks for himself and did not put them with Laban's animals.

“Oh! You are the strong one. I will place these branches for you, so mate here and bore young for me, okay?”

If the animals were weak, he would not place them there. So the weak animals went to Laban and the strong ones to Jacob. In this way Jacob grew exceedingly rich and came to own large flocks, and many servants and camels and donkeys.

Then Laban’s sons were saying,

“Jacob has taken away all that was our father's, and became rich.”

Laban's attitude toward Jacob was not what it had been. Then the LORD said to Jacob,

"Go back to the land of your fathers and to your relatives, and I will be with you."

So Jacob called Rachel and Leah.

"I see that your father's attitude toward me is not what it was before, but the God of my father has been with me. You know that I've worked for your father with all my strength, yet your father has cheated me by changing my wages ten times. But God has not allowed him to harm me."



“We know all you have done to our father, Jacob. We know very well.”

“The angel of God said to me in the dream, ‘I am the God of Bethel, where I showed myself to you. Now leave this land at once and go back to your native land.’”

“Okay. Do what God told you to do.”

Then Jacob put his children and his wives on camels and he drove away all his livestock and all his property which he had gathered to go to his father Isaac.

Moreover, Jacob didn’t tell Laban that he was running away. 3 days later, Laban knew Jacob had fled. Taking his relatives with him, Laban pursued Jacob for seven days and caught up with him.

"What have you done, Jacob? Why did you run off secretly and deceive me? Why didn't you tell me, so I could send you away with joy and feasting. You didn't even let me say goodbye to my grandchildren and my daughters. I have the power to harm you; but I won't. Because last night, God said to me, 'Be careful not to say anything to Jacob, either good or bad.'"

Then Laban told Jacob to make a covenant.

"What can I do this day to these my daughters, grandchildren and flocks. Come now, let's make a covenant, you and I, and let it serve as a witness between us."

So Jacob took a stone and set it up as a pillar and told Laban’s relatives to gather some stones and piled them in a heap. Then they promised not to harm each other. Early the next morning Laban kissed his grandchildren and his daughters and blessed them. Then he left and returned home.

Surely all the wealth that God took away from our father belongs to us and our children. So do whatever God has told you. (Genesis 31:16)



Dear my sons and daughters!

I made Jacob rich for I kept the promise that I blessed him before. That's why the flocks became streaked or speckled or spotted. Jacob had to leave house of Laban. Because Laban worship idols. Rachel stole the idol when she ran away from his father. She took her house-gods along the way. So their journey was not easy. After Jacob knew about it, he told her to throw it away. At last, they went their way peacefully. If you have your God besides me in your house or in your mind, you have to get rid of it. You worship and serve me, only one true God.

I love you, my children.

Much Love. God

Dear God

Father! We are still in Jacob's story? I thought now we can move on to story of Joseph. Anyway, now Jacob is finally ready to go home. I think Jacob was really smart. What would happen to him if he didn't believe in you? I think he would be a fraud or Israel's best hustler. If he is still alive in our days then he would be a great investor like Warren Buffett. But the thing is that you was with him. That is all that counts. I love you God, be with me, too.

Yours forever. I



