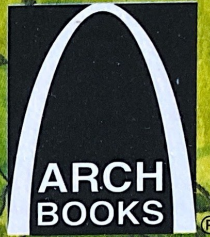


LEARNING BIBLE STORIES IS FUN WITH

JESUS' FIRST MIRACLE



JESUS' FIRST MIRACLE

John 2:1-11 for children

Written by Vivian Dede
Illustrated by Chris Wold Dyrud



Arch® Books

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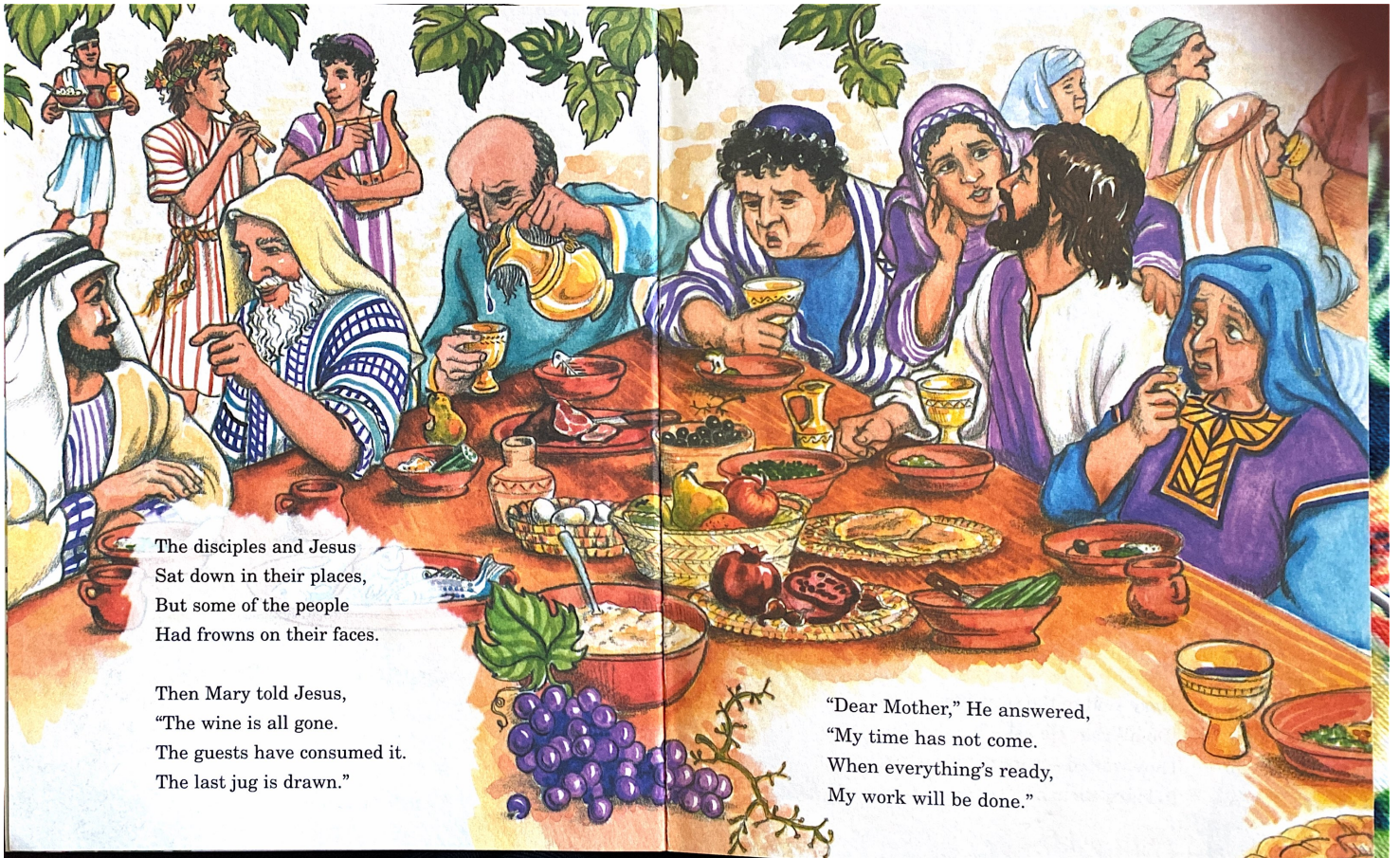
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The people had gathered.
What feasting! What fun!
A marriage in Cana
Had finally begun.

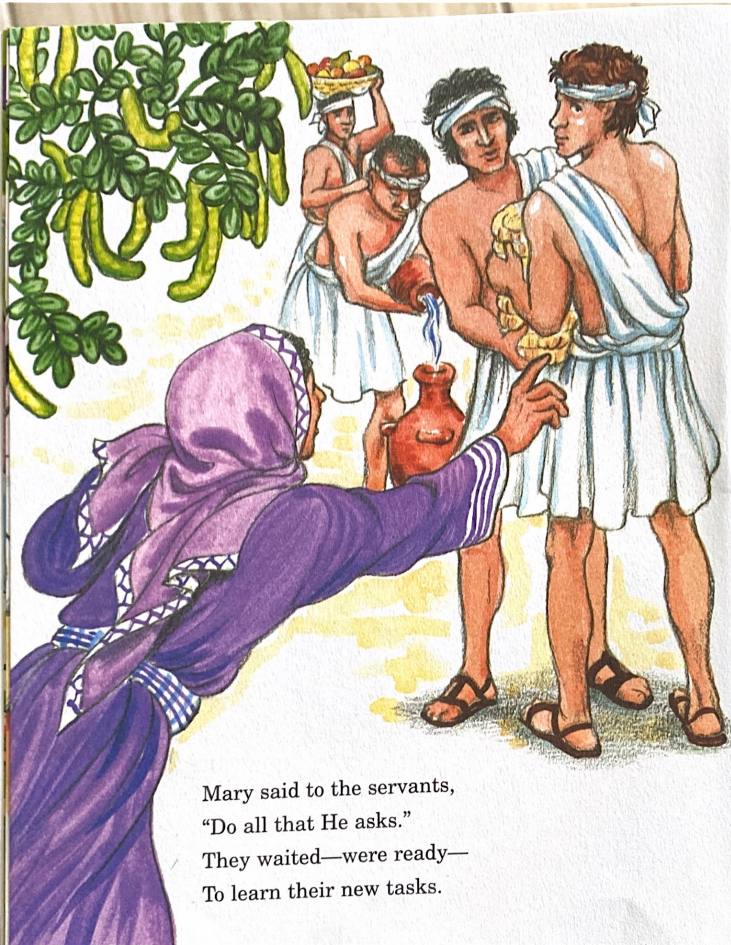
Many guests were invited,
And Jesus came, too.
Plus disciples and Mary,
It made quite a few!



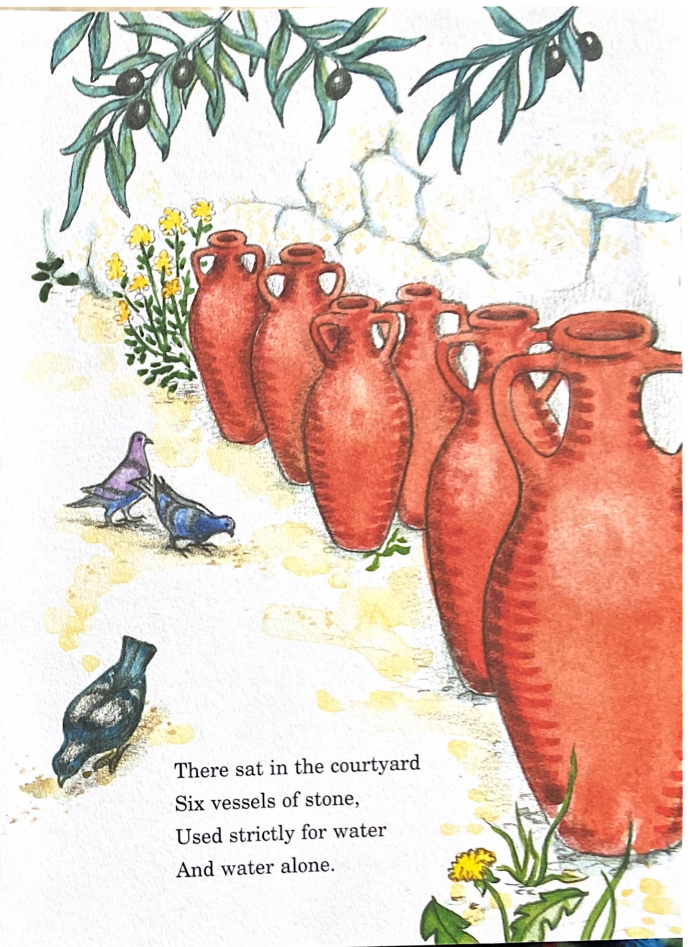
The disciples and Jesus
Sat down in their places,
But some of the people
Had frowns on their faces.

Then Mary told Jesus,
"The wine is all gone.
The guests have consumed it.
The last jug is drawn."

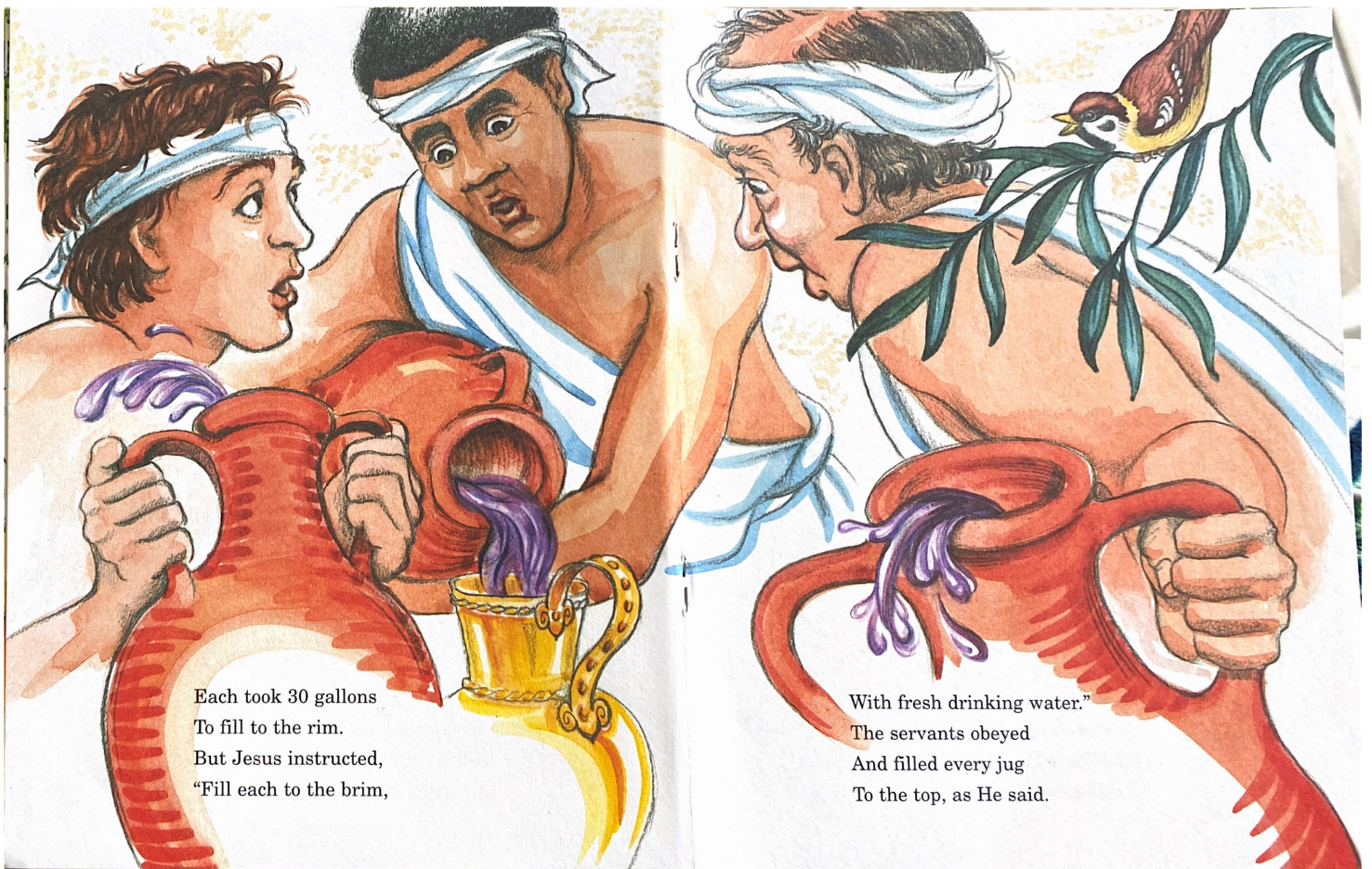
"Dear Mother," He answered,
"My time has not come.
When everything's ready,
My work will be done."



Mary said to the servants,
"Do all that He asks."
They waited—were ready—
To learn their new tasks.

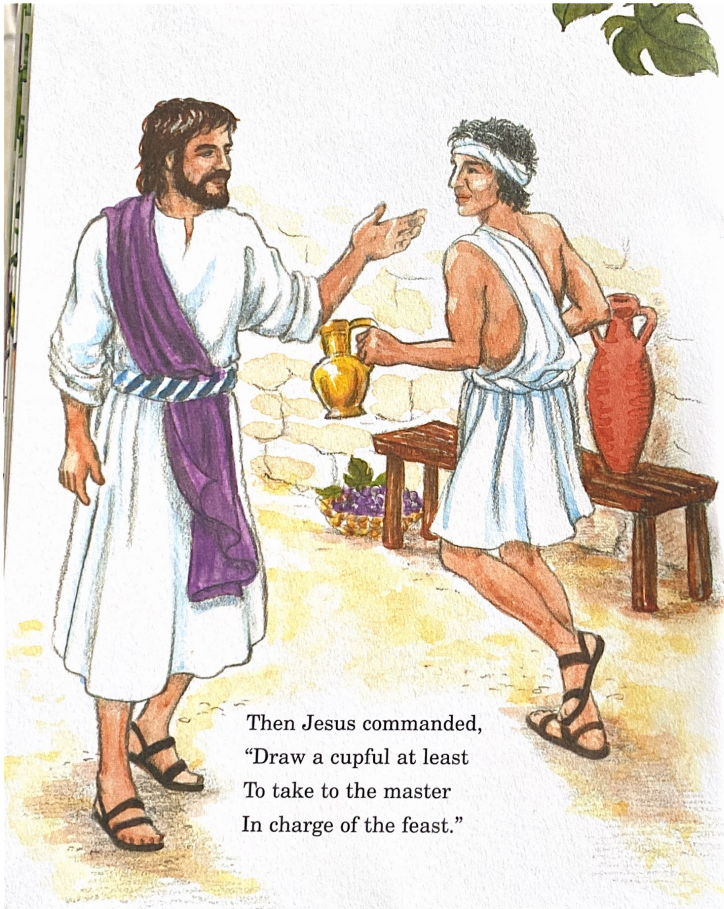


There sat in the courtyard
Six vessels of stone,
Used strictly for water
And water alone.

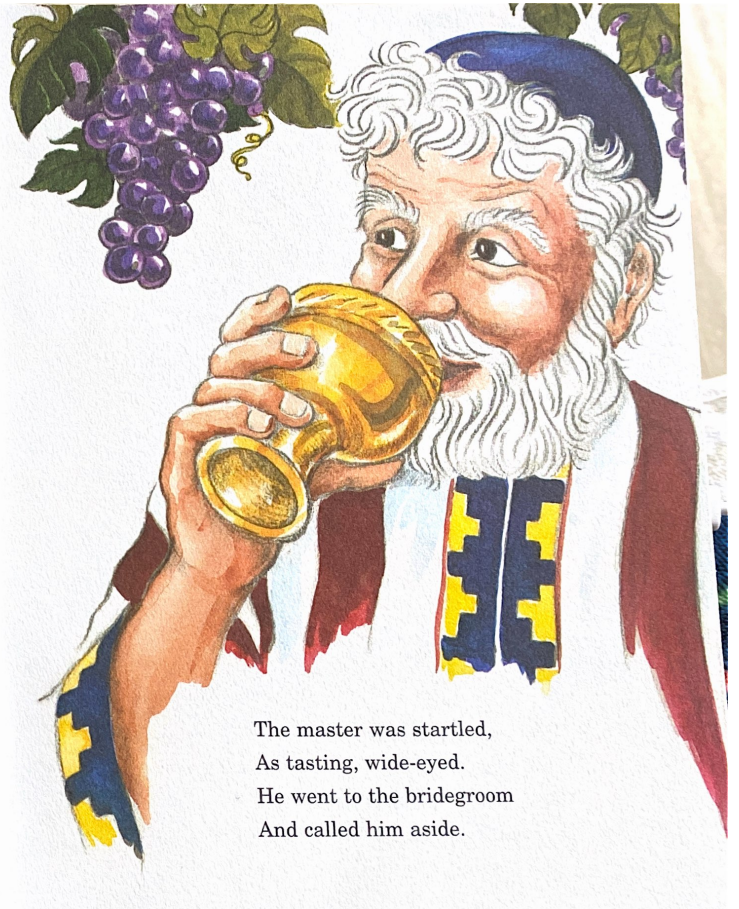


Each took 30 gallons
To fill to the rim.
But Jesus instructed,
"Fill each to the brim,

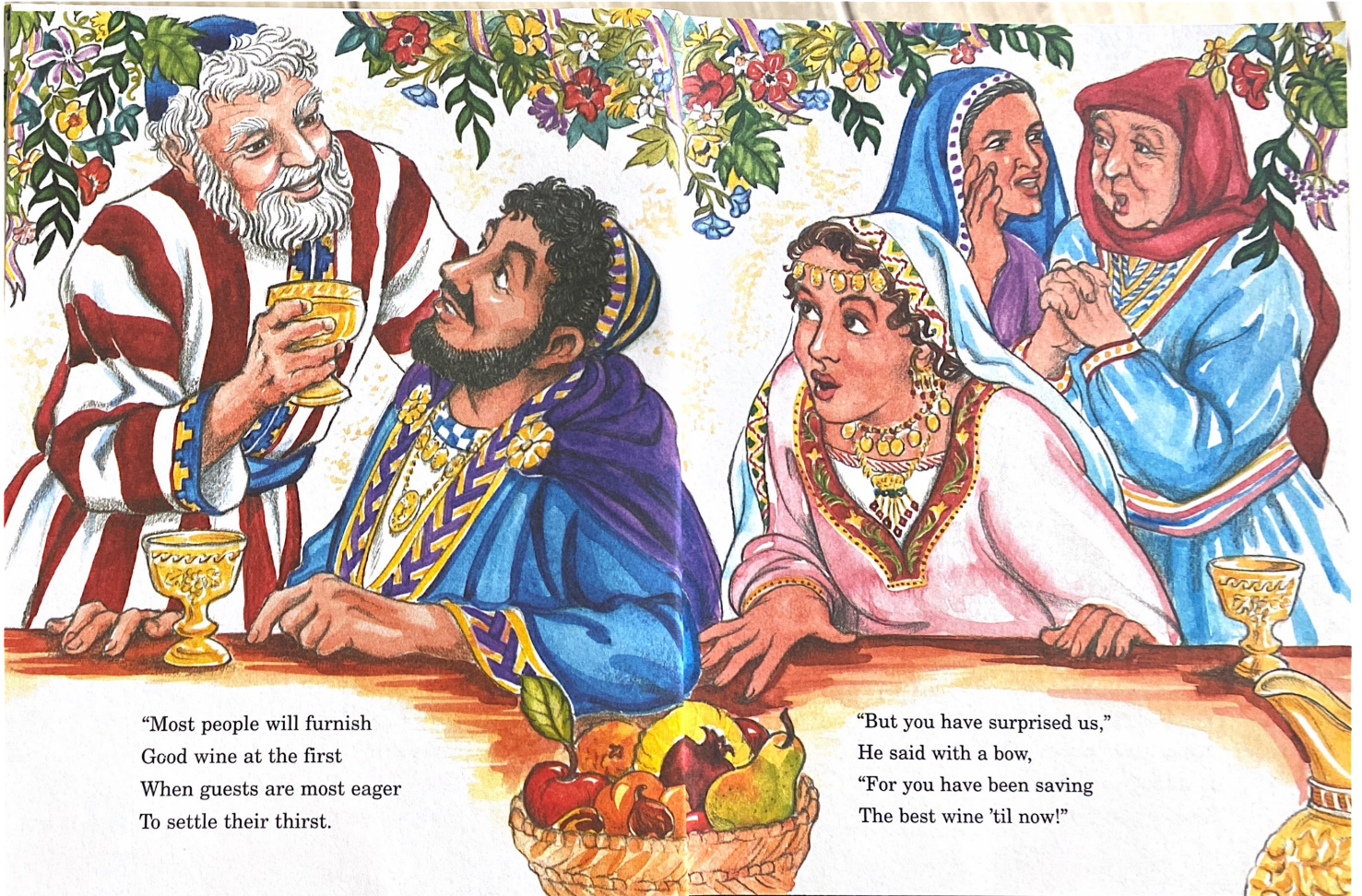
With fresh drinking water."
The servants obeyed
And filled every jug
To the top, as He said.



Then Jesus commanded,
"Draw a cupful at least
To take to the master
In charge of the feast."

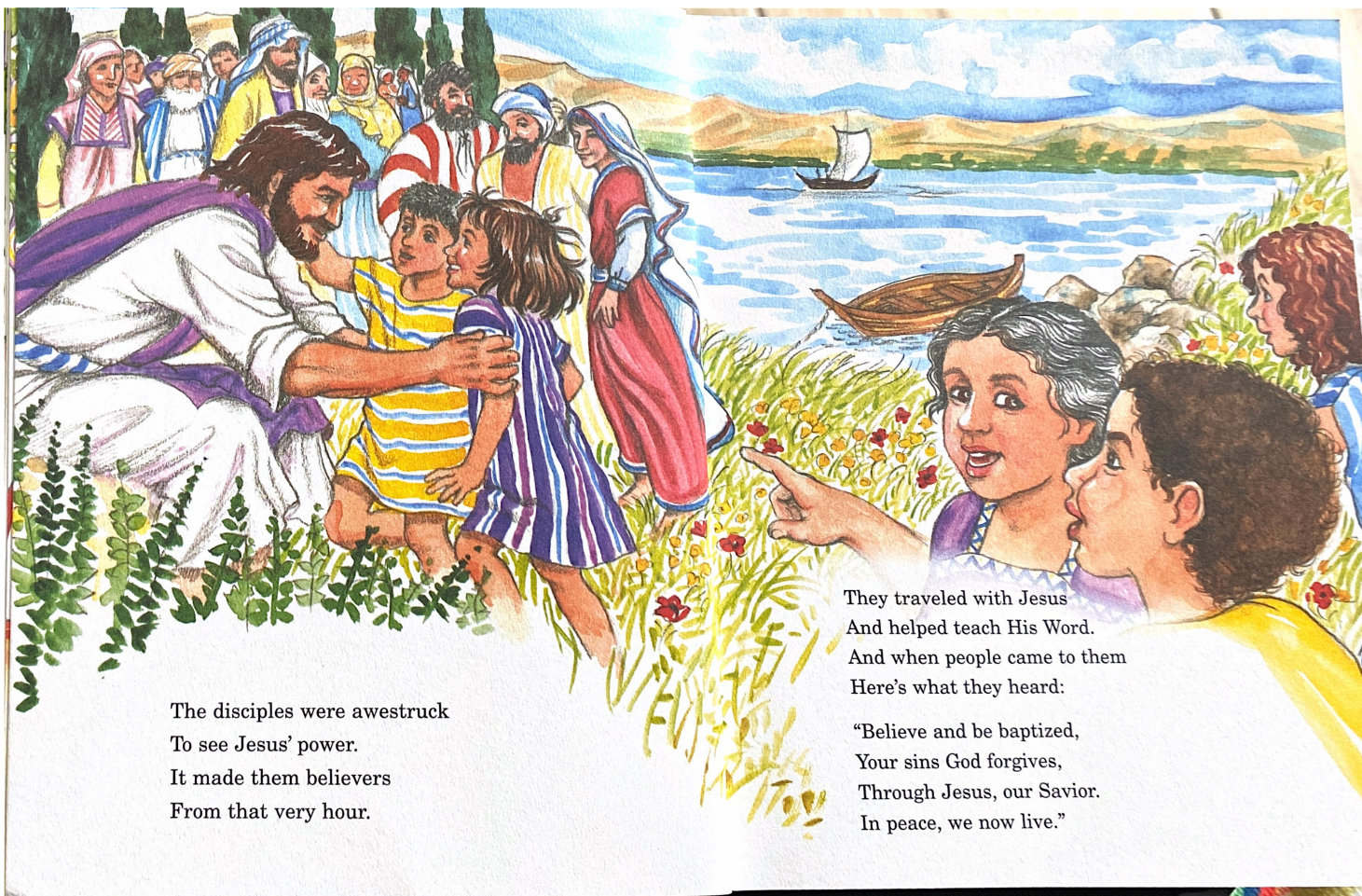


The master was startled,
As tasting, wide-eyed.
He went to the bridegroom
And called him aside.



"Most people will furnish
Good wine at the first
When guests are most eager
To settle their thirst.

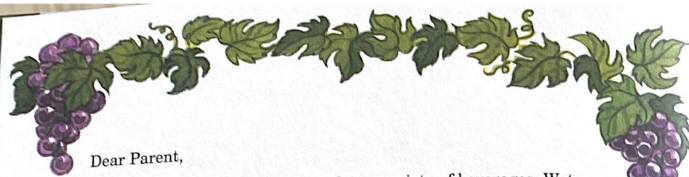
"But you have surprised us,"
He said with a bow,
"For you have been saving
The best wine 'til now!"



The disciples were awestruck
To see Jesus' power.
It made them believers
From that very hour.

They traveled with Jesus
And helped teach His Word.
And when people came to them
Here's what they heard:

"Believe and be baptized,
Your sins God forgives,
Through Jesus, our Savior.
In peace, we now live."



Dear Parent,

In ancient times, there was not a large variety of beverages. Water was used for purifying, and people usually drank wine. That is why running out of wine at the wedding in this Bible story was a problem. Weddings were big celebrations and people feasted for days. Not being able to provide for guests was an embarrassment to the host.

John notes that this event is the first of Jesus' signs, His first miracle. Here Jesus provides for the people, but He did so quietly, almost secretly. Jesus was not eager to make a public display of His divinity. Yet He took action not because His mother asked Him to; Jesus showed His power over nature as its Creator to provide for the needs of the people.

Also in John 2:4 Jesus reminded Mary—and thereby all of us—that all things happen according to God's will and in His time. Similar expressions are used throughout the Gospel of John (7:6, 8, 30; 8:20). In perfect obedience to His Father's will, Jesus suffered and died on the cross for our sins. His hour had come.

Use this Bible story to teach your child that God provides all good things, big and little. Then say a prayer of thanks that He provides the most important thing of all—forgiveness of sin through Jesus Christ.

The Editor

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