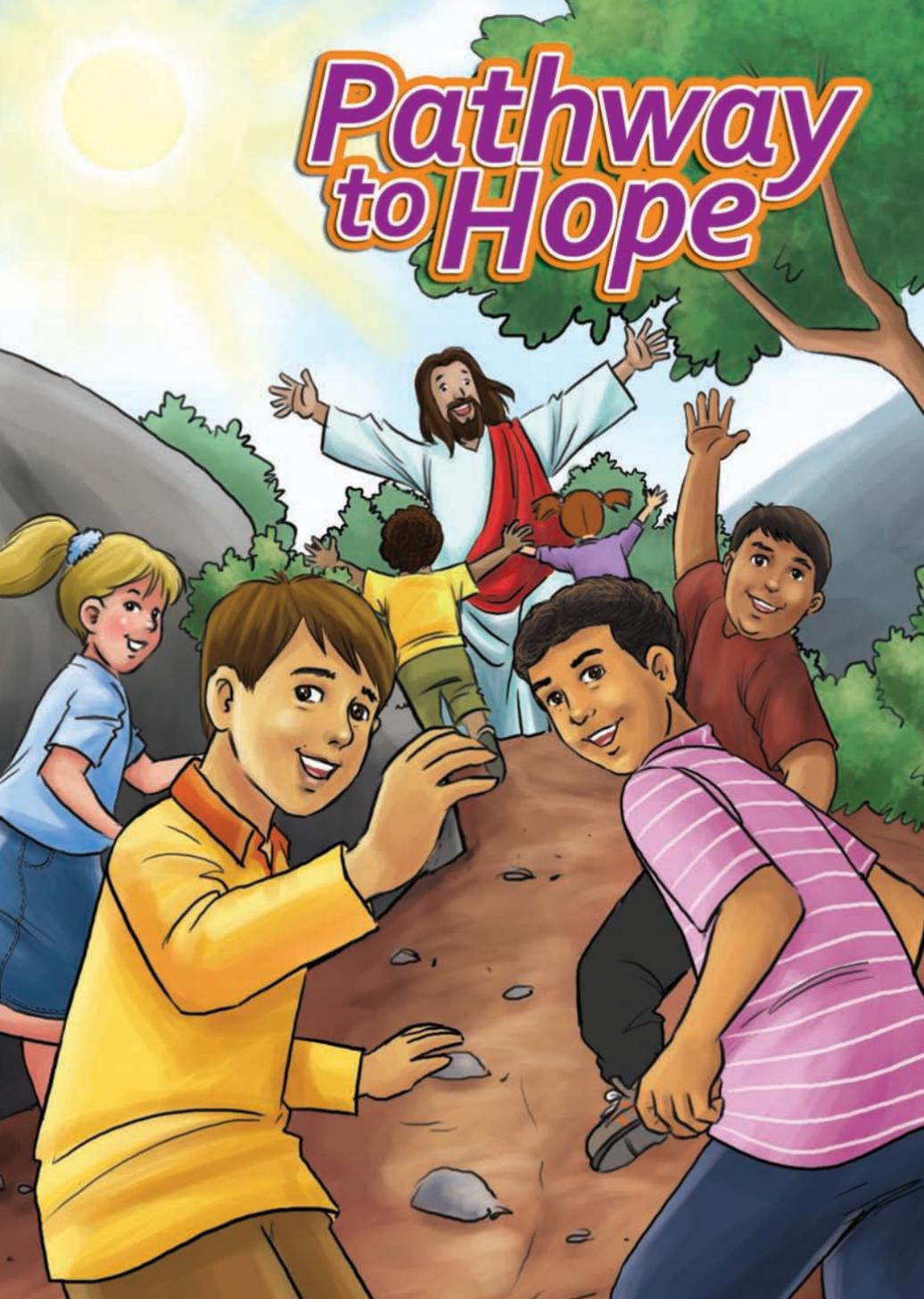


# Pathway to Hope





avid and Peter were best friends. Today Peter got up early to help David finish his work at home. Now they had the whole morning to have some fun.

"I'll race you to the top of the hill!" David said as he started running.

Peter tried to catch up, but David was so fast!

"If I had new shoes like yours, I could win too!" Peter laughed, as he joined David at the top.

"Well then, Peter, I have an idea!"

"Another one of your crazy ideas?" Peter joked.

"No, you will like this one," said David.

"Let's trade shoes and race to that house down at the bottom."

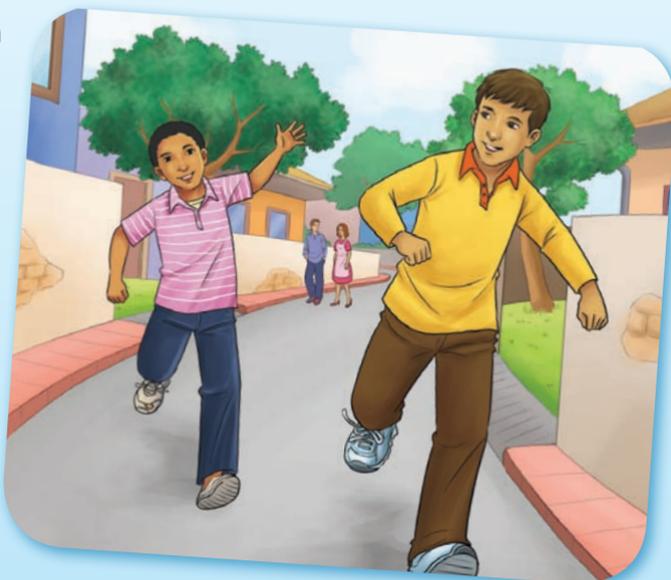
"You trust me to wear your new shoes?" Peter asked surprised.

"Sure! Hurry up! Let's get going!" David answered.

It was a close race, but Peter passed David just when they reached the house. Peter threw his arms up in victory and turned back to smile at David.

"Watch out!" David yelled.

Just then Peter hit something hard. He looked up to see the angry face of James staring down at him.



"Where do you think you are going so fast, little boy?" James said, making fun of Peter.

James was older, bigger, and mean.

"Nice shoes," James continued. "I think they would fit my little brother."

"No! You can't have them! They are not mine!" Peter cried.

James pushed Peter to the ground and pulled the shoes right off of Peter's feet.

"Stop it!" David yelled. "Those are my shoes! Give them back!"

The boys tried to jump on James and knock the shoes from his

hand. As they did, the shoes went flying through the air.

Suddenly there was the loud sound of breaking glass, and James disappeared around the corner.

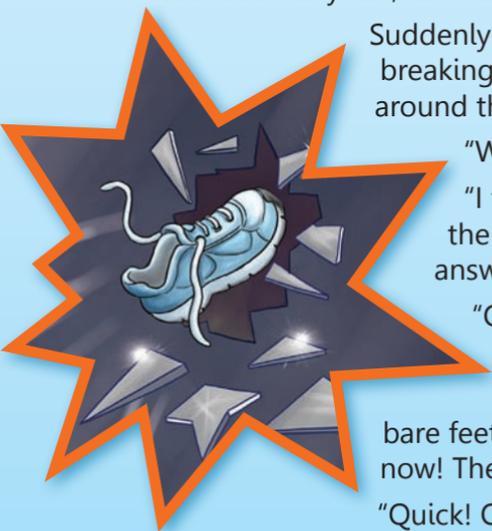
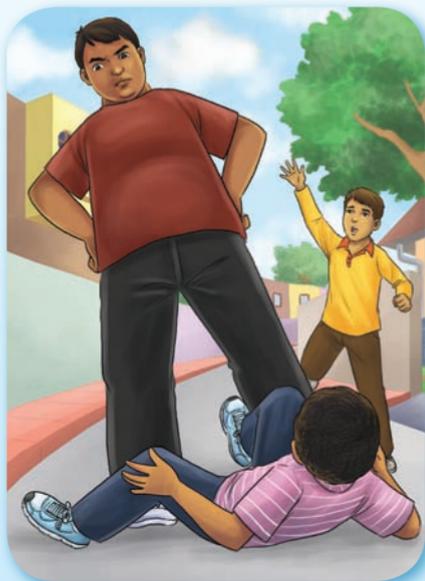
"What was that?" said David fearfully.

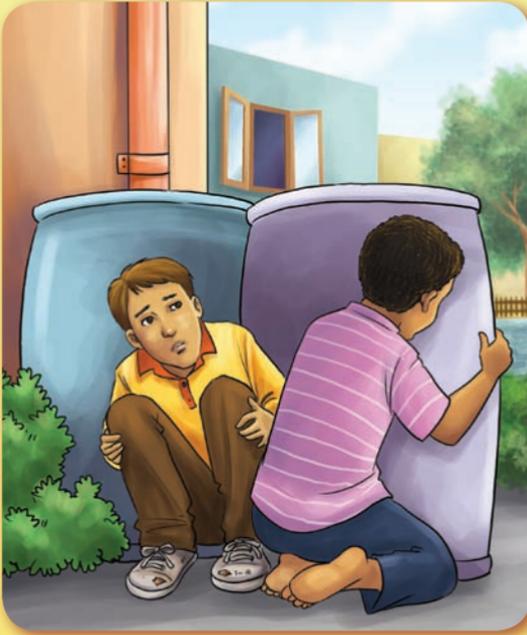
"I think it was a shoe going through the window of that house!" Peter answered.

"Oh, no! Let's get out of here!" said David moving quickly away.

Peter followed closely behind. His bare feet were hurting, but he couldn't stop now! They had to find a place to hide!

"Quick! Over here!" called David. "We can hide between the rubbish bins behind the bakery!"





"W-w-what will happen to us now, Peter?" David asked as they ran behind a bin.

"I don't know," Peter answered. "What if someone saw us running away? The owner of the house will blame us!"

"Yes. It wasn't our fault," said David. "But it was my shoes that broke the window."

"Who will believe us?" Peter wondered out loud.

"No one. And then what will happen to us?" David asked.

"I don't know!" Peter

answered. "I am too scared to think about it!"

"What if we have to hide forever?" David asked. "We don't have any money. We can't buy food. We could starve! Are we going to die?"

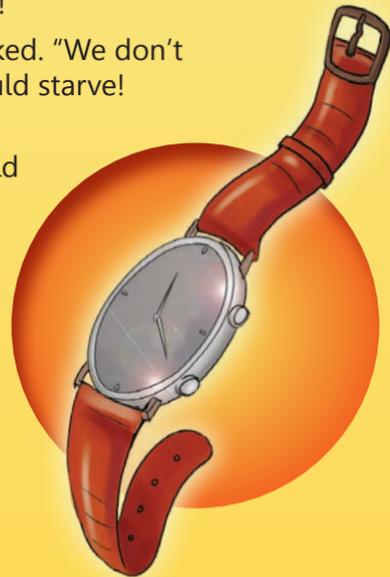
"Who said anything about dying? I was afraid of a beating. But dying?" asked Peter with a worried look.

"Think about it, Peter. No money. No food. No water. We could die!" David answered.

"We do have one thing, David," said Peter pulling out a shiny new watch.

"Where did that come from?" asked David.

"It fell from James' arm when we were fighting. It's ours now! We deserve it!"



## **5. JESUS IS IN HEAVEN NOW AND OFFERS US THE FREE GIFT OF ETERNAL LIFE!**

### **5.1 Important Instructions and a Promise**

Jesus' eleven disciples went to a mountain in Galilee, where Jesus had told them to meet Him. They saw Him and worshiped Him.

Jesus said, "I have been given all authority in Heaven and on earth! Go to the people of all nations and make them My disciples. Baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and teach them to do everything I have told you.

"I will be with you always, even until the end of the world."

### **5.2 Jesus returns to Heaven**

After the Lord Jesus had said these things, He was taken back up to Heaven where He sat down at the right side of God.

As He went up, they kept looking up in the sky. Suddenly two men dressed in white clothes were standing beside them. They said, "Jesus has been taken to Heaven. But He will come back in the same way that you have seen Him go."

The disciples were very happy. They left and preached everywhere. The Lord was with them, and the miracles they performed proved that their message was true.



## **6. SAVING FAITH IS TRUSTING IN JESUS ALONE.**

### **6.1 True life in Jesus**

Jesus worked many miracles. Not all of them are written. But these are written so that you will put your faith in Jesus. If you have faith in Him, you will have true life.

*Preach – To tell others the Good News about Jesus.*



Pretend you are in a small boat out at sea. The boat begins to leak. Then it breaks into pieces! You hang on to a small piece of wood to keep from drowning.

You are afraid you will die until you see a bigger boat coming toward you. The captain throws out a life preserver tied to a rope. "Take hold of this!" he calls. "I will pull you into my boat!"

Do you hang on to the piece of wood that you have trusted to save you? Or do you let go to reach for the life preserver that can pull you to safety? You must decide.

The small boat with holes and the piece of wood are like our lives. The holes represent our sins. The lifeboat represents Jesus. Taking hold of the life preserver is like putting our faith in Jesus, the only one who can save us.

We must choose. Are we going to trust in ourselves and our good works to get us to Heaven? Or will we trust in Jesus alone and what He did for us on the cross?



Fill in the blanks to follow the pathway to hope. Following this path will lead you to the free gift of eternal life that Jesus has for you.

## HEAVEN

Heaven is a free \_\_\_\_\_. It is not something you \_\_\_\_\_ for or deserve. (Page 13)

*"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life ..."* Romans 6:23

WHAT KEEPS US FROM GETTING THIS GIFT?

## SIN

We are all sinners. We cannot \_\_\_\_\_ ourselves. (Page 7)

*"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God."* Romans 3:23

THERE MUST BE A DIFFERENT WAY – GOD'S WAY!

## GOD

God is \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and just. On the one hand, our Holy God loves us and doesn't want to punish us. On the other hand, God is just and must punish us. (Page 8)

*"God is love."* 1 John 4:8b

*"He does not leave the guilty unpunished."* Exodus 34:7b

DO YOU SEE THE PROBLEM? GOD SOLVED THE PROBLEM BY SENDING HIS SON JESUS.

## CHRIST

Jesus is God. He came from \_\_\_\_\_ to earth. He lived a \_\_\_\_\_ life and \_\_\_\_\_ on the cross to pay for our sins. He \_\_\_\_\_ from the dead. He is in Heaven now offering us the free \_\_\_\_\_ of eternal \_\_\_\_\_. (Page 14)

*"God loved the people of this world so much that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who has faith in Him will have eternal life and never really die."* John 3:16

HOW DO WE GET THIS GIFT? BY FAITH.

## FAITH

Saving Faith is not only knowing about God. Saving Faith is not only for now. Saving faith is \_\_\_\_\_ in Jesus Christ \_\_\_\_\_ for our eternal life. (Page 30)

*"Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved ..."* Acts 16:31

## Would you like to ask Jesus to forgive you of your sins and give you the free gift of eternal life?

This means to trust in Jesus, turn away from sin, and follow Him. Is that what you want? If so, you can say these words to Jesus in prayer right now:

*Dear Jesus, I believe that You died on the cross for my sins. I am sorry for the wrong things I have done. Please forgive me. Thank You for making me Your child and giving me eternal life. Help me to love and obey You as I should. Amen.*

## Now, who can you tell about the Good News of eternal life in Jesus?

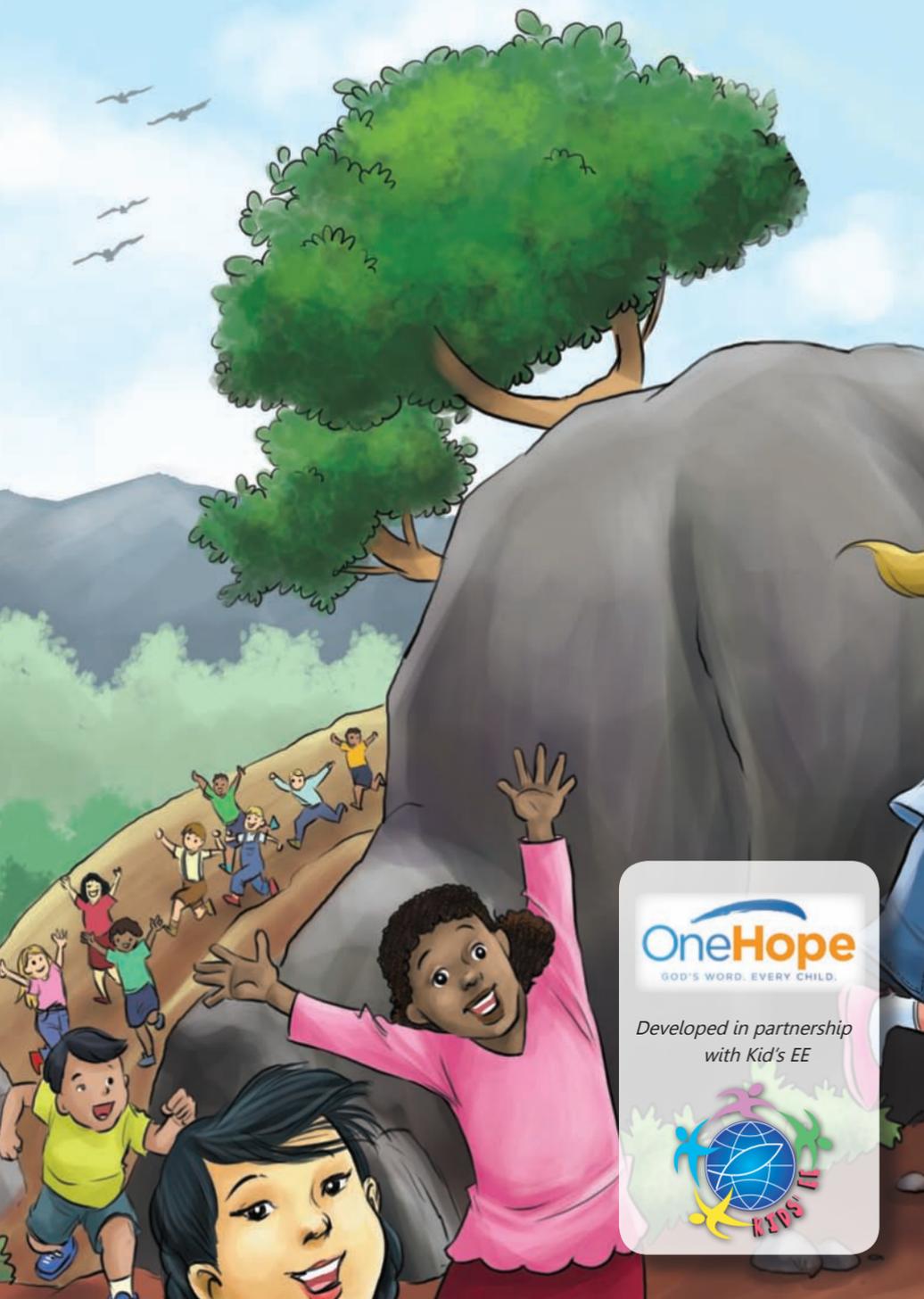
Think of three friends or family members who also need to hear this Good News. Ask Jesus to help you to share it with them. You can begin by asking two questions ...



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1.2 - 1.4 - Luke 2	Matthew 26; Luke 22	Matthew 28:1c - 3a,
2.1 - Luke 3; Matthew 3	2.10 - Matthew 26; John 13	4 - 6b, 7c-e
2.2 - Matthew 4	2.11 - John 13 - 15	4.4 - Luke 24; John 20
2.3 - John 3	2.12 - Matthew 26; Luke 22	5.1 - Matthew 28
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2.5 - Mark 4	3.1 - Luke 23; Mark 15;	Luke 24
2.6 - Luke 8	Matthew 27	6.1 - John 20
2.7 - Mark 6; John 6	4.1 - Matthew 27; John 19	



**OneHope**  
GOD'S WORD. EVERY CHILD.

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