By Katie Swank

Why I Believe



Jesus loved me first.



That is what one very loved young man said to me.
It was in response to me asking him what motivated him to follow Jesus the way he does - so dedicated and unashamed.

His answer to my question reflected Biblical truth. He walks a heaven-bound path. His choices declare his powerful love for Jesus.

This young man has impacted me, taught me, and directed me more towards heaven than any other child I have met in my ministry. His heart for Jesus beats steady paced in a world that would give anything to have him step away from Jesus, yet, he faithfully marches on for The Captain of Heaven's Armies.

I want to dedicate this book, first and foremost to Jesus, because I love Him back - and He knew and appointed me to "sonship". Next, to my husband who constantly spurs me on, builds and corrects, tenderly loves, and guides us all. Then, to my two spiritually gifted miracles - gifts of love that I will never deserve, thank you Jesus for my children.

And lastly, but not leastly, to all "my children" in ministry who I love dearly - as Jesus did - this is His Mission, His will, and His way, not my own, and so I humbly submit and give my life to Him. My Prayer - "May it be innumerable Lord, give me all Your children and give me a heart to love them all the way You desire me to love them. Use me like Paul, let me be a lighthouse and let them be saved to glorify You. Please make me more like you everyday, Jesus, and let my passion to love You be contagious. Let it spread and grow, stoke the fire, Lord Jesus, breathe into them, Your beautiful breath of life. In Jesus' powerful and precious name, amen."

Stay faithful, my sweet babies, make it to heaven and we will do Bible study there too, promise me you will always stay faithful to Jesus.

Jesus loves you and I love you too,
Miss Katie



Why love Jesus? Does there have to be a reason?

Why do we love anything at all?

Is there a reason?

I feel a push or a pull, kind of like an energy or a desire to love. But why?



Yes, there is a reason for everything under the sun.

Grab your Bible and we read in Ecclesiastes 3:1

- To everything there is a season,

A time for every purpose under heaven:

Let's find some examples of this explanation.

In order for a vehicle to operate, it needs power.

What kind of power? It needs electricity and/or fuel.

The vehicle was designed to operate, it's purpose is to GO!



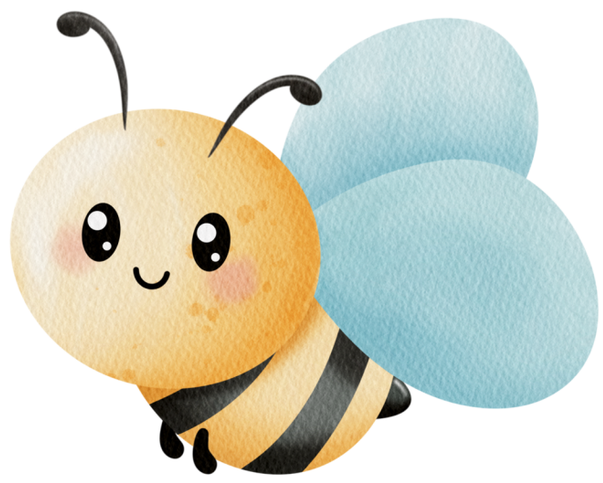
How? Why?



You and I are designed to do what?



Well, before we answer we can think of more examples in our lives - let's think about animals!



A bee is designed to pollinate and make honey.
Proverbs 24:13-14
13 - My son, eat honey because it is good,
And the honeycomb which is sweet to your taste;
14 - So shall the knowledge of wisdom be to your soul;
If you have found it, there is a prospect,
And your hope will not be cut off.



An ant is designed to work hard and to clean up after us.
Proverbs 30:25
Ants are creatures of little strength,
yet they store up their food in the summer;



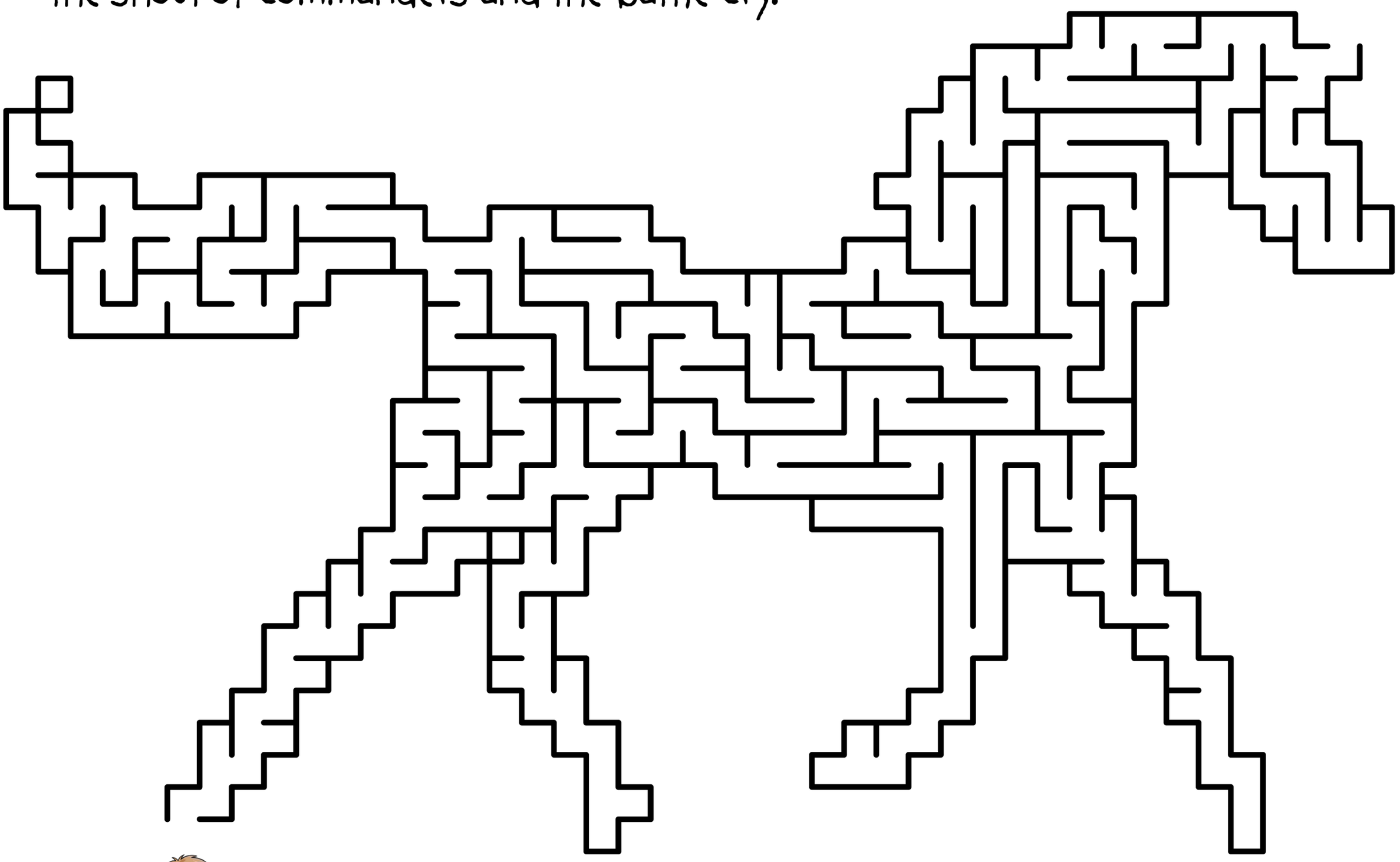


A horse is designed to pull, work, and carry

Job 39:19-25

"Do you give the horse its strength
or clothe its neck with a flowing mane?
20 Do you make it leap like a locust,
striking terror with its proud snorting?
21 It paws fiercely, rejoicing in its strength,
and charges into the fray.
22 It laughs at fear, afraid of nothing;
it does not shy away from the sword.
23 The quiver rattles against its side,
along with the flashing spear and lance.
24 In frenzied excitement it eats up the ground;
it cannot stand still when the trumpet sounds.
25 At the blast of the trumpet it snorts, 'Aha!'
It catches the scent of battle from afar,
the shout of commanders and the battle cry.









What about me?
What am I designed to do?

If God did not exist, what would be the purpose of man?

What if our purpose was to love our Creator?

Isaiah 43:6b-7
Bring my sons from afar
and my daughters from the ends of the earth—
7everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made."

What if the fuel we need is Jesus?

John 6:35
Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

What if our reason for being was to love God?

Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to His purpose.





If that is the case; then Jesus saying to Love
The Lord your God with all your heart, that being
his first and foremost command, well,
that would really make sense. That would be good
math, wouldn't it.

They are one and the same.

We are designed to love, and to share that love with others. We are designed to seek God...

We are designed to love God, but we have to seek Him? Or to find Him?

Why would we have to do that if that is what we were designed to do? Isn't that like building a car, but not giving it wheels?

No...it is not the same. Let me explain why.

Circle the type of food you like best below:







What food did you pick?
What was your favorite?

If you picked ice cream, what does that mean?
Do you like it more?

If you picked brussel sprouts, does that mean you have never tasted ice cream? haha - my point is - choice! You get to choose which one you like and that is really nice isn't it.

what if your choice looked like this instead?





What if you had no choice and you could only pick brussel sprouts. Well, if that was your favorite food, then you wouldn't care, but if you don't like it, then you would feel pretty sad, right?

God gives us the choice to love Him, because that pleases Him. Choice allows us to know what it really feels like to love.



We do not have a "built in" or forced mechanism
like robots that beep, bop, boop, beep,
(robot voice) I love Jesus, beep, bop, boop, beep,
Calculating love, beep, bop, boop, beep....

No, we are not robots, but God did create us with purpose and choice. Our purpose is to love, but we get to choose What and Who we love.

We become aware, more and more as we grow up that we have a need, a desire, a pull, a searching, a reason for being. We become aware that we need to discover "something more".

As a mom, I am watching my children grow up and I am very aware that I need to teach them Apologetics, but as I was reading children's books on this topic, I realized they were missing the first step. I kept seeing a million and one facts on why Jesus is real, why the Scriptures are all factual, and how the existence of God cannot be disproved, but what motivates us to care?

That is why I'm writing this book. To journey with you on the path to caring why Jesus is real, and why YOU love Him.





Take a minute and draw a picture. It doesn't matter what you draw.
You might want to draw a picture of your family.
Or maybe your stuffed animal that you had when you were a baby.
Maybe your favorite book? Or your most favorite place to be? While you are drawing think and pray about why you love Jesus and ask Jesus to help you journey closer to understanding more about 1 John 4:19. We love because he first loved us.

Complete Me:



I am born.

I am a little baby, new to the world.

What am I?



That's kind of a silly question isn't it.

I just said that I am a baby. So we know that what I am talking about is a baby right?

But think deeper, what is the baby?

The baby is a cute little body, with beautiful eyes, a nose, a mouth, cute little hands with fingers, pudgy legs, that end with button toes.

absolutely adorable! A miracle life from God.

Well, that baby is born into sin, into a faltered system that was created long ago in a garden called Eden, where Adam and Eve made a choice to desire the knowledge of good and evil and be tempted into sin by Satan who disguised himself as a snake.





The baby has purpose doesn't it?
The little sweetheart loves his mother.
He desires the nurturing care his mother provides.
He needs the fuel his mother provides.
That baby has a purpose. He has a design.

The baby will grow up to be your age one day. He will be made aware of something that is missing.

He was designed with a little body that grows, and inside he has a soul.

He is designed with a missing part.

He is very aware that He lacks it too.
He is void of a critical part of his creation.
"What is it", he wonders.

Curiosity, wondering, desiring knowledge, until he finds the answer, he will never fully understand his purpose.

One thing he knows for sure, understanding his purpose, is what he desires most of all.

Now he begins the journey to discover what the missing piece is.



As a mechanic's wife, I have been taught many amazing things during our years together. My husband is a doer. He does everything, teaches himself new skills daily and is super curious about the world around him. It is SUCH an adventure to be his wife!



My husband has taught me that there is always 'a way' things work. and it is really fun to understand the 'why' too.

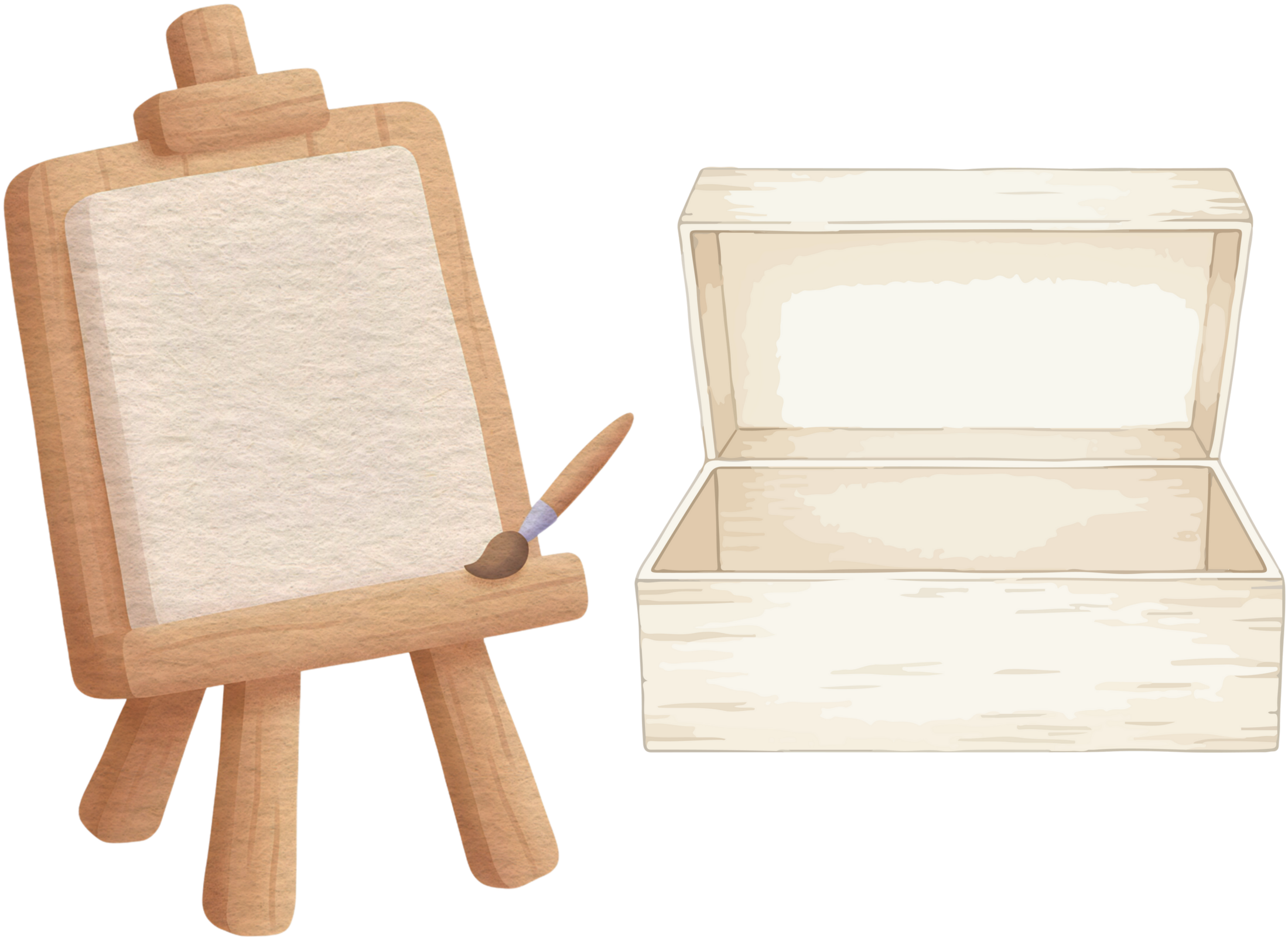
Blueprints are an awesome way to discover more about your surroundings.

Let's pretend that you bought a new toy that needs to be put together.



I am going to pretend that it is a watercolor set and you see the painting you need to create. On the outside of the box you see the end result. It is beautiful!

You bought this set to achieve the picture. That is the "why".



The instructions on the box say that there are three parts to this paint set, but you open your box and you only find 2 of the 3.

One part is missing and it is the critical part, the paint! oh no!
The paint is not in the set..what is the point of trying to paint without the color? You would sweep your brush across the canvas and nothing would happen. All of your efforts would be completely wasted, right?

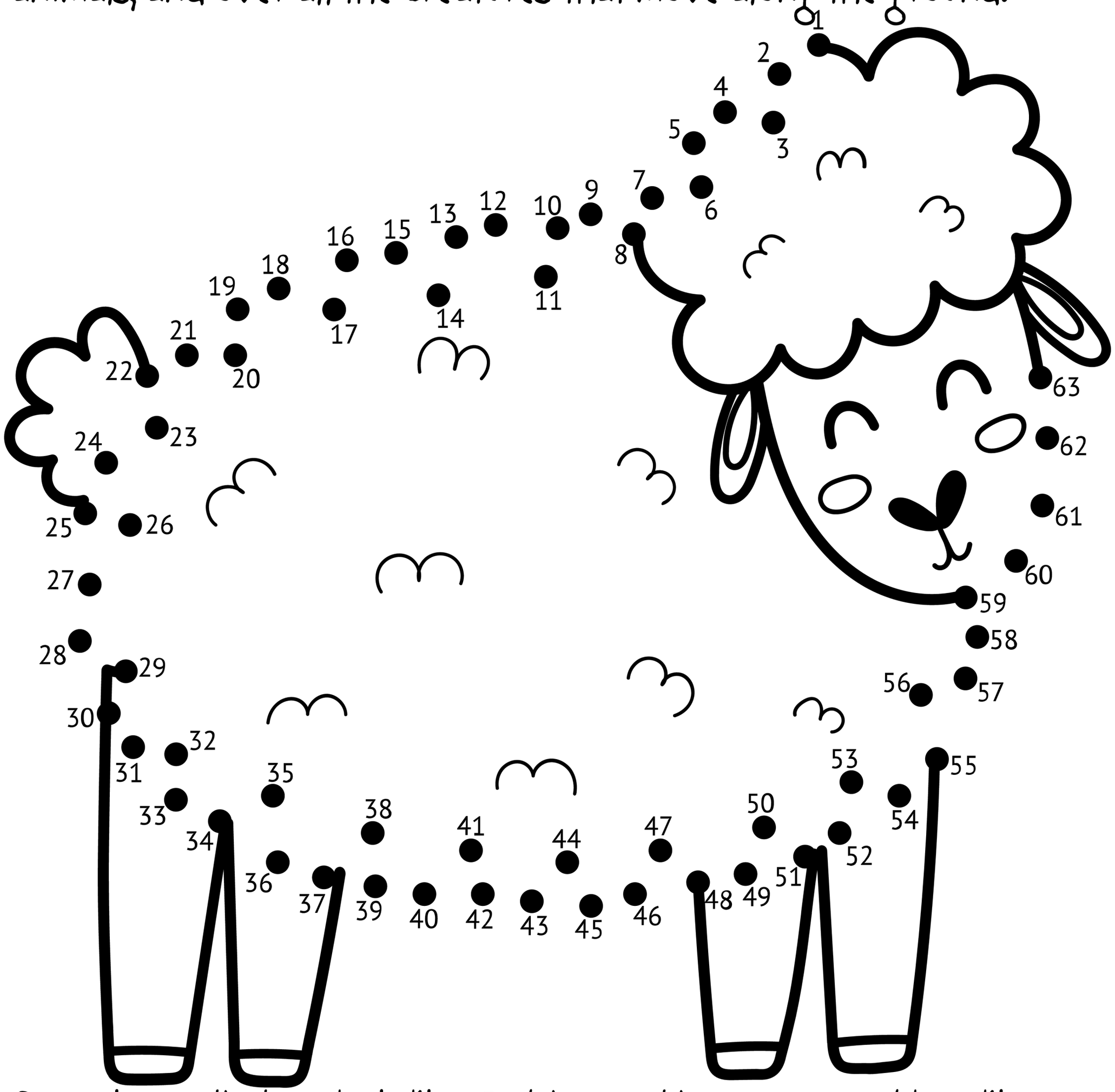
What a sad state you are in!



Think about it, The Bible says in

Genesis 1:26 - Then God said, "Let us make mankind

in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground."



So we know that we look like God, he must have arms and legs like us, and a face to desire to see like Moses asked...in Exodus 33:18-20

18 Then Moses said, "Now show me your glory."

19 And the Lord said, "I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the Lord, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.

20 But," he said, "you cannot see **my face,** for no one may see me and live.



Let's go back to that verse in Genesis again, when he talks about making man he says, "us" and "our", that is plural, not singular! His image and likeness is more than one, it's three.

In that verse He is speaking in reference to the Trinity, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19

19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

Hey, didn't the verse say that WE are designed in His image and likeness?

We are...

Draw a picture of what you think that looks like:



John 10:30: I and My Father are one.

That's a pretty powerful statement isn't it. If my son said to me, "me and my dad are one person", well in my case, that wouldn't be so hard for me to believe, they are like identical twins!

But if we are speaking realistically, and we are, we are not pretending, my husband and my son are two separate people. They are not one person. So, when my son said, "my Dad and I are the one person," I would have to disagree. Sorry, Cash.

Back to the original verse we are discussing (Genesis 1:26) God said that He is going to create us to be like them. He created us 3 - just like He is 3.

Well, we talked about when we are born a cute little baby, body and soul, and yes, we know God is 3, but we only have 2 when we are born, so what is the missing piece?



Oh, you do? little boy in book, in picture, in my hand....



Well, maybe our readers don't know yet, so we will not rush them okay?

So here we begin to slowly see the "why?". It might still be a little bit fuzzy, and not so, so clear yet, but the concept is beginning to grow easier to understand. Let's take a detour and come back in a bit...



Once there was a _____ boy. He lived in a
adjective

_____. He lived with his _____. Everyday he
noun noun

would go outside and _____. One day while he
verb

was outside he saw a/an _____. Instead of
noun

being scared of the _____ he started _____.
noun verb

The two of them became fast friends. They decided

to take a walk to the _____. Once there they
noun

heard a/n _____ instead of being shocked they
noun

were _____. The boy realized it was time for him
verb

to go home. He started walking back home while

singing _____. He got home and told his
noun

_____ all about his adventure.
noun

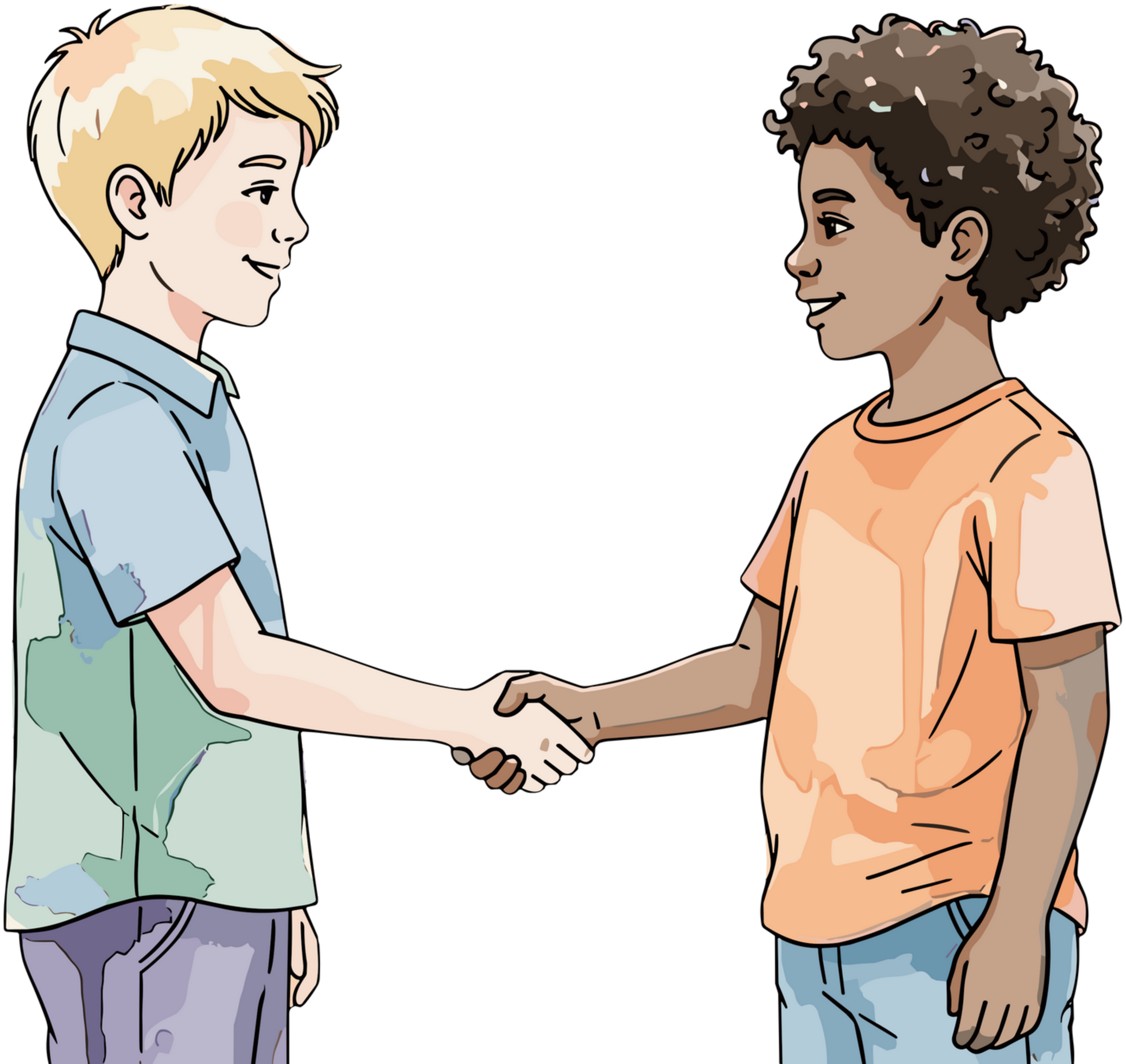


I can't wait to read the silly story you just wrote!
Please take a picture of it and email a copy of your story to katieswank15@gmail.com and I will put your story on my website www.simplymyswank.com

We are back, back on track and back on topic. Time for some questions:

Who are you? If we just met and we had to be introduced what would you do or say?

Well, if you are full of manners like those two boys below, you would probably hold out your hand and we would shake and we would also share our names with one another.





Hi! I would say!

My name is Miss Katie. It is so nice to meet you! I would have a really happy smile on my face that said, "I love you so much already!"

Then I would bake cookies for you and we would sit and talk about Jesus. (oh, how I wish I could do that with you right now, if you only knew how special you are to me).



That would be a very nice introduction, wouldn't it!

Now, let's introduce ourselves differently.

"Hi", I say, "my soul's name is _____,"
"She is inside me, you can't see her, but she is who I really am. She is my thoughts and she is me, and she knows eternity really well. She can feel its pull and knows that this place she is living in is temporary. When I was little, my soul would be overwhelmed by this feeling.

I would look up at the clouds sometimes and tell my mom that I felt like I "wasn't real". From a very young age, I've been very aware of this inside part of me. My soul can't shake your hand or smile, but she is thinking some very nice thoughts about you - just so you know!"





...well that would be a very strange introduction wouldn't it!



But would it be a lie?

no?

Oh, so you too have a soul, and you understand what I am saying. You never introduce your soul either though? Okay.

I wonder what my soul looks like? Do you wonder the same thing?





Part of me thinks that my soul might look like I do right now. But most of me thinks that my soul is that same little girl in the car with her mom.

Who could really feel heaven for a split second and know for certain that she was not of this world. That she was chosen, loved first. Meant to seek God.



Designed to write stories about Him, tell others about His great Love, share the free gift that I have been given, but do not deserve.



Our eyes read the words on this page, our brains translate all marks you see to a language that makes sense. The complexity of your creation is very overwhelming. The human body is a masterpiece, designed by God for God's pleasure.

Revelation 4:11 says that "You are worthy, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things,
and by your will they were created and have their being."

Ephesians 1: 4-5 For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will...

Our human bodies are unique and special and created on purpose by the Creator of the whole universe who loves us so much.





The parts of your body that smile and laugh, shakes hands, gives hugs and all of those happy and wonderful things, those are real to people. You make them known to others by way of introduction, and your outward body is well received by those people you meet and see everyday.

Isn't it funny to think that it's not our body who makes friends, or enjoys relationships with others, but it's actually our souls?!

Have you ever had a best friend? or heard of the term "soul-mate"

We make friends with other souls, not other bodies. Never properly introducing them, but still aware and operating at their full 2 in 1 capacity all day, all night, every day, every hour.

Isn't God wonderful...





The eternal part of you, the stuff that is inside, we never really talk about that part of us. It is silent and private and very much ignored.

Unless we cry or have kind of "not so great attitude". We pay attention to the inside of us when we have a hard time because those feelings are very much unwanted. We feel terrible and all we want is for that awful feeling to go away, take a hike and never come back again.

Well, how do you feel right now? Do you feel enlightened? Have you learned anything about you and your soul?

Think about it while you do this dot-to-dot





You have 2 yous.

Two separate Yous, but they are operating as one person. Each one is just as real as the other and cannot exist without one another, making you essentially one.

The outside of you will die and decay one day. The inside you will live forever, it will continue on after the outside you is gone away. This is a very interesting idea isn't it.

Time for Math!



Haha, just joking - but to be honest I LOVE numbers. Do you know why? Let me tell you. I love numbers because they declare the glory of God in a very visual way.

For example - tell me the biggest number you know.
Did you say a million, million, million times a million?
something that looks like this?



1,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000

Oh yes, very good job, that is a massive number indeed!

But what if you multiply that number times itself? Can you do that? yes? The laws of math and numbers say, of course you can. You can always multiply any number times any number and get a new number. What does that mean?

Well, it simply means that numbers are eternal, they never ever stop, they keep on going forever without an end, because you can always add another zero to the end of a number forever. The same law goes for negative numbers too. The number line is continuous without stopping on both sides of zero.

Well, what is zero? zero is God, numbers come from God, who says what can and can't be. He gives us laws and orders everything into being. He is the one who loves you and created you too! wowzers!





The numbers never lie.
And God said that He is 3 in 1.

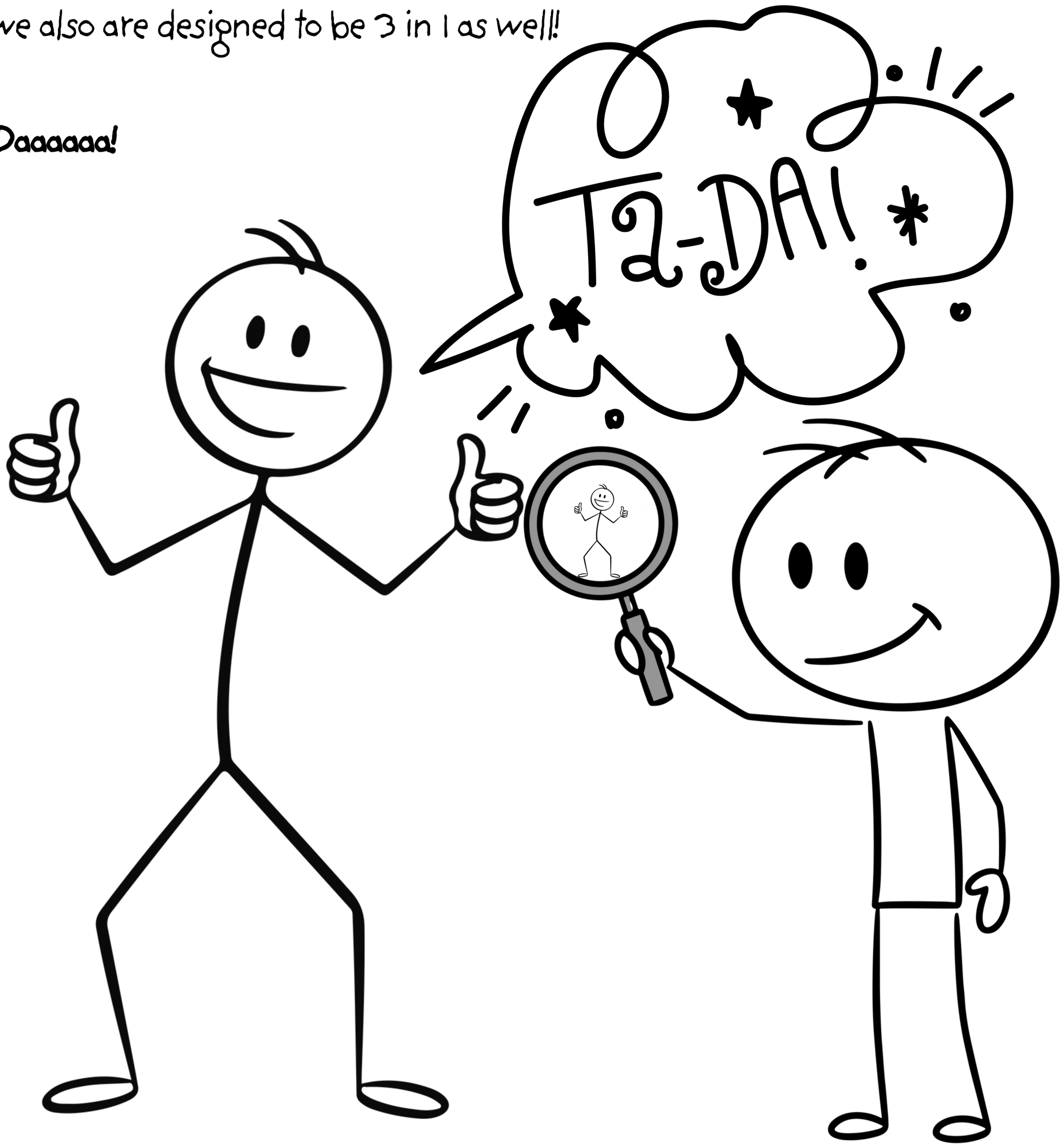
- 1 John 5:7: "For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; **and these three are one.**"

We remember in Genesis 1:26 ; Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness...

He said us, when He spoke about creating Man, and he also said that he is going to make us in Their image and likeness.

So we also are designed to be 3 in 1 as well!

Ta Daaaaaa!



Are you following so far?



Let's go back to the watercolor set. The 2 pieces we got, but the box said we would get 3.
The critical missing piece? The paint!!



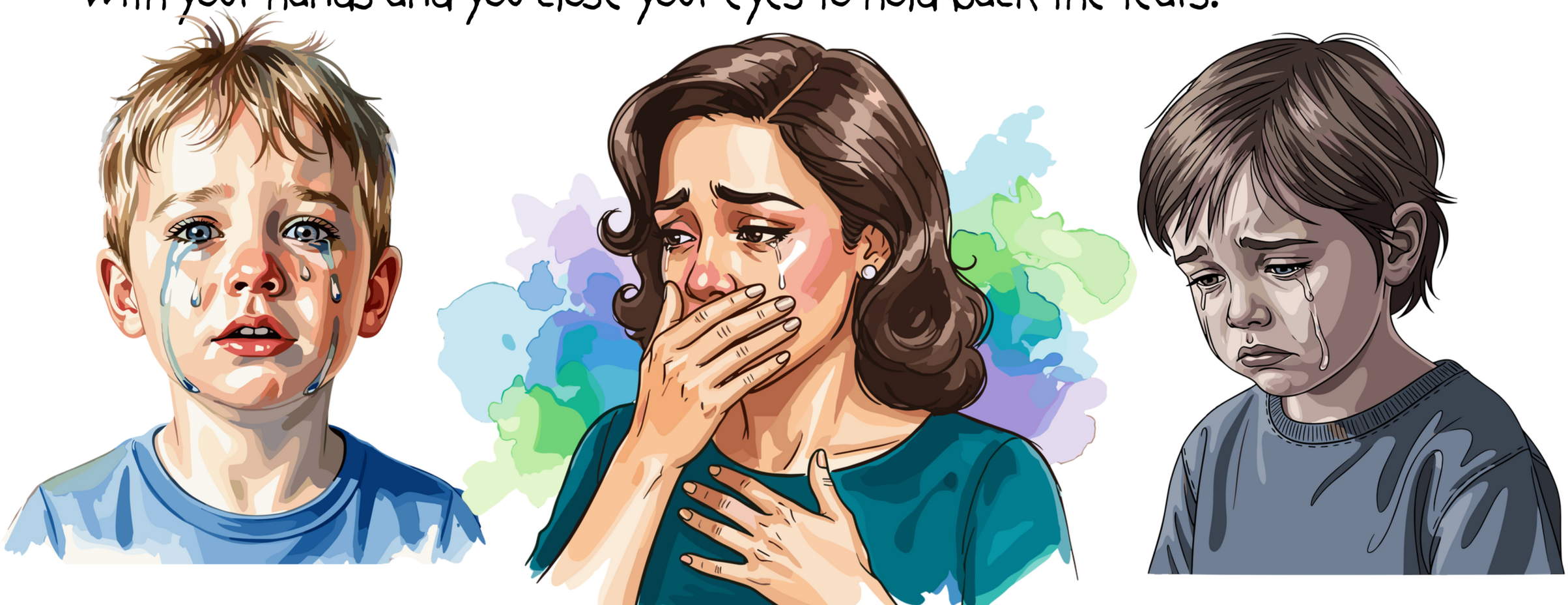
Let's put on our imagination caps please.

Imagine it's you getting this incomplete set.
You start searching everywhere for the missing paint.
Maybe it fell out when you opened the box?
Maybe it is hidden under all the other pieces?

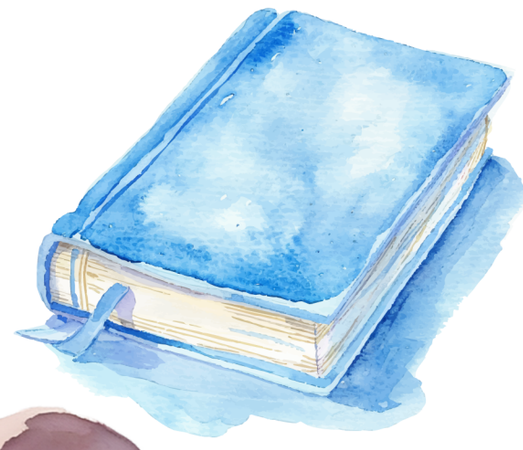
Your search leaves you with nothing!
You are frustrated, so you start trying to use other things. You try using a pencil, and that just ends up pointy and black and kinda scribbly. You try using old markers and they end up smudging and making holes in your paper.
Nothing is working, nothing is fixing this missing part of your set.

You stand back and look at the mess of things you have made, trying to use things that the set wasn't made for. It's really sad and now you begin to feel really discouraged.

You sit down on the edge of your bed and steady yourself on either side with your hands and you close your eyes to hold back the tears.



You are close to giving up, but suddenly you remember that your box came with instructions!



You pick them up and begin to read...





We are going to pivot or return back to our "Why".

Why do I seek Jesus? Why do I love Him? How do I know?

Remember Genesis 1:26?
We are designed in His Likeness!



He is 3 in 1 - and so we should be as well!

We know we are born with a body and a soul - the two things we get when we have that is part of our original design, the stuff that comes in the box....

but we are missing one piece when we are born, we are missing the final step, the thing we long for the most, we are missing the paint and the color in our lives.



The "paint" we are missing is the Helper, the Advocate, like Jesus called Him. We are missing the Holy Spirit. The free gift of Salvation that was bought and paid for on the Cross by the precious blood of Jesus. He chose to die for us so that we would never have to die. He chose to sacrifice his perfect life for our sinful life. He did this so that we could HAVE the last piece of our set.

Our bodies and our souls can receive their last piece. We can receive Jesus inside and become a trinity as we mirror our Savior, our God, just like He *DESIGNED* us to do.



Revelation 3:20

Behold, I stand at the door and knock.
If anyone hears My voice and opens the door,
I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.



Revelation 3:20 says that Jesus is standing at the door of your heart and He is knocking.

I absolutely loved this when I was a little girl. I loved hearing someone knocking at my door of my house! That meant that my grandfather had come to visit! rap, tap, tap, tap, tap, rap, tap!
He would knock the same way every time he would visit so we knew that it was him and we could jump for joy and sing out his name! YAY!

Jesus was knocking at the door of my heart?! Well, I searched deeper into this verse and discovered that in the original Greek translation the Bible says that he is knocking without stopping. He never walks away.



He is actually knocking at the door of your heart continually. He is also not knocking like a friendly neighbor coming over to ask for a cup of sugar either. He is knocking like a fireman who is almost knocking the door down like your house is on fire.

How interesting. He is knocking like someone who needs to save you.

Save you from what? We will come back to this question in a bit. Save this page.

SAVE



Have you ever tried to visit someone and they were not home? You knock on their door and no one answers? Did you stay t here and keep knocking? Did you walk away and wait until they got home?

We all would answer those questions the same way. We are busy! We have other things to do! We can't just stay at that person's house and knock until they get home.



Isn't that amazing that Jesus is not too busy for you? He is patiently waiting for you at the door of your heart to have you open it and let him come in. He doesn't get frustrated or impatient. He isn't mad or angry or thinking you are taking too long. He actually knows everything.

He knows the day and the hour and the minute and the second that you will say you are ready. He knows the moment that you will let him come in. He stands there, counting down the seconds. knocking - rap, tap, tap, tap, tap, rap, tap!





Wow.



Take a minute. Soak all of that love in. That is how much Jesus loves you.

He actually did all of those things. He. *Is*. Amazing.





Now that you have had a minute or two, take some time and write down how you feel about what you know. Tell Jesus some of the things you are thinking on this note below:









1 John 4:10

This is real love—not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins.

Amen, What a wonderful act of love and what a relief. We simply love Him back! He loved us first!

1 John 4:10

This is real love—not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins.

Amen, What a wonderful act of love and what a relief. We simply love Him back! He loved us first! We are not knocking on His door, He is knocking on our door. He desires us first. He is our Creator. He intentionally made us, every single detail. He even knows how many hairs are on our head

Luke 12:7 - Indeed, the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.





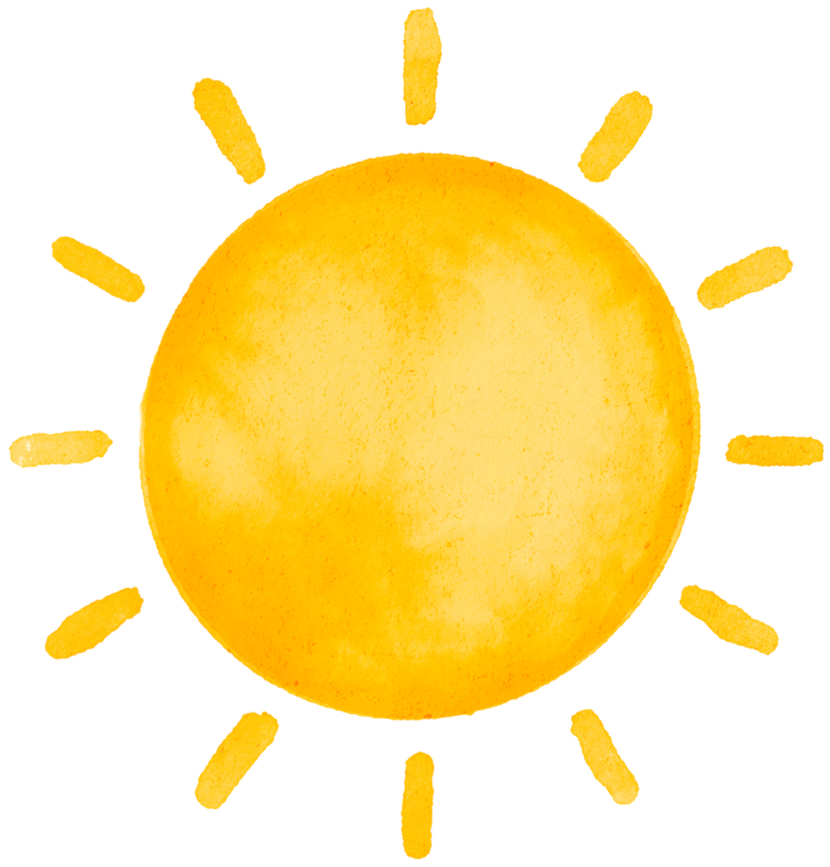






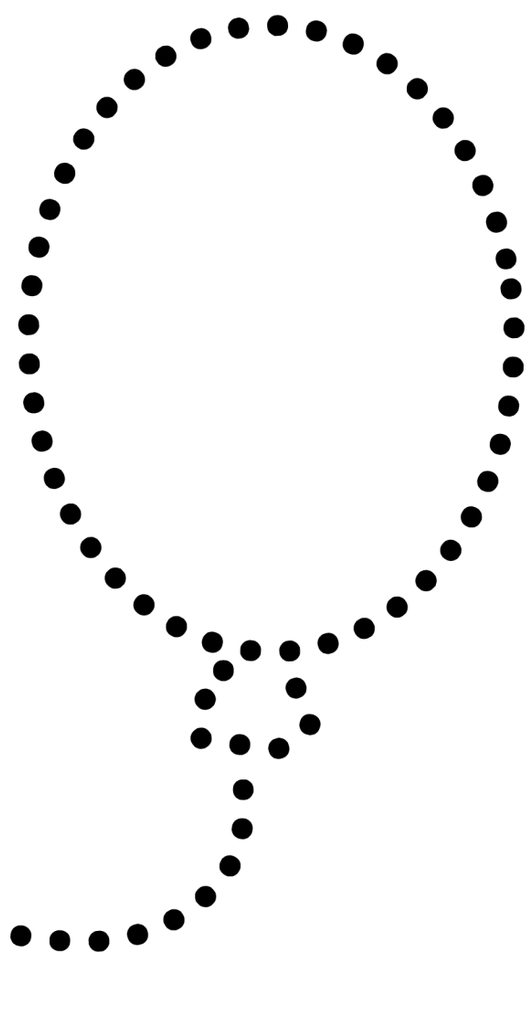
Jesus is desperately in love with us. He desires to save us. He never stops knocking. He never gets tired or bored. He just keeps knocking.

This is called active love. This is a continuous call to Salvation with eternity in mind.



Some of my children in ministry have admitted that eternity is a very overwhelming thought and sometimes it creates feelings of fear and anxiety. That is okay, let's talk through this, and we will go slow, step by step. Imagine I am holding your hand, I give you a big hug, then I say, "you are safe, you are okay, I am right here."

That is what I tell my children when they are scared. Everytime. The very same thing and while I am hugging them, I can feel their fears melt away like air out of a balloon.
"you are safe, you are okay, I am right here"



Jesus is saying that to you too. In fact, He tells you not to fear over 365 times in the Bible. That is one command a day! Don't fear! He is always with you and will never leave you. I can only be on the outside of my children's lives. But Jesus can be even better, He can abide inside and once He is there, he will never leave.



John 10:28-30

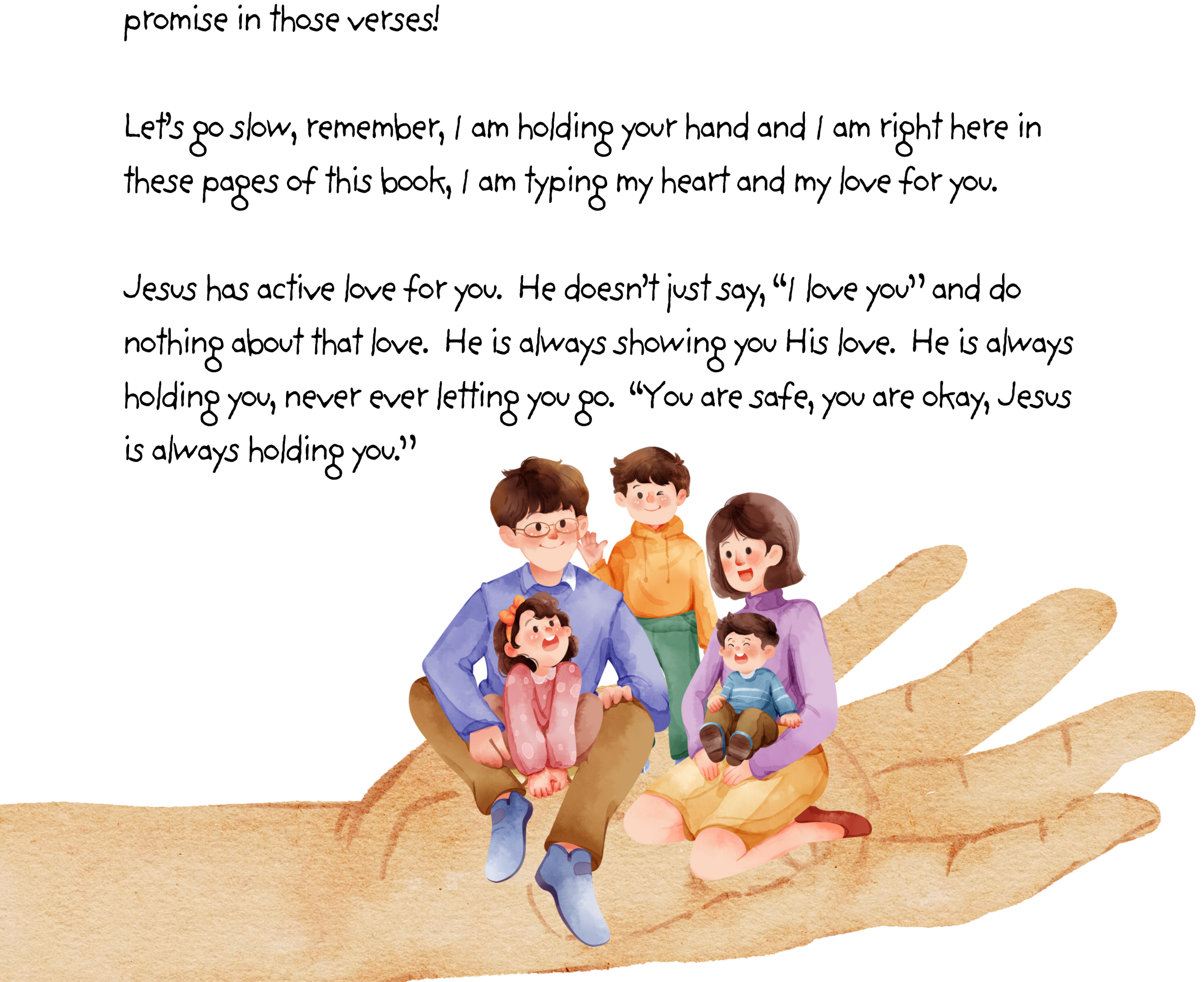
28 I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish;
no one will snatch them out of <u>my</u> hand.
29 My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all
no one can snatch them out of <u>my Father's</u> hand.
30 I and the Father are one.



wow. We have a lot to unpack here don't we. There is so much hope and promise in those verses!

Let's go slow, remember, I am holding your hand and I am right here in these pages of this book, I am typing my heart and my love for you.

Jesus has active love for you. He doesn't just say, "I love you" and do nothing about that love. He is always showing you His love. He is always holding you, never ever letting you go. "You are safe, you are okay, Jesus is always holding you."





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Eternal life. So this is kinda intimidating for children to grasp and feel comfort in because time moves very, very slow for them. They have a hard "time" staying still and listening for extended periods because their internal clock clicks by so slow.

When we (as parents) say "5 more minutes of play" this is like telling our children we have 5 more hours! It's so long! but to parents it's as long as it takes to sneeze (in our reality of time).

Isn't that interesting. We could use this grown up phrase, "time is relative". This simply means that times passes differently from when we are little to when we are older.

Sometimes it is really difficult for parents to remember how slowly time passes for children - sometimes they forget. It is very okay for you to respectfully and lovingly remind your parents that time moves very slow for you and it is really, really hard for you to sit for a long time, or to be quiet for a long time, or to do the same thing for a long time.

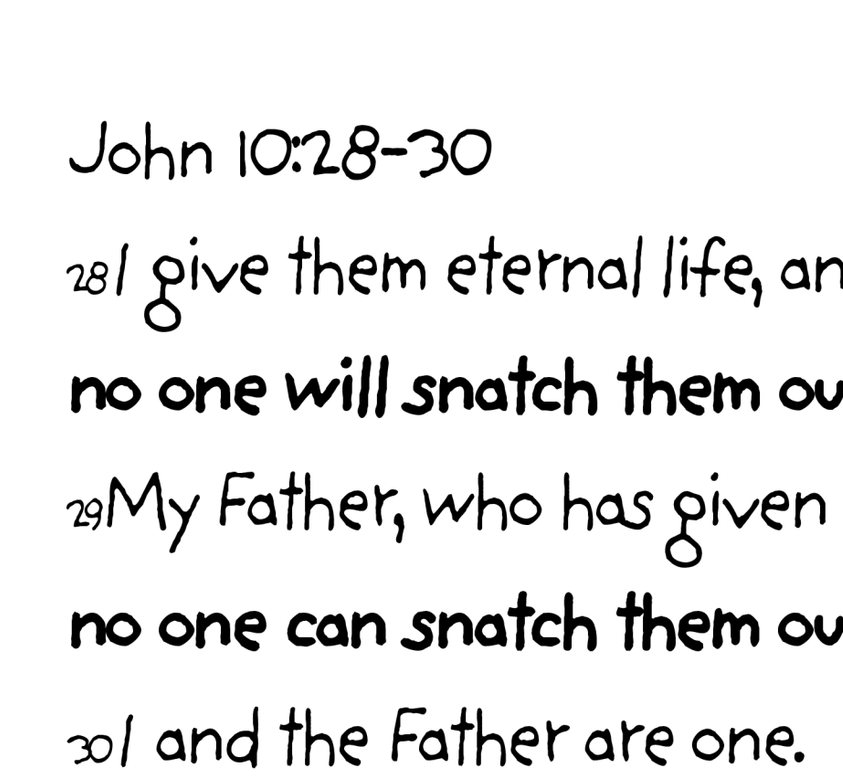


Time passes slow for you as a child
and it is quite understandable to have difficulty with things that take time, or understanding the concept of time too.



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Here is a fun game to play:

Ask your mom or dad to time you! You pick a time and then ask them to start a timer. When they start it, go and do as many things as you can do in that amount of time. Make a list of all the things you did below and show it to your mom or dad. I bet they will say "wowzers."





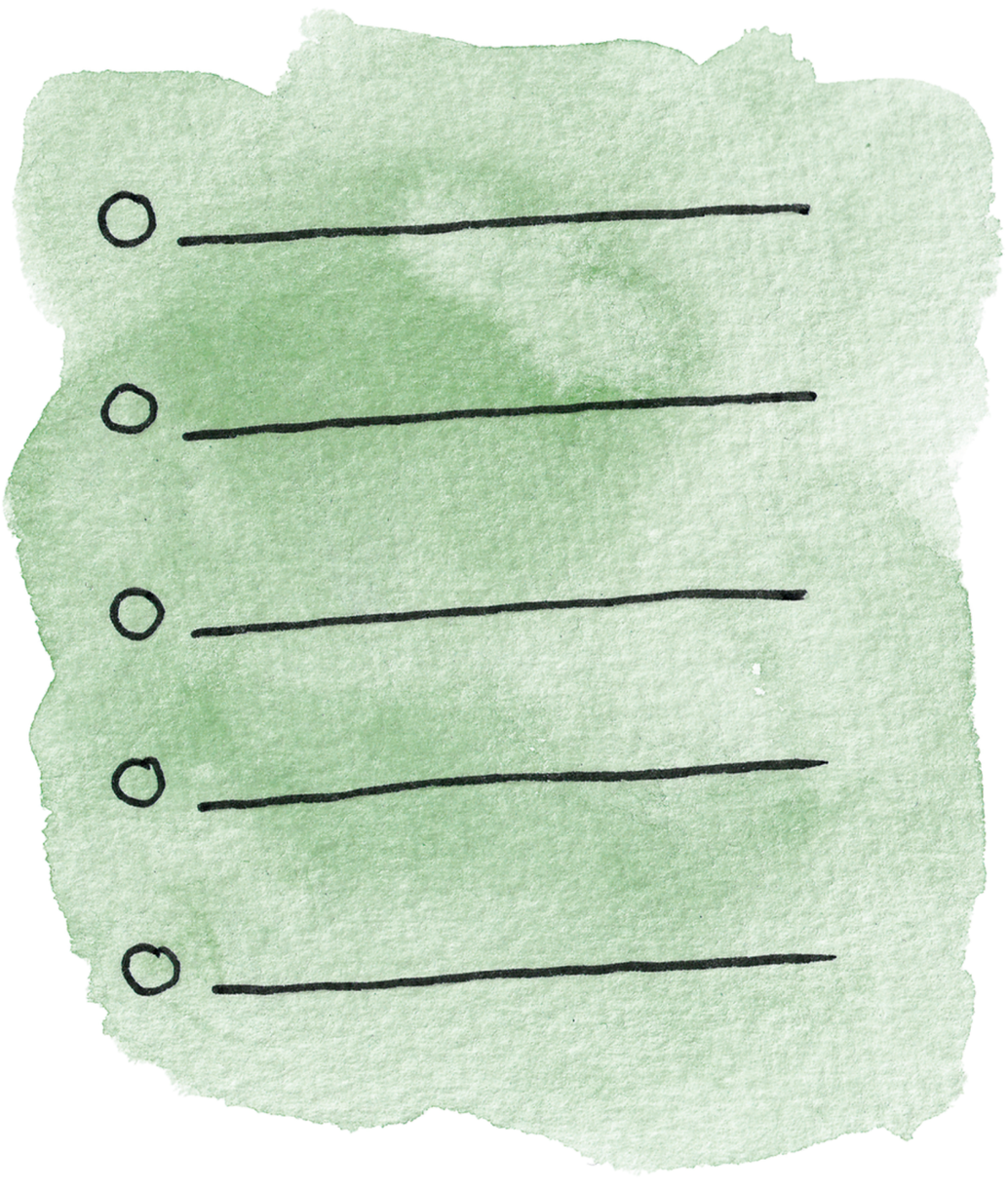
John 10:28-30

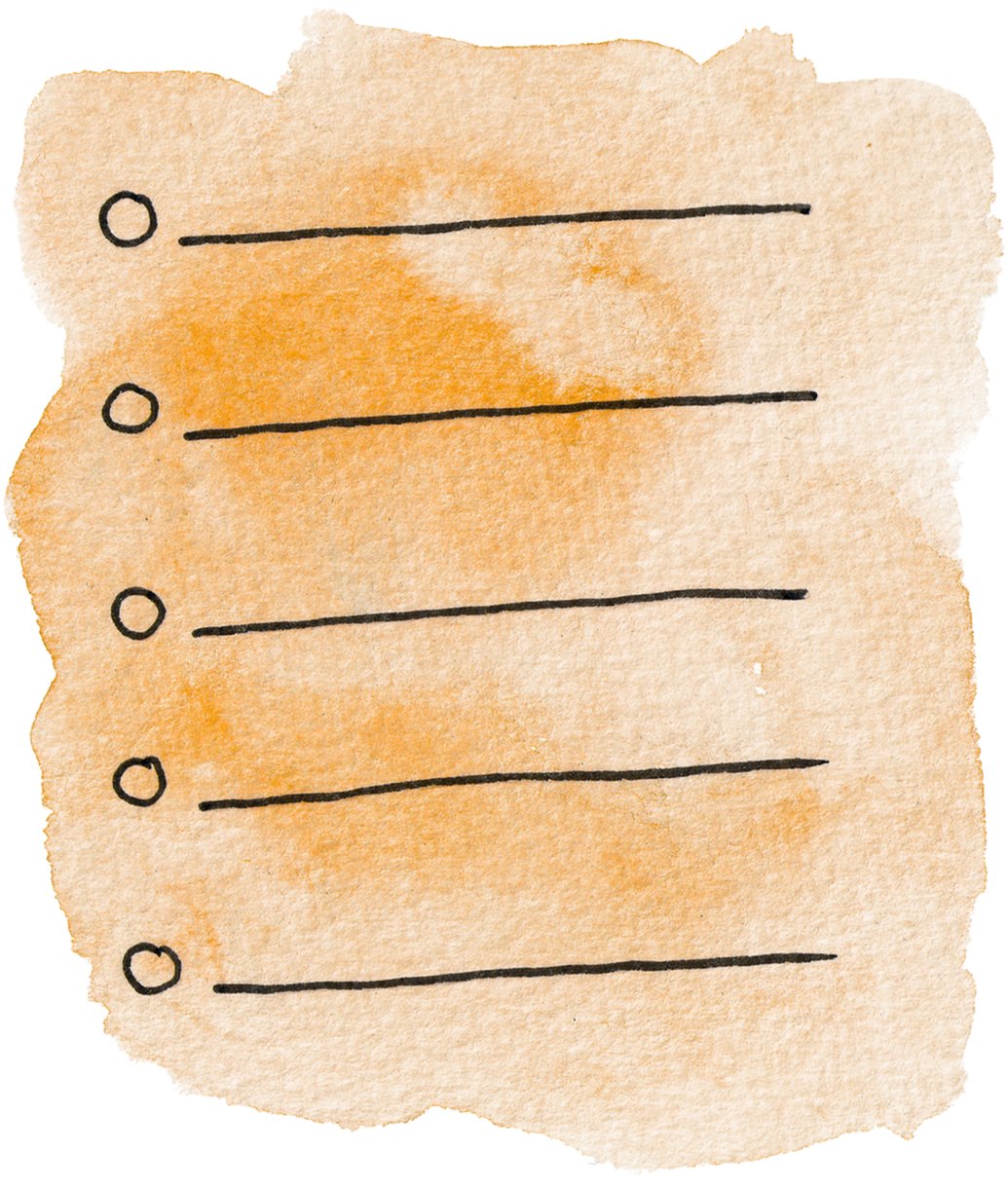
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Eternal life. Time to find comfort in this little one. I know this may seem overwhelming or scary, but remember who is holding you right now, Jesus, and who is also loving you very much, me!

Eternal life is in heaven. Time is here on Earth. When we die, we go right to heaven. We leave the rules of earth and join up with a new team in heaven that has new rules and new exciting ways to do a new life.

What are some rules that you don't really like about things here on Earth?
You can list them below and then think about what those rules will look like in heaven, and make another list, compare them and see which rule book you like better.







John 10:28-30

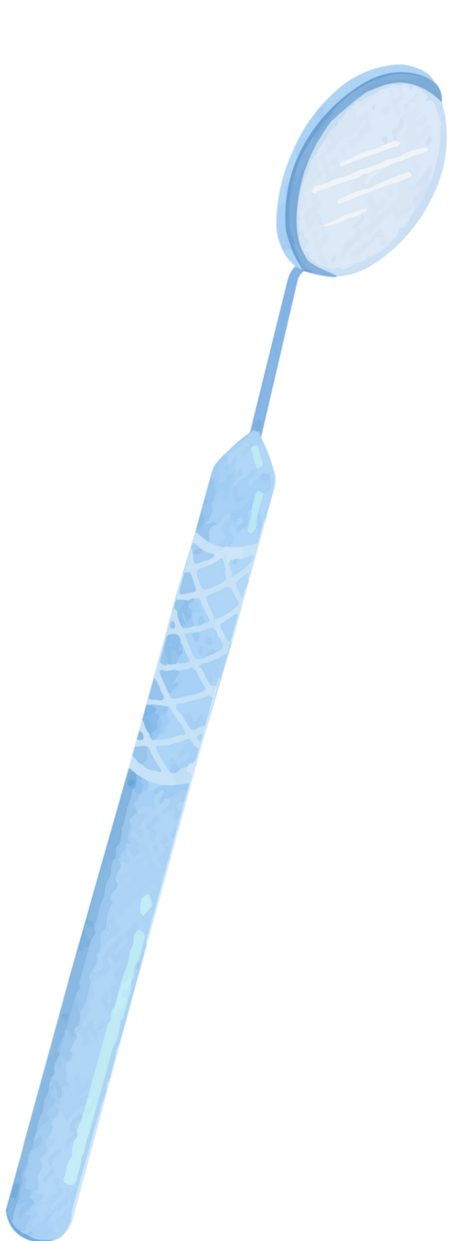
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Time no longer has any meaning in Heaven. The thing that you fear, well, it will not be there. Time will not be something you can even think about anymore because it has no power in heaven. Poof! Time is gone.

Time has no meaning to God. God has no beginning and no end. So that is what God means when He calls Himself, "I AM." He is telling us that he just is. He lives. He is always.

So when we go to Heaven we will have the same mindset as God. We will exist like him to live and think and understand heaven and all the ways of heaven just like He does. We will not have the same minds we have now with bedtimes, 30 minute guitar lessons, play dates, dentist appointments. Nope.

Just imagine. Never going to the dentist again. (I'm doing a happy dance in my office chair.)







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When we enter Heaven, and turn away from the things of the earth that have an end, and have decay and sin, and we are gifted with new eternal bodies, new eternal rules, and friends and homes that Jesus has been building for us we can begin to understand the promise of eternal life is comforting, and not scary.

2 Corinthians 5:1
For we know that when this earthly tent we live in is taken down (that is, when we die and leave this earthly body), we will have a house in heaven, an eternal body made for us by God himself and not by human hands.

John 14:2-3
My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.





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This is also reassurance that we are designed like God. Jesus declares that He is His Father, they are One.

No one is Greater than God. God is greater than all.

Revelation 3:20

Behold, I stand at the door and knock.
If anyone hears My voice and opens the door,
I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.



He said, He will come in if we open the door. This means Jesus abides within us. He explains this really well in 1 Corinthians.

Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own;
20 you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.
1 Corinthians 6:19-20



So, you, your body and your soul can become 3 like God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit by simply believing that He is there knocking and you can lovingly open the door of your heart and let Him in.

wow.



I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.
Ezekiel 36:26

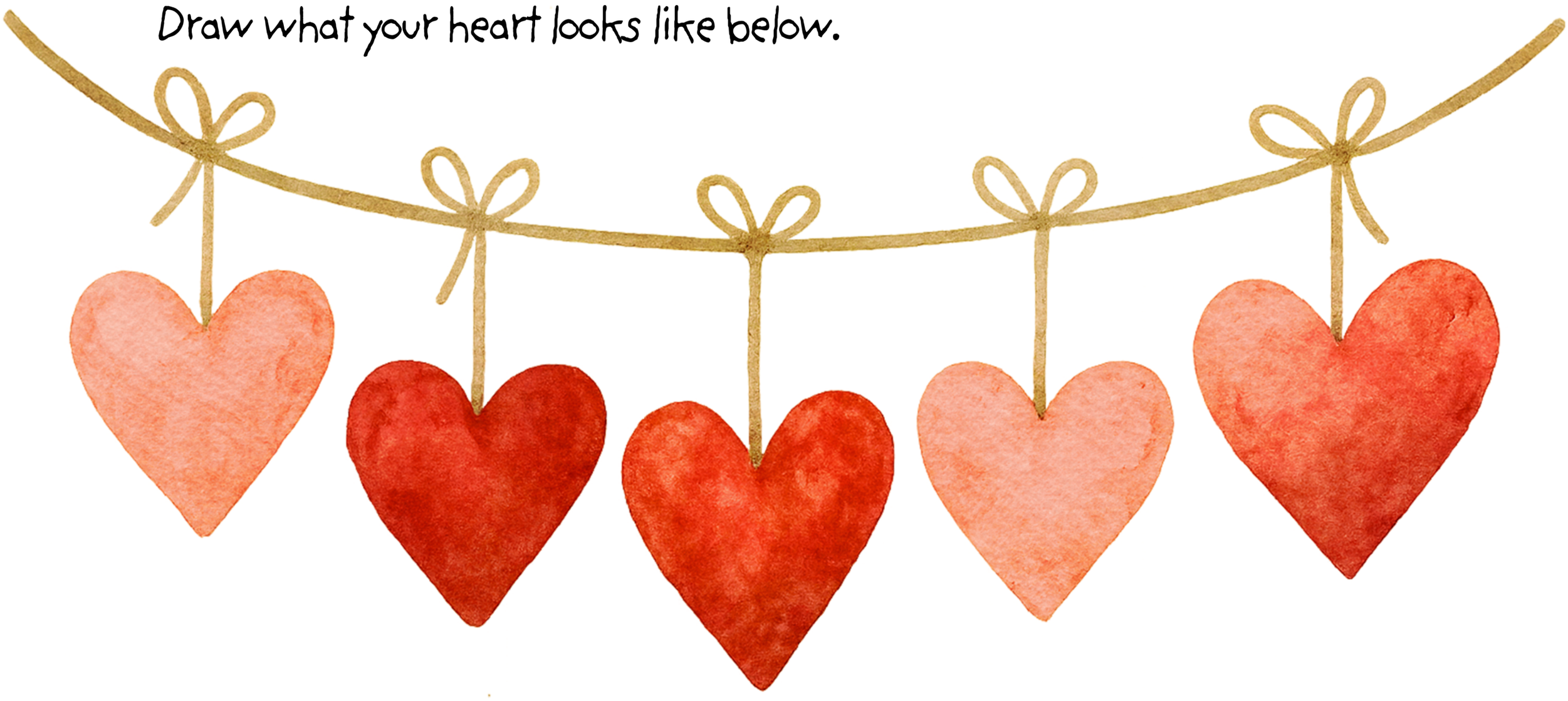




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Ezekiel 36:26

Pray about what your heart looks like right now. Does your heart feel open to the love of Jesus or does it still feel hard and confused?

Draw what your heart looks like below.





Jesus gives us the gift of the Holy Spirit.
That is why we say, God the Father, God the Son and God
the Holy Spirit. It is the Holy Spirit who comes in and dwells within our
hearts.

Romans 8:9-11

But you are not controlled by your sinful nature.
You are controlled by the Spirit
if you have the Spirit of God living in you.
(And remember that those who
do not have the Spirit of Christ
living in them do not belong to him at all.)
10 And Christ lives within you,
so even though your body
will die because of sin,
the Spirit gives you life
because you have been made right with God.
11 The Spirit of God,
who raised Jesus from the dead,
lives in you.
And just as God raised Christ Jesus
from the dead,
he will give life to your mortal bodies
by this same Spirit living within you.

