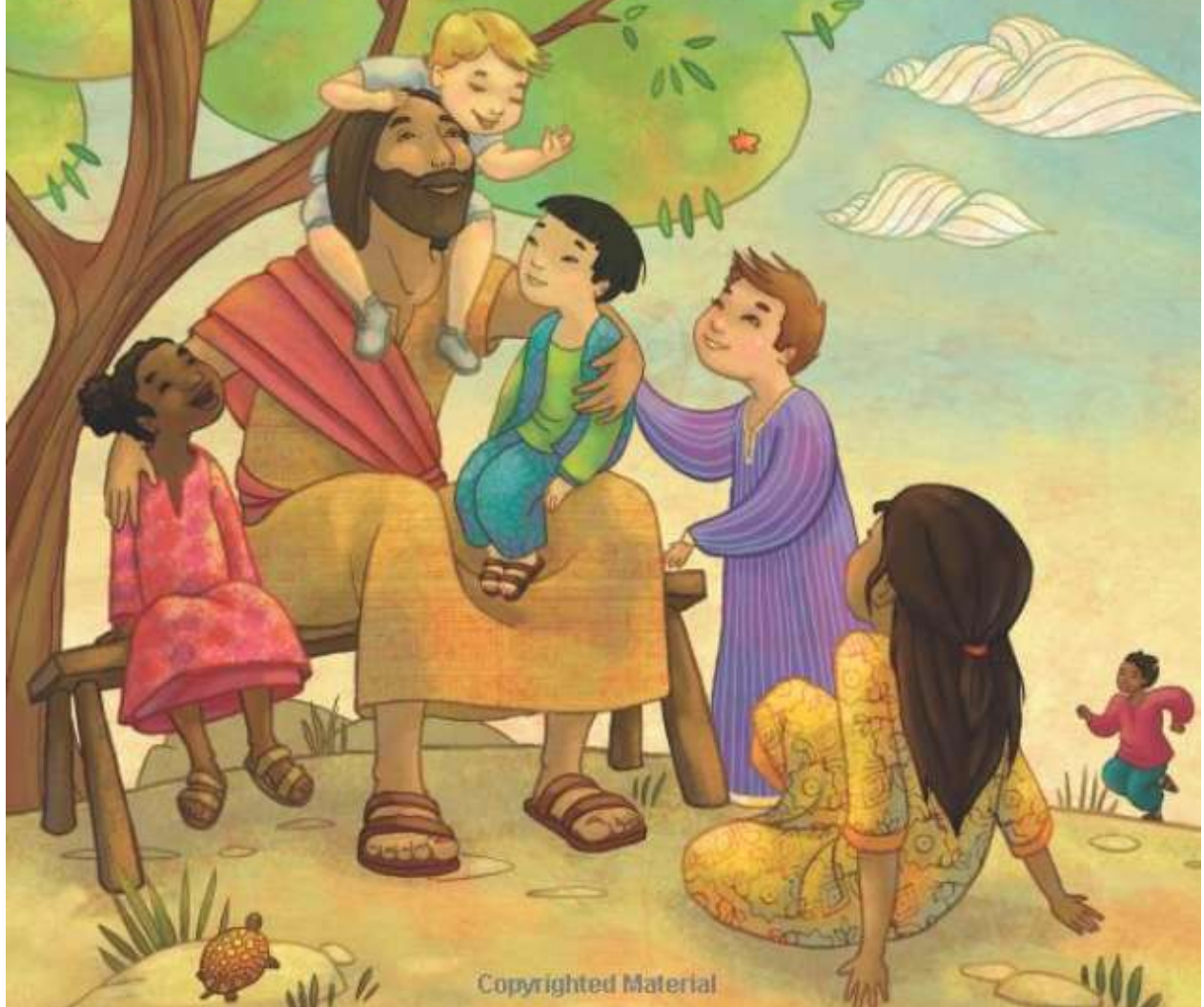


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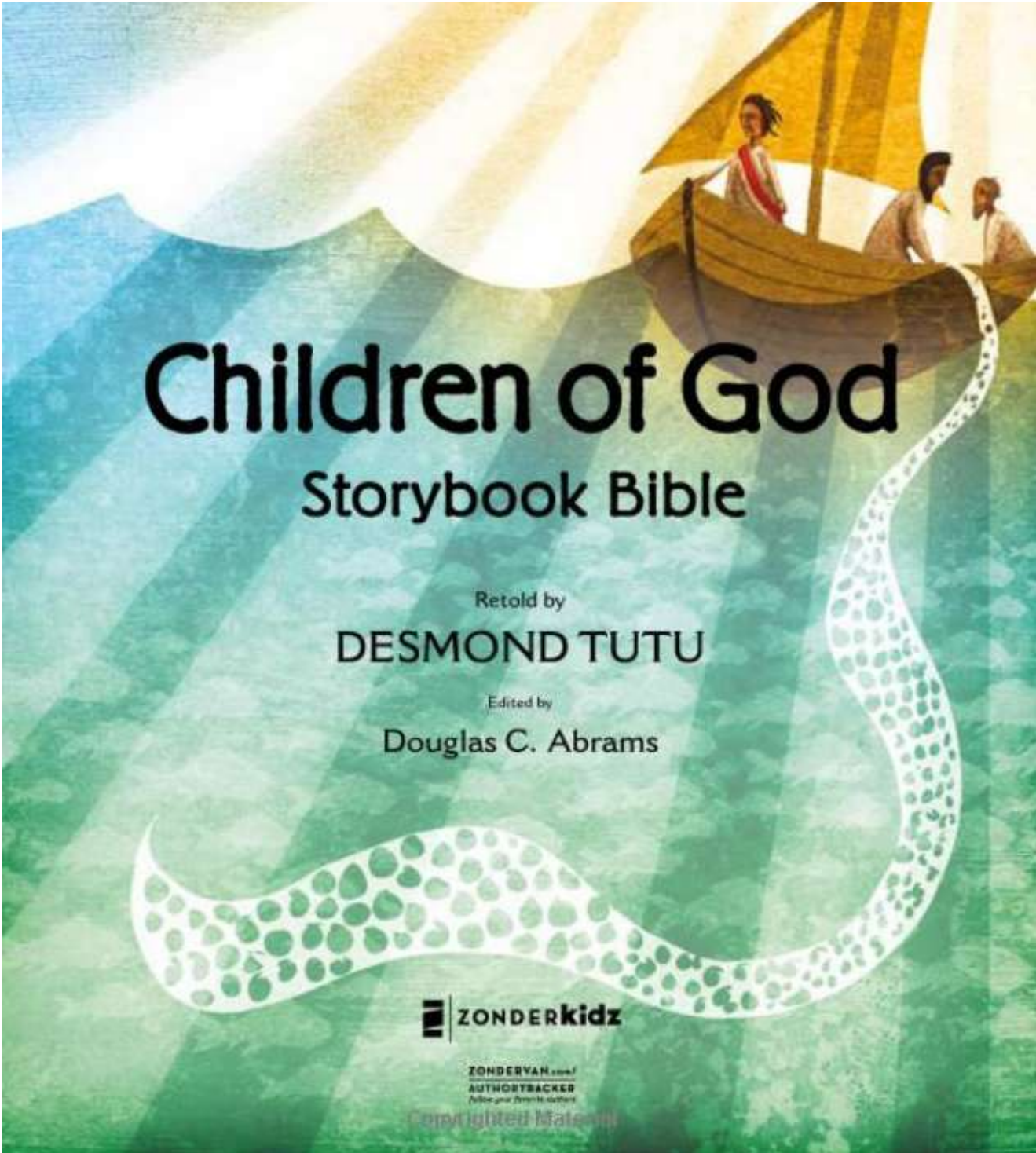
Archbishop Desmond Tutu

Children of God

Storybook Bible



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An artistic illustration of Noah's Ark, depicted as a large wooden boat with a yellow sail. Inside the ark, several people are visible, including a woman in a red sash. A long, white, spotted tail, resembling a whale's, extends from the ark and curves across the lower half of the cover. The background features stylized green mountains and a bright, glowing sun or light source at the top, casting rays of light across the scene.

Children of God

Storybook Bible

Retold by
DESMOND TUTU

Edited by
Douglas C. Abrams

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Contents

STORY		PAGE
1. The Creation	Genesis 1	8
2. Adam and Eve	Genesis 2	12
3. Leaving the Garden	Genesis 3	14
4. Noah's Ark	Genesis 6-9	16
5. Abraham Trusts God	Genesis 15, 17	18
6. Strange Visitors	Genesis 18	20
7. A Wonderful Dream	Genesis 25, 27-28	22
8. Joseph Is Sold into Slavery	Genesis 37	24
9. Joseph Feeds and Forgives	Genesis 41, 45	26
10. Moses Is Saved	Exodus 2	28
11. The Voice from the Burning Bush	Exodus 3-4	30
12. Let My People Go	Exodus 7-15	32
13. The Ten Commandments	Exodus 20	36
14. The Story of Ruth	Ruth 1-4	38
15. Samuel in the Temple	1 Samuel 3	40
16. King David Is Anointed	1 Samuel 16	42
17. David and Goliath	1 Samuel 17	44
18. King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba	1 Kings 3, 10	46
19. Naboth's Vineyard	1 Kings 21	48
20. Esther Saves Her People	Esther 1-10	50
21. Isaiah Becomes God's Messenger	Isaiah 1, 6	52
22. Jeremiah the Boy Prophet	Jeremiah 1, 18	54
23. God Saves Daniel	Daniel 6	56
24. Jonah and the Big Fish	Jonah 1-4	58
25. An Angel Appears to Mary	Luke 1	60
26. Jesus Is Born	Luke 2	62
27. The Three Wise Men	Matthew 2	64
28. Jesus Goes to Jerusalem with His Parents	Luke 2	66



29. Jesus Is Baptized	Matthew 3 & Luke 3 ...	68
30. Jesus in the Desert	Matthew 4	70
31. Jesus Turns Water into Wine	John 2	72
32. Jesus Goes Fishing	Luke 5	74
33. Jesus Teaches the Secret of Happiness	Luke 6	76
34. Jesus Blesses the Little Children	Mark 10	78
35. The Good Neighbor	Luke 10	80
36. The Law of Love	Mark 12	82
37. The Disciples Learn to Pray	Luke 11	84
38. The Lost Sheep	Luke 15	86
39. Jesus Feeds the Crowd	John 6	88
40. Jesus the Healer	Luke 5	90
41. Jesus Restores Sight and Gives Life	Mark 5, 8	92
42. Zacchaeus Turns to Jesus	Luke 19	94
43. The Loving Father and the Son Who Came Home	Luke 15	96
44. Jesus Calms the Storm	Luke 8 & Matthew 8	98
45. Sharing God's Plan	Matthew 25	100
46. Jesus Is Changed on the Mountaintop	Matthew 17	102
47. A Woman's Love for Jesus	John 12	104
48. Jesus Becomes a Servant	John 13	106
49. Jesus Shares His Last Meal with His Friends	Matthew 26	108
50. The Trial and Death of Jesus	Matthew 26-27	110
51. Jesus Is Alive	Luke 24 & John 20	112
52. The Good News	Acts 1	114
53. The Coming of the Holy Spirit	Acts 2	116
54. The Disciples Spread the Good News	Acts 2-4	118
55. Paul Follows Jesus	Acts 9	120
56. The Promise of a New Earth	Revelation 21-22	122

God gives life

The Creation

Genesis 1

In the very beginning, God's love bubbled over when there was nothing else—no trees, no birds, no animals, no sky, no sea—only darkness.

Out of this love, God spoke. "Let there be light." And there was day. And there was night. And when the first day was done, God smiled and knew that it was good.

On the second day, God said, "Let there be sky where the clouds can float and the wind can blow."

And the sky was bright blue and beautiful.

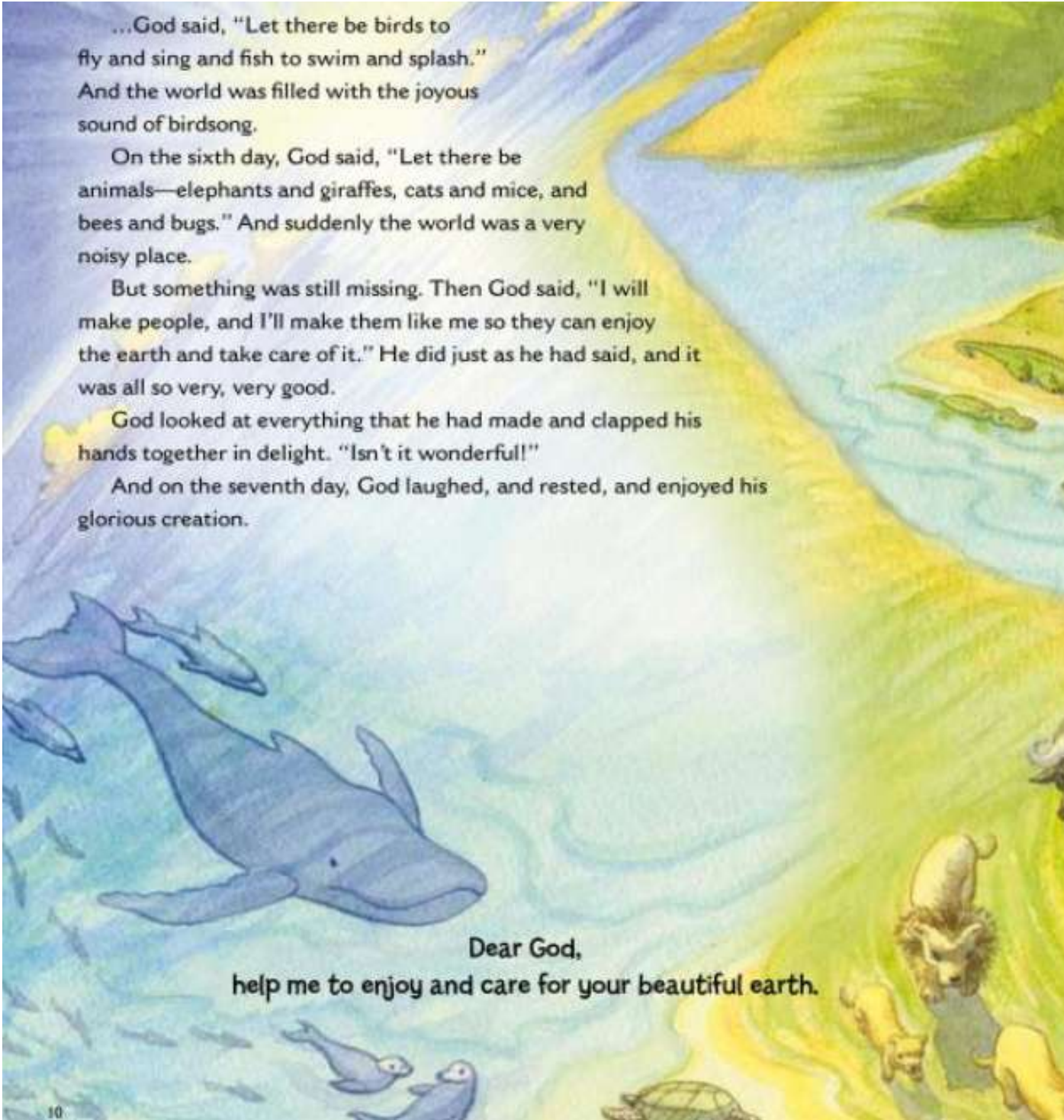
On the third day, God said, "Let the waters gather together into oceans and let the dry land appear." Now God decided to make the world even more dazzling, with tall trees and long grass. And then the first flower opened in all its glory.

On the fourth day, God said, "Let the sky be filled with the sun and the moon." And God scattered stars across the sky like sparkling diamonds.

On the fifth day...







...God said, "Let there be birds to fly and sing and fish to swim and splash." And the world was filled with the joyous sound of birdsong.

On the sixth day, God said, "Let there be animals—elephants and giraffes, cats and mice, and bees and bugs." And suddenly the world was a very noisy place.

But something was still missing. Then God said, "I will make people, and I'll make them like me so they can enjoy the earth and take care of it." He did just as he had said, and it was all so very, very good.

God looked at everything that he had made and clapped his hands together in delight. "Isn't it wonderful!"

And on the seventh day, God laughed, and rested, and enjoyed his glorious creation.

Dear God,
help me to enjoy and care for your beautiful earth.

