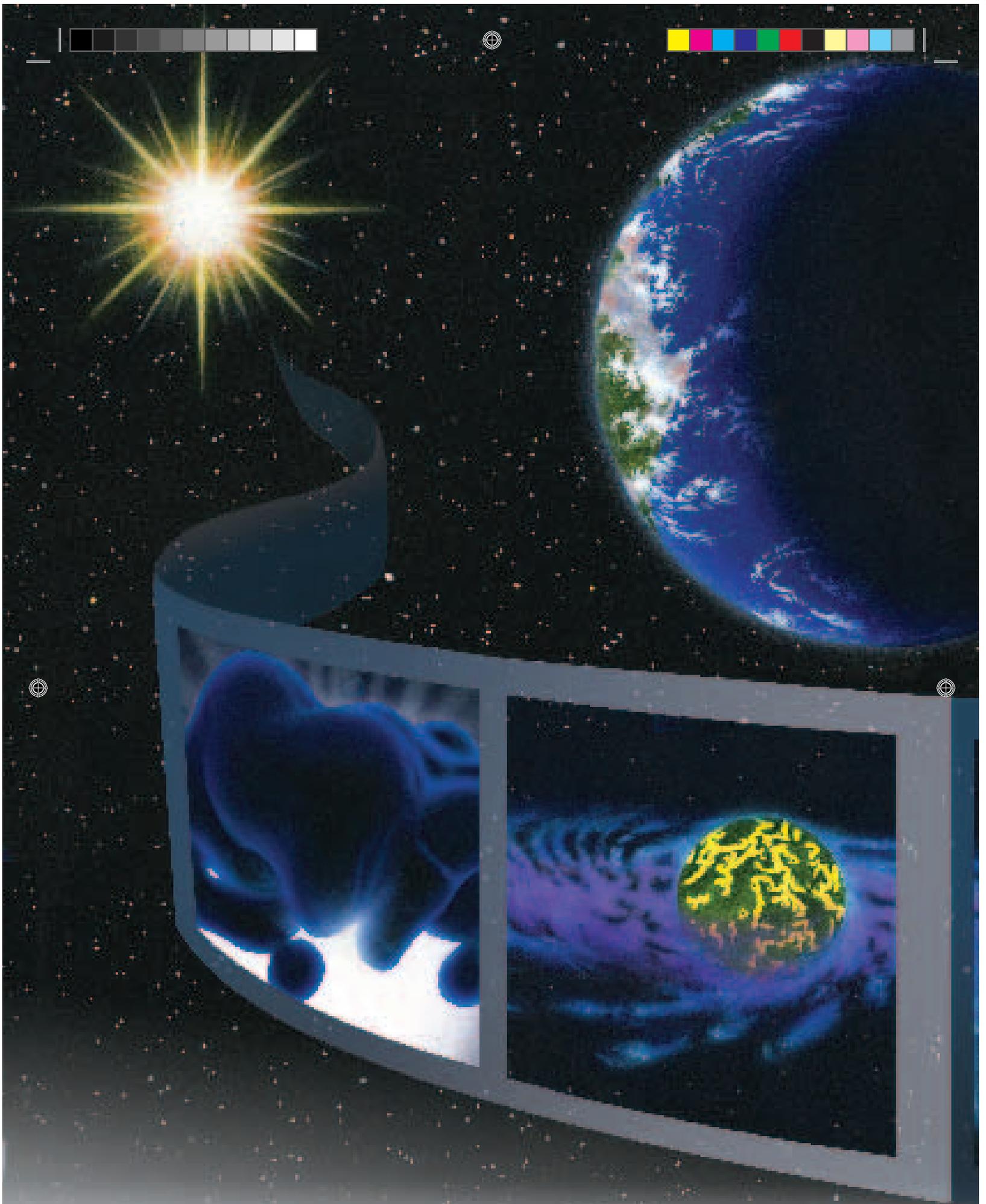


Book of Hope

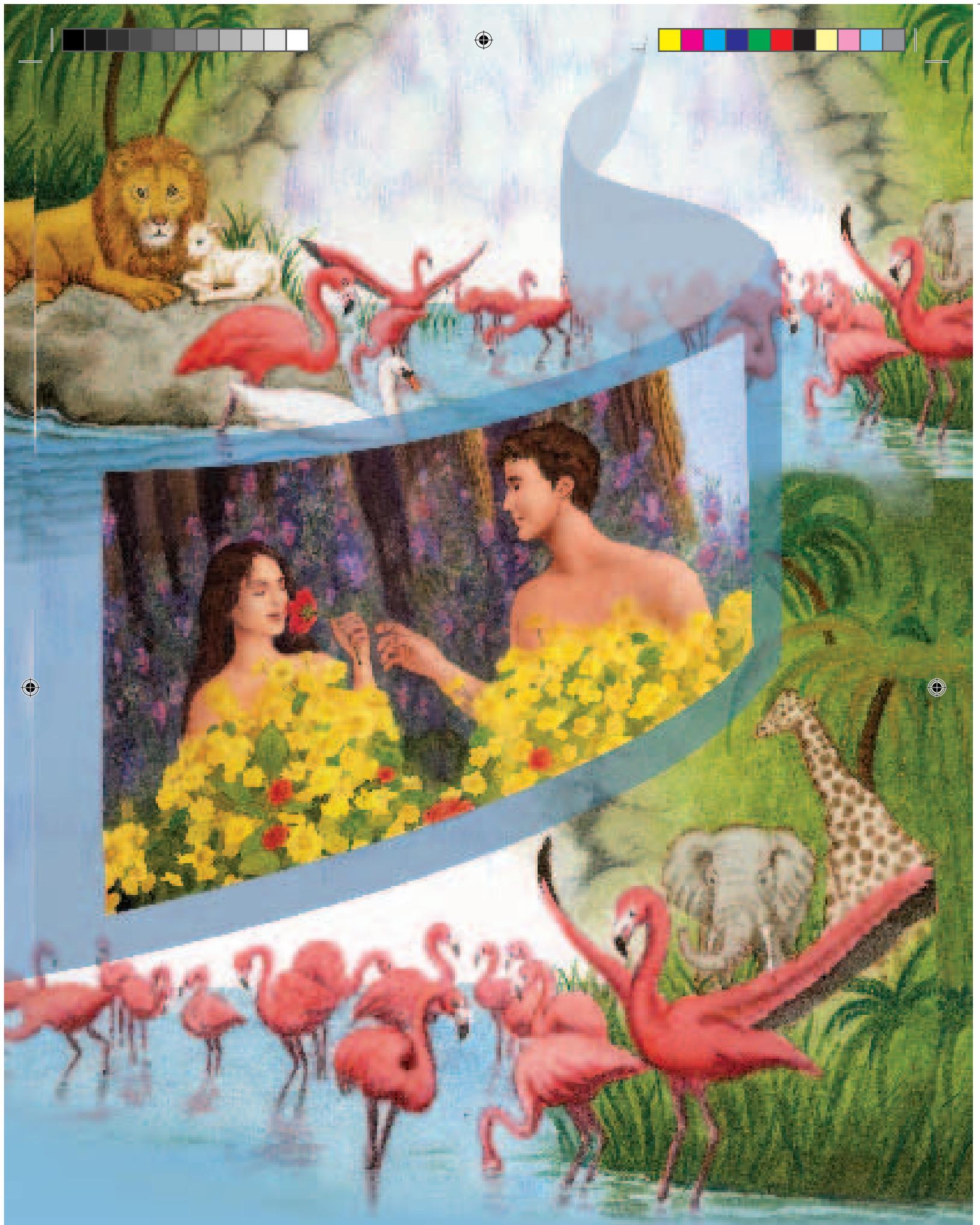
Storying Edition





1

In the beginning, God made the world.



God made animals. He made people, too.



And God and people were friends.

Storyteller's Script

Instructions:

As you read the storyteller's script, ask the listeners to follow along on each page of their book. Use good expression and excitement when reading to them. Ask each "Think About It!" question at the end of the page and have listeners answer, ensuring that they understand the story before you continue.



1

1. In the beginning, God made the world.

And God said, "Let there be light." And there was light! God made all the planets and all the stars and everything in the sky. And God saw that it was good.



2

2. God made animals.

God made every kind of animal from the biggest elephant to the smallest bug. God also made the plants and trees and bushes. And He saw that it was all good.

He made people, too.

When God created everything, He saved the best for last. He made us! God wanted to make someone that could be His best friend, someone He could love and spend time with. So God made the first man and called him Adam. Then God said, "It is not good for man to be alone." So, He created the first woman and named her Eve. Adam and Eve lived in God's Garden, which was called the Garden of Eden.



3

3. And God and people were friends.

Adam and Eve were close to God and His creation. They were friends with God, and they were very happy. And so was God. God walked with Adam and Eve in the Garden every day. They were always together. Everything was perfect.

Think About It!

What did God make?

Do you know that God made you, too?

Do you know that God wants to be friends with you?



22. Because of what Jesus did, people and God can be together again.

As Jesus' friends and followers watched Him go, they were filled with joy. They knew that because of what Jesus had done for them, they would never be alone again. And they would never ever be separated from God. This is the Good News for you as well. If you believe with your whole heart that Jesus died for you, then you will become a follower of Jesus, too. And you will never be alone and you will never ever be separated from God again! Jesus loves you that much!



Think About It!

**How can you be together with God?
Do you believe that Jesus did all these things?
Do you want to be a follower of Jesus?**

The Next Step's Script!

23. God loves you very much.

There is nothing you have to do to make God love you more. He loves you with a perfect love that lasts forever.

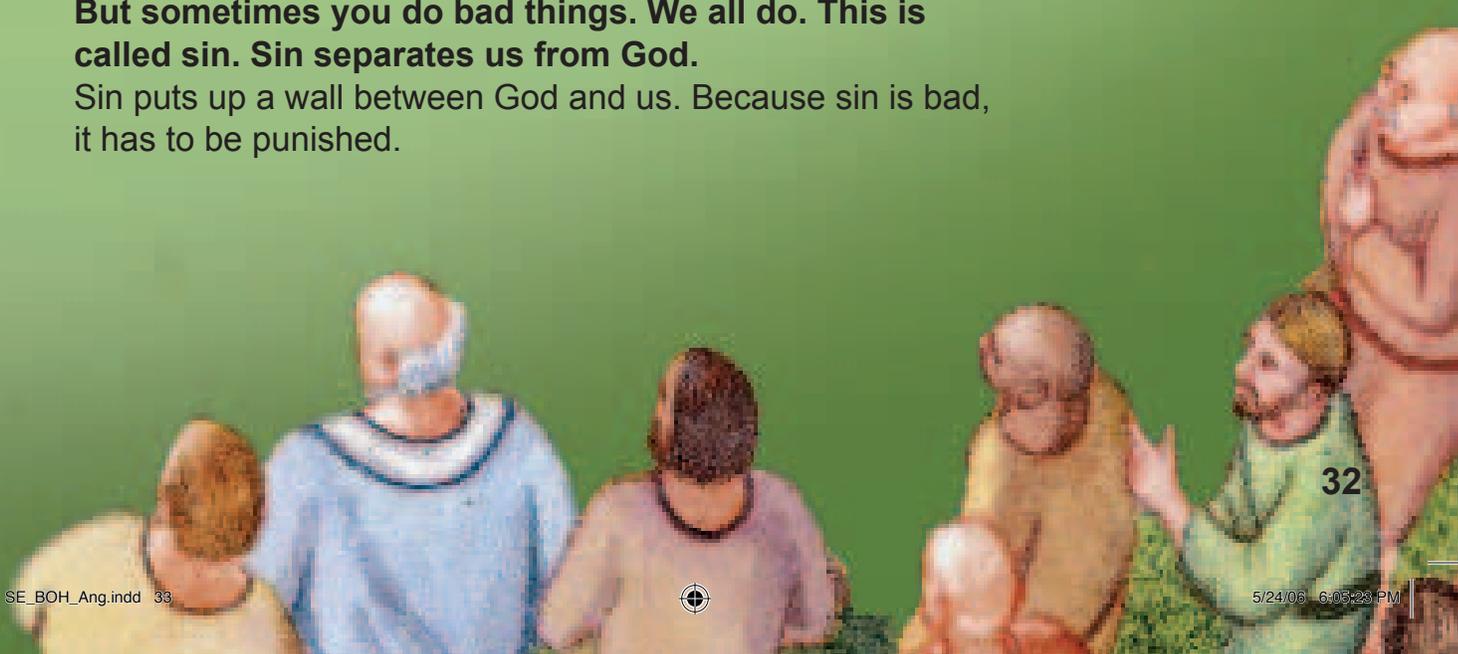
He made you for a special purpose in this world.

God made you in His image, and He knows you very, very well. He wants only what is best for you. And He wants to use you in a special way in His world.



But sometimes you do bad things. We all do. This is called sin. Sin separates us from God.

Sin puts up a wall between God and us. Because sin is bad, it has to be punished.





24

24. God sent His Son Jesus to die on the cross for us. Jesus died so our sins can be forgiven and we can become children of God.

God didn't want us to be separated from Him. And He didn't want us to face the punishment for our sins. So He sent His Son Jesus to take our punishment for us and to bring us back together with God.

God brought Jesus back to life. Ask Jesus to forgive you and to help you live correctly. He will be your best friend forever.

Even if you have been far away from Jesus in your heart, He still loves you. He wants to make everything right again between you and God. You can ask God to forgive you for your sins and to help you live right. You can do this in a prayer. "Prayer" is just talking to God.

You can pray a prayer like this one:

Dear God,

I know that I have done bad things against You. Please forgive me. Thank You for sending Your Son Jesus to take the punishment for all my sins.

I want to invite Jesus to come into my life, to help me live right, and to be my Best Friend forever.

Amen.

33



SO, WHAT IS THE BOOK OF HOPE?

This is your very own *Book of Hope*. It comes from another book called the Bible. God wants you to know that **He loves you very much**, and **He has a special purpose for your life** that is your very own.

Read the story again, look closely at the pictures, and follow the true story of Jesus. Ask God to show you more about Himself and about your special purpose. Share this story with your friends and family so they too will know how much God loves them!

Storying Edition
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