

Sports Day

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Illustrated by Ruth Hearson

It was a sunny day
in the middle of July.

Everyone was sitting at the
table eating breakfast.



Joshua was very excited because today was their school sports day.

"I am going to win so many medals!" he said, rocking his chair from side to side.

"You hope you will," said Daddy.

"Please sit still," said Mummy.



"I'm the fastest runner in my class,"
said Joshua smiling proudly.



"I'm rubbish at running," said Rosie looking fed up.

"That's not true," said Daddy.

"Yes it is. I wish I didn't have to go to school today."



"Well I can't wait!" exclaimed Joshua,
"I really really hope I do get a medal."
Rosie looked even more fed up.



"Ok you two," Mummy began,
"Let's stop talking about
sports day for a minute."

She went to the shelf and found her Bible. "I want you
to listen to what God tells us he is like. In this part of
the Bible he is helping Samuel to choose a new king."



1 Samuel 16:7

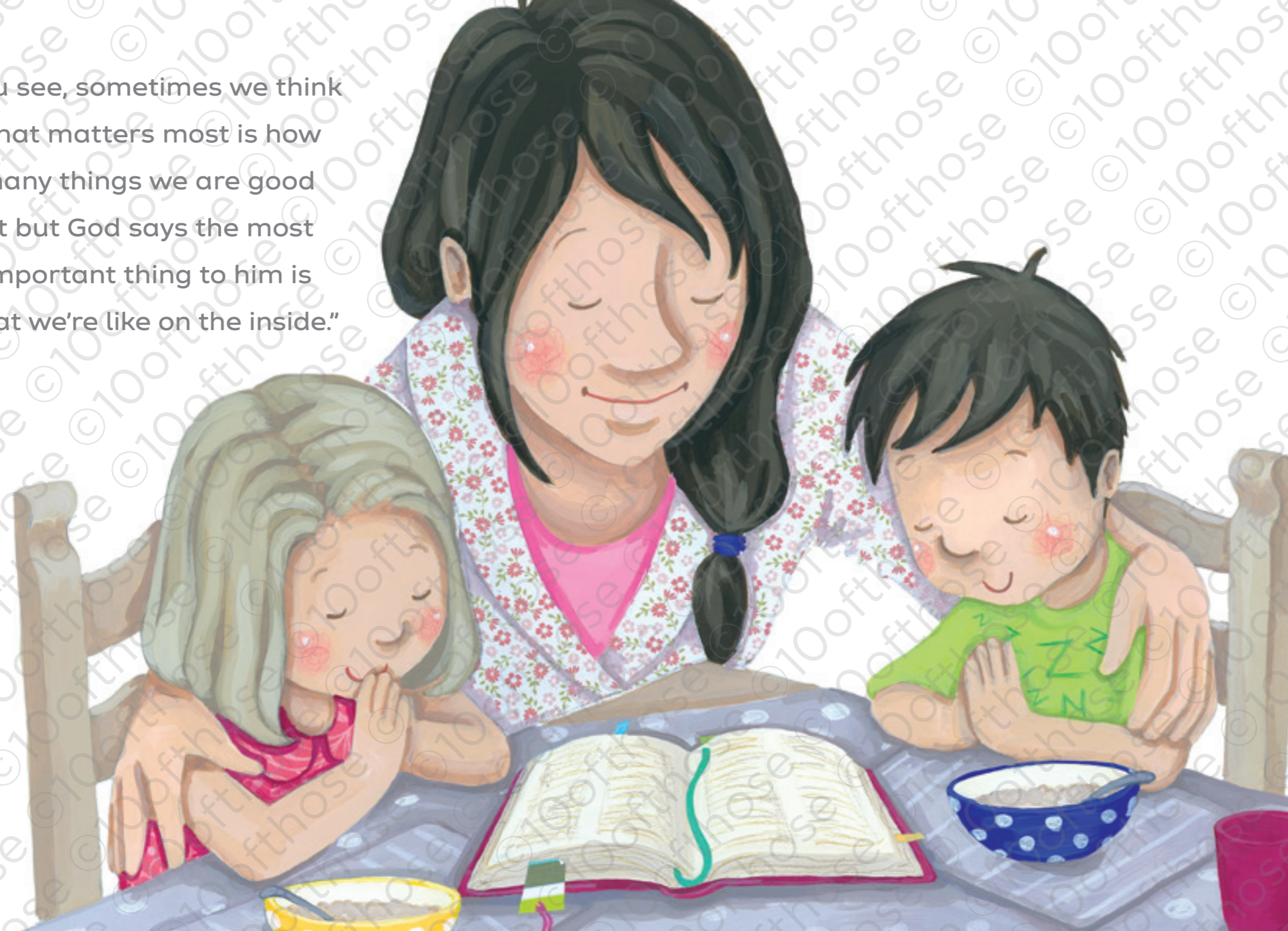
But the Lord said to Samuel, "Don't look at how handsome Eliab is. Don't look at how tall he is. I have not chosen him."

God does not see the same way people see. People look at the outside of a person, but the Lord looks at the heart."

"You see, sometimes we think what matters most is how many things we are good at but God says the most important thing to him is what we're like on the inside."

"We can pray that you both try your best today and most importantly use your hearts to love God and other people."

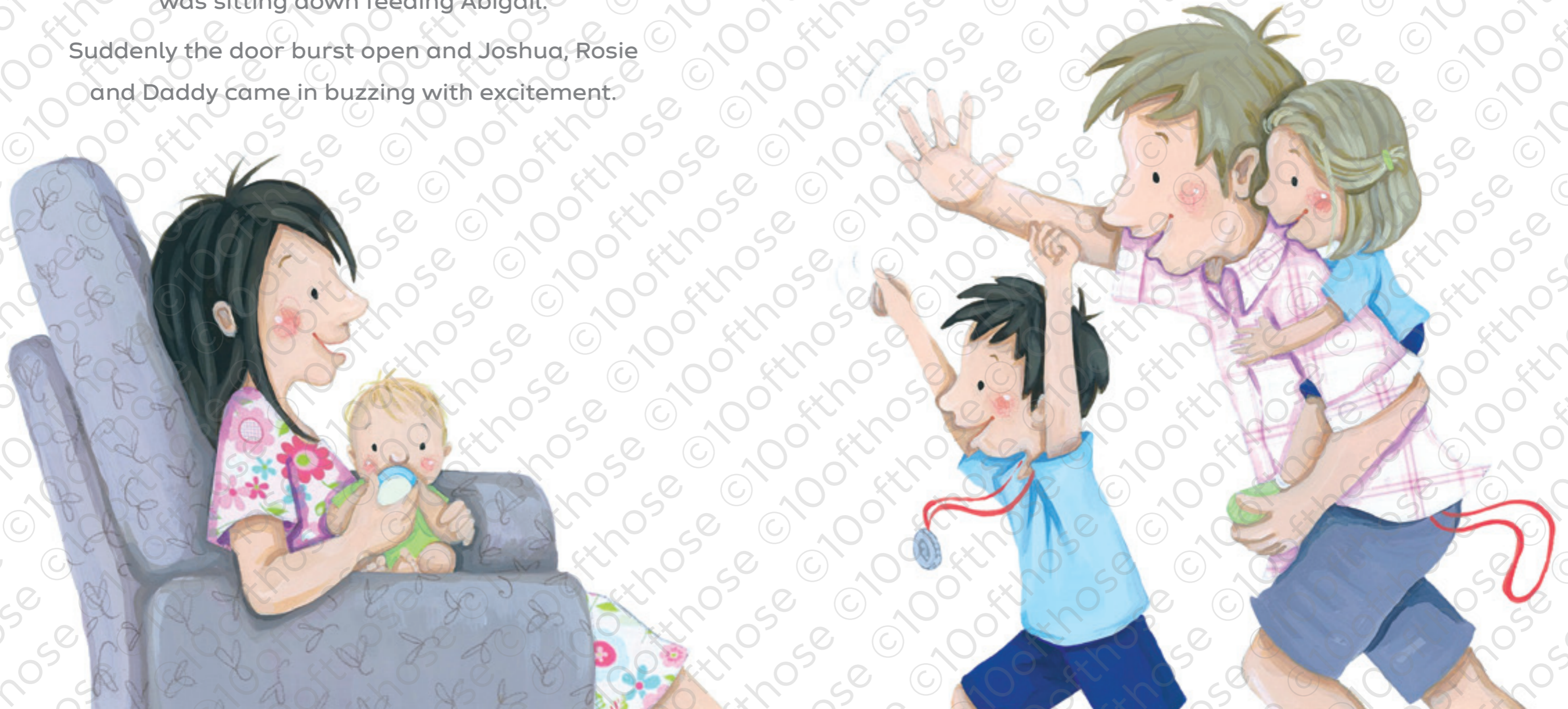
So Mummy prayed for the children and then they went upstairs to get ready for the day.



At the end of the afternoon, Mummy
was sitting down feeding Abigail.

Suddenly the door burst open and Joshua, Rosie
and Daddy came in buzzing with excitement.

They began to tell Mummy all about sports day.



Joshua had won second place in the relay race.



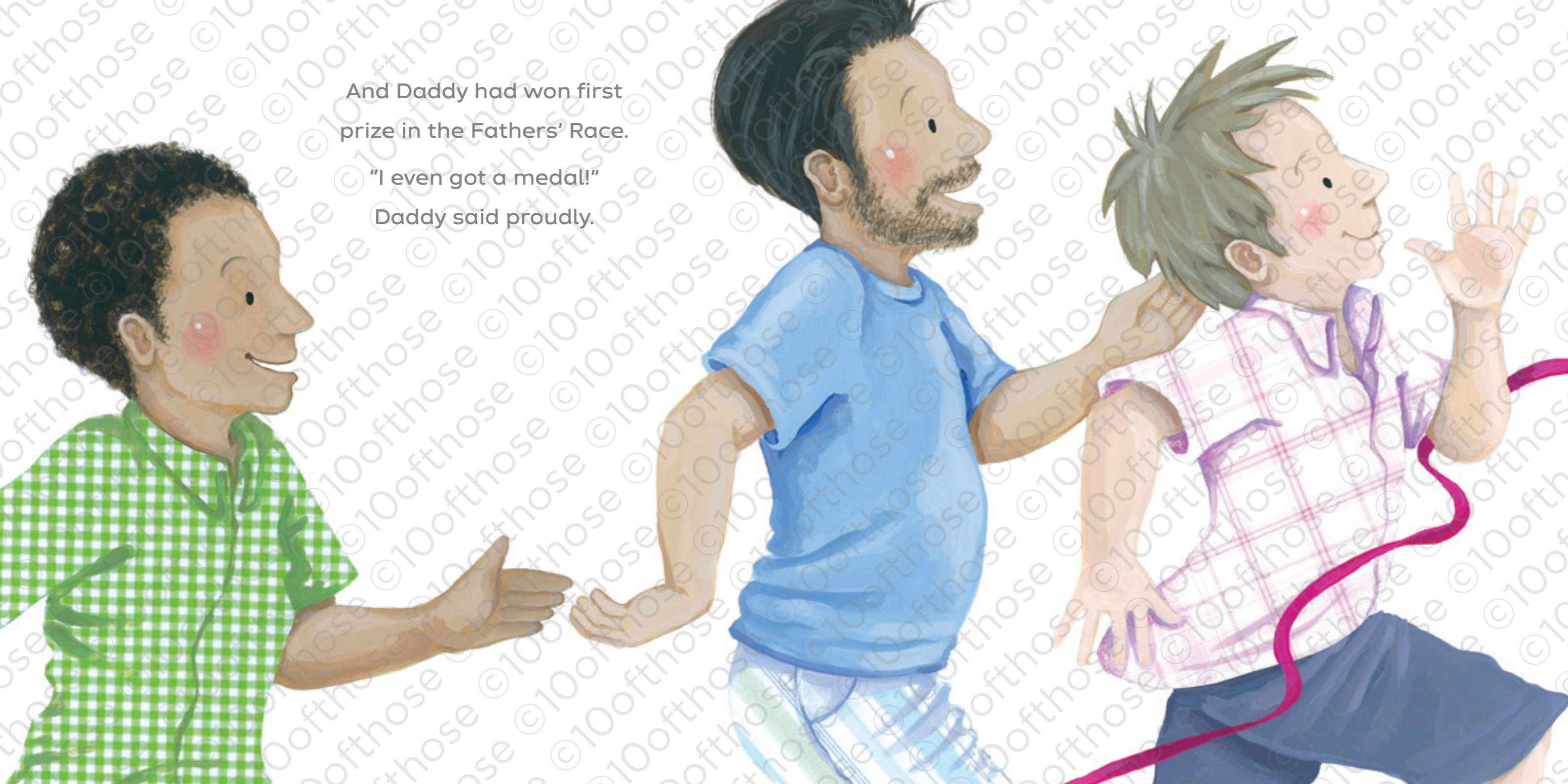
Rosie had managed to do the egg and spoon race without dropping the egg!



And Daddy had won first
prize in the Fathers' Race.

"I even got a medal!"

Daddy said proudly.



“Yes, but remember Dad, God is more interested in your heart!”

“Oh yes Josh, you’re absolutely right!” he replied, and they all laughed.



For all the children and grown ups
at Bumpkins Toddler group - NF
For the wonderful Purkiss family - RH

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