

**African**

**HEROES**

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DISCOVERING OUR CHRISTIAN HERITAGE

New Growth Press, Greensboro, NC 27401  
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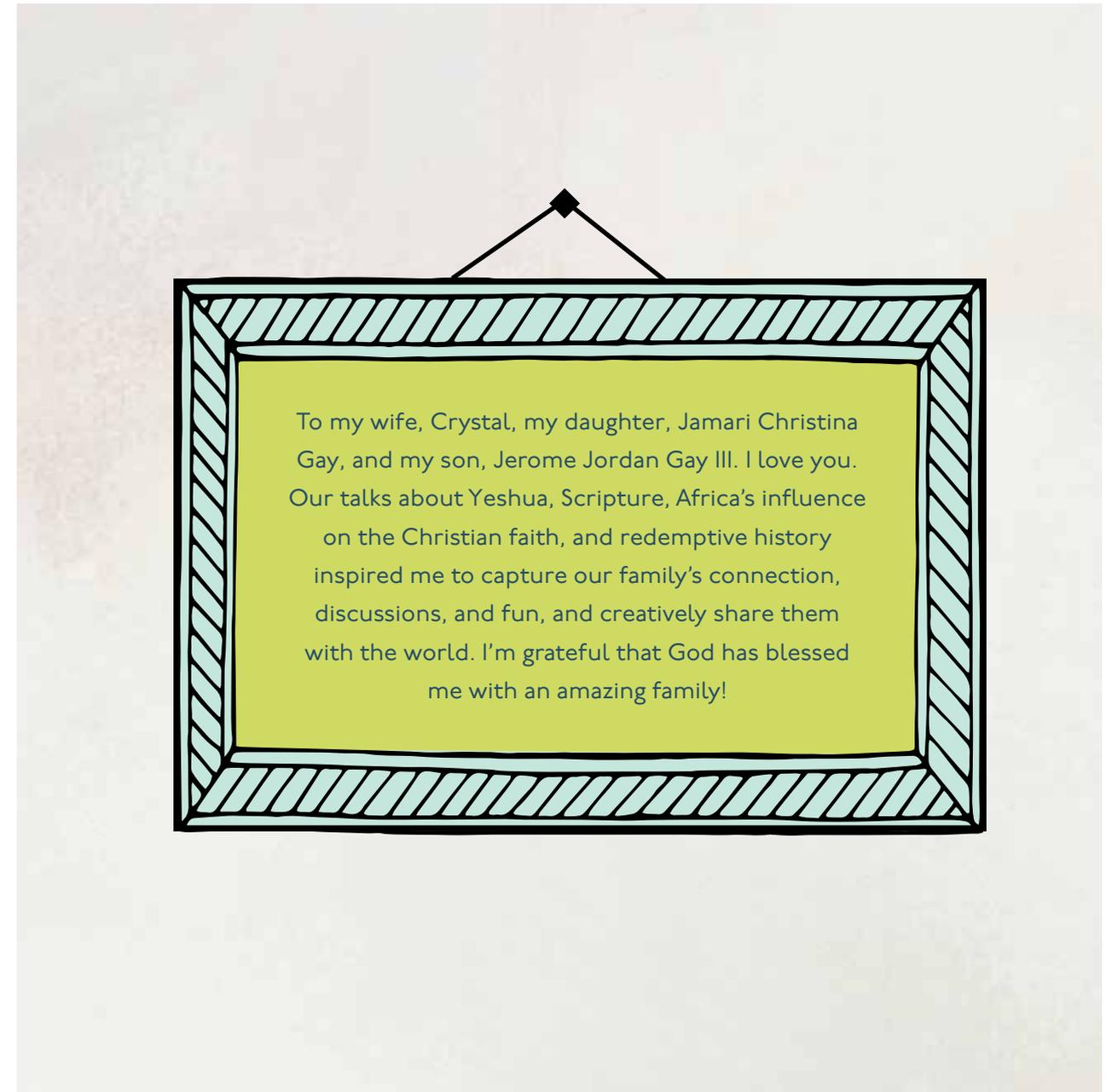
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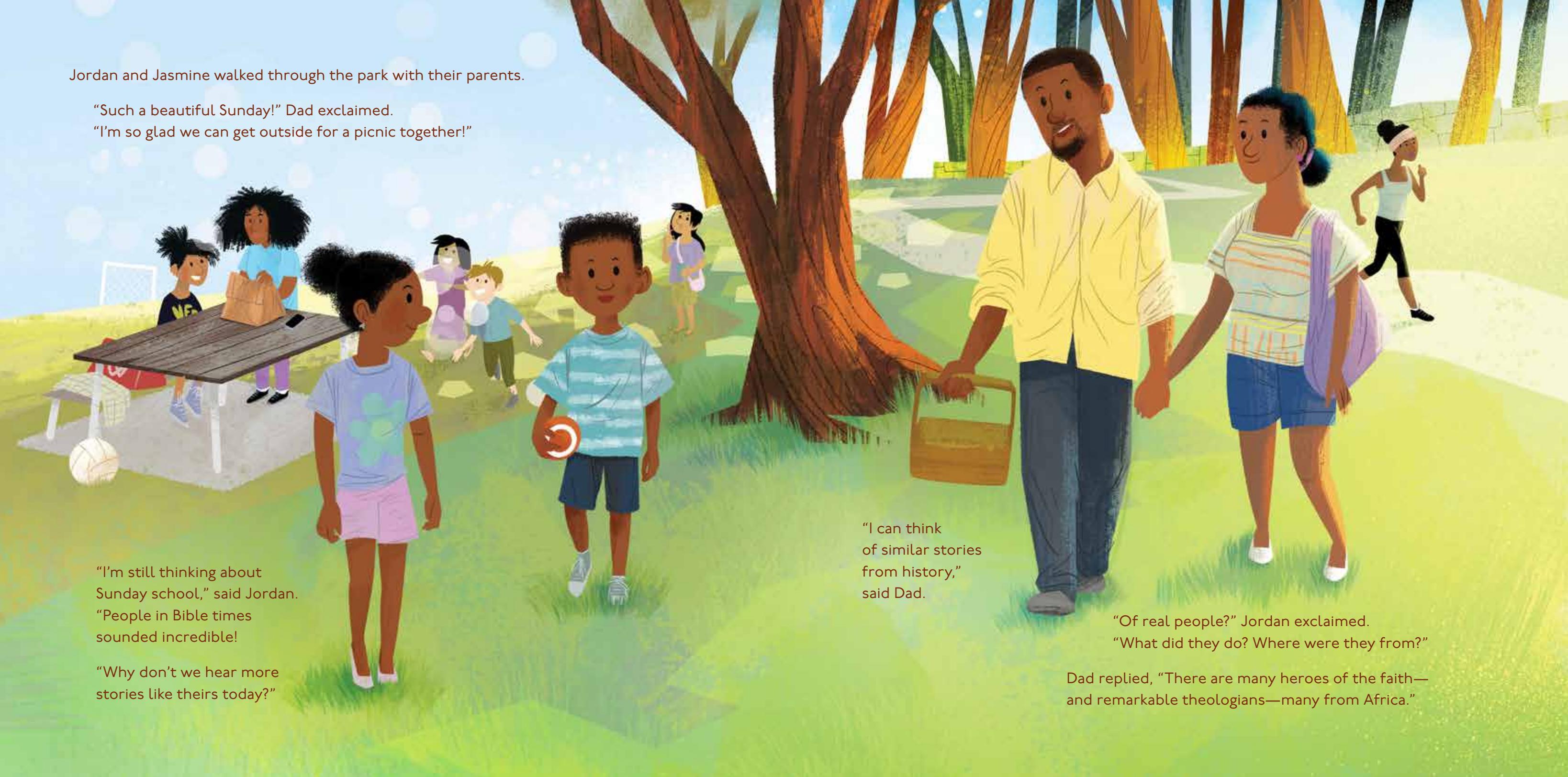
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Cover/Interior illustrations: John Joven  
Design/Typesetting: Dan Stelzer

ISBN: 978-1-64507-263-8

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data on file  
Printed in India  
30 29 28 27 26 25 24 23 1 2 3 4 5





Jordan and Jasmine walked through the park with their parents.

“Such a beautiful Sunday!” Dad exclaimed.

“I’m so glad we can get outside for a picnic together!”

“I’m still thinking about Sunday school,” said Jordan.

“People in Bible times sounded incredible!”

“Why don’t we hear more stories like theirs today?”

“I can think of similar stories from history,” said Dad.

“Of real people?” Jordan exclaimed.

“What did they do? Where were they from?”

Dad replied, “There are many heroes of the faith—and remarkable theologians—many from Africa.”

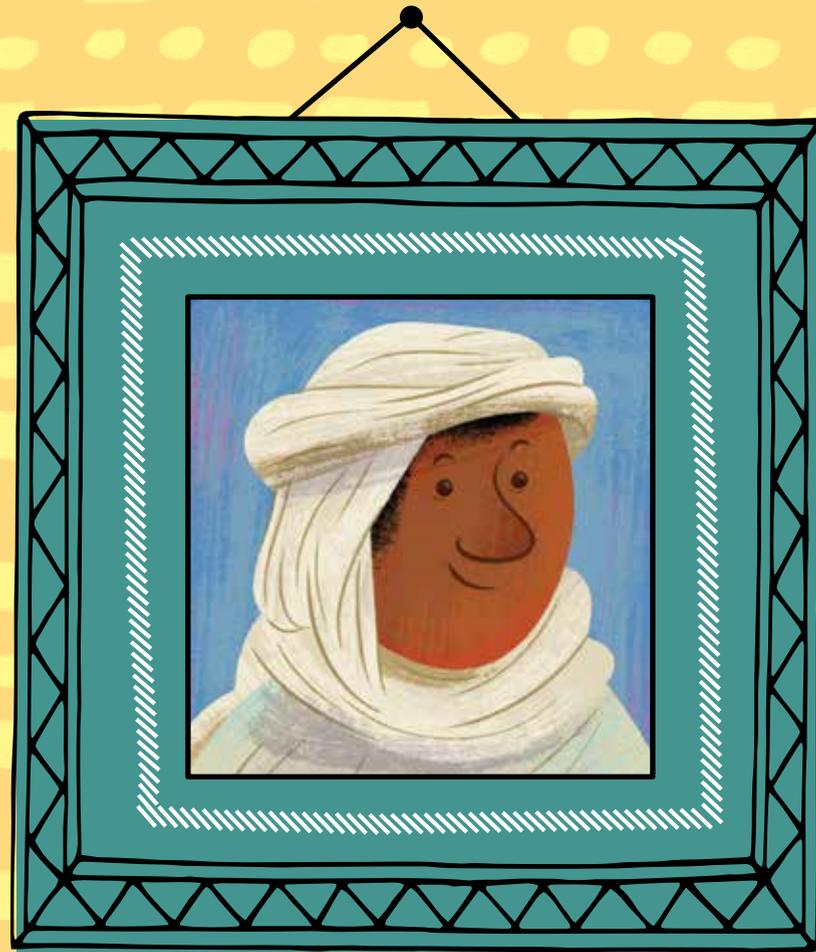


“What’s a theologian?” asked Jasmine.

“A theologian is a person who studies about God,” said Mom.  
“They study to know him better and to share him with others.”

“Can we hear their stories?” asked Jordan.

“Sure. Let’s start with some people who lived a long, long time ago, when the good news of Jesus was just starting to spread around the world,” said Dad. “They lived back when the Christian faith was almost brand new.”



“Remember your leaders. They spoke God’s word to you.  
Think about the results of their way of life. Copy their faith.”

HEBREWS 13:7

LEADERSHIP

# Tertullian

A boy named Tertullian grew up in the city of Carthage—a prosperous, busy, port city in Tunisia. His father was an officer in an African-based army. Because his father had great power in Rome, Tertullian was able to attend the very best schools (in Carthage)—all the way through college! That’s when he became a lawyer.

It wasn’t until Tertullian was in his twenties, that he became a follower of Jesus and began writing stories about God. He was the first author to write Christian books in the Latin language. And he also wrote several books in Greek.

Have you ever heard the word, Trinity? Tertullian penned it! Trinity means: God is one God, but he has three persons—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Although you might see this idea in the Bible, Tertullian was the first person to give it a name!

When you read your Bible, you also might notice how it's divided into two big parts. Tertullian created these parts called the Old and New Testaments. The Old Testament has thirty-nine books, and the New Testament has twenty-seven! That's a lot of books!

Tertullian loved to stand up for God's Word. If he ever heard anyone making fun of God, or spreading lies about him, he quickly ran to God's defense. He didn't want anyone believing things about God that weren't true.

Tertullian spent over twenty years writing about God and sharing him with others. He even defended the Bible before the Roman Empire! He was brave, wise, and displayed great leadership.

