

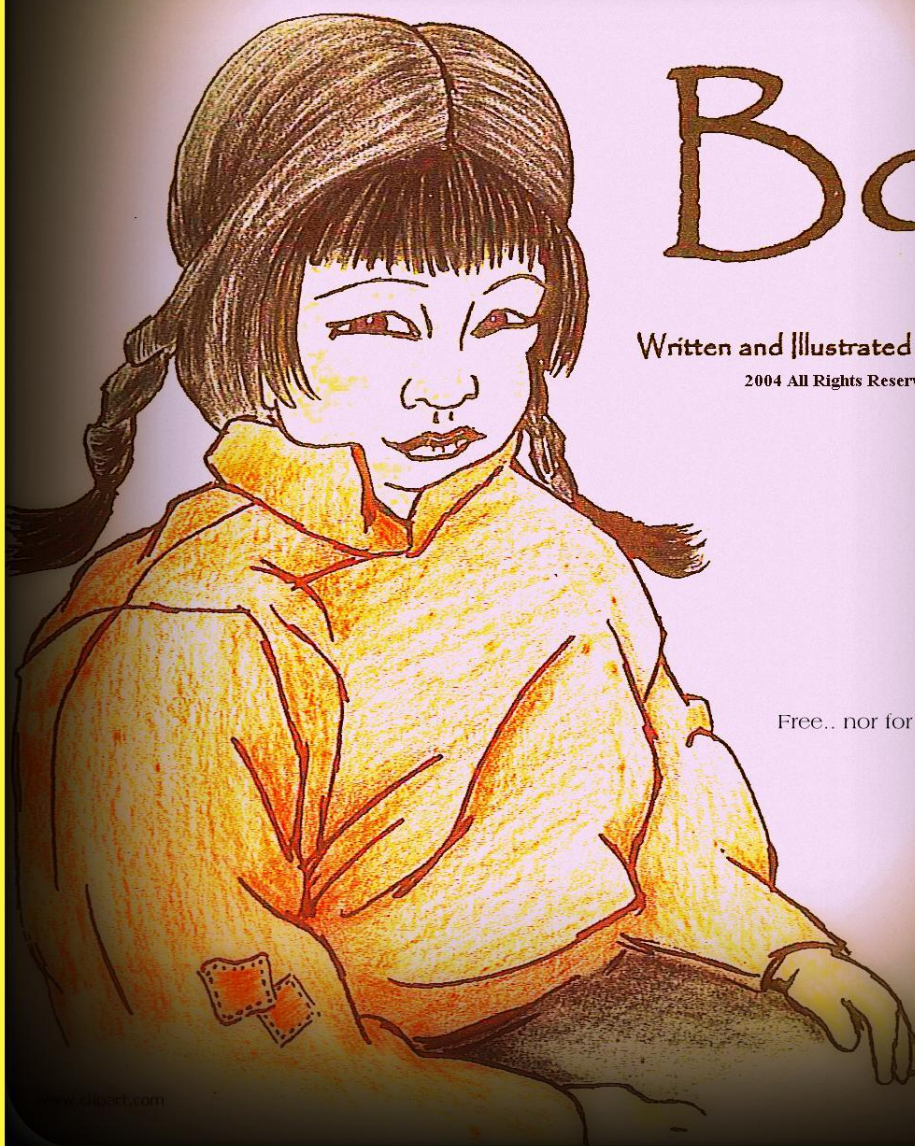
Second

Born

Written and Illustrated by De Dorman

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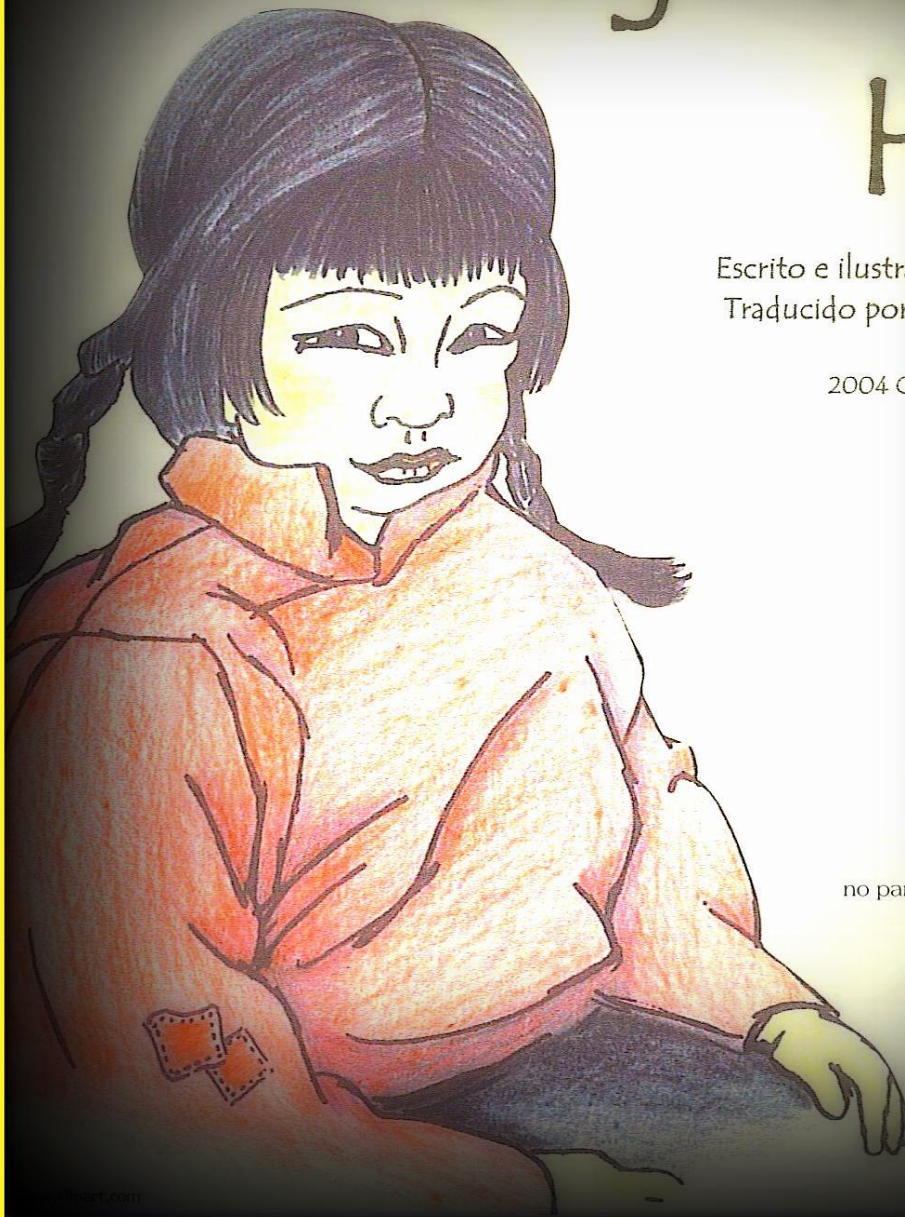
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El Segundo Hijo

Escrito e ilustrado por De Dorman
Traducido por Rhoda Rodriguez

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I Corinthians 2:9 "...eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither hath entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him."

It was a cool but sunny day in the Beijing countryside where the Lin family lived. Seven year old Pao Zhu (Pow Joo) sat contently outside watching her older sister, Pao Yi, (Pow Ee) play with some other children who live nearby. Feeling the warm sun on her back and gazing up into the beautiful blue sky seemed to be all the medicine little seven-year-old Pao Zhu needed. "Running and jumping could wait just a little longer," she thought as she listened to the other children's laughter. You see, this little girl has been suffering with a fever and cough for quite a while and it has left her little body very weak. Almost anywhere else in the world her papa could get help for his precious pearl, but not here.

In China, the government strongly encourages families to have only one child. Should they have more than that, the family is heavily fined, and the eldest child is the only one who can get an education or any kind of healthcare. Some second-born children are left all alone to die, others are sold. There are some parents who give their child to an orphanage, hoping that the child will be cared for there. If a family keeps the second child, society is very cruel to them and they make it very difficult to get food and clothes. For this reason, the Lin family moved to the countryside. They know that a child is a gift from God and is to be treasured. Pao Zhu's family loves her very much and has sacrificed a comfortable life in the city so they can live in peace together.

Pao Yi helped her sister inside for lunch. As Mama brought them some hot rice, she kissed the top of Pao Yi's head and thanked her for being so helpful. "I am so thankful for my two beautiful jewels!" she said as she handed the bowls of rice to the girls. Pao Zhu hasn't had an appetite lately, so Mama and Pao Yi tried to encourage her to eat.

"Papa will be so happy if you eat some of your rice!" Pao Zhu smiled weakly and said that she would try, but coughing made it so difficult to eat. She did eat a few bites and soon Pao Yi was helping Mama clean up while Pao Zhu rested.

Silently, Mama prayed that someone would bring some medicine for her little girl tonight. That's when the Lin family will be having a meeting at their little house in the country, a secret meeting. People will be coming from miles just to attend, and they must be very careful who they tell this secret to because China has a law stating that no one is allowed to worship God! However, Christians know that this law is not pleasing to God (Psalm 95:6 and Psalm 96:9) so they hold these secret meetings in "underground churches" whenever a pastor is in their area. Some of these pastors have been beaten and thrown into prison when caught holding these meetings, being separated from their families for months and years. Some have even given their lives so others can hear the good news of the gospel.

This is how Papa and Mama Lin first heard about Jesus. They went to a "secret meeting" with family and heard the good news of God's great love for them. Joy came to their sorrowing hearts when they asked The Lord Jesus to be their Savior. Now they gladly open their home, risking their own lives, so others also may hear the good news.

Many of these brothers and sisters in Christ pray for little Pao Zhu and have tried, without success, to get the medicine that she needs. They fear that without it, there is little else that can be done for the little girl. Her condition continues to worsen.

The girls were looking forward to the "secret" meeting. The children who come are their friends. They don't mind at all that the girls are dressed in clothes that are well worn and no one treats Pao Zhu unkindly because she is the second born. Pao Zhu wonders, though how their parents can be so happy and loving when many of them have been beaten and scorned for being a Christian. What makes them so different?

You see, boys and girls, Pao Zhu hasn't given her heart to Jesus, but many are praying that she will know the same joy that others speak about.

Mama finished preparing the fish and rice for the family as Papa came in from the field. "How is my Precious Pearl doing today, Mama?" Papa asked as he glanced over at Pao Zhu.

"Papa, Pao Zhu ate a little more rice today..." began big sister.

"And, Papa..." Pao Zhu faintly said, "I went outside and sat in the sun! It was a pretty day! The sky was so blue!"

Pao Yi mentioned that she made sure her sister stayed warm.

"You are a good sister to Pao Zhu," commented Papa as they bowed their heads to give thanks for their food. After they finished eating, hugs of gratitude were given to Mama, thanking her for the good meal.

Little by little, people began coming; one or two at a time. They knew that they mustn't come in all together; that would cause others to wonder what was going on in the little house. Soon enough, the house was full. They greeted each other and gladly sat on the hard floor, eagerly awaiting the message. Almost no one came with a Bible because they are difficult to get. The meeting began with singing a beautiful hymn, the people's voices being the only instruments there. Smiles and tears were visible as they worshipped their Savior.

The pastor then stepped forward with a page from God's Word in his hand. He read the passage John 14:1-6 from the well-worn page and began speaking of Heaven. Everyone listened as he continued; stating that we all have sinned (Romans 3:23) and our sin is like the Great Wall; it separates us from God, but Jesus left His beautiful home in Heaven to come to this Earth and become The Door (John 10:9) through Whom we could have eternal life. (Romans 6:23) Pao Zhu thought of her Papa and Mama's love for her and how, at times, she disappointed them by her disobedience. She knew that this also displeased God. As the gentle pastor spoke of the suffering that Jesus went through (Isaiah 53:3-5) so that we could be saved, Pao Zhu felt such sorrow in her heart. This little girl was seeing that she, too, was a sinner and needed to be forgiven. As the pastor closed his message, he asked if there was anyone who wanted this gift of eternal life, paid in full, by Jesus. Pao Zhu's little hand went up. Right there, in the middle of the floor, with Papa and Mama by her side, Pao Zhu asked Jesus to forgive her sins and come into her heart. She thanked Him for going through all the pain and suffering for her. Now she knew the joy that others talked about; all her sins were forgiven! The peace that was inside her heart was priceless!

Many people rejoiced with the Lin family before leaving, in the same way they came...one or two at a time. It had been an exciting night for the Lin family! However, it wasn't long before all were lying on their mats, resting peacefully with hearts full of joy! Although there was no medicine brought that night, something much more precious came...salvation to a little girl's heart.

Papa and Mama saw, however, as the weeks passed, that their Precious Pearl only grew weaker. Mama would hold her as she coughed so hard that, at times, she was unable to breathe. Papa would pray.

It was as some said, Pao Zhu had tuberculosis, and with no treatment available for second born children, their precious little pearl was dying. And Jesus, who is so full of mercy, gently took Pao Zhu's hand one night and brought her to her new home in Heaven, where she had a new body and a clean, white robe. Here, everyone was so happy to see this little pearl. As Pao Zhu held onto His nail-scarred hand, she thanked her Savior for dying for her sins and for that one night, during a "secret meeting" when this second born child, who had been rejected and scorned by many, was born again and accepted by the One who mattered the most...God Almighty.

(Picture 8 John 3:16 in Chinese)

Invitation to Salvation and Obedience.

Close the class time by praying for our brothers and sisters in China and those throughout the world who are being persecuted for their love for The Lord.

Lin Pao Zhu -(Lin is the last name.) Pronounced "Pow Joo"... means Precious Pearl.

Lin Pao Yi- (Lin is the last name.) Pronounced "Pow ee"... means Precious Jade.

Heartfelt thanks go out to Helen Lim who added authenticity to this story by giving valuable information on the Chinese culture and for naming the precious jewels. God bless you, Helen.

La Obediencia Trae Bendiciones

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Escrito e ilustrado por De Dorman

Traducido por Rhoda Rodriguez

Isaías 1:19 " Si quisieres oyereis, comeréis el bien de la tierra..."

"Que buen día para jugar afuera," pensaba Johnny mientras jugaba con su camión favorito en la arena. "¡Me encantan los sábados!" De cualquier modo, tuvo que parar su camión derepente cuando escuchó a su mamá gritándole desde la puerta del patio.

"Johnny...Suzie...recojan sus juguetes y limpien. Necesitamos ir a la tienda." Ese mismo día mas temprano su mamá les prometió que llegarían a la nueva tienda de nieve que esta cerca del supermercado, después de terminar las compras del mandado. Recordar esta promesa motivó a Johnny a recoger sus cosas más rápido.

Mientras el obedecía a su mamá rapidamente, Johnny notó que Suzie seguía jugando con su muñeca, su muñeca favorita, Emmie.

Pensó Johnny, "A lo mejor ella no escuchó a Mamá." El rapidamente fue con ella y le repitió las instrucciones de su mamá.

Reclamó Suzie, "Si, escuché a Mamá, ¡pero no quiero ir! Tengo toda la ropita de Emmie afuera y es mucho trabajo recogerla toda. Y Johnny, ¡tú sabes que a mi no me gusta limpiarme la cara! ¡El jabón siempre se mete a mis ojos y eso duele!"

"Pero, Suzie, ¿qué no quieres ir a la tienda de nieve?" Johnny le preguntó mientras el trataba de ayudarle a recoger sus cosas.

Suzie le arrebató de las manos a Johnny la ropa de las muñecas y dijo claramente que ella creía que su mamá como quiera la traería un cono de nieve. Suzie dijo, "después de todo, ¡solo tengo seis años! Mamá va a entender."

Después de asegurarse que todas sus cosas estuvieran recojidas, Johnny se metió a la casa y se limpió. ¡Hasta usó jabón sin que le dijeran! Rapidamente, se puso la ropa limpia que estaba en la cama y bajó las escaleras.

Para que sepan, hace unos meses, Johnny le pidió a Jesús que lo salvara y que le ayudara a hacer cosas buenas. Y todos sabemos que obedecer a su mamá es hacer algo bueno. La Biblia nos dice en Efesios 6:1 (leer el versículo) que los niños deben obedecer a sus padres y Dios le da a esos niños obedientes una promesa especial en el mismo verso. ¿Escuchaste cual fué la promesa? (larga vida).

Suzie, también, le pidió a Jesús ser su Savador, pero éra más difícil para ella que Él ocupara el primer lugar. Pareciera que Suzie siempre fuera primero y la obediencia no era tan importante para ella. Pero eso estaba por cambiar.

"Johnny, ¿donde esta Suzie?" preguntó la mamá. Necesitamos irnos si queremos regresar antes de la cena."

"Ella sigue jugando en el patio con Emmie. Yo le repetí lo que dijiste, Mamá, pero ella no quiere ir con nosotros." contestó Johnny.

Después de preguntarle a Suzie y viendo que ella queria quedarse en

casa, la mamá le dijo al papá que la cuidara mientras ella y Johnny iban a la tienda.

El papá estuvo de acuerdo en cuidarla mientras el cortaba el zacate, así que Johnny y su mamá rápidamente se fueron a la tienda.

Mientras tanto, Suzie continuó jugando con su muñeca lavándole la ropita y colgándola en una silla para secarse. Mientras ella jugaba, pensaba que sabor de nieve su mamá le traería cuando regresara. "Ah, yo espero que recuerde que a mí me encanta el chocolate." pensó Suzie.

Pronto todo el mandado estaba empacado en el carro y ahora era hora de ir por la nieve! La nueva tienda estaba muy bonita y para celebrar la inauguración, a todos los niños les daban premios gratis! Algunos recibían yoyos y otros discos voladores! Johnny recibió un yoyo color rojo con el que se iba a divertir mucho. Después de darle gracias a el Sr. Cunningham por el yoyo, ellos ordenaron nieve. Johnny podía escoger el sabor que quisiera, así que ordenó un cono doble de chocolate! ¡Vaya que se veía riquísimo cuando el Sr. Cunningham le dio el cono a él!

"Johnny, ya se nos hace tarde," dijo la mamá. "Podrías comértelo en el camino a la casa?"

"Seguro que si, Mamá, pero...se te olvidó el cono de nieve de Suzie?" se preocupaba su hermano.

"No se me olvidó, Johnny. Suzie no hizo lo que le pedí, así que no va a ver cono para ella el día de hoy." la mamá contestó mientras salían del estacionamiento.

Pronto regresaron a la casa y Johnny quería enseñarle su nuevo yoyo y el cono de nieve a medio terminar a su hermanita. Johnny estaba chupando su cono rápidamente tratando de evitar que se le derramara la nieve derretida!

"¡Esta muy bien, Johnny! ¿Dónde está el mío?" preguntaba su hermana.

"Ah," Johnny dijo, "sería mejor si vas y le preguntas a Mamá." ¡Así que eso fué lo que Suzie hizo! ¡Pronto se escucha un llanto en toda la casa!

El papá acababa de entrar a la casa y se lavaba las manos cuando escuchó el llanto de agonía que venía de la niña desobediente.

"Suzie, ¿que pasó? ¿Estás lastimada?" El papá solo podía suponer cual era el problema hasta que Johnny le conto porqué estaba llorando.

"¡Mi mamá no me trajo un cono de nieve!" se quejaba la niña.

"A Johnny le dieron un cono doble de chocolate y un yoyo del Sr. Cunningham's, y Papá..." Suzie añadió...¡"a mi no me trajeron nada!" El papá le limpió las lágrimas y habló con la mamá quien estaba

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guardando el mandado en la cocina.

El papá pronto regreso con Suzie y le preguntó si había entendido que necesitaba recoger sus juguetes y limpiarse para poder ir con su mamá. Después de decirle a su papá que a ella no le gustaba hacer eso, le hicieron otra pregunta.

"Entendiste que si ibas con tu mamá, te comprarían un cono de nieve?"

"Pues, si..." dijo Suzie, "pero yo pensé que Mamá me lo traería de

cualquier manera."

Después de explicarle de que ella no estaba dispuesta a alistarse e ir, el papá le dijo a la niña que hoy no le darian nieve. Aunque ella estaba muy triste, Suzie estaba finalmente entendiendo que la obediencia trae bendiciones.

Con su papá a su lado, Suzie quizá orar a Jesús y pedir perdón por su desobediencia. Mientras se limpiaba las lagrimas de sus mejillas daba gracias a Dios por su gran amor hacia ella.

"Y Jesús..." continuó Suzie..."¿me puedes ayudar a ser obediente para que me den nieve la próxima vez?" "Gracias...amén."

¿Crees tú que Suzie se quedó sin cono de nieve alguna otra vez?

¿Cuáles fueron las cosas que Johnny tuvo que hacer para ganarse el cono y el yoyo? Estas mismas acciones pueden ser relacionadas a nuestro caminar con El Señor.

1. Levántate.....Marcos 10:49....."levántate, te llama..."
2. Recoge.....Efesios 6:1..."Hijos, obedece en El Señor."
3. Limpia.....Santiago 4:8.."Acercaos a Dios...limpiad las manos..."
4. Ve.....Isaías 6:8-9..."¿A quién enviaré, y quién irá...?"

¿Estás dispuesto a hacer estas cuatro cosas para servir a Jesús? Él sacrificó mucho por tí y por mí. Filipenses 2:8 dice..."Se humilló a sí mismo, haciendose obediente hasta la muerte, y la muerte de la cruz."

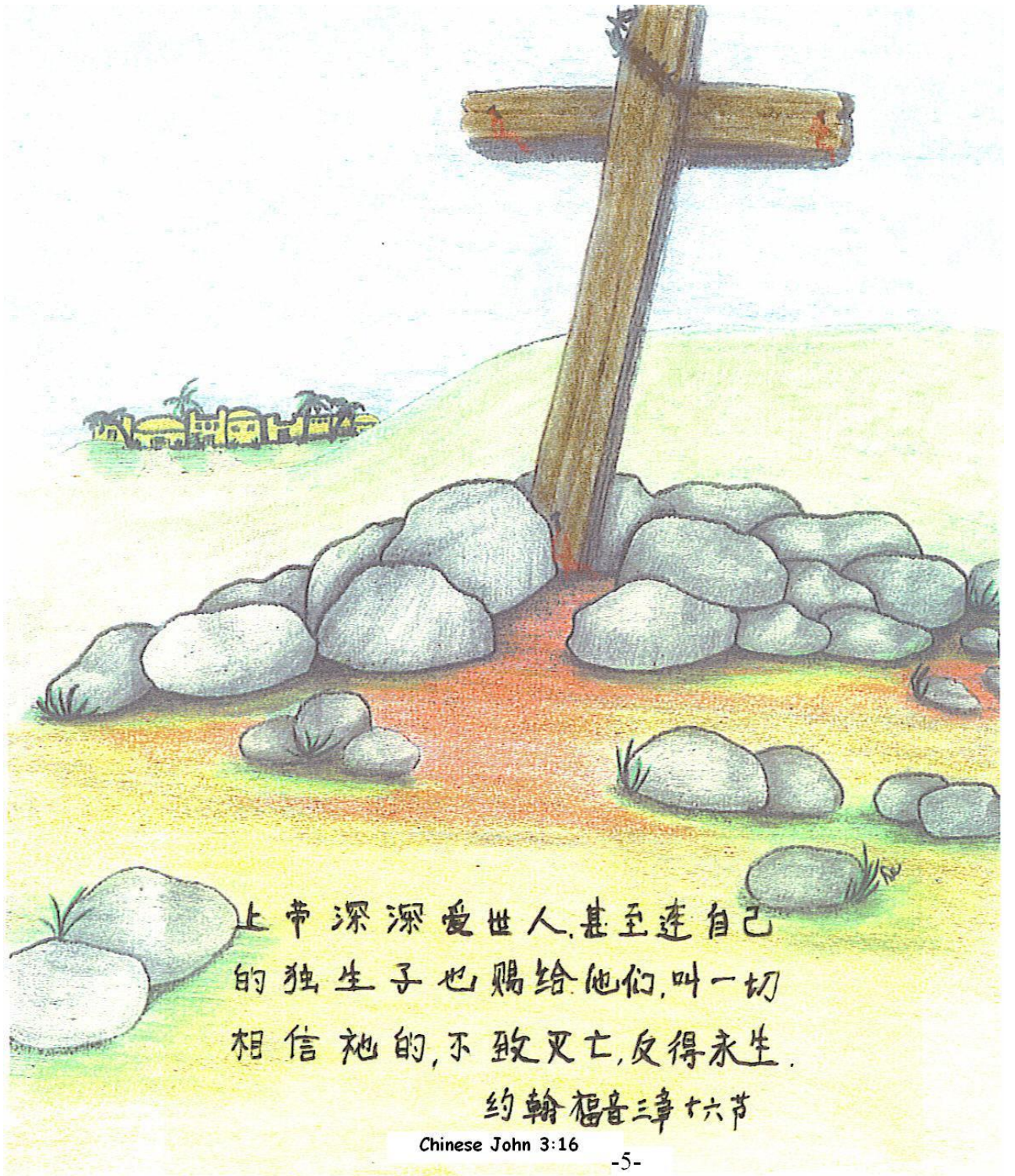
Jesús dijo..."Si quisieréis y oyereis, comeréis el bien de la tierra."
Isaías 1:19

Jesús tiene muchas bendiciones para los niños obedientes. No te pierdas ninguna de ellas por desobediencia. ¡Puedes comenzar hoy! ¡Él tiene un plan maravilloso para tu vida! (Invitación a la salvación y servicio)









上帝深深爱世人,甚至连自己的独生子也赐给他们,叫一切相信祂的,不致灭亡,反得永生.

约翰福音三章十六节

Chinese John 3:16







John 1:29 "Behold, the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world."

Juan 1:29 "He aquí el Cordero de Dios, que quita el pecado del mundo."



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