

**THE  
STORY  
OF THE  
BIBLE IN  
16  
VERSES**



Creation

Human Beings

The Fall

Redemption  
Promised

Abraham

The Time Is Coming

Resurrection  
Promised

Suffering  
Servant

King  
David

The Law

Passover  
Lamb

Judah  
the King

Fulfillment

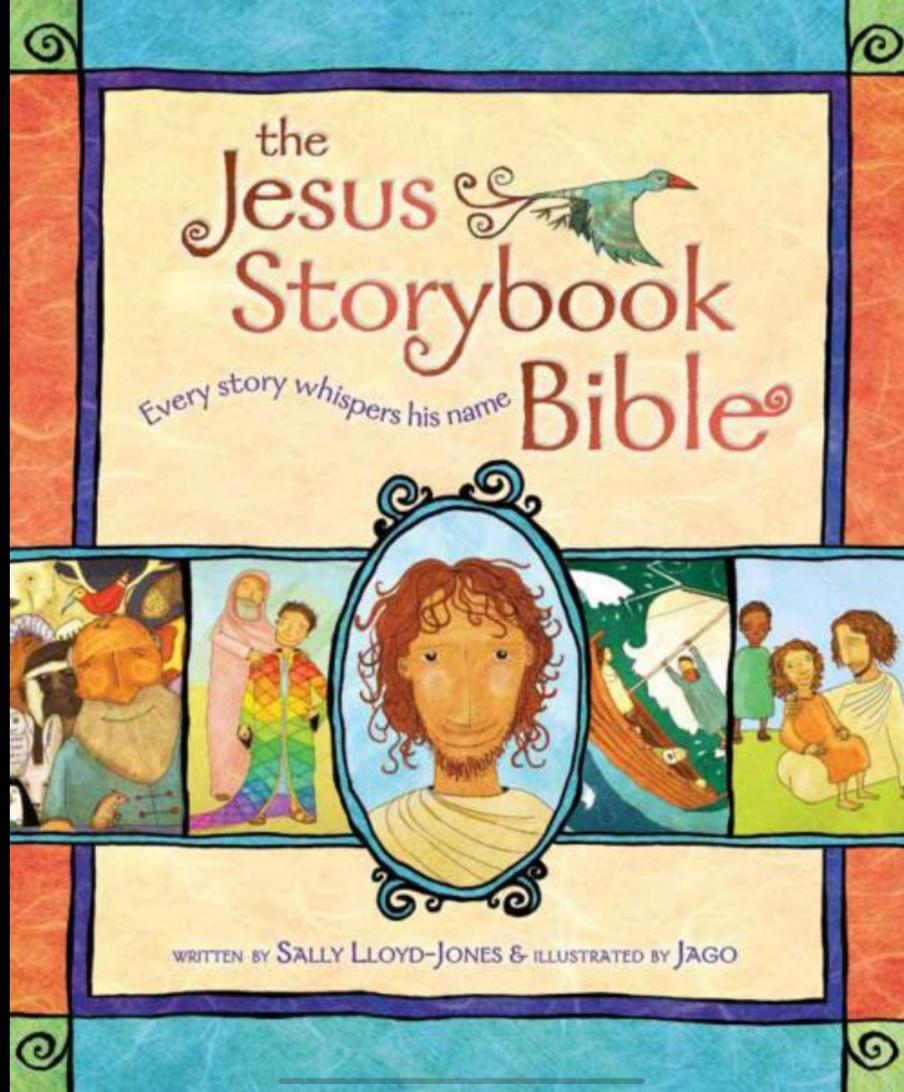
The Cross

Resurrection

Justification

Glory

The Time Has Come



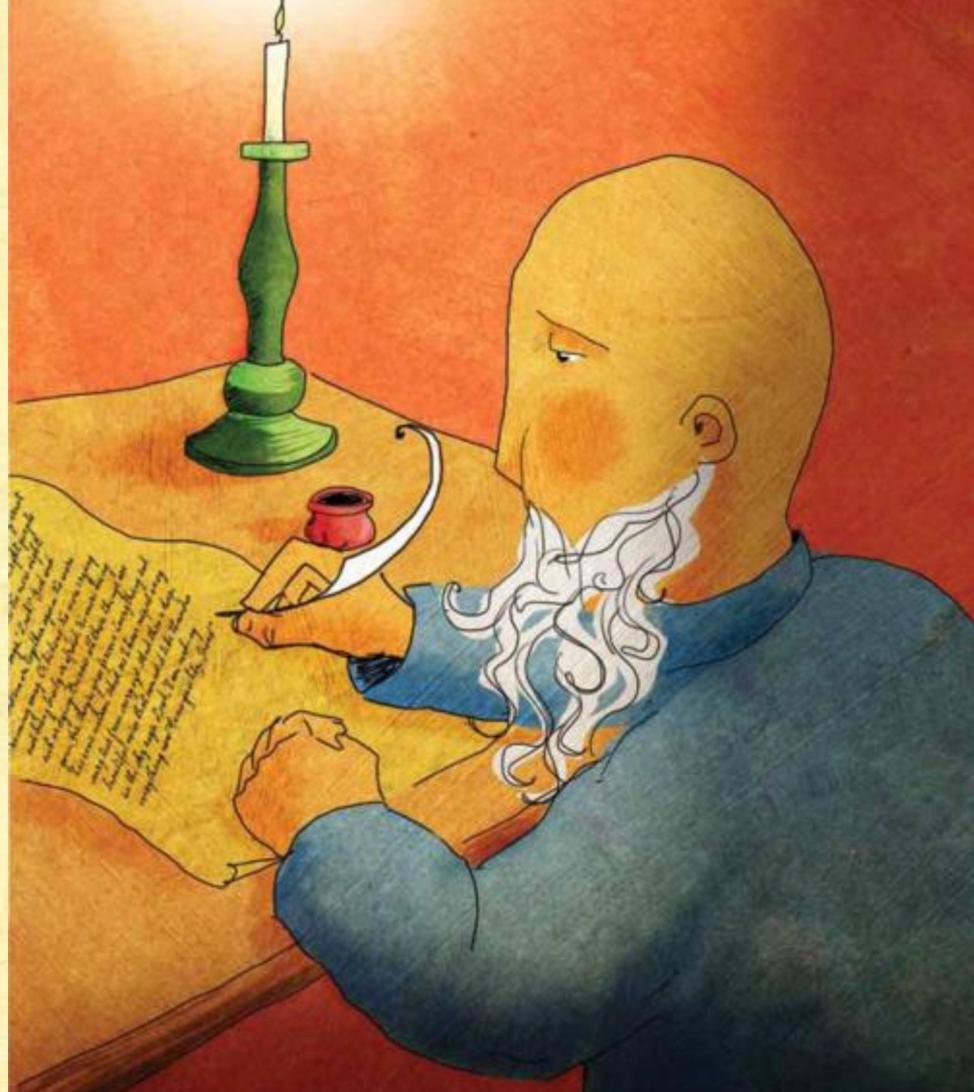
It was hard to squeeze all John saw into words. And fit it onto a page. And cram it into a book. All the words on all the pages of all the books in all the world would never be enough.

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One day, John knew, Heaven would come down and mend God’s broken world and make it our true, perfect home once again.

And he knew, in some mysterious way that would be hard to explain, that everything was going to be more wonderful for once having been so sad.

And he knew then that the ending of The Story was going to be so great, it would make all the sadness and tears and everything seem like just a shadow that is chased away by the morning sun.



A Tale of  
Three Trees



Tree #1 – The  
Tree of the  
Knowledge of  
Good and Evil



Tree #2 - The  
Red Tree



Tree #3 - The  
Tree of Life



Tree #1 – The  
Tree of the  
Knowledge of  
Good and Evil





## Genesis 2:8-9, 15-17

<sup>8</sup>Now the LORD God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed. <sup>9</sup>The LORD God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground – trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food. In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil...

## Genesis 2:8-9, 15-17

<sup>15</sup>The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. <sup>16</sup>And the LORD God commanded the man, “You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; <sup>17</sup>but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die.”



## Genesis 3:1-8

<sup>1</sup>Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden’?”

## Genesis 3:1-8

<sup>2</sup>The woman said to the serpent,  
“We may eat fruit from the trees in  
the garden, <sup>3</sup>but God did say, ‘You  
must not eat fruit from the tree that  
is in the middle of the garden, and  
you must not touch it,  
or you will die.’”

## Genesis 3:1-8

<sup>4</sup>“You will not certainly die,” the serpent said to the woman. <sup>5</sup>“For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

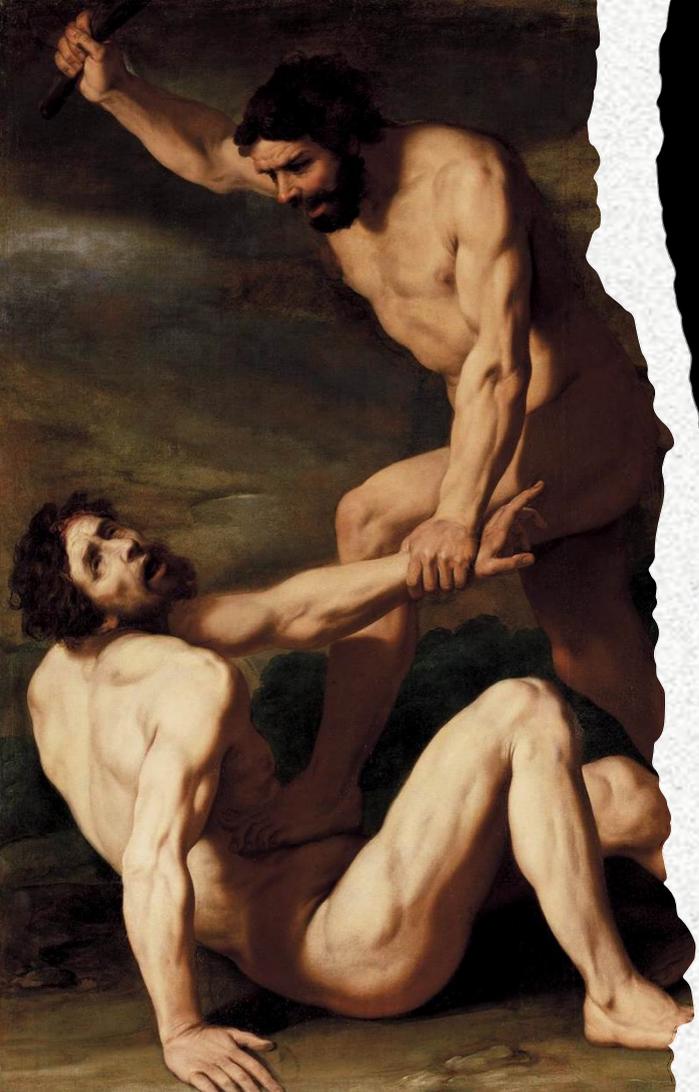
## Genesis 3:1-8

<sup>6</sup>When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

## Genesis 3:1-8

<sup>7</sup>Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

<sup>8</sup>Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden...



**CRESPI, Daniele**

Cain Killing Abel

1618-20

Oil on canvas, 184 x 126 cm

Private collection

## Genesis 4:6-7

<sup>6</sup>Then the LORD said to Cain, “Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast?

<sup>7</sup>If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it.”

Tree #2 - The  
Red Tree





## Genesis 3:15

<sup>15</sup>And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.”



## John 3:14-18

<sup>14</sup>Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. <sup>16</sup>For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.



## John 3:14-18

<sup>17</sup>For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. <sup>18</sup>Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.

**Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people.**

(Num. 21:6)





## Numbers 21:8-9

<sup>8</sup>The LORD said to Moses, “Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is bitten can look at it and live.” <sup>9</sup>So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, they lived.



## Galatians 3:13-14

<sup>13</sup>Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: “Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree.” <sup>14</sup>He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.



## **Deuteronomy 21:22-23**

<sup>22</sup>If someone guilty of a capital offense is put to death and their body is hung on a tree, <sup>23</sup>you must not leave the body hanging on the tree overnight. Be sure to bury it that same day, because anyone who is hung on a tree is under God's curse. You must not desecrate the land the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance.

Tree #3 –  
The Tree of  
Life



## Genesis 2:8-9

<sup>8</sup>Now the LORD God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed. <sup>9</sup>The LORD God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground – trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food. In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil...

## **Genesis 3:22-24**

<sup>21</sup>The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them. <sup>22</sup>And the LORD God said, “The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever.”

## **Genesis 3:22-24**

<sup>23</sup>So the LORD God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken. <sup>24</sup>After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life.

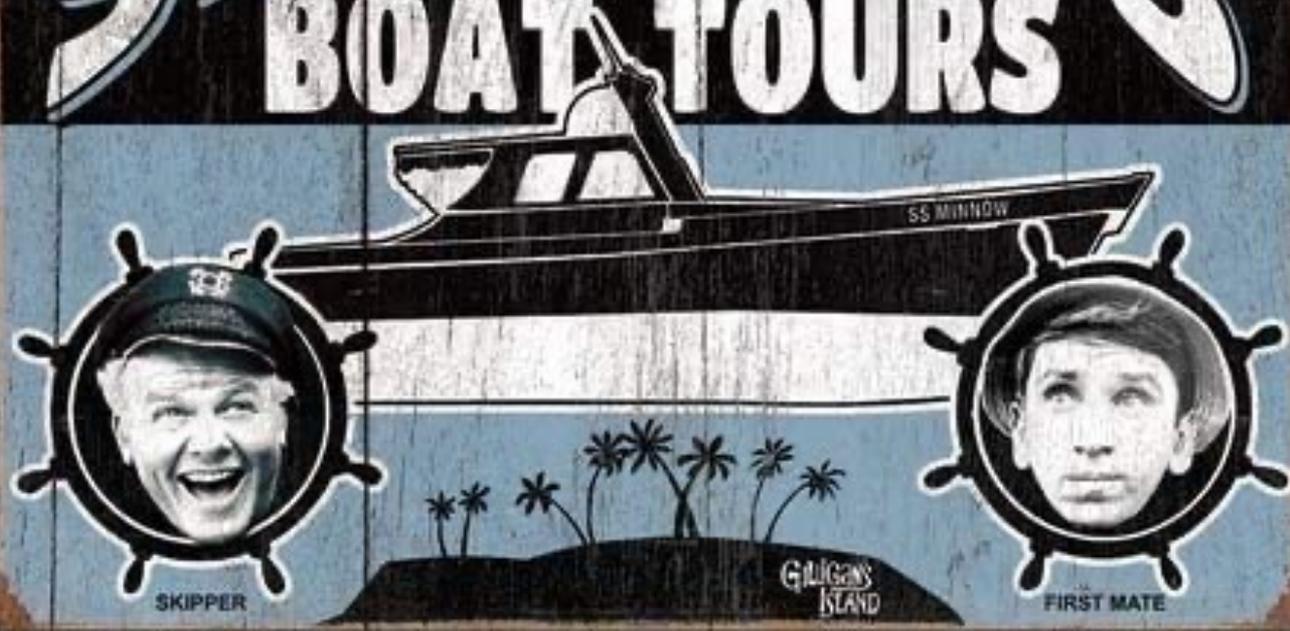
FREE LUNCH

EXOTIC LOCALES

# SKIPPER'S

3 HOUR

# BOAT TOURS



SKIPPER

GILGAY'S  
ISLAND

FIRST MATE

## **Revelation 2:7**

Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.

## Revelation 21:1-5

<sup>1</sup>Then I saw “a new heaven and a new earth,” for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea.

<sup>2</sup>I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.

## Revelation 21:1-5

<sup>3</sup>And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.

## Revelation 21:1-5

<sup>4</sup>“He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death’ or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.” <sup>5</sup>He who was seated on the throne said, “I am making everything new!” Then he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”

## Revelation 22:1-5

<sup>1</sup>Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb <sup>2</sup>down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the

## Revelation 22:1-5

healing of the nations. <sup>3</sup>No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. <sup>4</sup>They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads.

## Revelation 22:1-5

<sup>5</sup>There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever.

[This passage] tells us that in the center of the new paradise, the perfect paradise of God, from which the saints shall never be driven, seeing it is to be our perpetual heritage, there is also a tree of life. But here we translate the metaphor – we do not understand that tree to be literal. We believe our Lord Jesus Christ to be none other than that tree of life, whose leaves are for the healing of the nations. We can scarcely conceive of any other interpretation, as this seems to us to be so full of meaning and to afford us such unspeakable satisfaction...



Now, sinner, it is very like that with you. You think that your sins are so deep that Christ will never be able to carry you over them. But I say to you — “It is all right, sinner. Trust Jesus and He will carry you through hell itself, if that is needful. If you had all the sins of all the men that have ever lived, and they were all yours — if you could trust Him, Jesus Christ would carry you through the current of all that sin. It is all right, man! Only trust Christ. The river may be deep, but Christ’s love is deeper still. It is all right, man! Do not let the devil make you doubt my Lord and Master. He is a liar from the beginning and the



father of lies, but my Master is faithful and true. Rest on Him and all will be well. The waves may roll, the river may seem to be deeper than you thought it to be – and rest assured it is much deeper than you know it to be – but the almighty arm of Jesus – that strong arm that can shake the heavens and the earth, and move the pillars thereof as Samson moved the pillars of Gaza's gates – that strong arm can hold you up and bear you safely through, if you do but cling to it, and rest on it. O soul, rest in Jesus and you are saved!



~ Charles Spurgeon, *Christ the Tree of Life*, a sermon preached on May 25, 1911 at Metropolitan Tabernacle.

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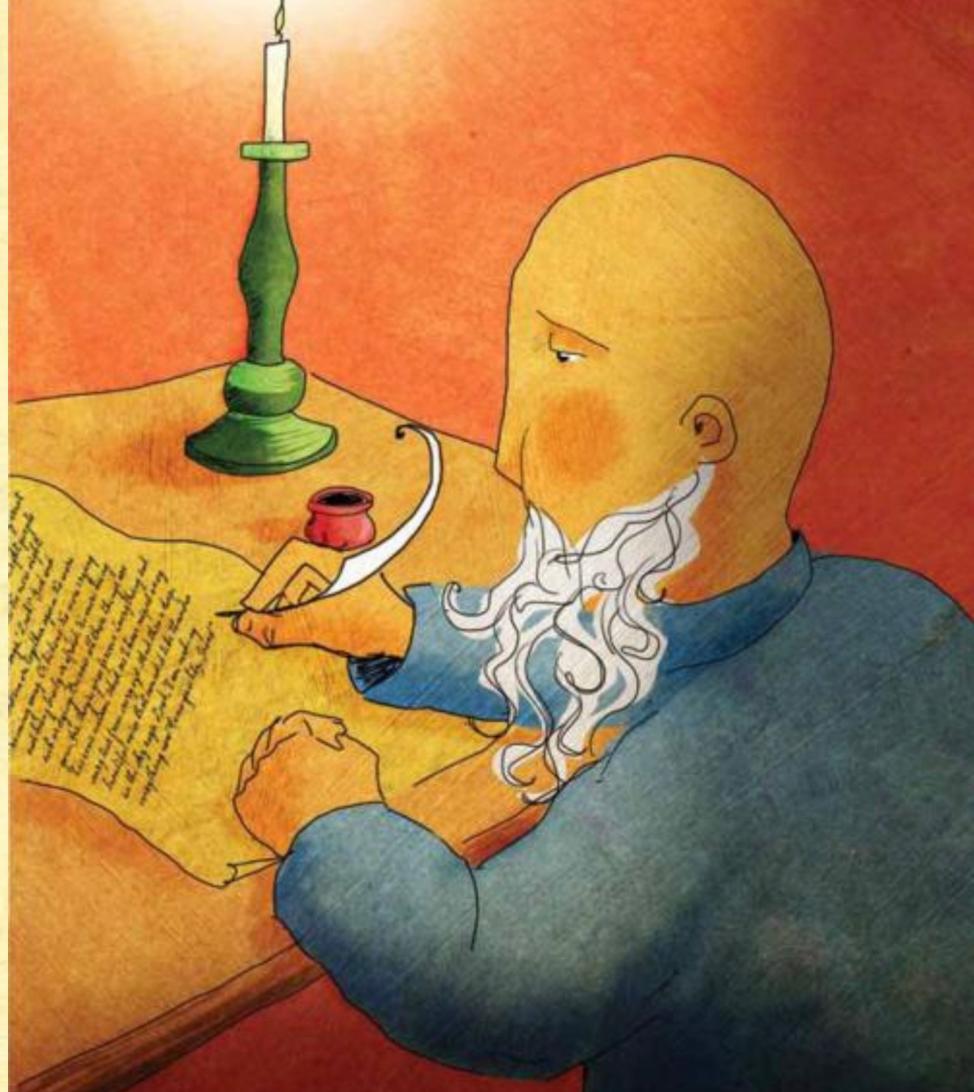
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“I’m on my way,” said Jesus. “I’ll be there soon!”

John came to the end of his book. But he didn’t write “The End.” Because, of course, that’s how stories finish. (And this one’s not over yet.)

So instead, he wrote: “Come quickly, Jesus!”

Which, perhaps, is really just another way of saying . . .



To be  
continued...

*Paraphrase of John 1:12 – 13*

For anyone who says yes to Jesus  
For anyone who believes what Jesus said  
For anyone who will just reach out to take it  
Then God will give them this wonderful gift:

To be born into  
A whole new Life  
To be who they really are  
Who God always made them to be —  
Their own true selves —  
God's dear  
Child.

Because, you see, the most wonderful thing  
about this Story is — it's your story, too!

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