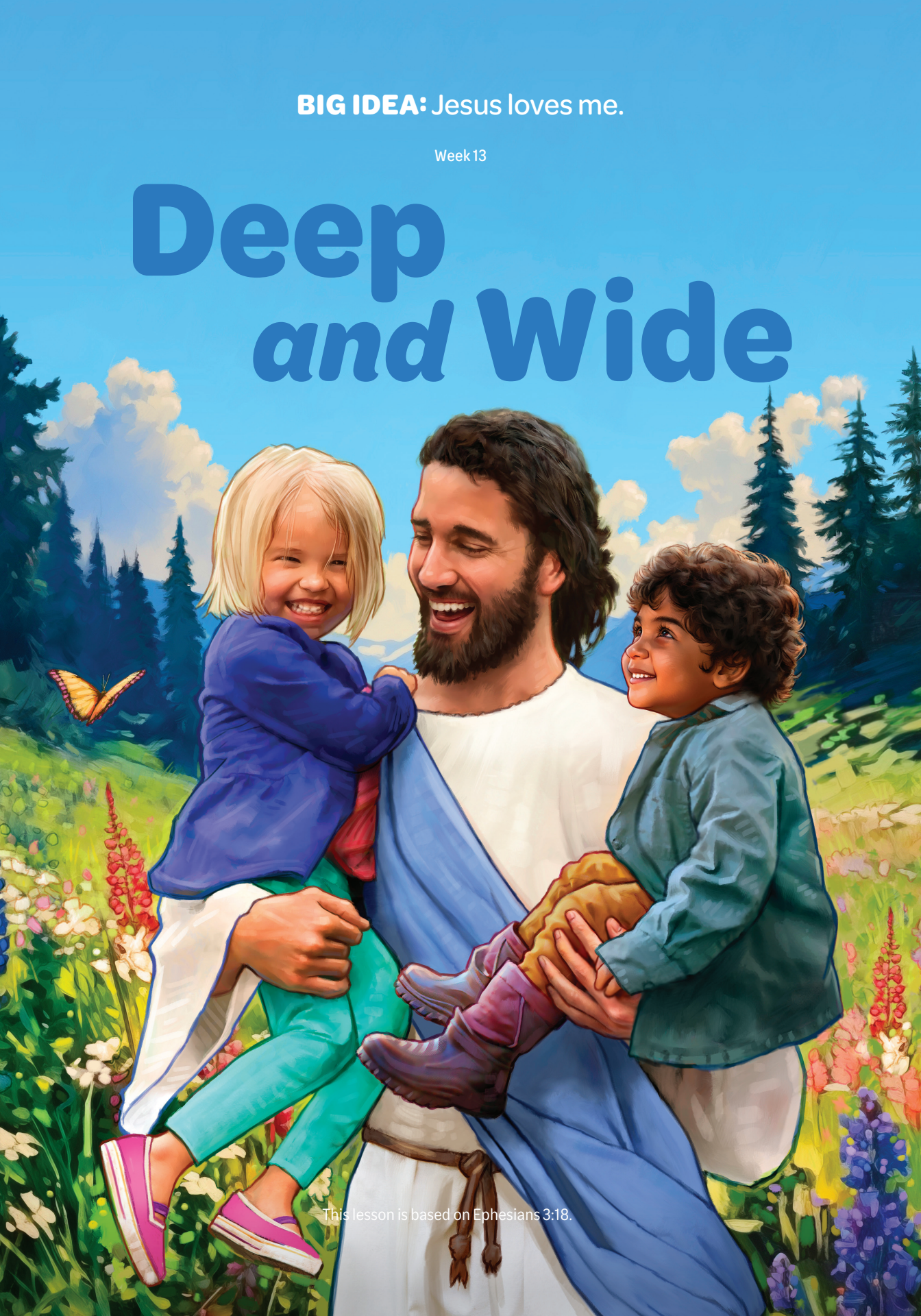
BIG IDEA: Jesus loves me.

Week 13

Deep *and* Wide



This lesson is based on Ephesians 3:18.



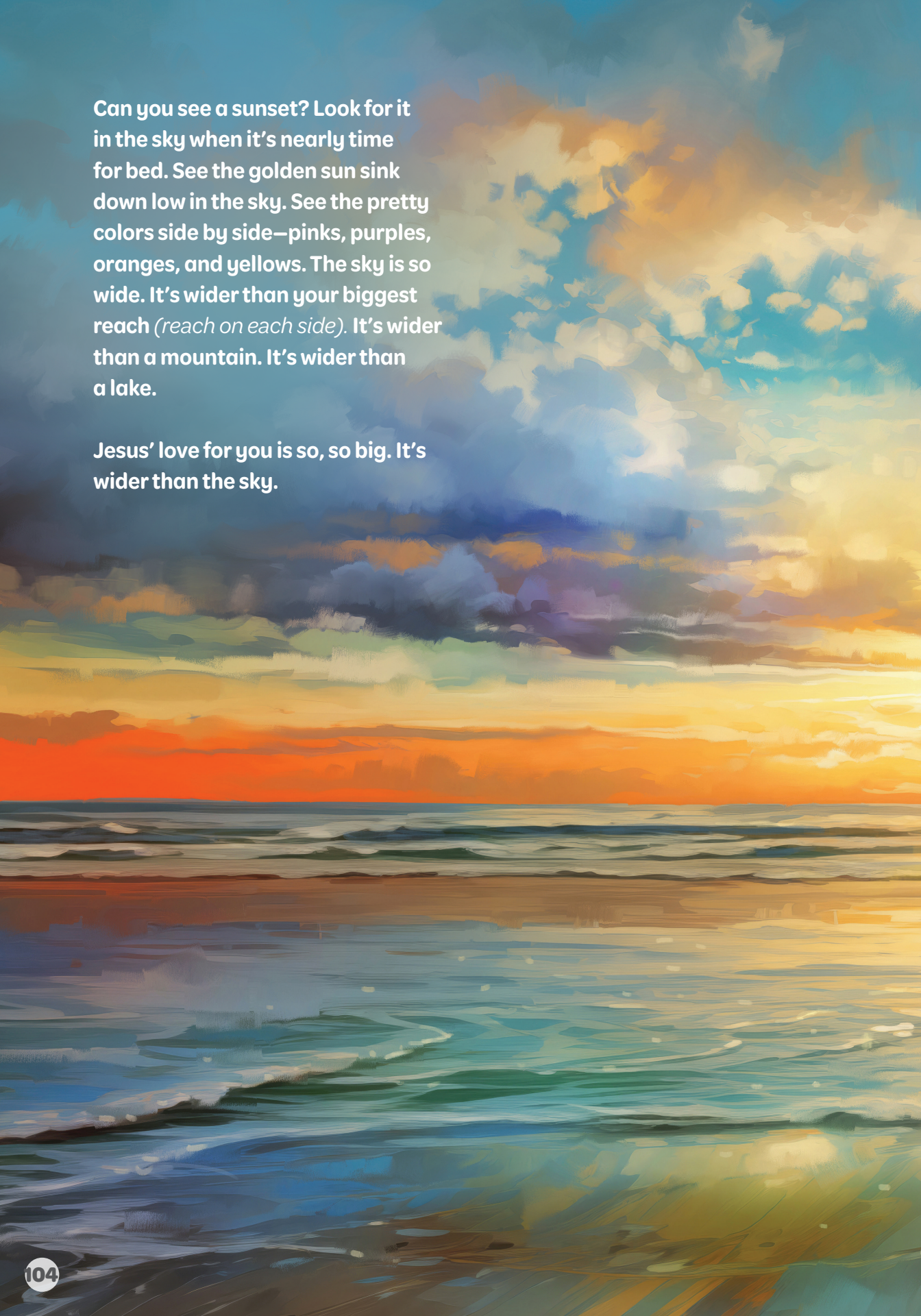
Can you see a shining star? Look for one in the dark night sky. See it twinkling, way up high. It's higher than your biggest stretch *(reach up high)*. It's higher than the treetops. It's higher than the hills. A bird can fly up very high, but a star is higher still.

Jesus' love for you is so, so big. It's higher than the stars.



Can you see a starfish? Look for it on the bottom of a bright-blue sea. See it down deep, as deep as can be. The sea is deeper than your biggest bend down low *(reach low)*. It's deeper than a swimming pool. It's deeper than the big roots of a tall tree.

Jesus' love for you is so, so big.
It's deeper than the deepest sea.



Can you see a sunset? Look for it in the sky when it's nearly time for bed. See the golden sun sink down low in the sky. See the pretty colors side by side—pinks, purples, oranges, and yellows. The sky is so wide. It's wider than your biggest reach *(reach on each side)*. It's wider than a mountain. It's wider than a lake.

Jesus' love for you is so, so big. It's wider than the sky.



Can you see the clouds? Look for them as they float across the pretty sky. The sky is so long. It's longer than your biggest reach in front and behind *(reach in front and back)*. It's longer than a plane. It's longer than a train. It's longer than you can ever see.

Jesus' love for you is so, so big. It's longer than the sky.



Jesus wants to give you His big, big love! He cares for you. He listens to you. He helps you. He will be with you always.

Yes, Jesus' love for you is so, so big, *(say child's name)*, **the Bible tells us so. Would you like to say to Jesus, "I love You too. I want to follow You"?**

play throughout the Day

Connect

Once the sun has set on a clear night, make a bed (if possible) outside with a picnic rug, blankets, and pillows. Snuggle up together and look at the stars. Look at how high the stars are. Jesus' love is even higher! Share how Jesus made all the stars and knows them all by name! How amazing that the God of the universe knows your child's name and everything about them. Sing "Jesus Loves Me" together.

Create

Draw different facial expressions on pieces of paper. Draw a worried face and share how Jesus can turn our worried faces into calm, happy faces. Use a big marker to draw over the worried face and turn it into a happy face. Thank God together for caring for us.

Explore

Look for things that are high, deep, wide, and long. Put like things together (wide with wide) to show their different lengths. Share how Jesus made lots of big things, but His love is the biggest!

Role-play

Share with your child about how Jesus helps us to be kind to others. Role-play situations in which you can use kind words and actions. When you go to the playground this week, encourage your child to let others go first. When you eat, encourage your child to say "Please" and "Thank you."

Pray

Model praying in front of your child, throughout the day, to show that Jesus always listens. If you find yourself frustrated or cross, pray and ask God to help you. If something happy happens, pray and give thanks to God.



Extension weekly memory verse: "I have loved you with an everlasting love" (Jeremiah 31:3).

THE HEART OF THE MATTER

For You, Parents

In all He did on earth Jesus showed His heart of love—a heart that overflowed with boundless love for everyone He met. His love for us is just as personal and limitless. "So Christ, the heavenly Shepherd, cares for His flock that is scattered throughout the world. He knows us all by name. He knows the very house in which we live, and the name of each inmate. He cares for each one as if there were not another in the whole world" (Ellen G. White, *The Story of Jesus*, pp. 75, 76).

Take a moment to consider these verses that express God's love for you and your child. Place your name in the verses:

"Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God!" (1 John 3:1).

"Nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:39).

"The Lord your God in your midst, the Mighty One, will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing" (Zephaniah 3:17).

The Creator of the universe, who is capable of amazing miracles, cares for ***you*** as a loving Father. He knows ***your*** name, He knows ***your*** children, and He loves ***you*** with His great, enormous love! May you "be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height—to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God" (Ephesians 3:18, 19).