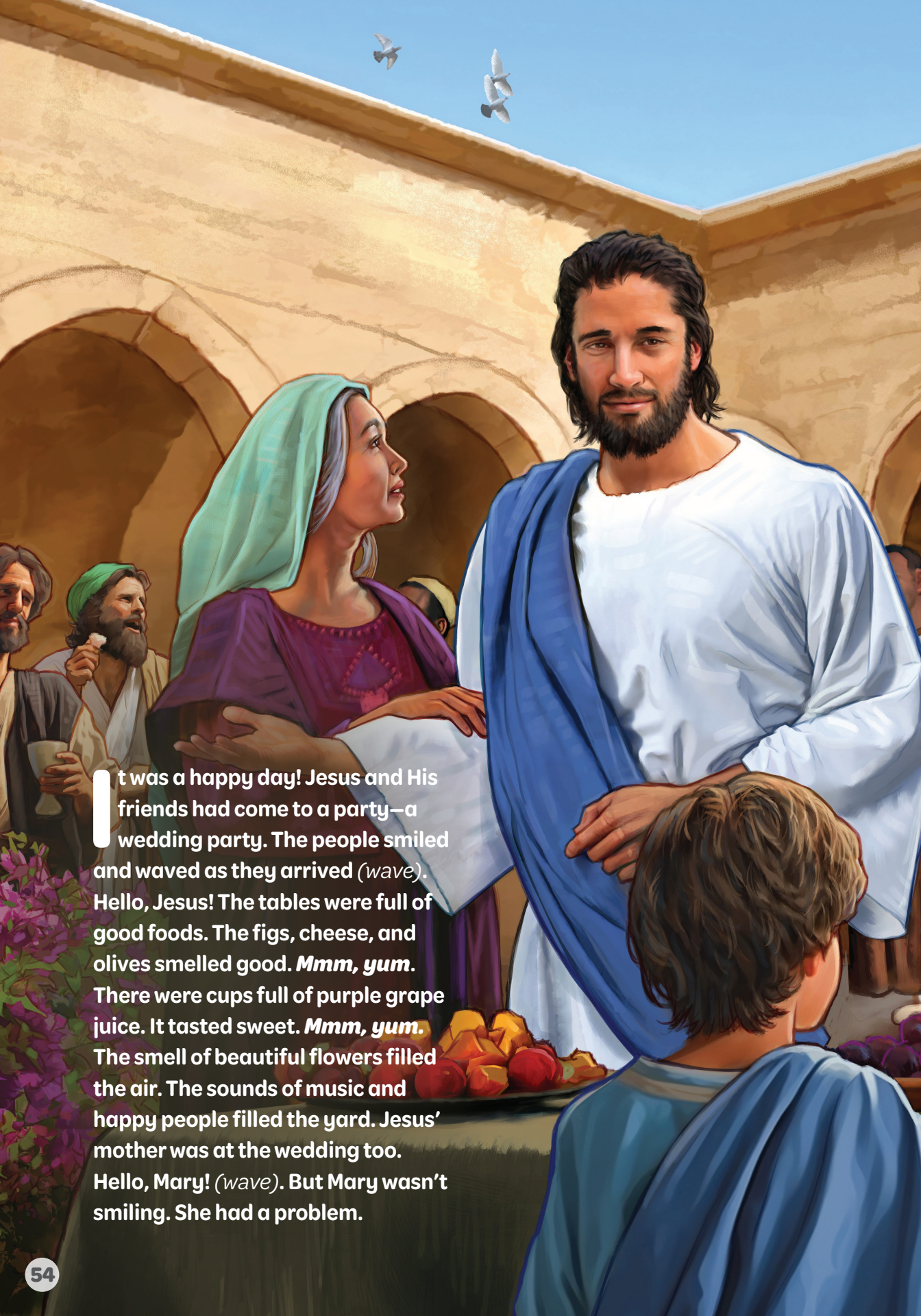
BIG IDEA: Jesus cares about my problems.

Week 7: Jesus performs His first miracle

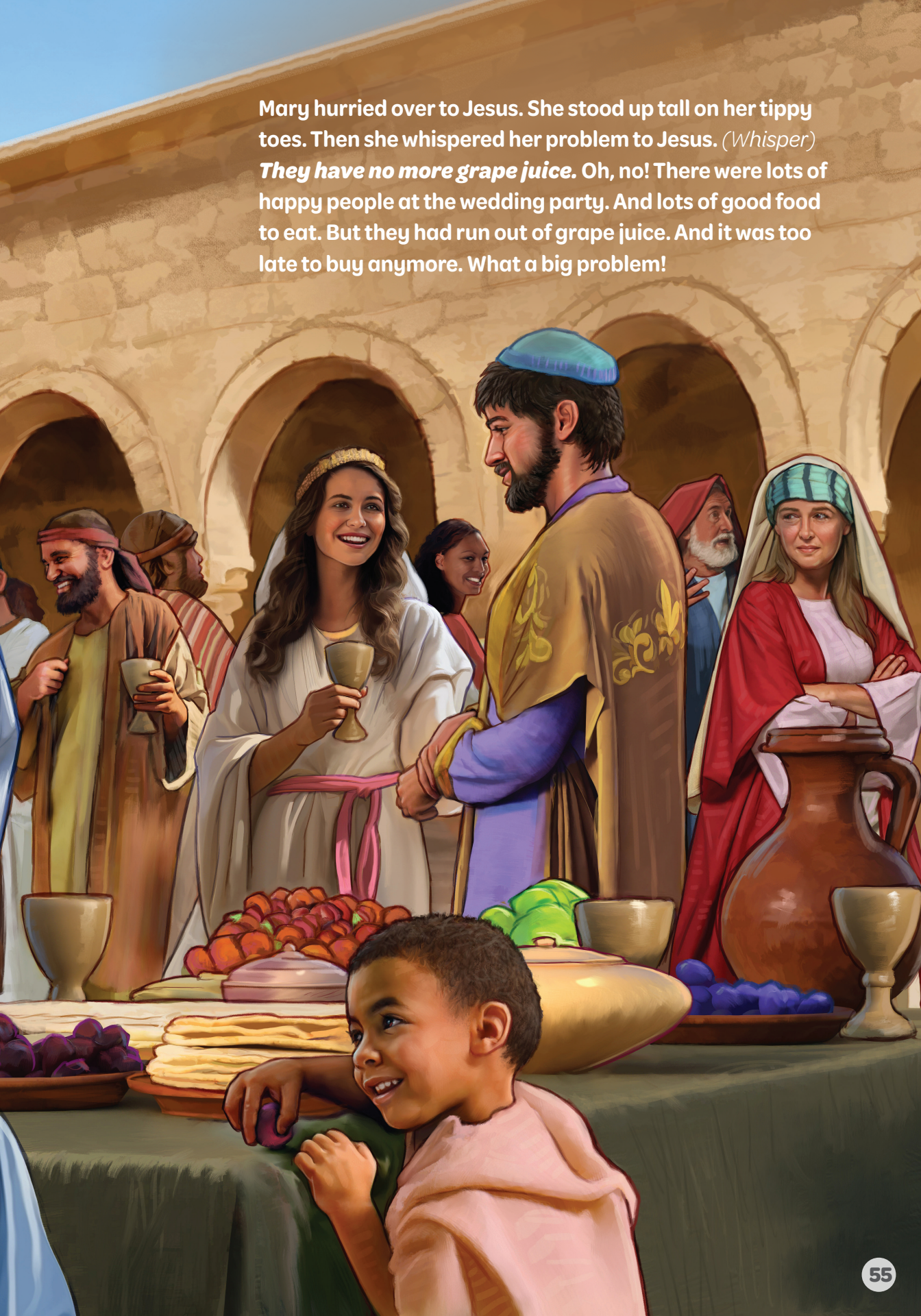
The Wedding Miracle



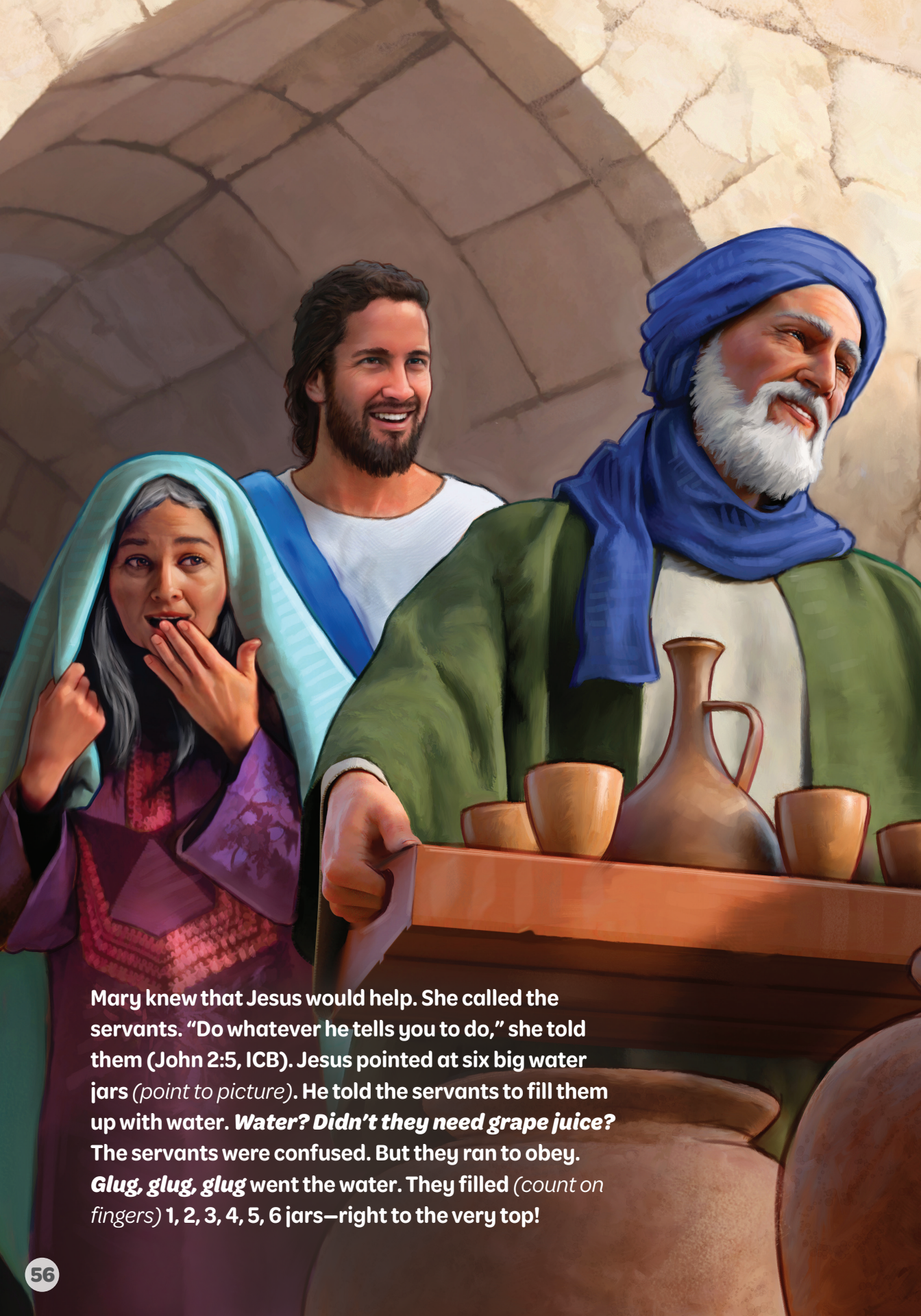
This lesson is based on John 2:1-11 and *The Desire of Ages*, pp. 144–153.



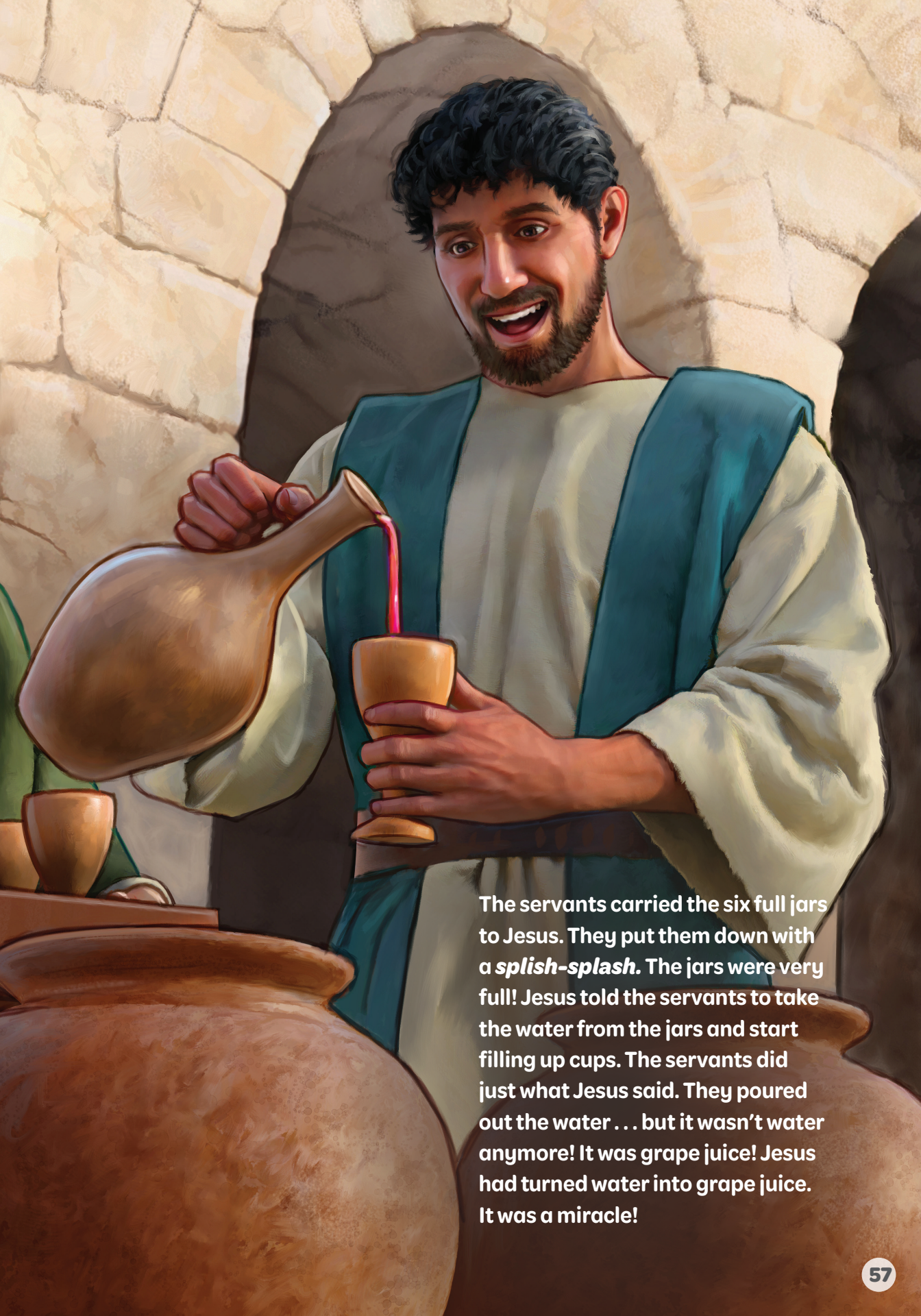
It was a happy day! Jesus and His friends had come to a party—a wedding party. The people smiled and waved as they arrived *(wave)*. Hello, Jesus! The tables were full of good foods. The figs, cheese, and olives smelled good. ***Mmm, yum.*** There were cups full of purple grape juice. It tasted sweet. ***Mmm, yum.*** The smell of beautiful flowers filled the air. The sounds of music and happy people filled the yard. Jesus' mother was at the wedding too. Hello, Mary! *(wave)*. But Mary wasn't smiling. She had a problem.



Mary hurried over to Jesus. She stood up tall on her tippy toes. Then she whispered her problem to Jesus. *(Whisper)* ***They have no more grape juice.*** Oh, no! There were lots of happy people at the wedding party. And lots of good food to eat. But they had run out of grape juice. And it was too late to buy anymore. What a big problem!



Mary knew that Jesus would help. She called the servants. "Do whatever he tells you to do," she told them (John 2:5, ICB). Jesus pointed at six big water jars *(point to picture)*. **He told the servants to fill them up with water. *Water? Didn't they need grape juice?*** **The servants were confused. But they ran to obey. *Glug, glug, glug* went the water. They filled** *(count on fingers)* **1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 jars—right to the very top!**



The servants carried the six full jars to Jesus. They put them down with a ***splish-splash.*** The jars were very full! Jesus told the servants to take the water from the jars and start filling up cups. The servants did just what Jesus said. They poured out the water . . . but it wasn't water anymore! It was grape juice! Jesus had turned water into grape juice. It was a miracle!



The servants carried the cups of grape juice out to the people. They smiled to see its deep red color. It smelled so good. ***Mmm, yum.*** Then they took a big sip. ***Mmm, yum!*** It was so sweet. It was the best grape juice they had ever tasted! The people were so happy. Jesus had cared about their problem. He had helped them.

Jesus cares for me and my feelings. I can tell Him everything.

(Say together) **Thank You, Jesus, for caring about my problems.**

play throughout the Day

Explore

Buy some grape juice, or something similar, if possible. Pour a cup of water and a cup of grape juice and ask your child to describe the look and taste of both drinks. Can you turn the water into grape juice? No! Jesus did a big miracle! (Describe a miracle as being something that only God can do.) Thank God for His love and care for us and our problems.

Learn

Set up a water play table outside. Use a big plastic tub and fill it with water. Find lots of little containers and use them in the big tub. Talk about the words "full" and "empty." Practice making different containers full and then empty. Share how Jesus turned the empty jars into full jars of grape juice.

Celebrate

Host a little celebration picnic outside in the backyard or a park. You could dress up, pick some flowers, decorate your picnic nicely, and invite friends over to celebrate. Set a place for Jesus and share what you love about Him. Invite others to share too. Explain that He is always with us. He loves to make us happy.

Create

Draw a "happy" picture together. Ask your child which colors make them feel happy. Ask them what things make them happy. Use these suggestions to create your "happy" picture. Talk about how Jesus loves to make us happy.

Pray

On a piece of paper, write down some problems your child might face. Talk about how Jesus can help them through those problems. Say this quarter's memory verse: "He cares for you" (1 Peter 5:7). Say a special prayer, thanking Jesus for caring for us and helping us with our problems.



Extension weekly memory verse: " . . . casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you" (1 Peter 5:7).

THE HEART OF THE MATTER

For You, Parents

Jesus' first miracle was all about joy and compassion for human need. He is, after all, the Giver and Creator of joy. He desires for us to be filled with joy, overflowing with His love and peace. For His first miracle He could have marched into the temple and healed everyone in sight, or freed His people from their Roman oppressors, but instead He chose a humble Cana wedding to show "His sympathy with men, and His desire to minister to their happiness" (Ellen G. White, *The Desire of Ages*, p. 144).

Mary came to Jesus with a problem. This problem was stealing her joy and threatened to disrupt the joy of the wedding celebration. She came full of faith that Jesus could do the impossible. How amazing that Jesus honored Mary's faith in such a public way! Whatever problems you face, nothing is too small to take to Jesus. He longs to give you, your family, and your friends the joy that only He can give.

"If our eyes are fixed on Jesus, we shall see a compassionate Redeemer, and shall catch light from His countenance. Wherever His Spirit reigns, there peace abides. And there will be joy also, for there is a calm, holy trust in God" (*The Desire of Ages*, pp. 152, 153).

May God bless you this week as you catch light from His countenance. And may you experience His joy as you take your problems, both large and small, to Him, for "in Your presence is fullness of joy" (Psalm 16:11).