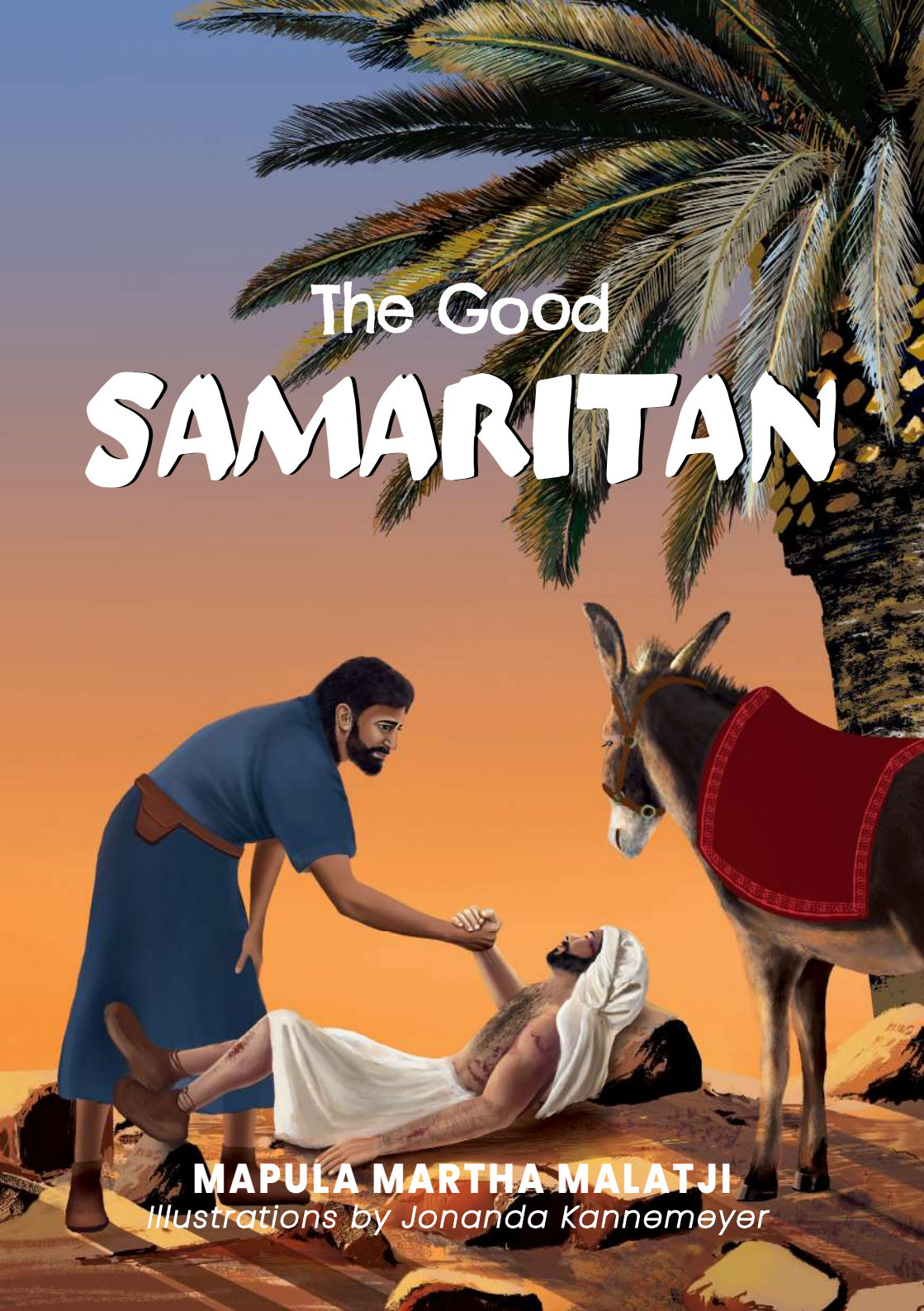
The Good
SAMARITAN
MAPULA MARTHA MALATJI
Illustrations by Jonanda Kannemeyer

THE GOOD SAMARITAN

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NEW TESTAMENT BIBLE STORY

LUKE 10

The Good SAMARITAN

One day, an expert in the law asked Jesus, "What must I do to have eternal life?"

Jesus said to him, “What is written in the law? What do you read there?”

The law expert answered, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind,” and, “Love your neighbor as yourself.”

Jesus said, “You have answered correctly, do this and you will live.”

But the law expert wanted to show that the way he was living was right, so he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”

So Jesus told him a story: "A man was traveling from Jerusalem to Jericho when some robbers attacked him. They took everything he had, beat him up, and left him on the side of the road, nearly dead."

“A priest came walking down the same road. When he saw the wounded man, he crossed to the other side, not stopping to help. Next, a Levite, another religious man, came by. He also saw the hurt man and passed by on the other side without helping him. Then a Samaritan came along.”

At that time, the Samaritans and the Jews did not get along. They were from different communities and disliked each other. But this Samaritan had a kind heart.

Jesus said, "When the Samaritan saw the wounded man, he felt sorry for him. He bandaged the man's wounds and put the man on his own donkey. He then took the man to an inn and took care of him. He also gave the owner of the inn some money to look after the wounded man."

Jesus looked at the law expert and asked, “Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?”

The law expert said, "The one who showed him kindness."

Jesus said, "You are right. Go and do the same.”

Prayer

Dear Lord, please help me to show love and kindness to everyone, no matter who they are, just like the good Samaritan did.

Questions

1. Who was Jesus talking to about neighbours?
2. How many people passed by the wounded man without helping him?
3. Who helped the wounded man?
4. Where did he take the wounded man?
5. Why do you think some people don't want to help each other, and others do?

Selepe and the Ants

A man named Selepe built a circular house and lived alone in the forest. He went out one day to hunt. Along the way he saw ants helping each other carry food to store for the winter. He sat down to watch them. He noticed that the ants worked well with their neighbours.

A single ant can carry a big stick with its small body, but ants are also wise and they work well together. He learned a lot from the ants but he found it difficult to apply these lessons to his own life, because he lived alone.

When he got home he found a hungry dog he didn't know and he chased it away.

The next morning Selepe went to the river to draw water in a bucket. The water was full of frogs and tadpoles. He took them out so that he could draw clear water. On the way home, the bucket began to leak, and he went back thirsty. His body became weak and he lacked the strength to walk.

When he saw the dog in the distance he called out to it. It came and sat down beside him, barking. Then a donkey came, carried him and sat him down among a crowd of people. They gave him food and water to drink. His heart changed when he remembered how the ants helped each other, and he realised that helping others is a good thing to do. He also realised he wasn't the only person in the world, and that he shouldn't be so selfish.

He moved out of the circular house, and went to live among the people, where he taught them about the wisdom of the ants and how people should help each other.

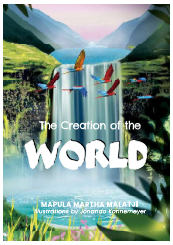
Prayer

Our Heavenly Father, please protect us from selfishness. Guide us to love other people by practicing helpful love.

Questions

1. Did Selepe have neighbours in the beginning?
2. What shows that the ants help each other?
3. What could you have done to help the hungry dog?
4. Which animals made Selepe understand that he should help others?
5. How did people's lives change after hearing Selepe teach about ants?

The Good Samaritan *is one of 20 books featuring 10 Old Testament (OT) and 10 New Testament (NT) stories, each with a practical reflection story based on the Bible story.*



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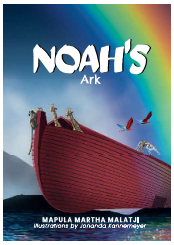

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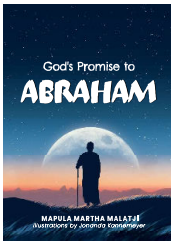

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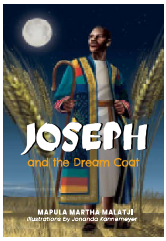

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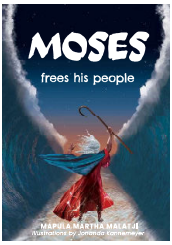

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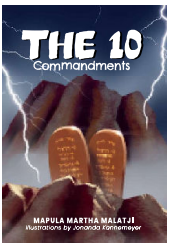

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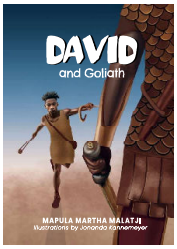

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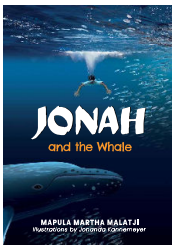

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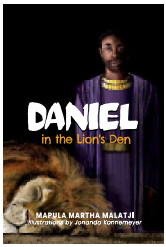

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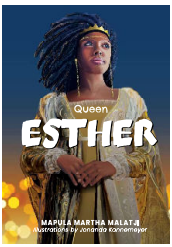

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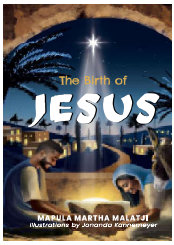

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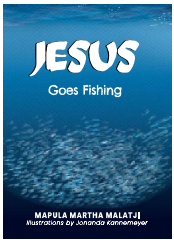

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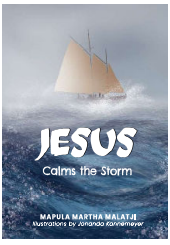

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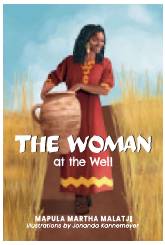

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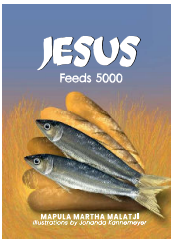

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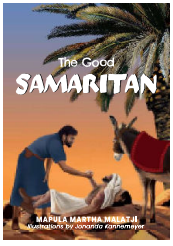

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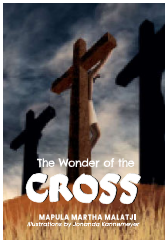

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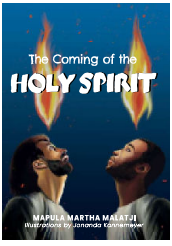

NT Book_10

The Good Samaritan

In this story we learn that a neighbour is not just someone who lives next-door. All over the world, we are neighbours who should love one another, helping each other with love and kindness.

Selepe and the Ants

In this story, we learn about the wisdom of ants working together and helping each other. We are also taught about Selepe, and how he learned to be a good neighbour by watching the ants.

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English