


ARE WE  
NEARLY  
THERE  
YET?



WRITTEN BY ALISON BREWIS

ILLUSTRATED BY JENNY BRAKE

An illustration of two children sitting in the front seats of a car. The girl on the left has long brown hair in pigtails and is wearing a teal dress. The boy on the right has curly brown hair and is wearing a black shirt, holding a brown teddy bear. The car's interior is grey, and the window shows a blue sky. A large, faint watermark '© 100ftthomson.com' is visible across the entire image.

Two excited children are  
wriggling in the car.

They're driving down to  
Granny's, it's really really far!

They're waiting to  
see Granny and eat  
an Easter lunch,

but most of all  
they're waiting for  
some chocolate  
eggs to munch!



“Are we nearly  
there **YET**? When  
will we arrive?”

“We’re **TIRED** and  
we’re **BORED** from  
the long, long drive!”



“Just a little **L O N G E R**,  
and it will all be great.  
I'll tell the Easter story,  
so **L I S T E N** while you wait...”



A dramatic scene of a stormy sea at night. A large, curling wave with white foam dominates the left side of the frame. The water is dark and turbulent. In the lower right, a small wooden boat with a white sail and several figures inside is being tossed by the waves. The sky is dark, and a faint light source, possibly the moon, is visible in the upper right. The overall mood is one of danger and awe.

Jesus' disciples had  
followed him about.

They saw him calm  
a mighty storm with  
just a single shout.



He fed 5000 people with  
just some fish and bread.

“INCREDIBLE!  
AMAZING!”

That's what the people said.

"Are we **NEARLY**  
there yet? When will  
you be King?"

"Show them you're  
the **BOSS**, in charge  
of everything!"

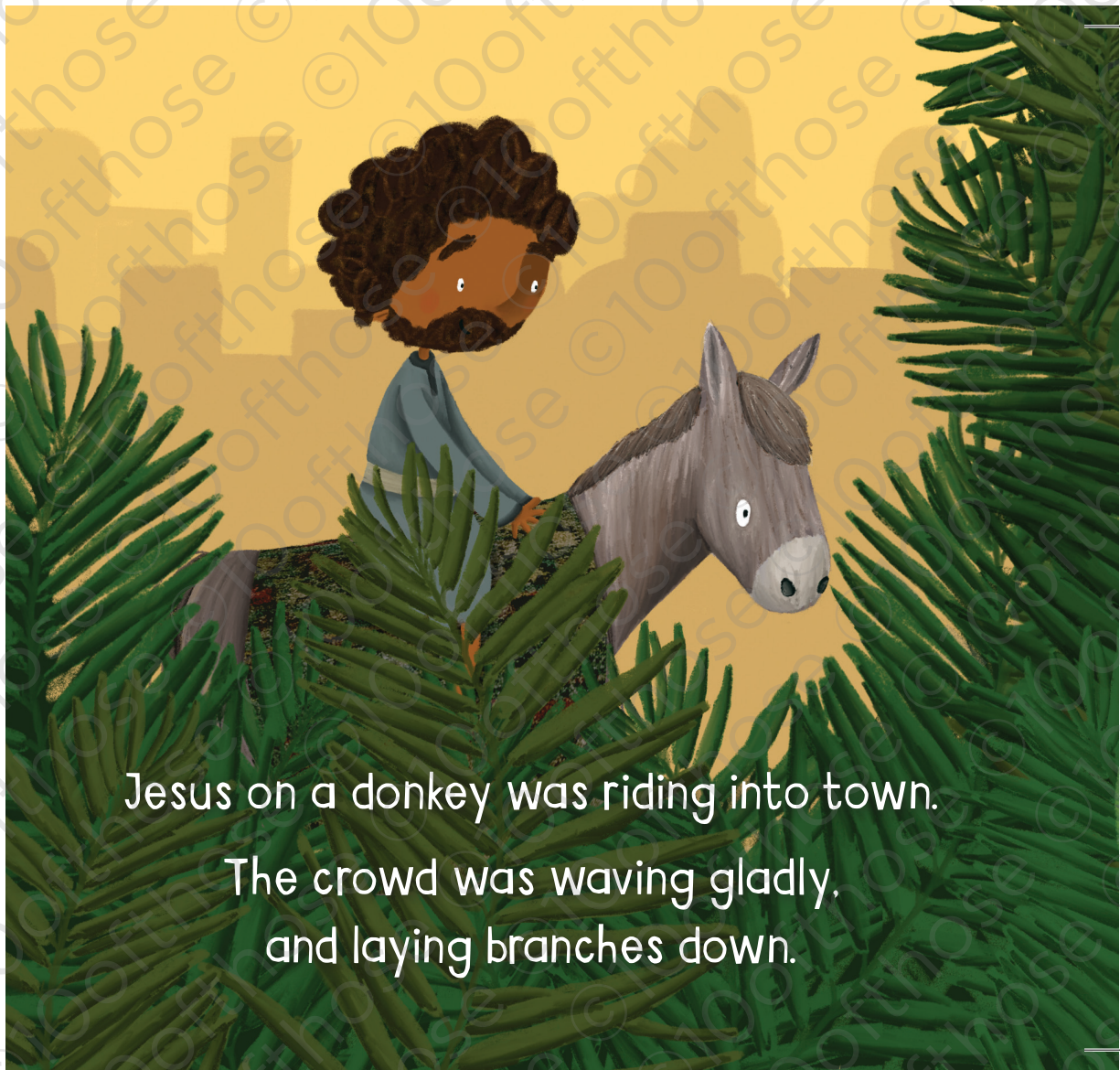




“Just a little longer,  
the time has **NEARLY** come.

Soon the world will see,  
I'm **KING** of everyone.”





Jesus on a donkey was riding into town.

The crowd was waving gladly,  
and laying branches down.


They  
shouted,

"JESUS  
SAVE US!"

And,

"JESUS IS  
THE KING!"

And Jesus'  
disciples all  
turned and  
said to him...

An illustration of three people in a jungle setting. The background is a textured tan color with green fern-like leaves framing the top and bottom. A large, light-colored speech bubble is centered in the upper half. Three people are shown from the chest up, looking towards the right. The person on the left has dark skin and is wearing a light blue head covering. The person in the middle has dark skin, a beard, and a tall, dark, pointed headdress. The person on the right has dark skin, curly hair, and a red headband. The text inside the speech bubble is written in a stylized, orange-red font.

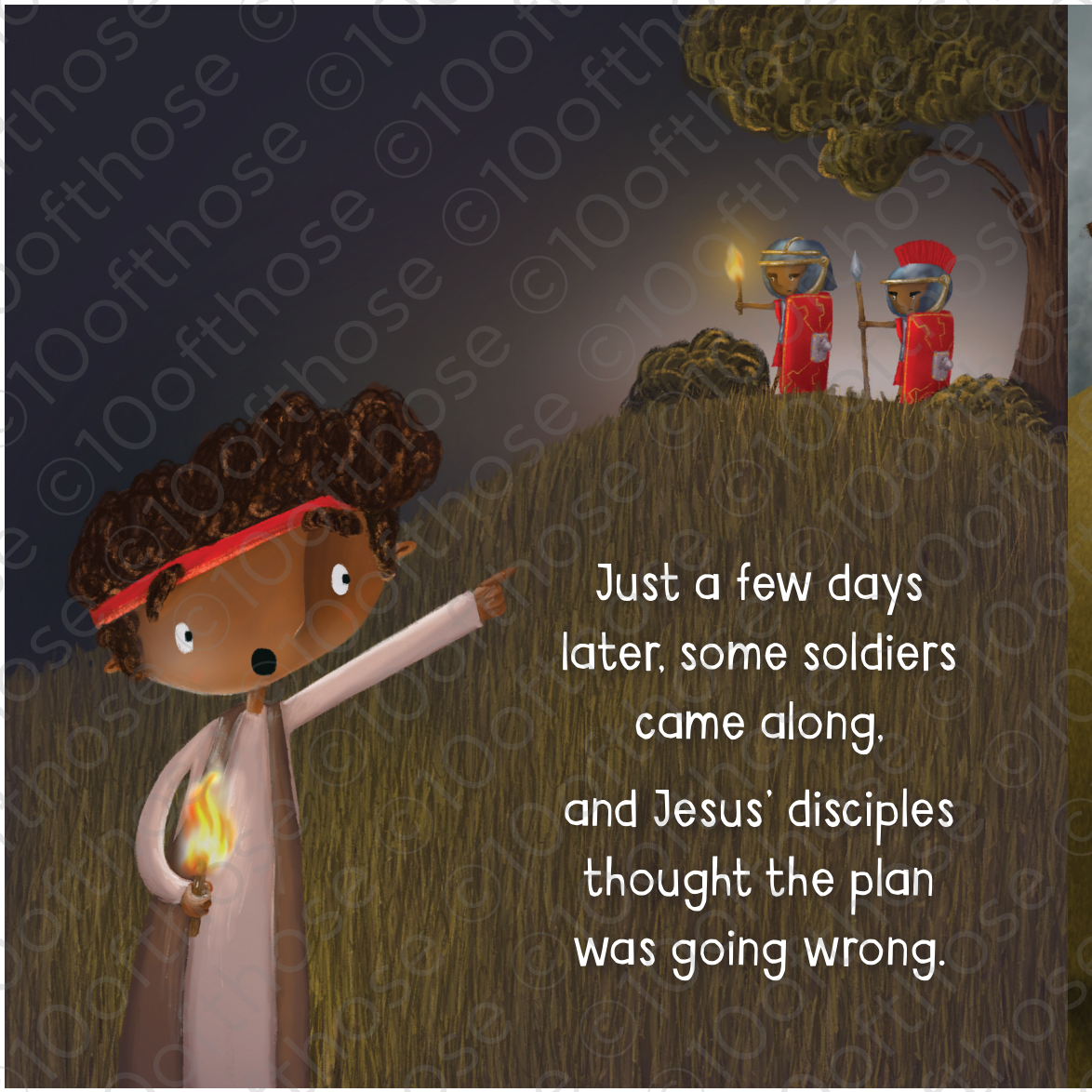
“Are we **NEARLY** there yet?  
Today **MUST** be the day.

They want to make you **KING**.  
let’s do it **STRAIGHT AWAY!**”




“Now the waiting’s  
over, the time has  
now **ARRIVED**.

I’ll show them  
I’m the **KING**,  
but I think you’ll be  
**SURPRISED!**”



Just a few days  
later, some soldiers  
came along,  
and Jesus' disciples  
thought the plan  
was going wrong.



Jesus was  
arrested, and on  
a cross he died.

His friends were sad and worried,  
they ran away and cried.

“Are we nearly there yet?  
We thought he was the boss!  
We thought we'd see him on a **THRONE**,  
not **DYING** on a cross!”





“Just a little longer,  
**HANG ON** a little more.  
We don't know why we're **WAITING**,  
or what we're waiting for!”





Now Jesus died on Friday,  
but when Sunday came around,

the tomb was broken open, an  
earthquake SHOOK the ground.

"I told you I was  
**GOD'S KING**, I said you'd  
be surprised!

It looked like I was finished,  
but **NOW** I am alive!"







“Are we nearly there yet?  
Well, NOW we understand.

Dying to forgive us was  
[EXACTLY] what you’d planned.

We thought we’d cry forever,  
but it was worth the wait.

Now Jesus is the REAL KING,  
it’s time to celebrate!”







## TAKING IT FURTHER

If you'd like to read the stories about Jesus that are mentioned in this poem, then you can look them up in the Bible.

You can find Jesus calming the storm in Luke 8:22-25.

Jesus feeds 5000 people in John 6:1-14.

Jesus rides into Jerusalem on a donkey in John 12:12-15.

John 19:16-30 tells you about Jesus' death.

You can find Jesus' resurrection in John 20:1-18.






# TALKING...

You can discuss the themes raised in the story with your children to reinforce their learning and to help them think about what happened to Jesus at Easter. Here are some ideas...

Talk about the story (or read it again!) when you're on a long journey. How did the children in the story feel at the beginning of the book? Do you think that's what Jesus' friends felt like too? How did everyone feel at the end of the story?

Talk about things that don't turn out as you expect – an unexpected birthday present or a book or film with a

The background is a solid teal color. It is framed by green pine needles, which are visible at the top, bottom, and left edges. The needles are dark green and have a fine, needle-like texture.

surprising ending. Why were those things surprising? Were they better (or worse!) than you expected? What did Jesus' friends expect Jesus to do? How did Jesus surprise the disciples?

Talk about the kings and queens that we read about in stories or watch on TV. How are these kings and queens similar to Jesus? How is Jesus a better king than these kings and queens?

Discuss why Christians see Easter day as a huge celebration. What happened to Jesus at Easter? Why is this good news worth celebrating? Don't forget to celebrate yourselves!



# PLAYING...

If you're feeling creative, why not continue to explore the Easter story through play? While you play you can remind your child of Jesus' friends and their long wait.

Play an imaginary long journey game. Pack a bag and dress for a journey before 'hiking' around the house. As you travel around the house ask, "Are we nearly there yet?" You could have a surprise snack when you reach the mountain peak/top of the stairs!

Bake something with a delicious surprise to enjoy together – cakes, cookies or doughnuts with a hidden jammy centre.

Enjoy breaking apart a piñata together. Emphasize that although you have to be patient and wait for the treats to fall, you do get a delicious surprise in the end.

For Nicholas, Ana and Isabelle

Are We Nearly There Yet?

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