

Saint Nicholas



Saint Nicholas

The Real Story of the Christmas Legend



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Illustrated by Chris Ellison



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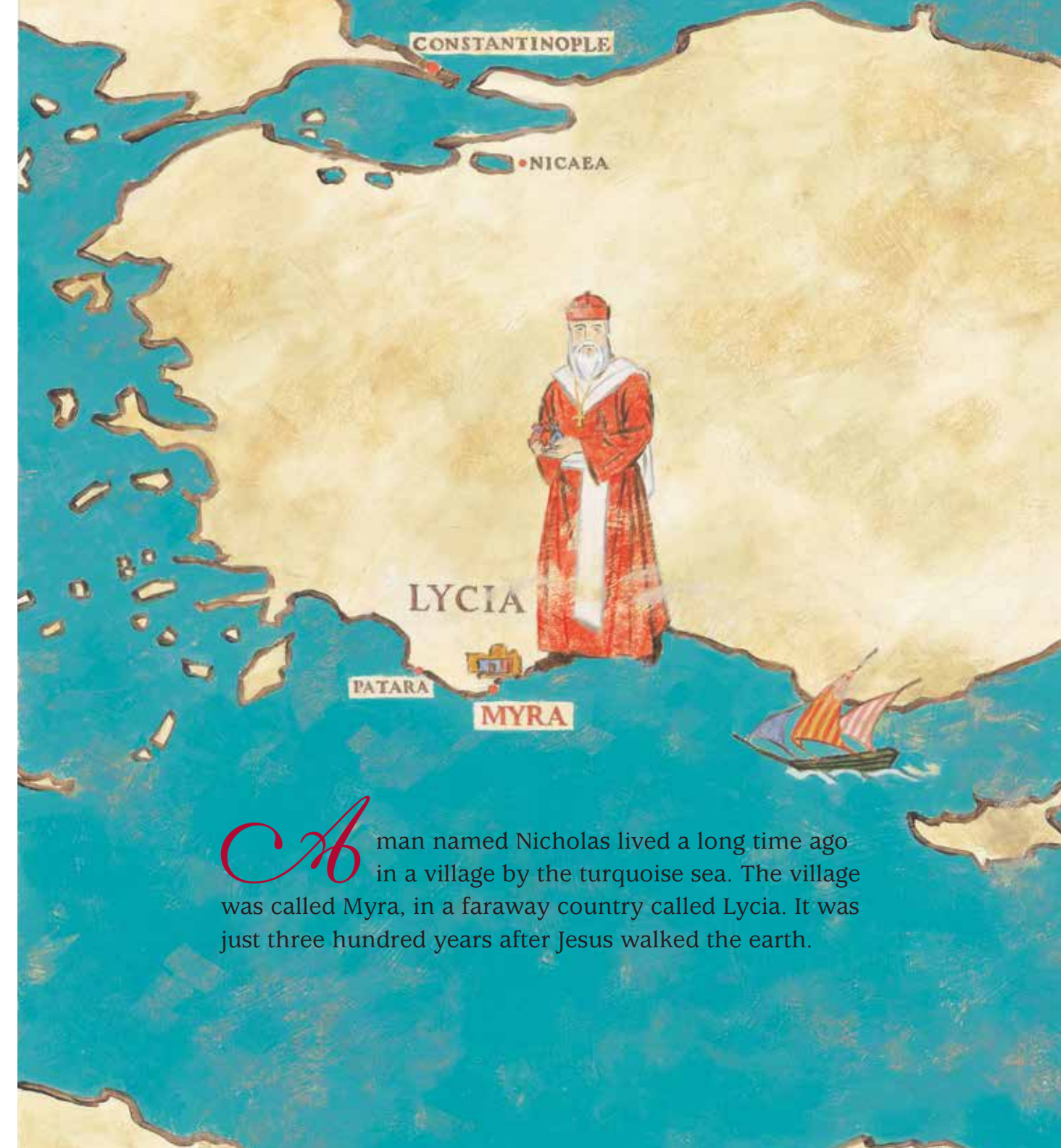
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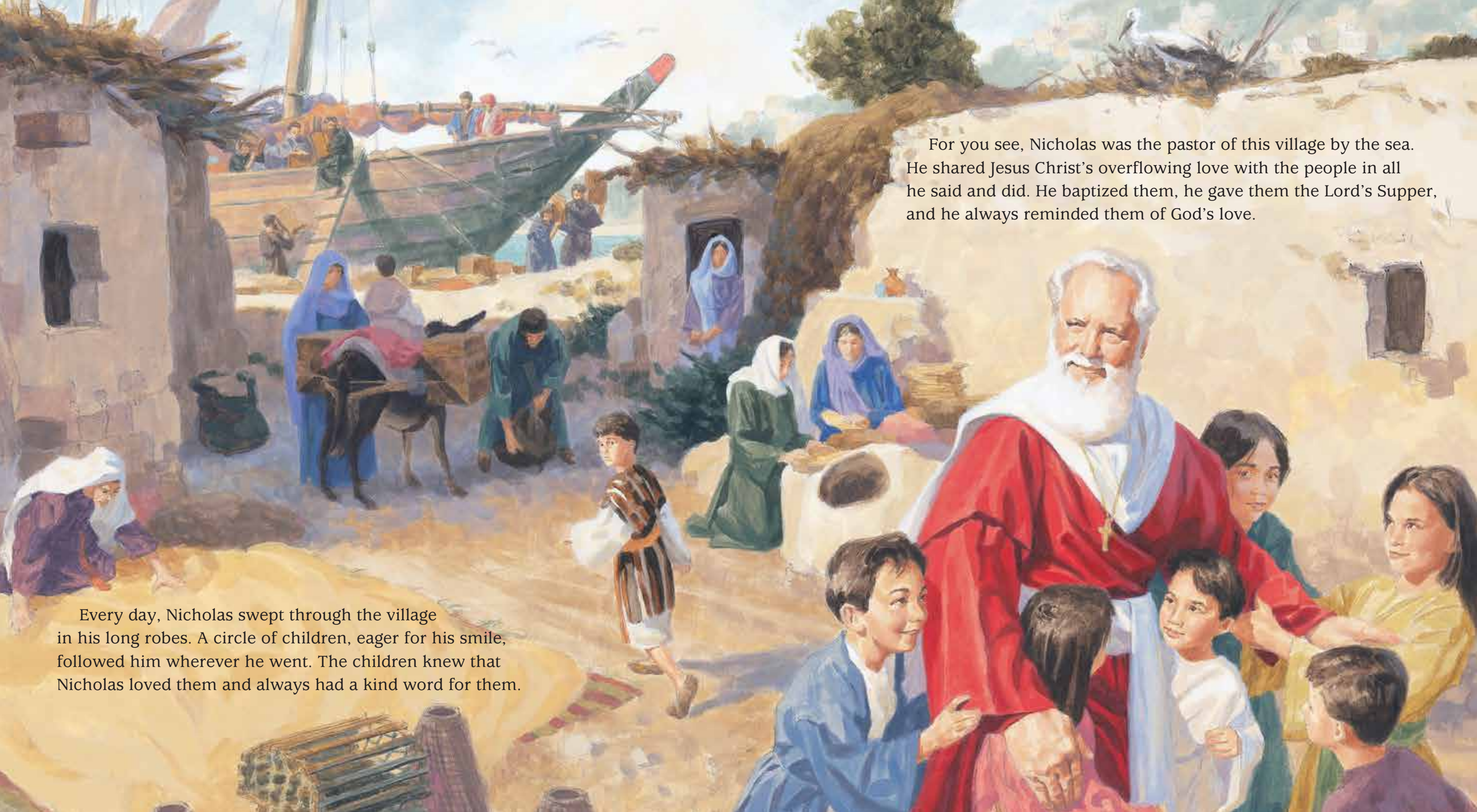
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*For Scott and Jacob,
With love. — J.S.*

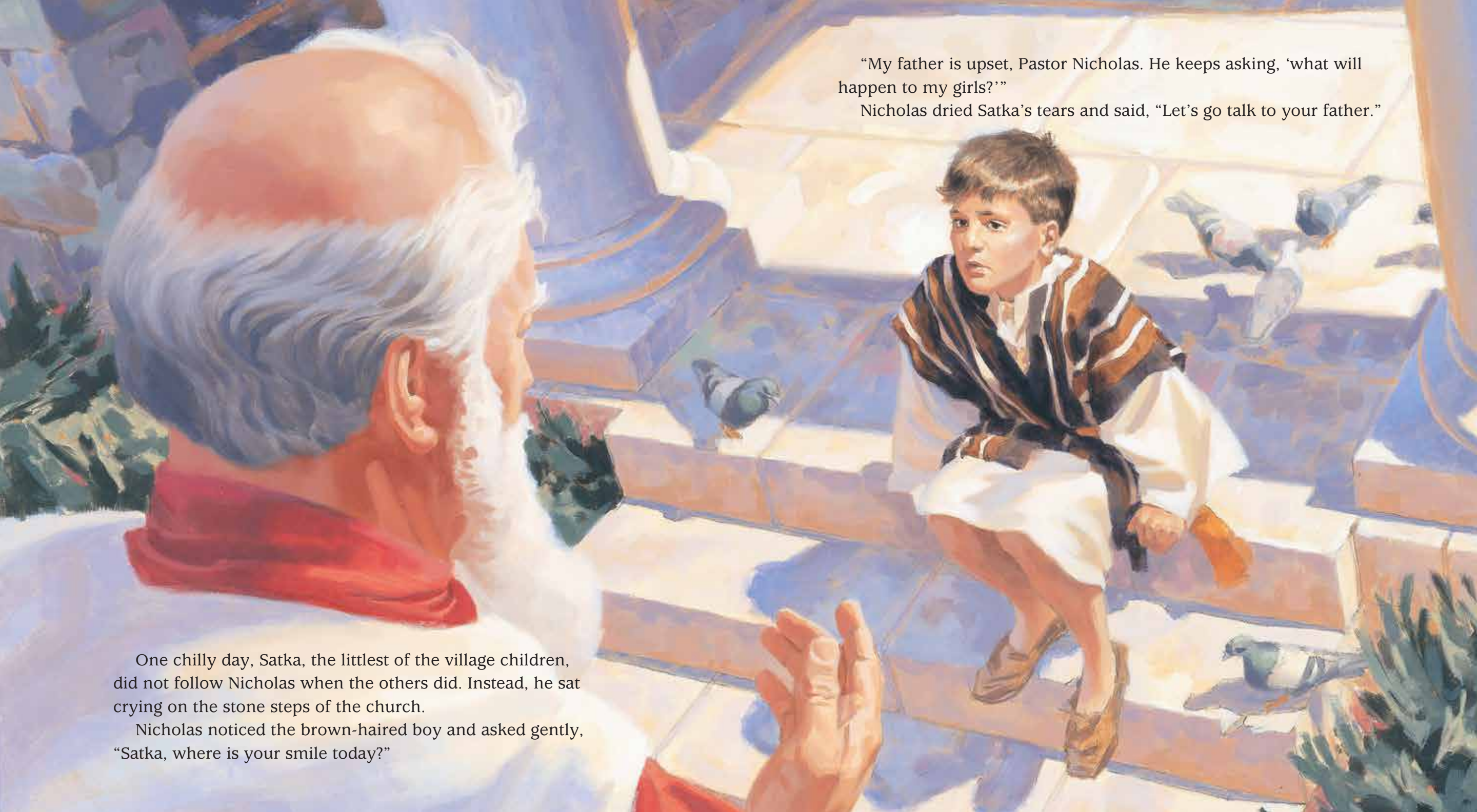


A man named Nicholas lived a long time ago in a village by the turquoise sea. The village was called Myra, in a faraway country called Lycia. It was just three hundred years after Jesus walked the earth.



For you see, Nicholas was the pastor of this village by the sea. He shared Jesus Christ's overflowing love with the people in all he said and did. He baptized them, he gave them the Lord's Supper, and he always reminded them of God's love.

Every day, Nicholas swept through the village in his long robes. A circle of children, eager for his smile, followed him wherever he went. The children knew that Nicholas loved them and always had a kind word for them.



“My father is upset, Pastor Nicholas. He keeps asking, ‘what will happen to my girls?’”
Nicholas dried Satka’s tears and said, “Let’s go talk to your father.”

One chilly day, Satka, the littlest of the village children, did not follow Nicholas when the others did. Instead, he sat crying on the stone steps of the church.

Nicholas noticed the brown-haired boy and asked gently, “Satka, where is your smile today?”