

THE  
JUST  
LOVE  
STORY BIBLE

JACQUI LEWIS *and*  
SHANNON DALEY-HARRIS

*illustrated by*  
CHERYL "RAS" THUESDAY



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# HOW BLESSED WE ARE!

MATTHEW 5

Jesus cast a wide net of love wherever he went. He called people to follow him, gathering a movement of love and justice. He taught in the synagogue. He taught from a boat, his voice floating over the water. He healed people in the houses of his followers. And as we saw earlier, he fed the crowds gathered on a hillside, multiplying the generous offering of a boy with five loaves of bread and two fish.

One day, Jesus climbed up a slope overlooking a lake called the Sea of Galilee, and the people followed him. He sat while they gathered on the soft grass, laying down clothes and blankets they had brought to keep themselves dry. He waited while families got their little ones comfortable, and munched on the dates, olives, and bread they'd brought tied up in bundles of cloth. They were happy to make a day of this—listening, learning, visiting with one another. Jesus waited, then stood and took a deep breath. Then he started to teach. He talked about some of the things he'd said before, while others were new thoughts. He offered a message on this mount, and those gathered were mesmerized. They listened as the sun moved across the sky and the air grew cool.

