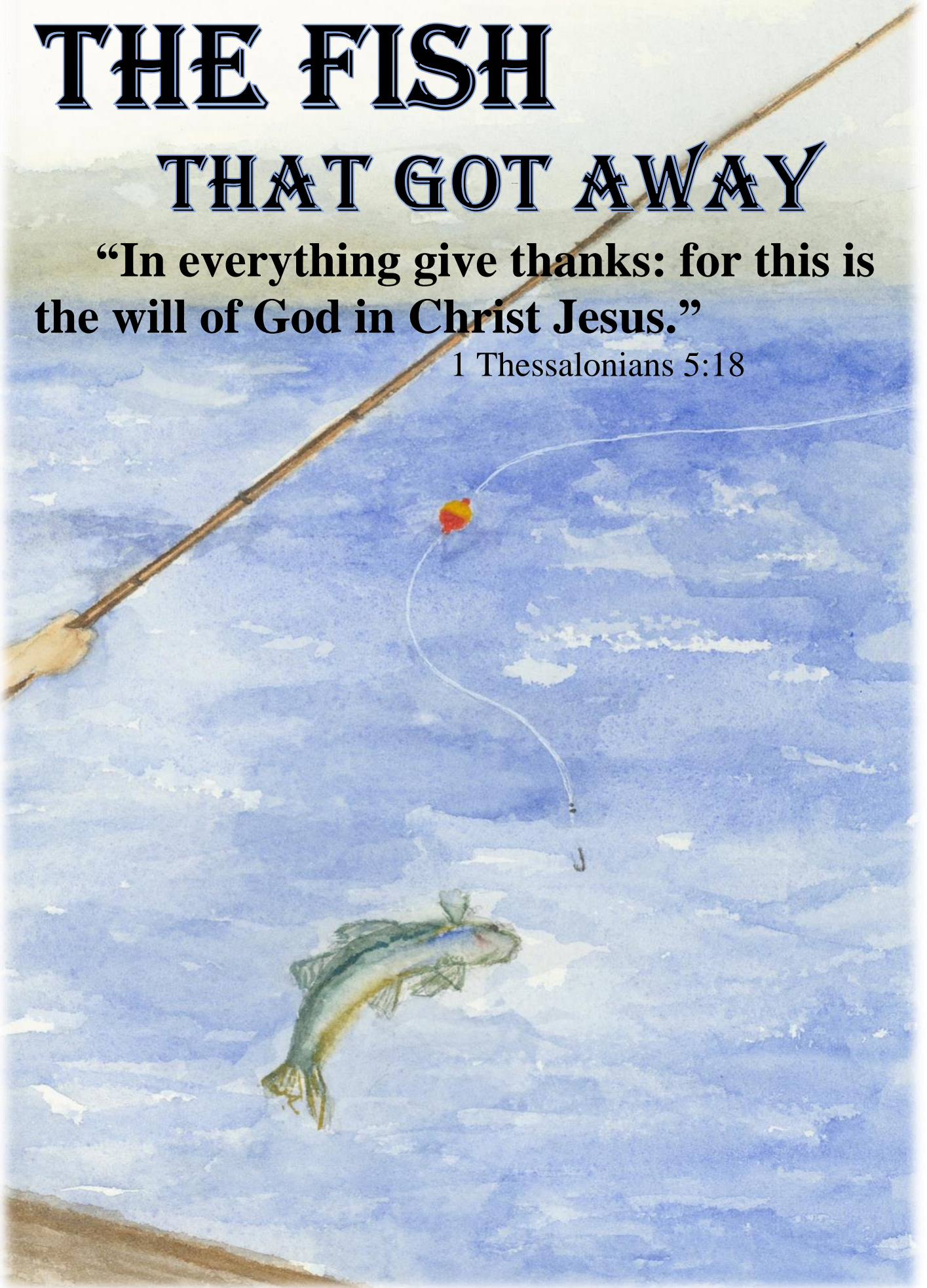


# THE FISH

## THAT GOT AWAY

**“In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus.”**

1 Thessalonians 5:18



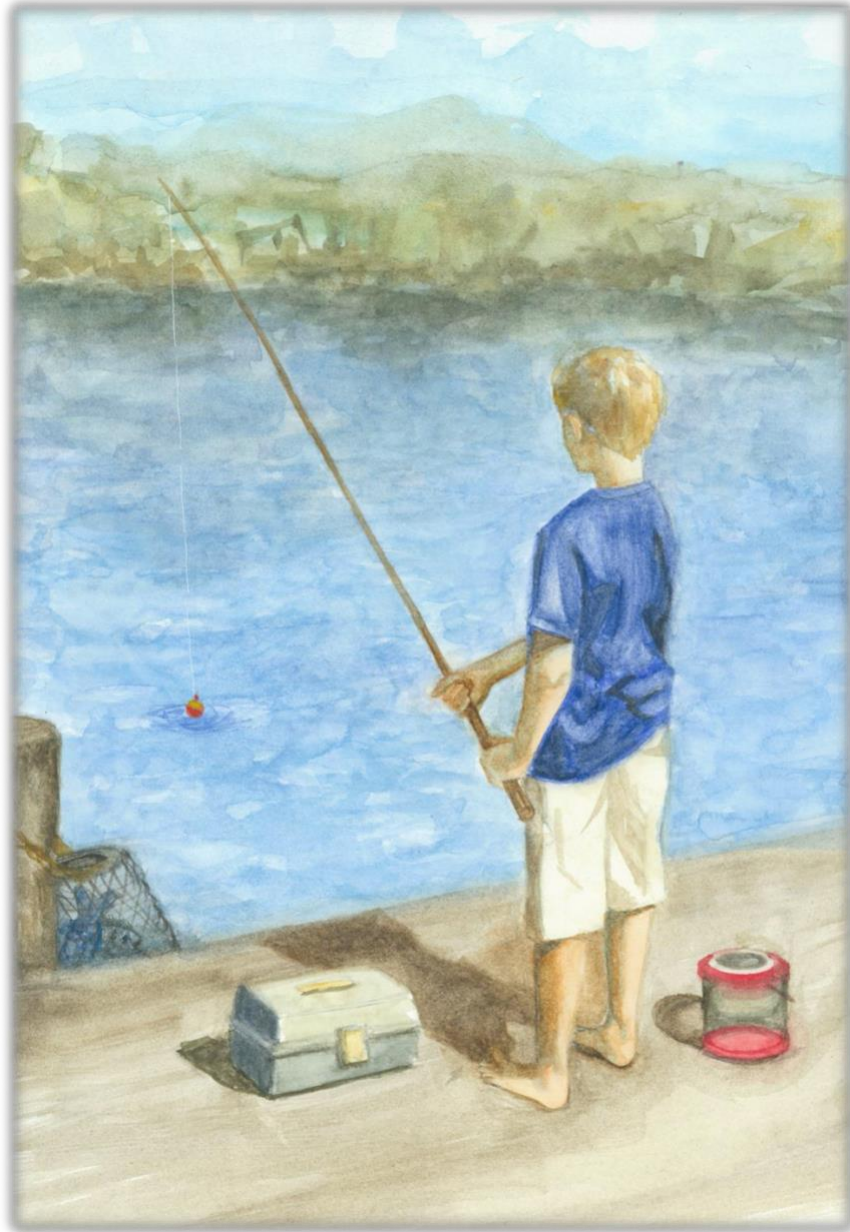


**It was a warm spring day, Andy and Jon were visiting their grandmother who lived on the river.**



**There was a lovely large covered rustic gazebo at the end of her yard. Andy was quite a fisherman and the gazebo was one of his favorite places. Andy was almost 9 years old and Jon was 4 years old but only weeks away from his fifth birthday.**

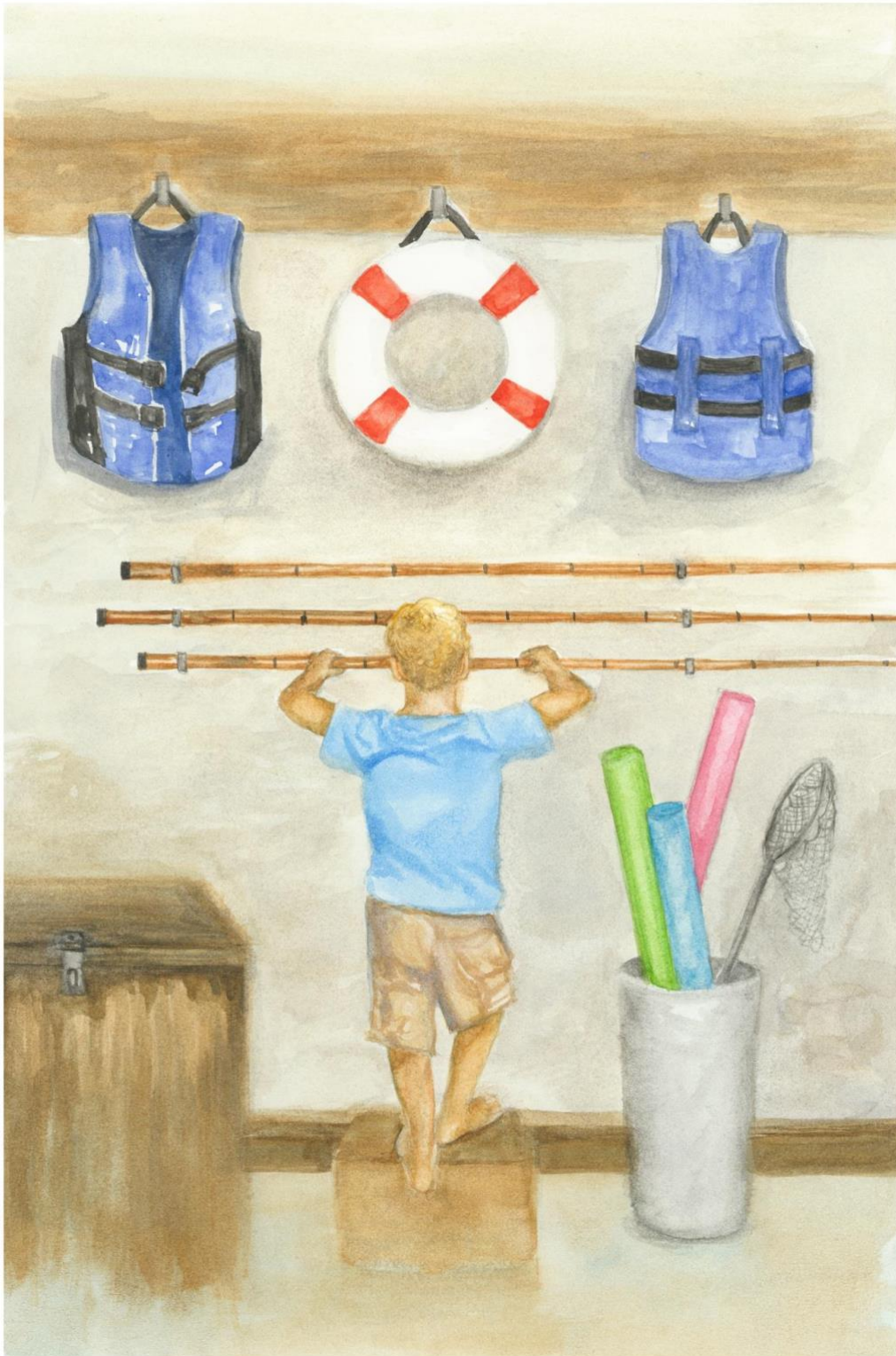
**Andy got all his fishing gear from the carport and went straight to the end of the gazebo to fish. Mom had promised to cook the catch from that day.**



**In just a little while Andy caught several fish and they were in the basket at the edge of the water.**



**Jon decided he would go fishing as well. He went to the carport storage shed to look for a poll.**



**Then he walked down to join Andy on the gazebo.**





**Jon had been fishing before, but he was not very good at it.**



**Because he had ADD, he never left the hook in the water long enough to catch a fish.**



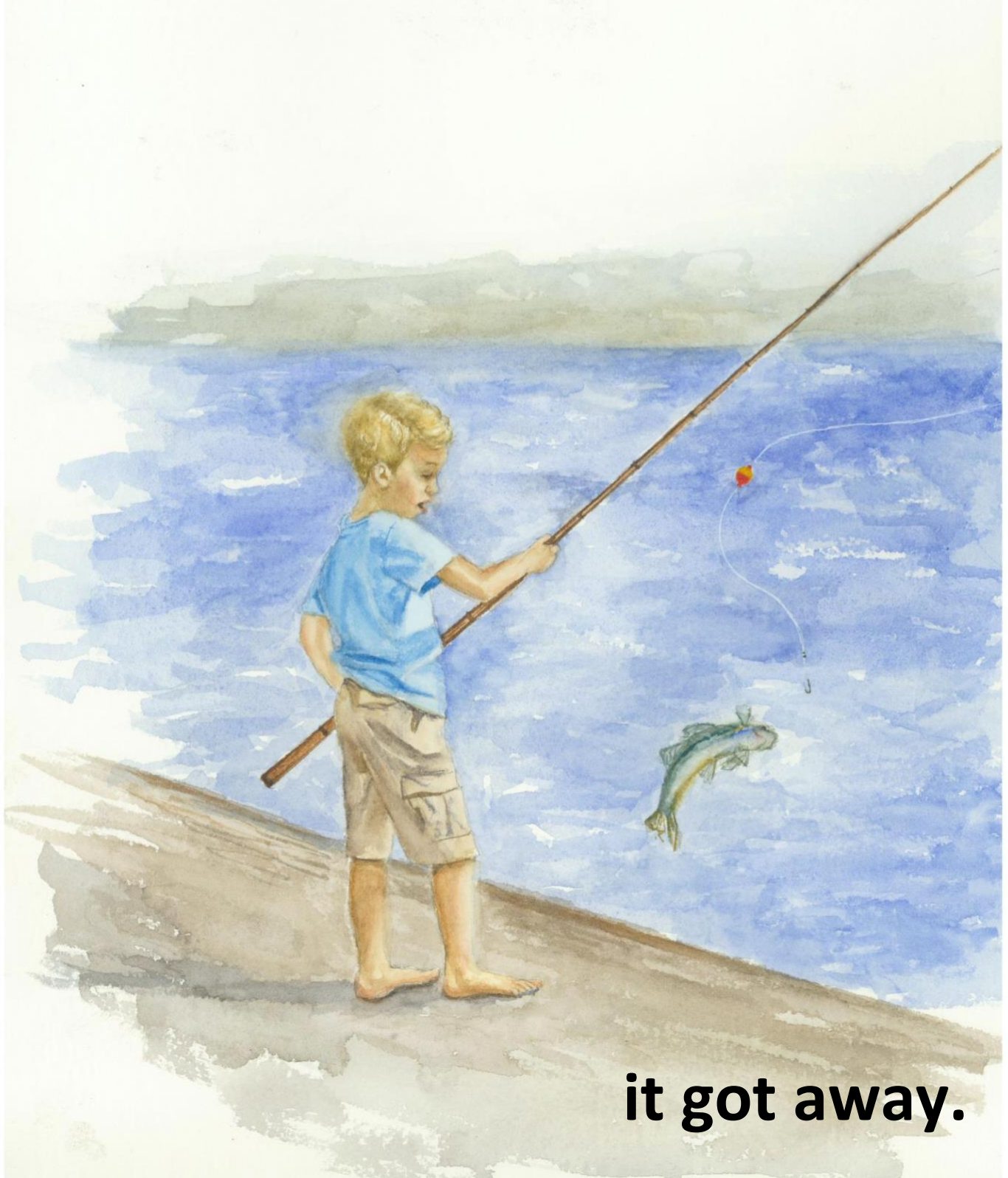
**On this day, he had just put his hook in the water, when to his delight, he discovered he had caught a fish.**



**As he was taking the fish off the hook, he looked up at his mom with those sky-blue eyes and said, Thank you, Lord!**



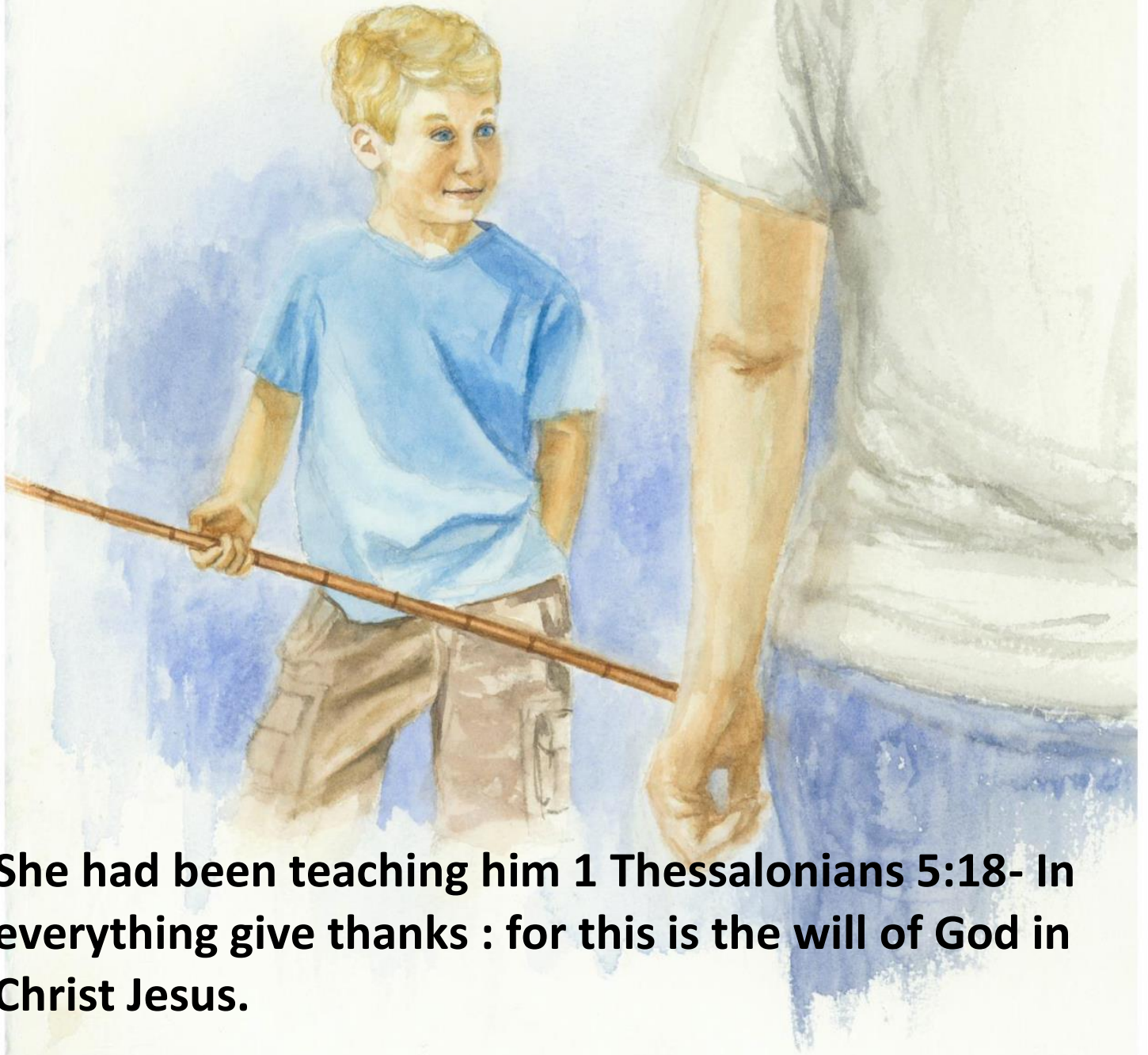
**He continued to fish and to his delight in just a few minutes he hooked another one, but before he could get this one up on the deck,**



**it got away.**



**You will not believe what happened next. Jon again looked up at his mom and said, Thank You, Lord. Mom, is that the way to do it?**



**She had been teaching him 1 Thessalonians 5:18- In everything give thanks : for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus.**

**That day he had learned that in all things to give thanks, whether he caught a fish or the fish got away.**

**We have a friend who says that thank you is the language of submission and trust. We are saying, You are God and I'm not; I know that you have promised to make everything work out for Your glory and my good. I will trust You, and I will submit to Your will!**

**He (Jesus) is the boss.**

**\*What have you learned from the fish that got away?**

**\*What have you thanked the Lord for today?**

**\*Is Jesus the boss of your life?**