

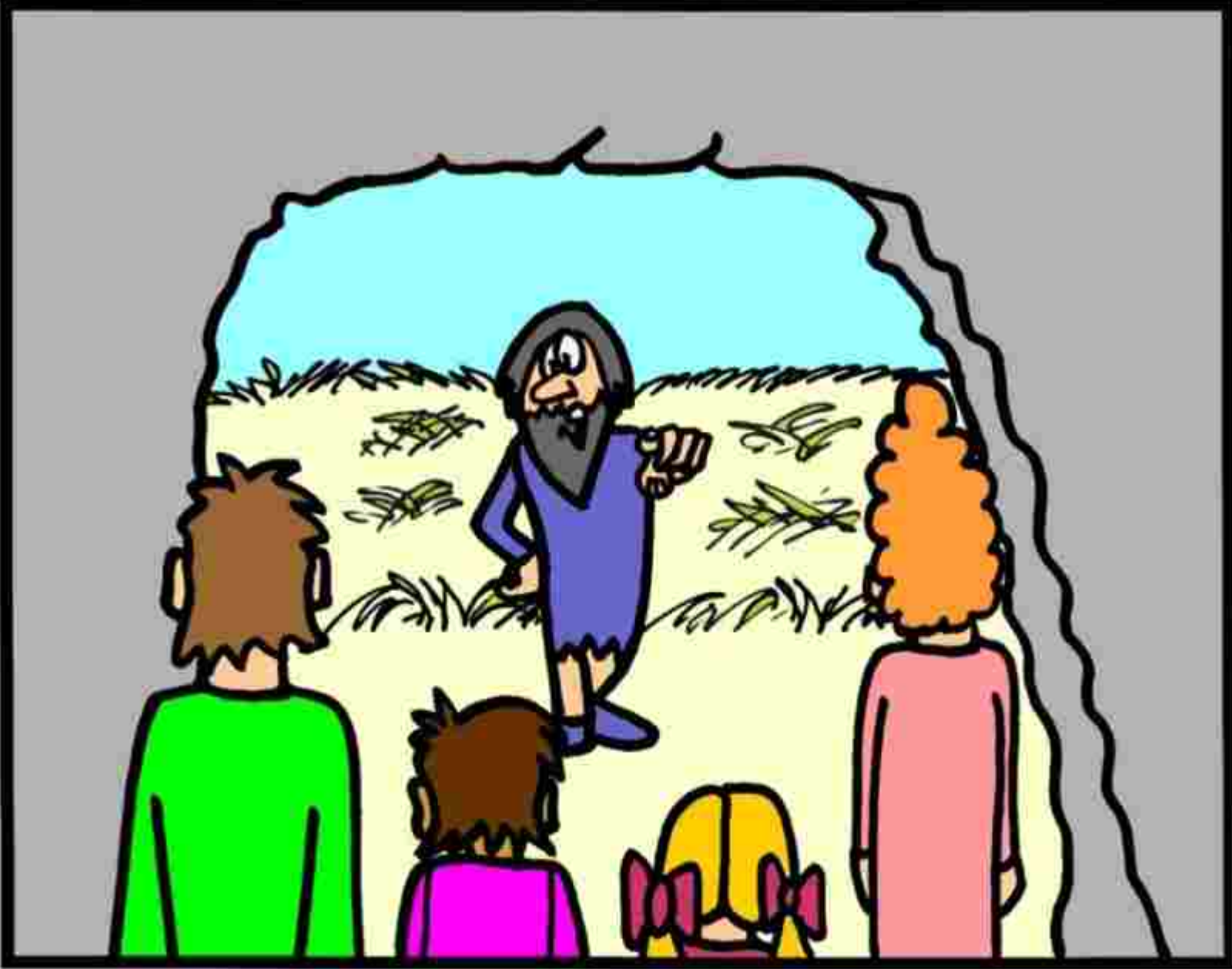
Gideon is Called

(Based on Judges 6:1-33)

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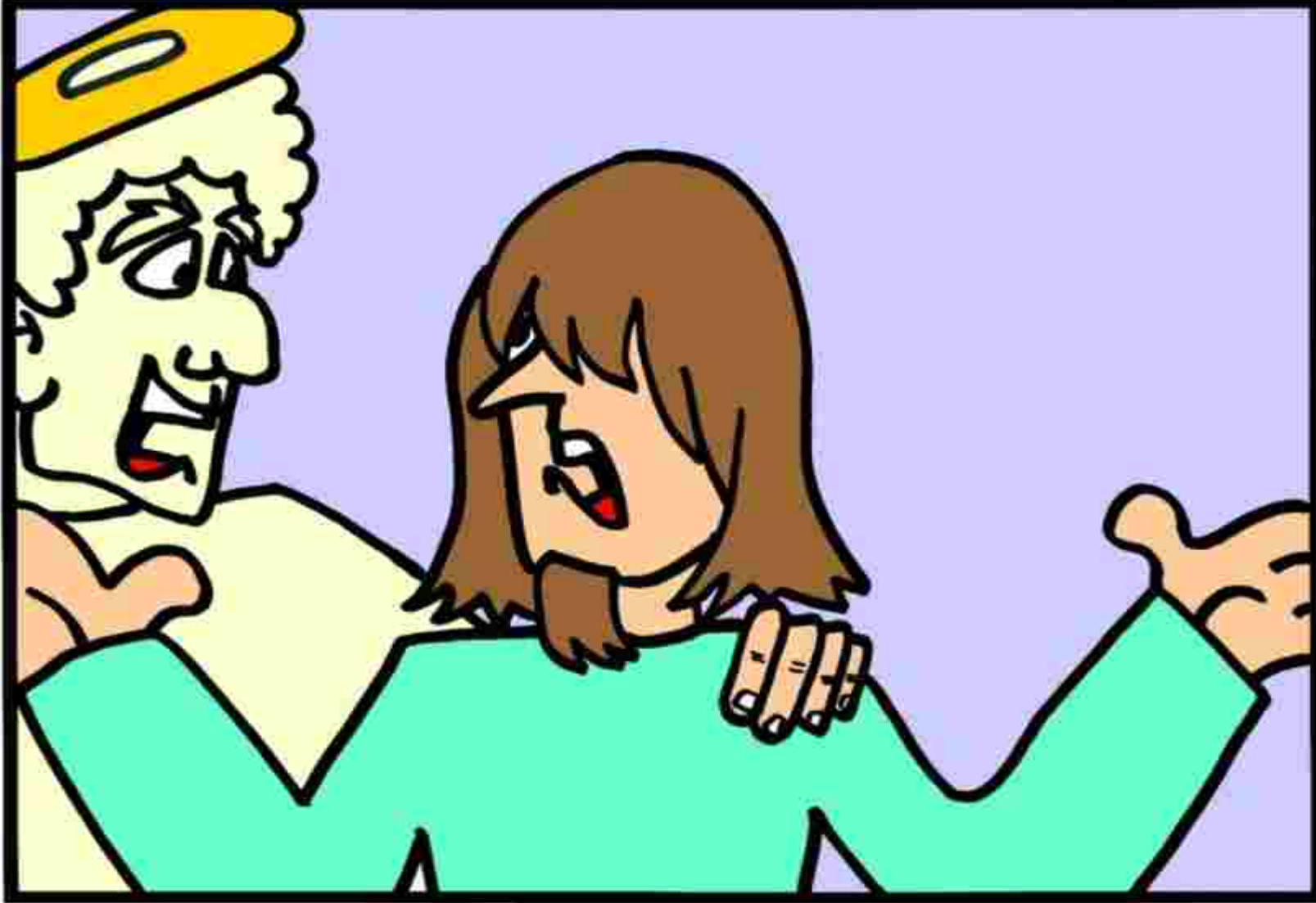
God let the nasty Midianites be bosses over the people of Israel for 7 years because once again they had stopped serving God. The people of Israel lived in caves. As soon as their food began to grow, the Midianites would come with their camels and cows and smash the fields.



The people of Israel cried out to the Lord, and God sent them a prophet with a message. “God says, ‘I told you not to fear the idol gods that the people in this land worship, but you did not obey me.’”



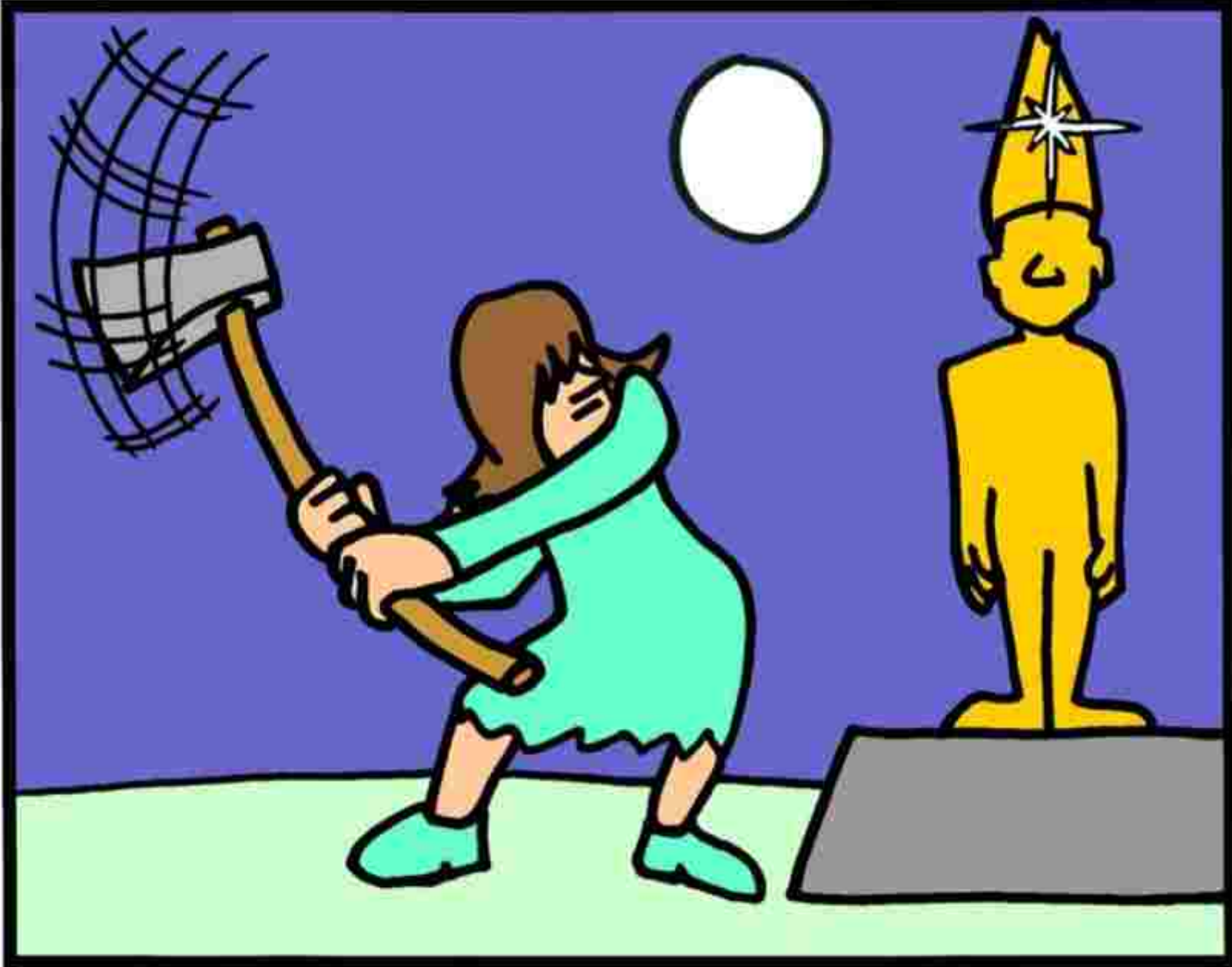
A young man named Gideon was threshing wheat by the winepress to hide it from the Midianites when suddenly an angel appeared and spoke to him. “The Lord is with you, you mighty brave man!”



Gideon answered, "If the Lord is with us then why did all this happen to us? Where are the miracles we heard about when he brought our people out of Egypt? "You will save the people from the Midianites. The Lord is sending you!" answered the angel.



“Me?” answered Gideon. “I need a sign that it is really God talking to me.” Gideon put bread and meat on a rock for the visitor. The angel touched the rock and fire came out of the rock burning up the food. Then the angel disappeared. “It really was an angel of God,” gasped Gideon.



That night God told Gideon to bust down his father's Baal statue and he obeyed even though he knew all the town's people would be angry with him.



Lord, help me to be willing to be part of your solution to our world's problems.