

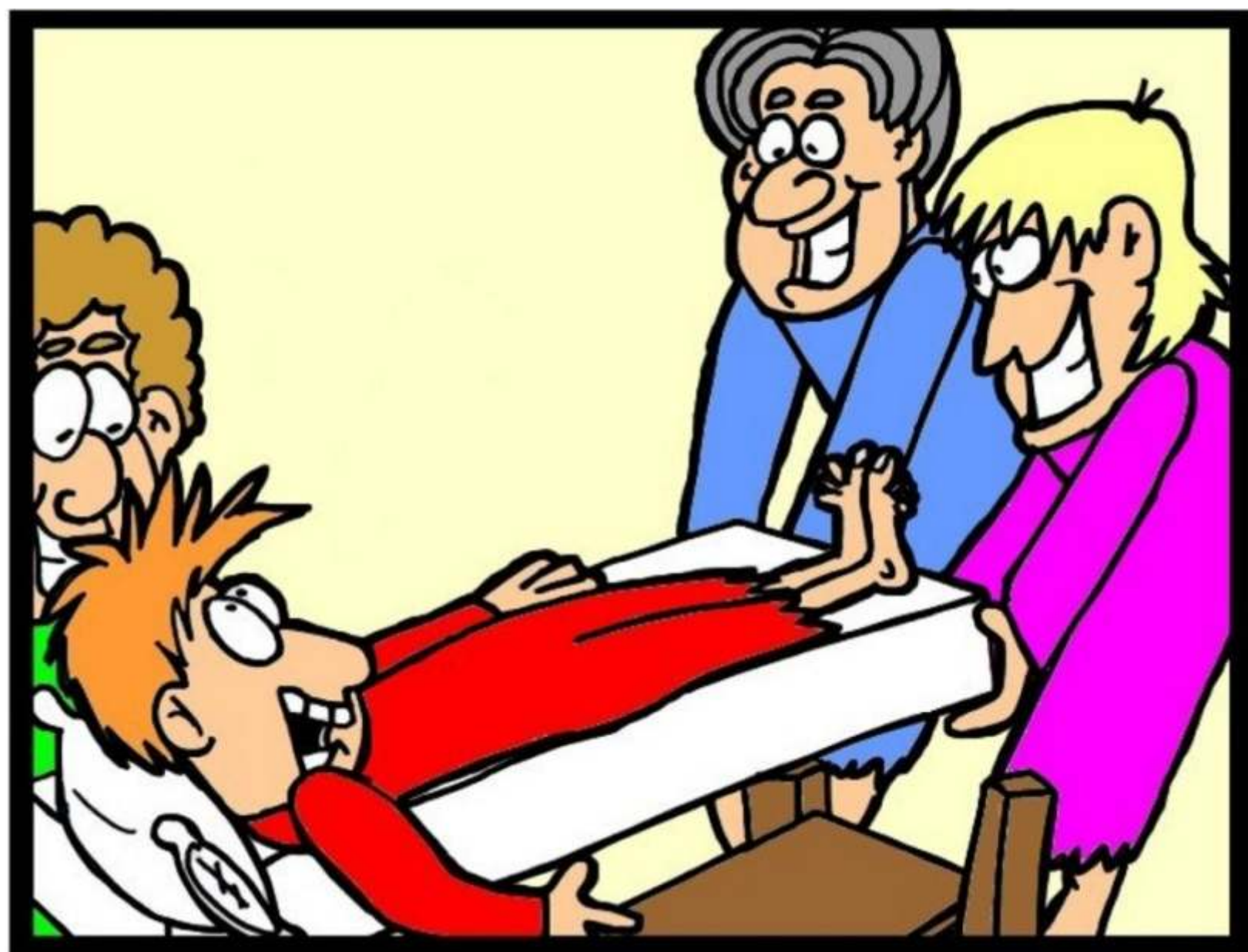
Man Let Down Through the Roof

(Based on Luke 5:17-26, Mark 2:1-12,
Matthew 9:1-8)

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Jesus came to the town of Capernaum for a visit and people crowded into the house to hear him. Many Pharisees and Bible experts came from the villages and towns to hear Jesus. The power of the Lord was with Jesus to heal them.



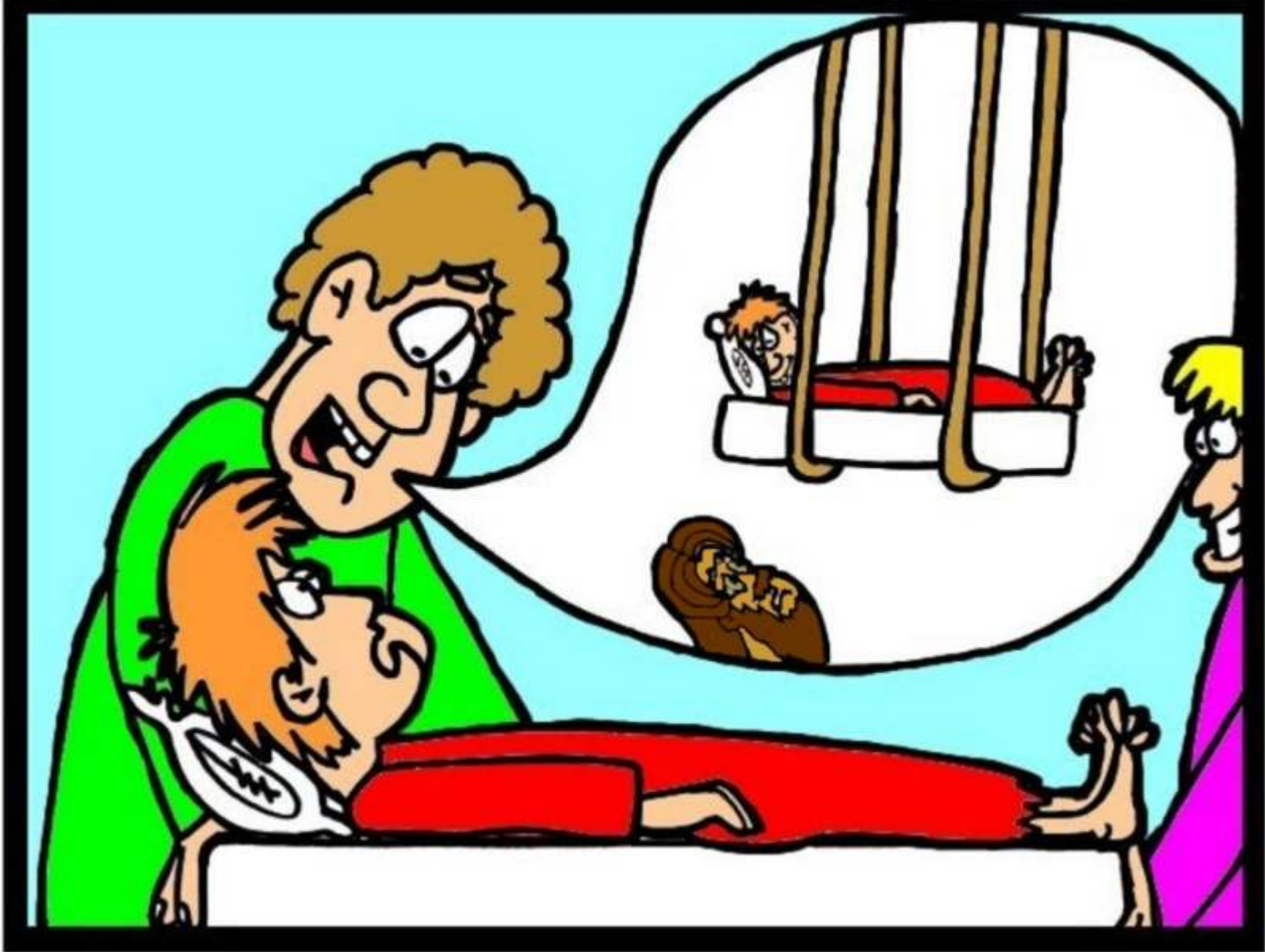
“Where are you taking me?” cried a paralyzed man. “Jesus is in town!” said the friends. “We’re taking you to him so you can be healed!”



When the four friends arrived at the house, they couldn't believe their eyes! There wasn't even any room at the door. "Now what are we going to do?" asked one friend to another.



“We can’t get in the doors. We can’t get in the windows. Hey! I have an idea let’s take him up on the roof,” said one of the men. “Ahhh!!!” gasped the paralyzed man.



“We could tear the roof up and lower him down on his bed right in front of Jesus. Jesus would be sure to see him. What do you say our paralyzed friend?” “Okay,” answered the paralyzed man.



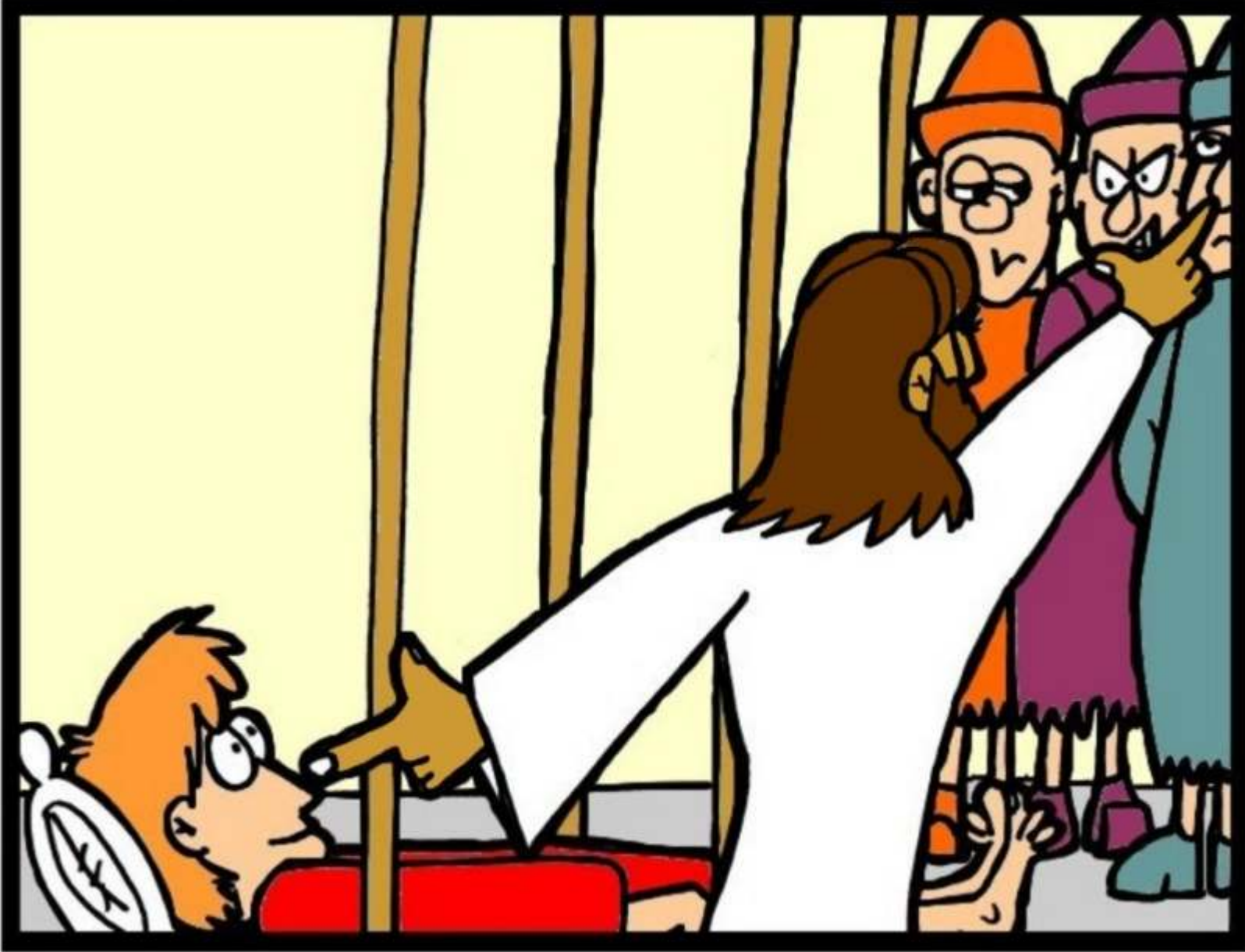
One by one the four friends tore the tiles off the roof. Below they could hear Jesus preaching. “Are you ready our paralyzed friend? We’re just going to drop you down through this roof. Don’t be afraid.”



Jesus didn't become angry with the men for interrupting his message, instead he saw their faith. He said, "Be happy my son, your sins are forgiven!"



“This man is talking foolishly!”
thought the Pharisees in the room.
“Only God can forgive people’s
sins!”



“Why are you guys thinking such nasty thoughts?” asked Jesus. “Which one is easier to say, your sins are forgiven or to say, rise up and walk? So you guys will know that I DO have power to forgive sins, I say to this paralyzed man, rise, pick up your bed and go home!”



And that's just exactly what he did. Everyone was so amazed. They praised God saying, "We've never seen anything like this before!"



Lord, help me to not give up when obstacles come my way. Determined faith receives.