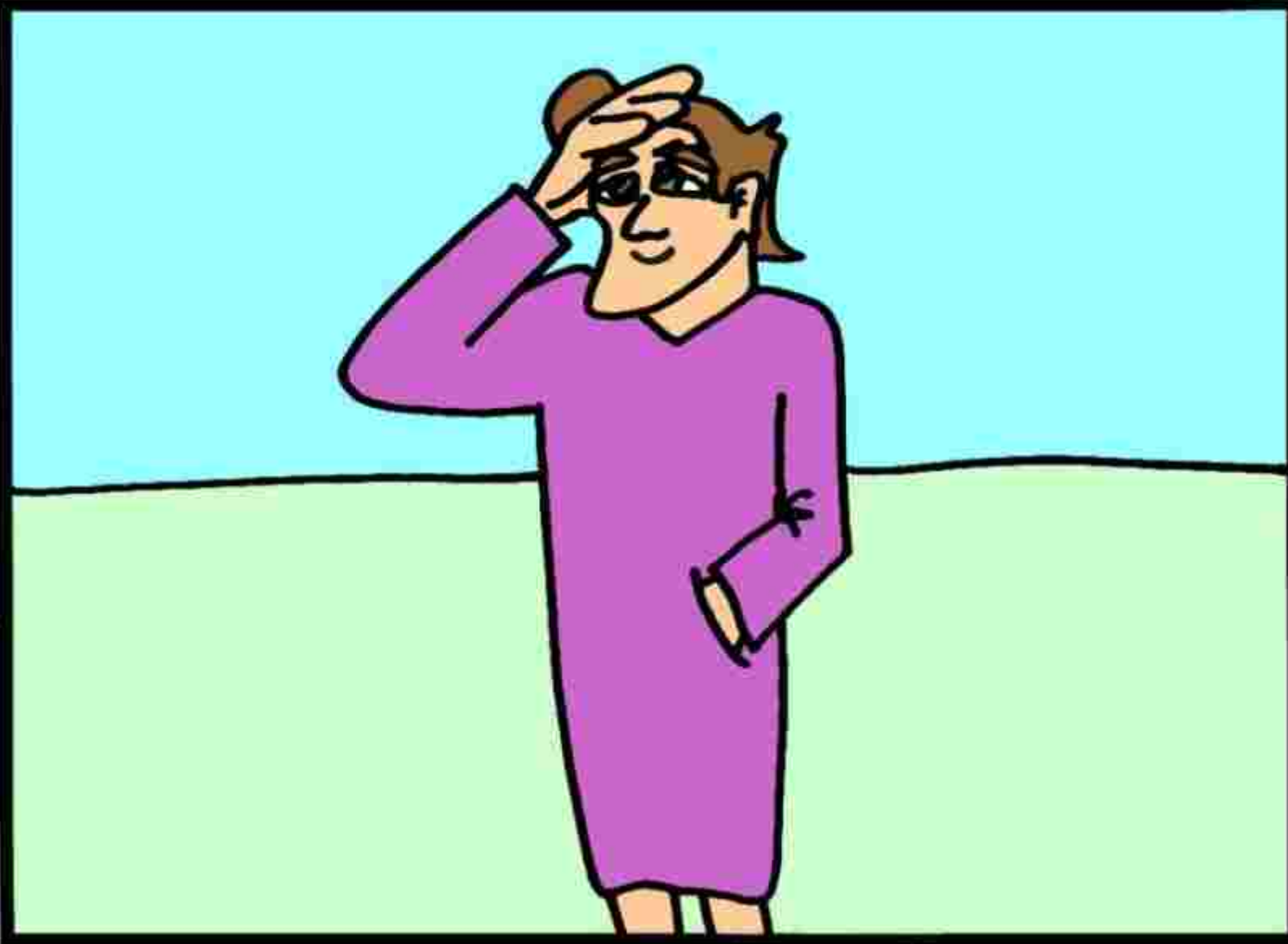


Saul becomes King

(Based on 1 Samuel 9)

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There was a man from the tribe of Benjamin named Saul. He was young, good-looking and much taller than everyone else. His father said, "Take a servant with you and go and look for our lost donkeys." "Okay Dad," said Saul.



They looked all over the countryside for those missing donkeys, then Saul's servant said, "Let's go and ask the man of God if he can tell us where the missing donkey's are." God said to Samuel when Saul arrived, "This is the one I have picked to be king, to save my people from the Philistines."



“Don’t worry about your donkeys,” said Samuel. “They were found three days ago. All the people of Israel want you.” “I come from the smallest family in the smallest tribe. Why are you talking to me like that?” answered Saul.



Samuel made a feast and gave Saul and his servant the best places. He gave Saul a special piece of meat, which was saved especially for him. Thirty other people were also invited.



The next morning Samuel asked Saul to send his servant home. Samuel poured oil on Saul's head and said, "The Lord has anointed you to be the captain over his people."



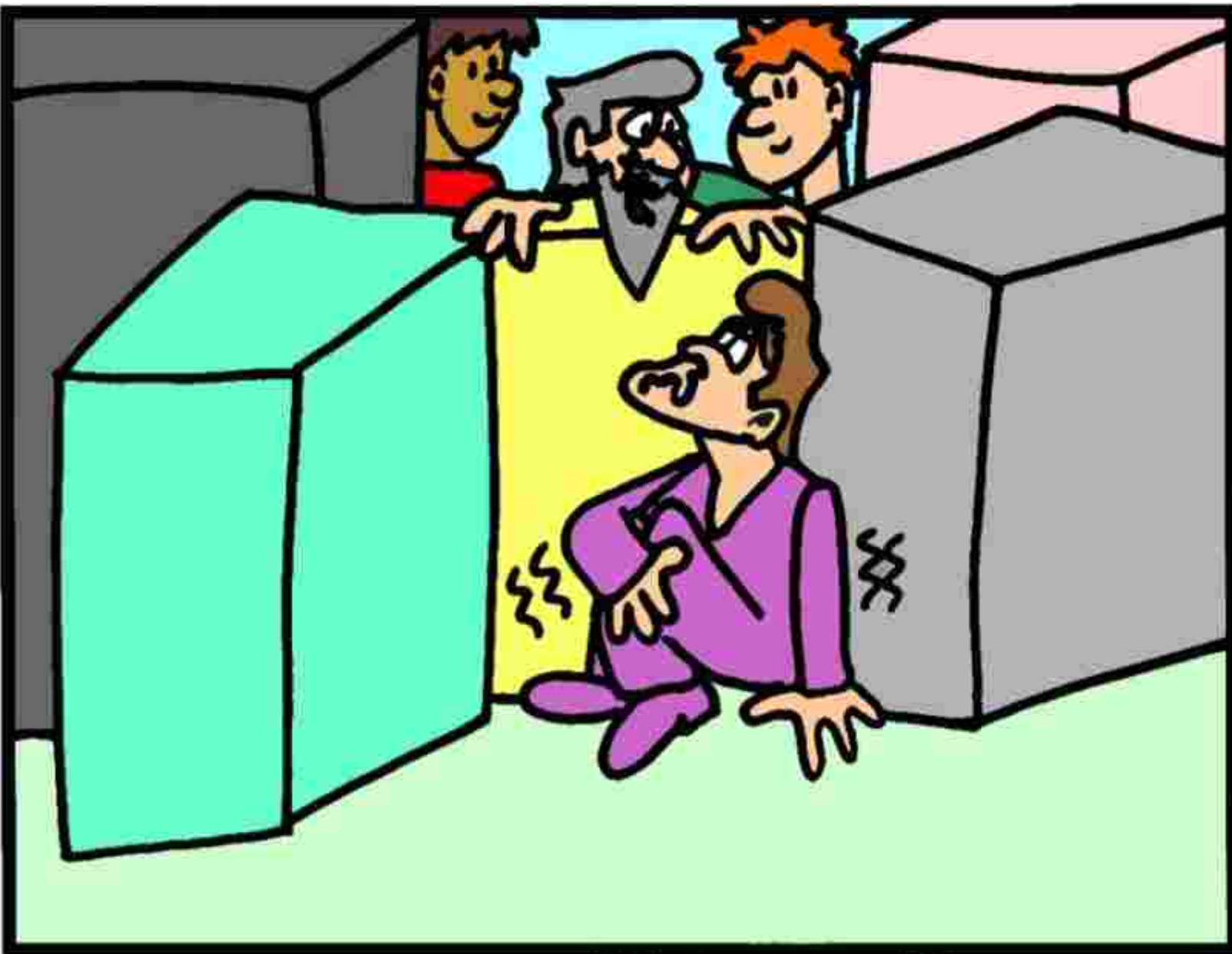
Then Samuel told him what would happen on the trip home and it happened exactly. First two men met him telling him that the donkeys were found and that now his dad was worrying about him.



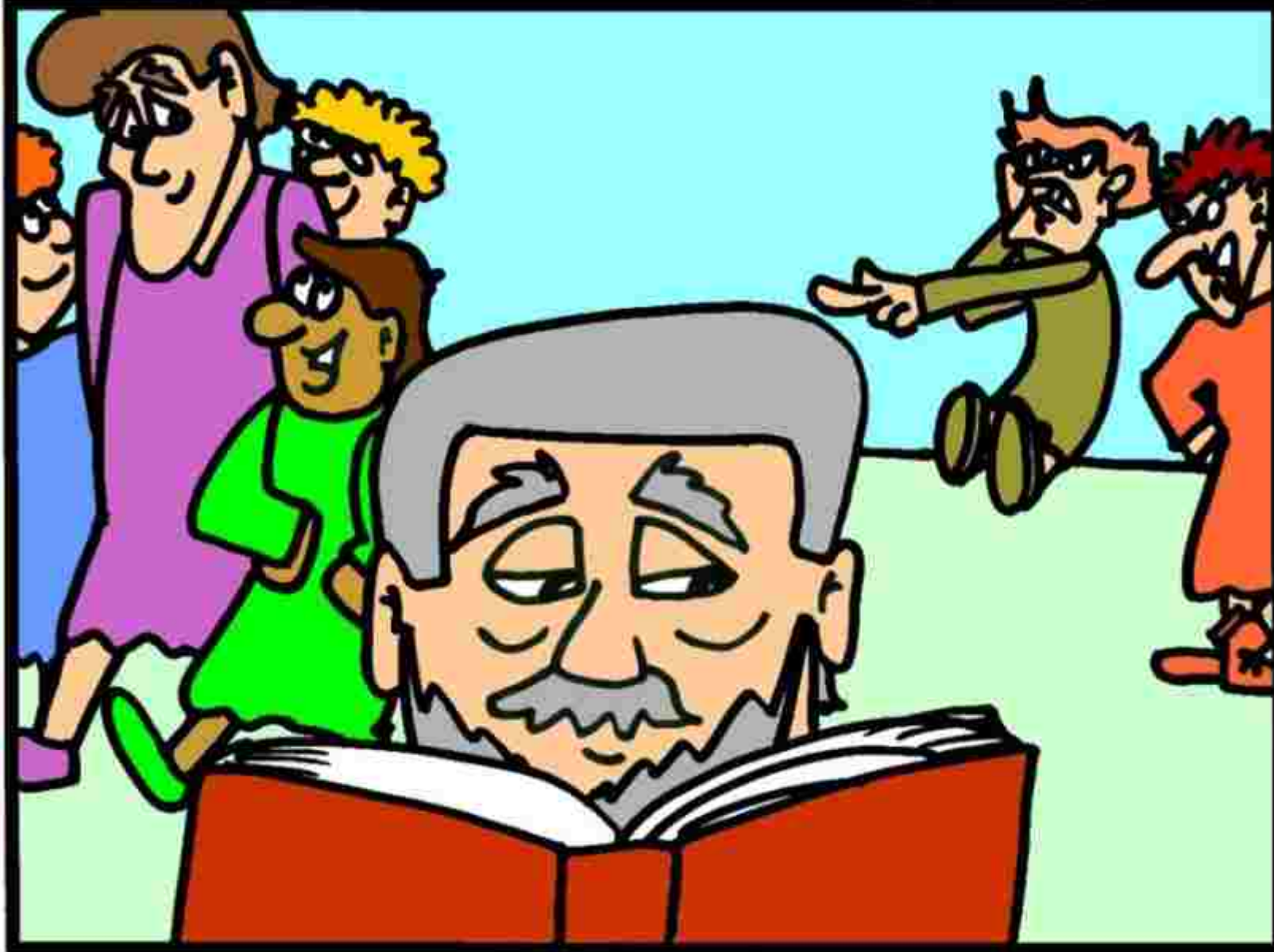
Then he met three men. One carried three baby goats. One carried three loaves of bread and one carried a bottle of wine. They gave two loaves of bread to Saul.



Lastly Saul met a group of prophets coming down from a high place. They were playing musical instruments and giving messages from God. The Spirit of the Lord came on Saul and he began to give messages from God too.



Samuel commanded all the people of Israel to gather together. It was time to make Saul their king, but he could not be found. They asked God where he was and God answered, "He is hiding in the stuff."



Samuel wrote a book showing the way the kingdom should be. Then he sent everyone home. A group of men, whose hearts God had touched, went with Saul, but some other men made fun of Saul. Saul stayed calm.



Lord, help me to always keep a humble heart and remember that without you, I can do nothing, but WITH you, all things are possible.