

Ziklag is Burned

(Based on 1 Samuel 30:1-25)

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David and his men had settled their families in a town called Ziklag. The men had been away and while they were gone enemy soldiers had come and kidnapped all the women and kids. Then they burned the town.



When David and his men returned home and found everyone gone and the city burned to the ground they wept until they had no more strength to cry.



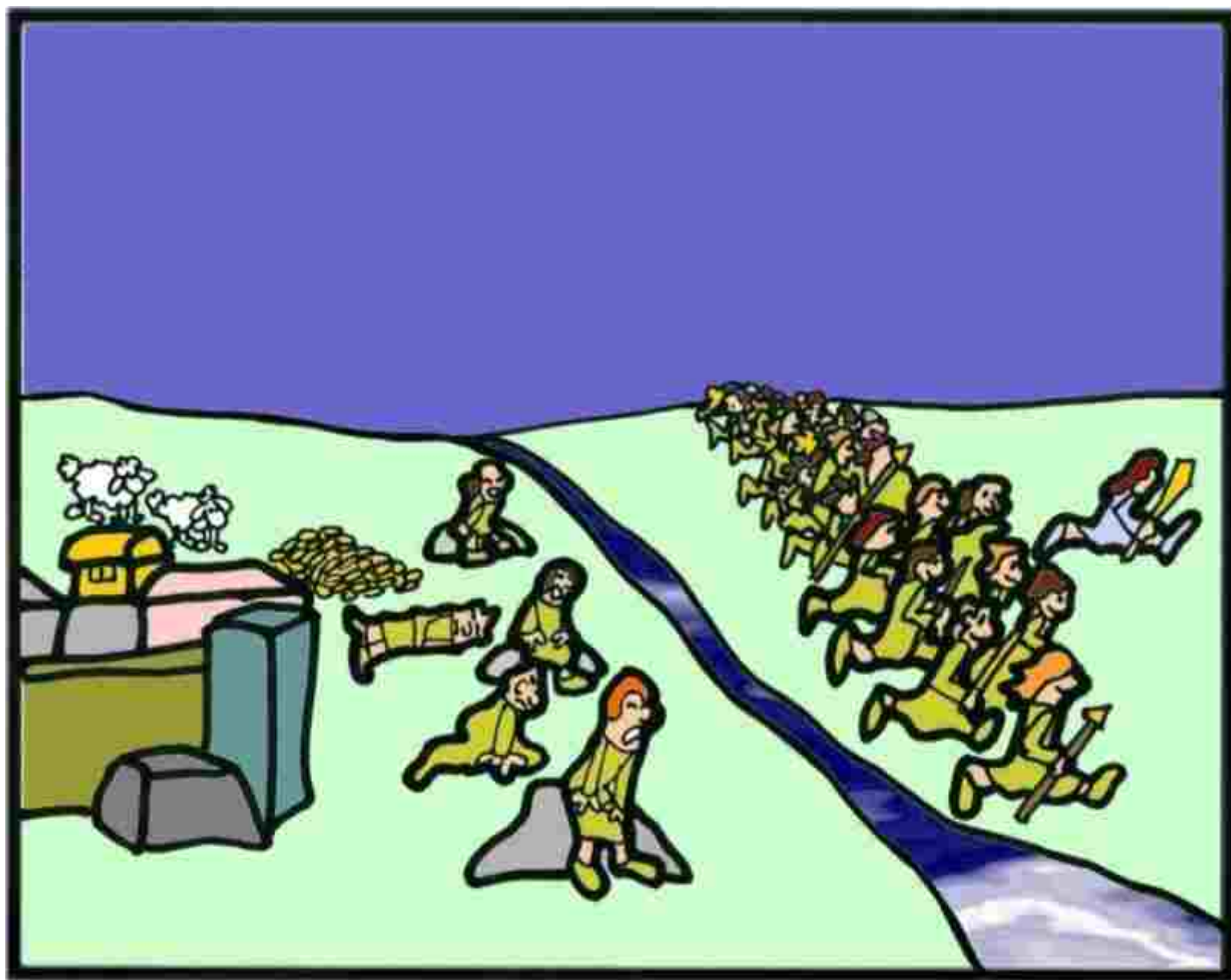
“Let’s throw stones at David until he is dead!” said many of David’s men. “This is all his fault!”



David was very concerned when he heard his men talking like that but he went to pray and got comfort and courage from God.



“Will I chase after the enemy who did this?” asked David. “Yes,” answered the Lord, “and you will get back everything that was stolen.”



David and his 600 men began to chase the enemy until they came to the brook called Besor. 200 men were too tired to continue so they stayed with the stuff. David and the other 400 men continued.



They found a man in the field. He was very weak. He hadn't eaten or drank any water for three days. David gave him food to eat and water to drink. "Who are you?" asked David.



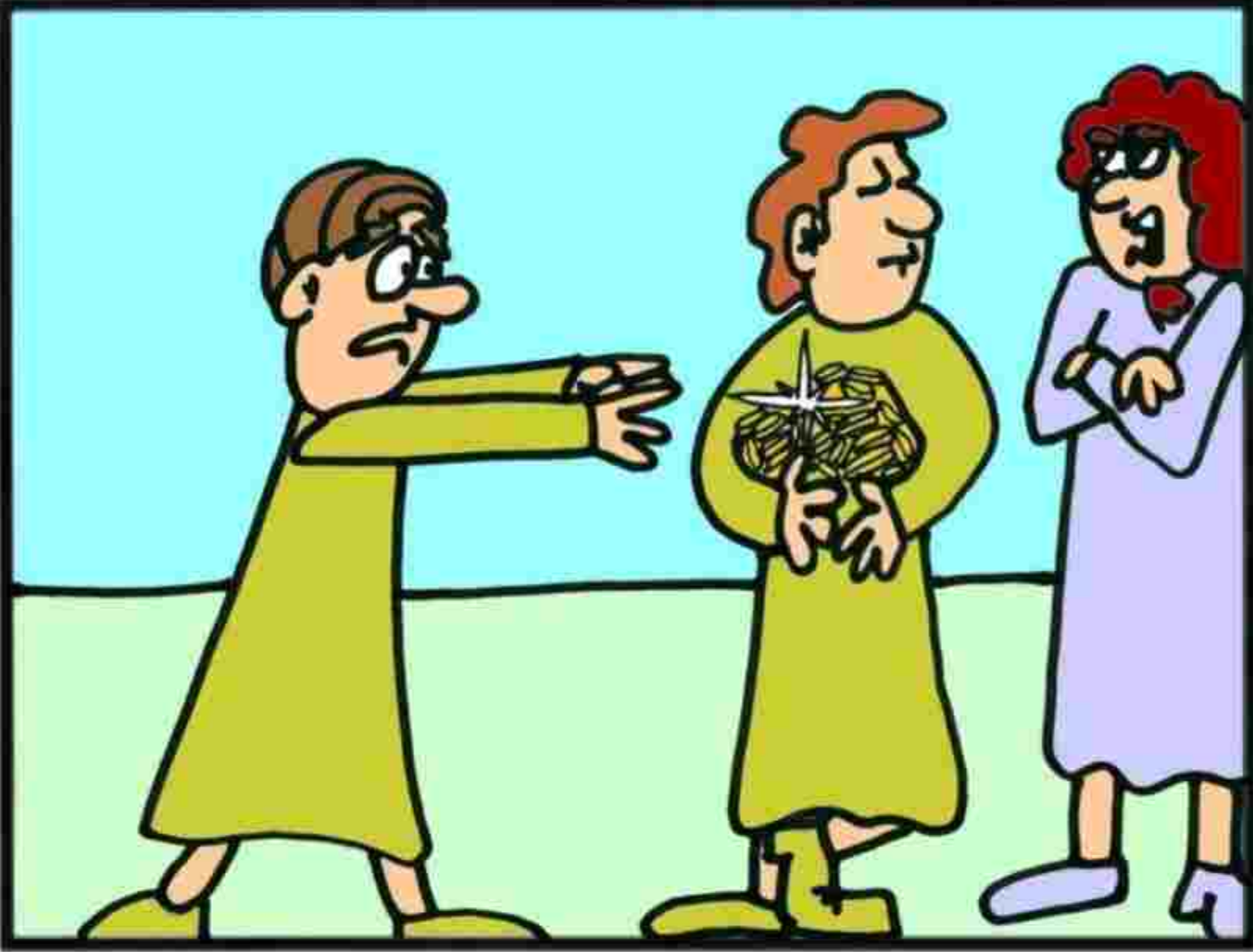
“I was a slave to one of the soldiers that invaded many cities and burned the town of Ziklag. When I became sick he left me here 3 days ago,” said the man.



David promised not to hurt him or return him to his slave master, and the young man led David and his men to the place where the enemy men were camping. The enemy soldiers were dancing and having a party.



David and his men fought against those enemy soldiers and they rescued their wives and all their kids. No one was missing, and they took all the enemy's animals and stuff too.



When they returned to the place where the 200 weary men were waiting, some of David's 400 men did not want to share the stuff with them but David made it a rule that they had to share.



Lord, help me to remember that I should not wait until I am in trouble to start spending time in God's presence. I want to spend some time with you everyday so that I will know your voice.