

The Parable of the Lost Son



From Luke 15:11-32

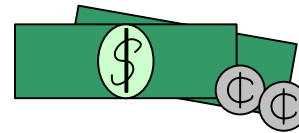
Written and Illustrated by Jennifer Cheatham

New Words

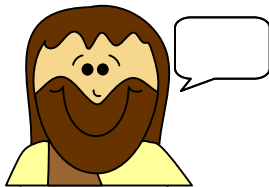
Jesus



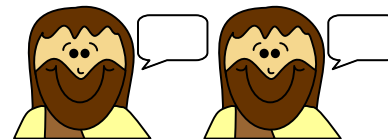
money

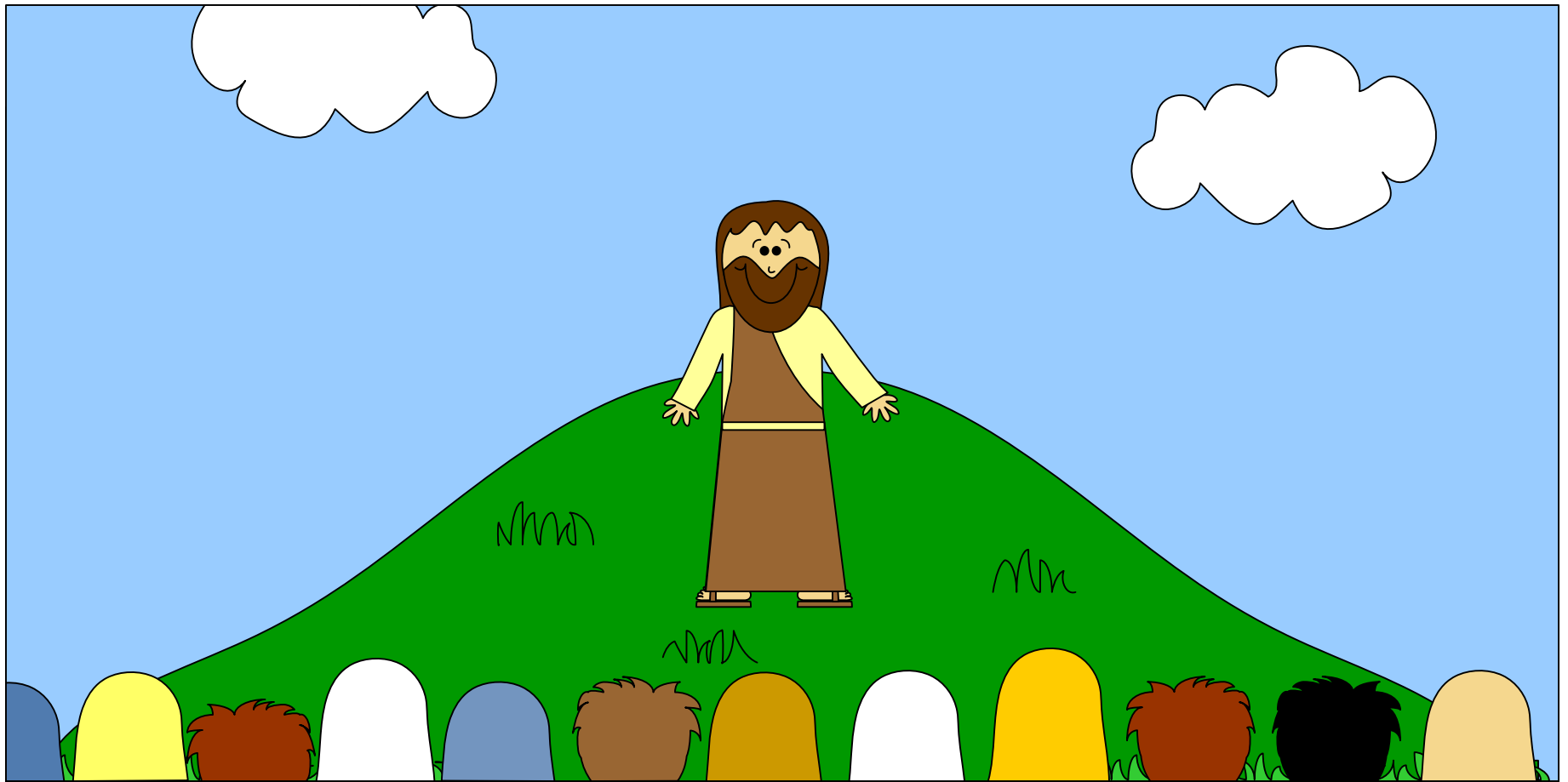









parable

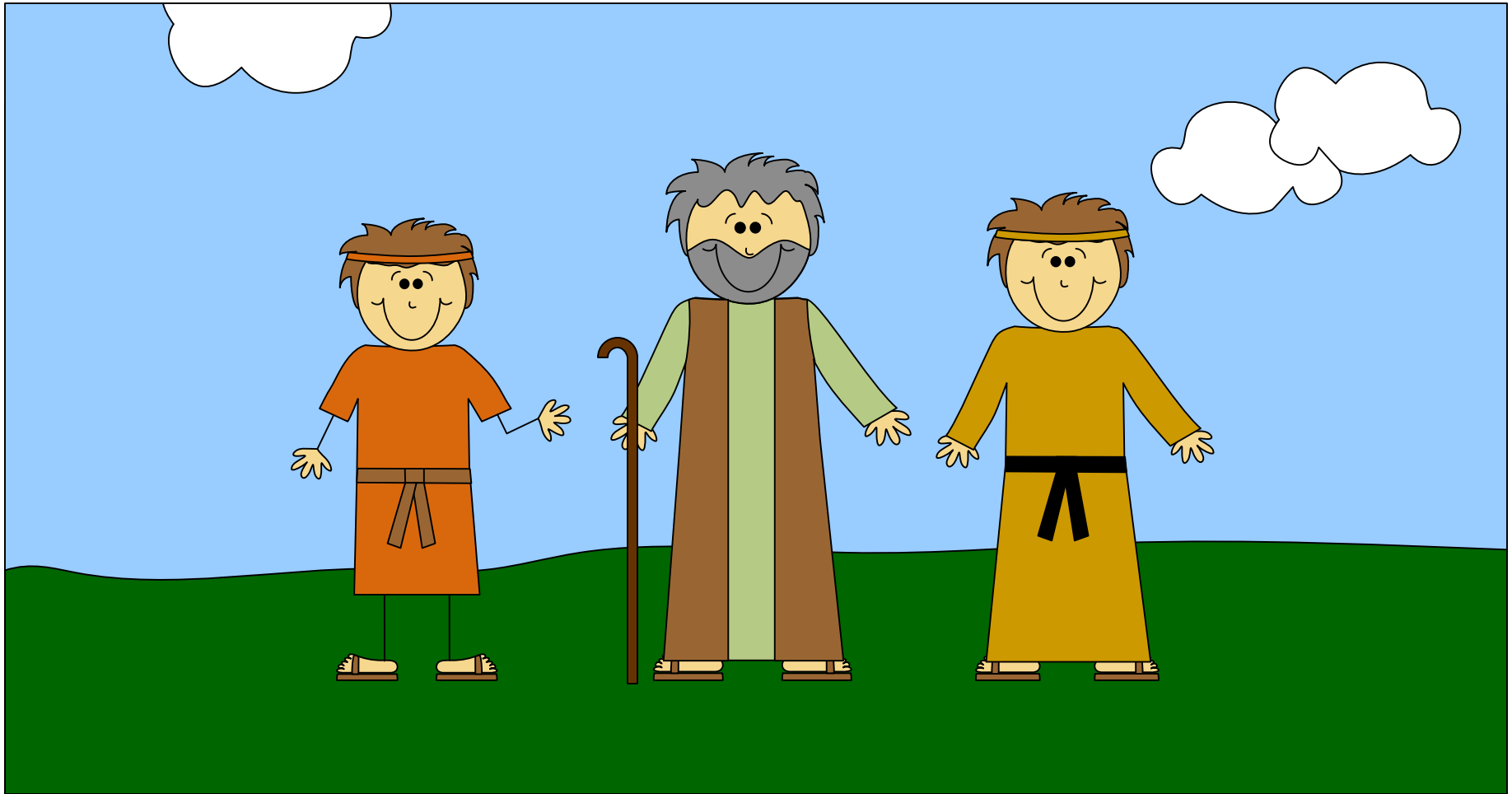


parables

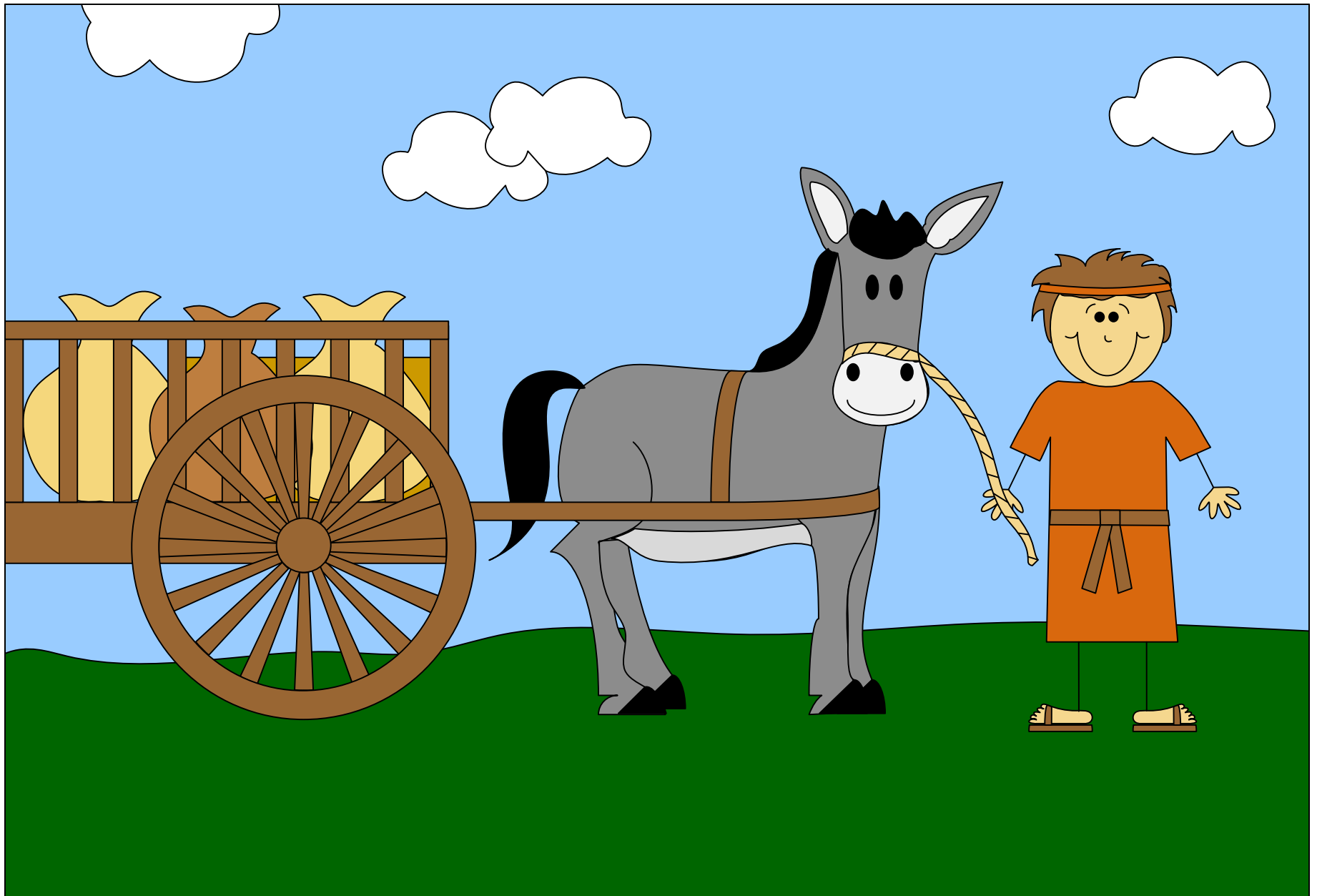




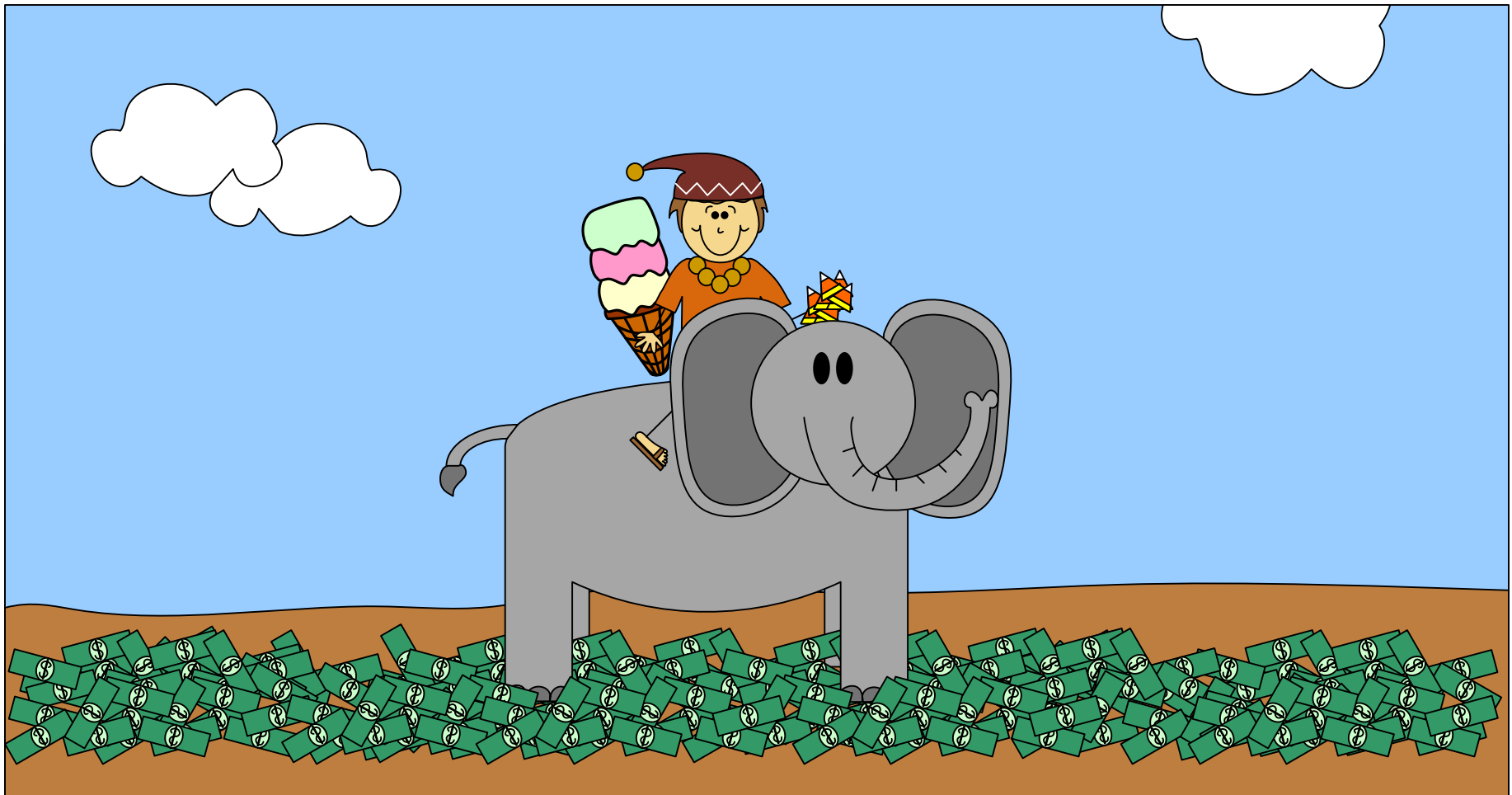
Jesus told many parables. Parables are stories that help
    
us know how we should live. One parable Jesus told was
 
about a son who ran away and then came back home.



There was a man who had two sons. The younger son asked his dad to give him his share of the family's property. The dad gave his sons their shares.



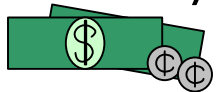
Soon, the younger son got all his things and left home.



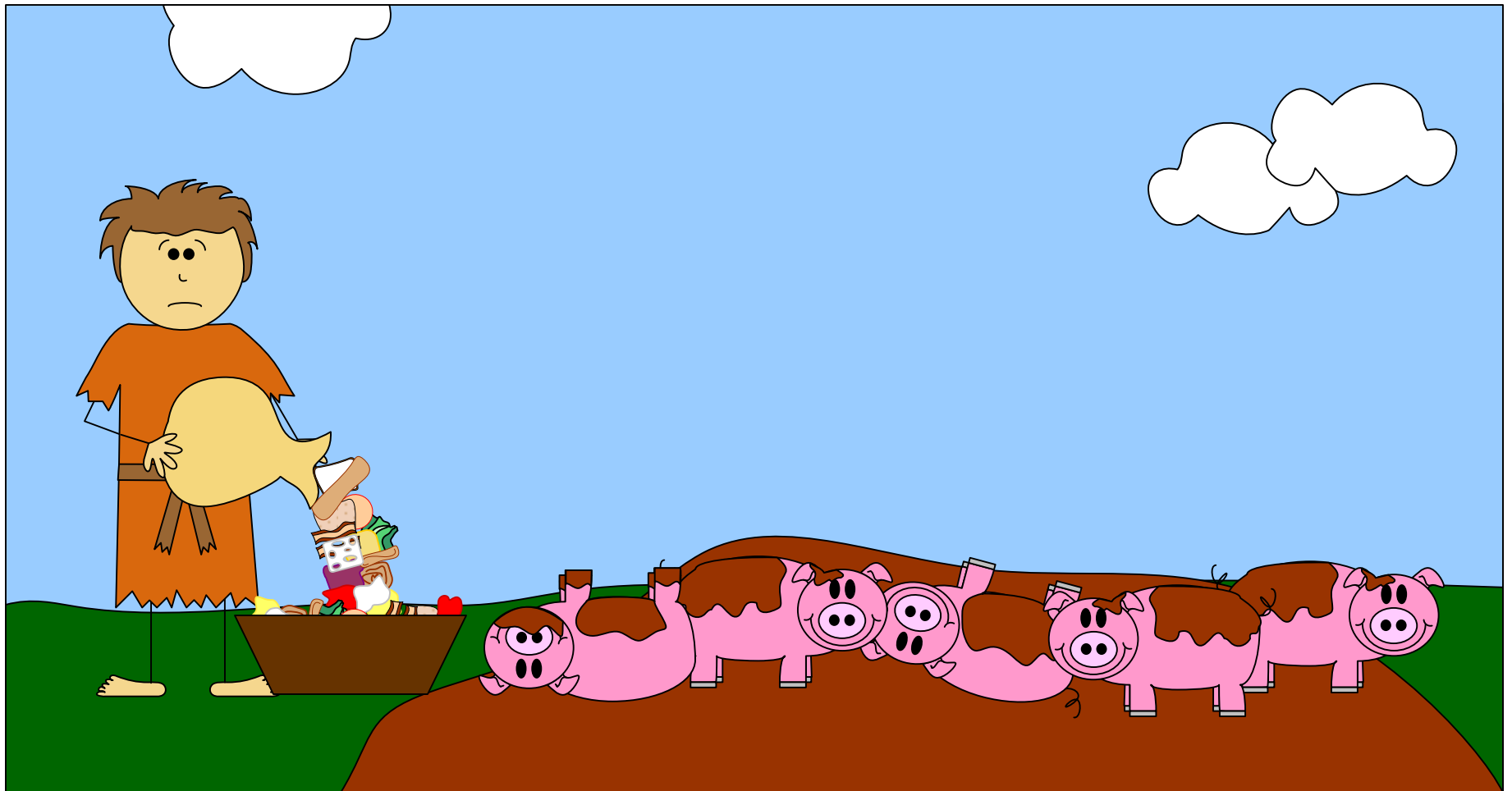
He went far away and spent all his money on things that



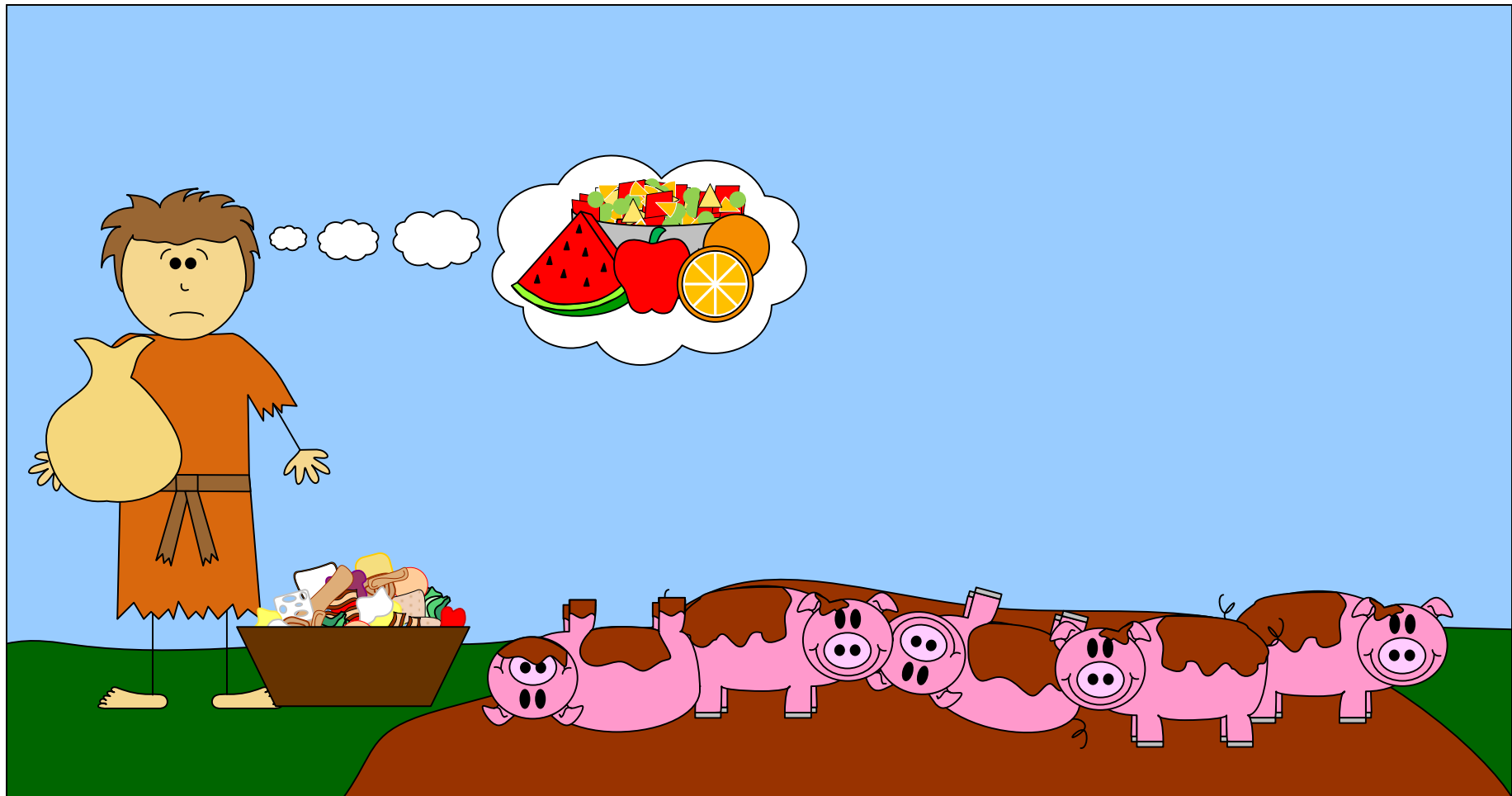
were not important and on living a wild life. When all his money was gone, there was not much food in the land,



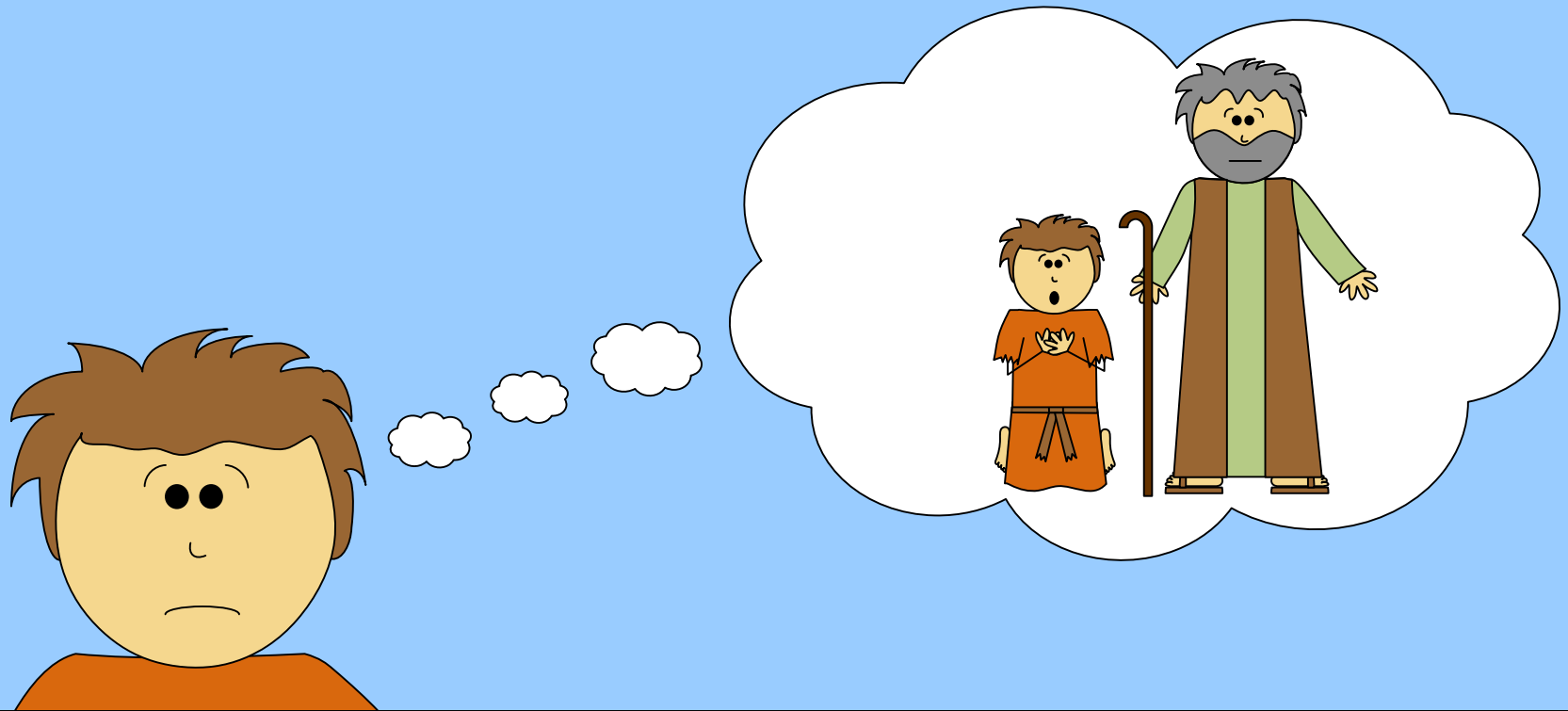
and the son was in need.



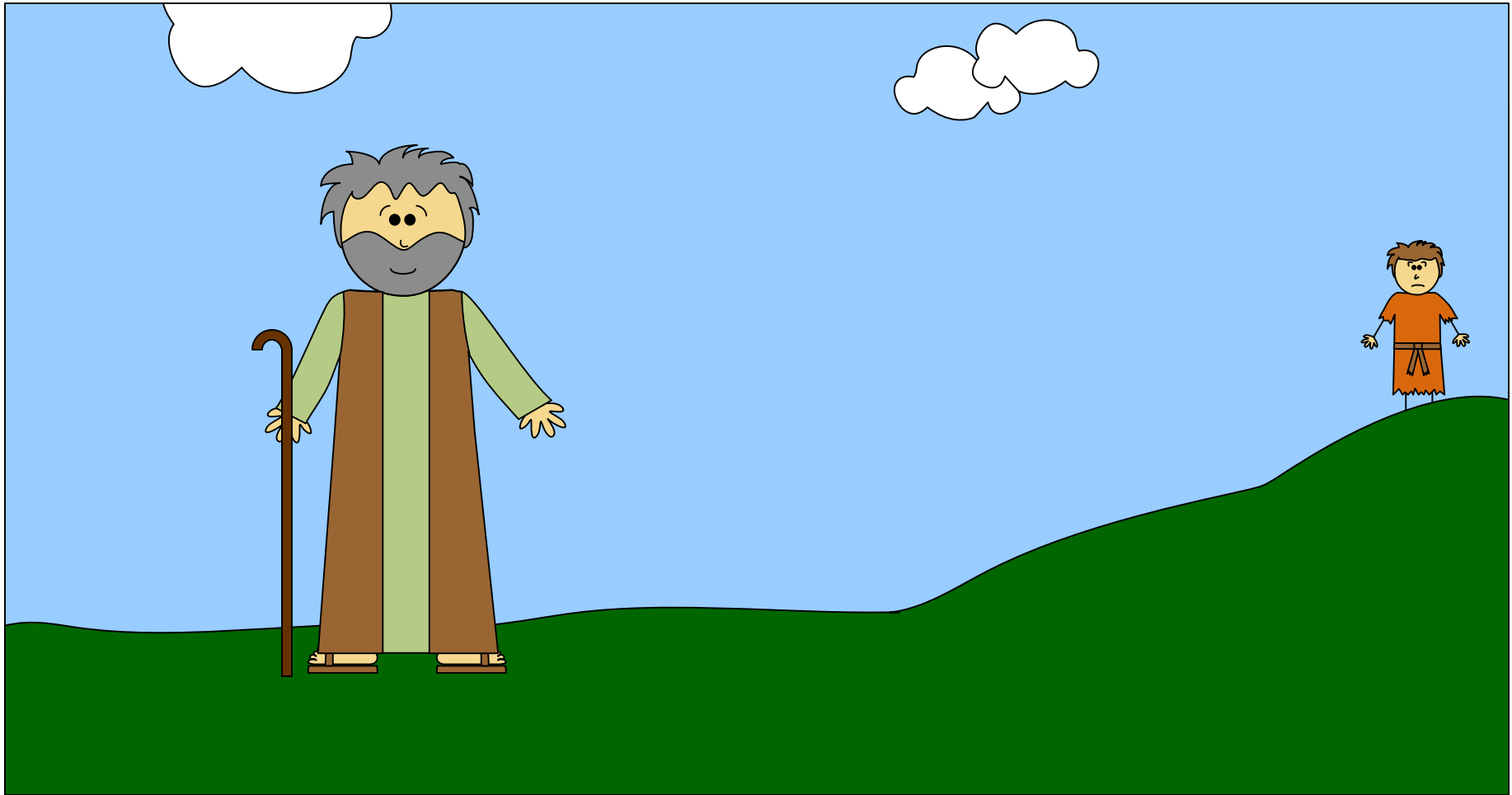
He went to a man and got a job feeding the man's pigs. He was so hungry that he wished he could eat the pigs' food. No one gave him anything.



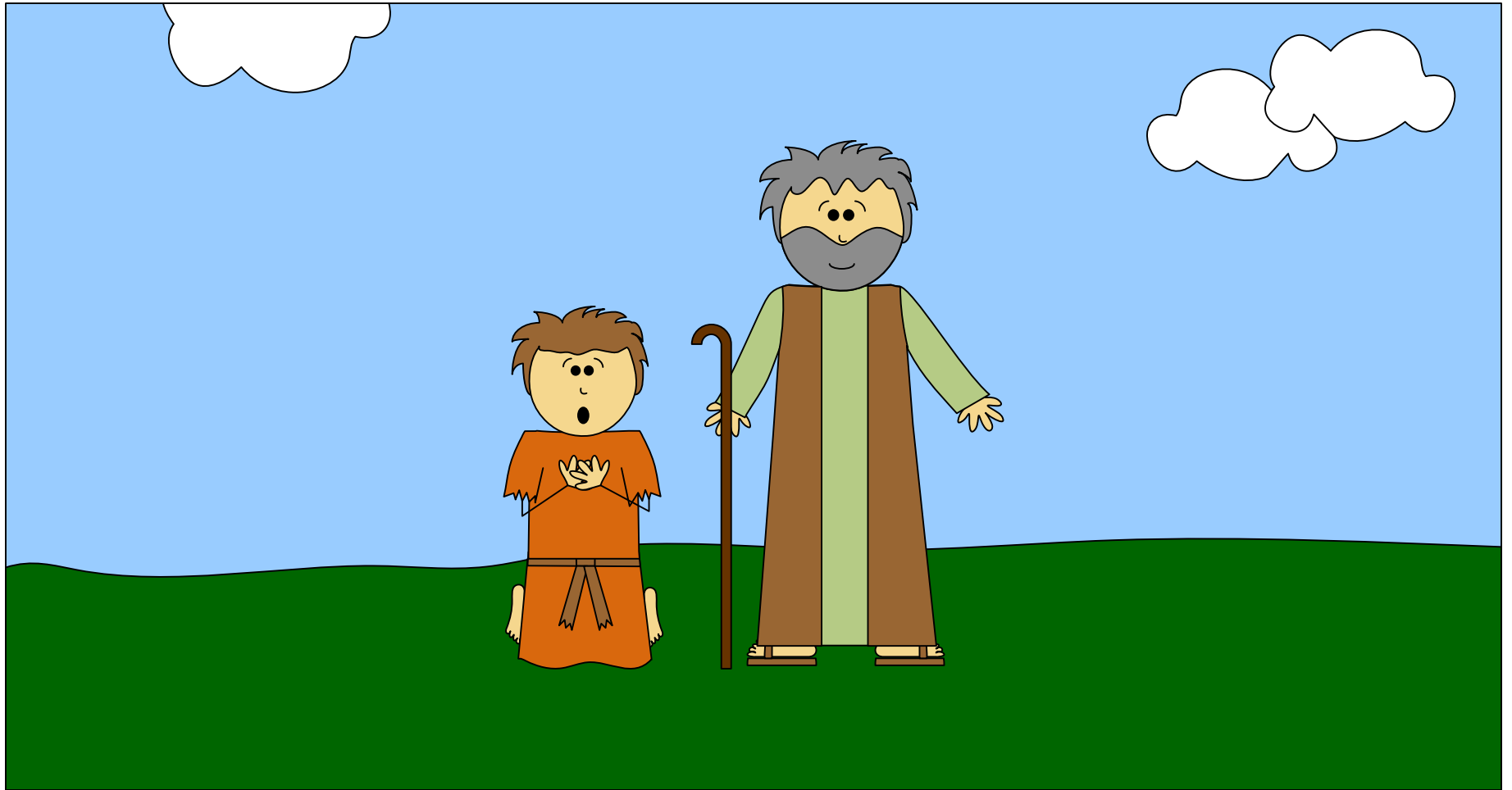
The son started thinking. He remembered that the workers at his dad's house always had extra food. Why should he be so hungry when his dad's workers had extra food?



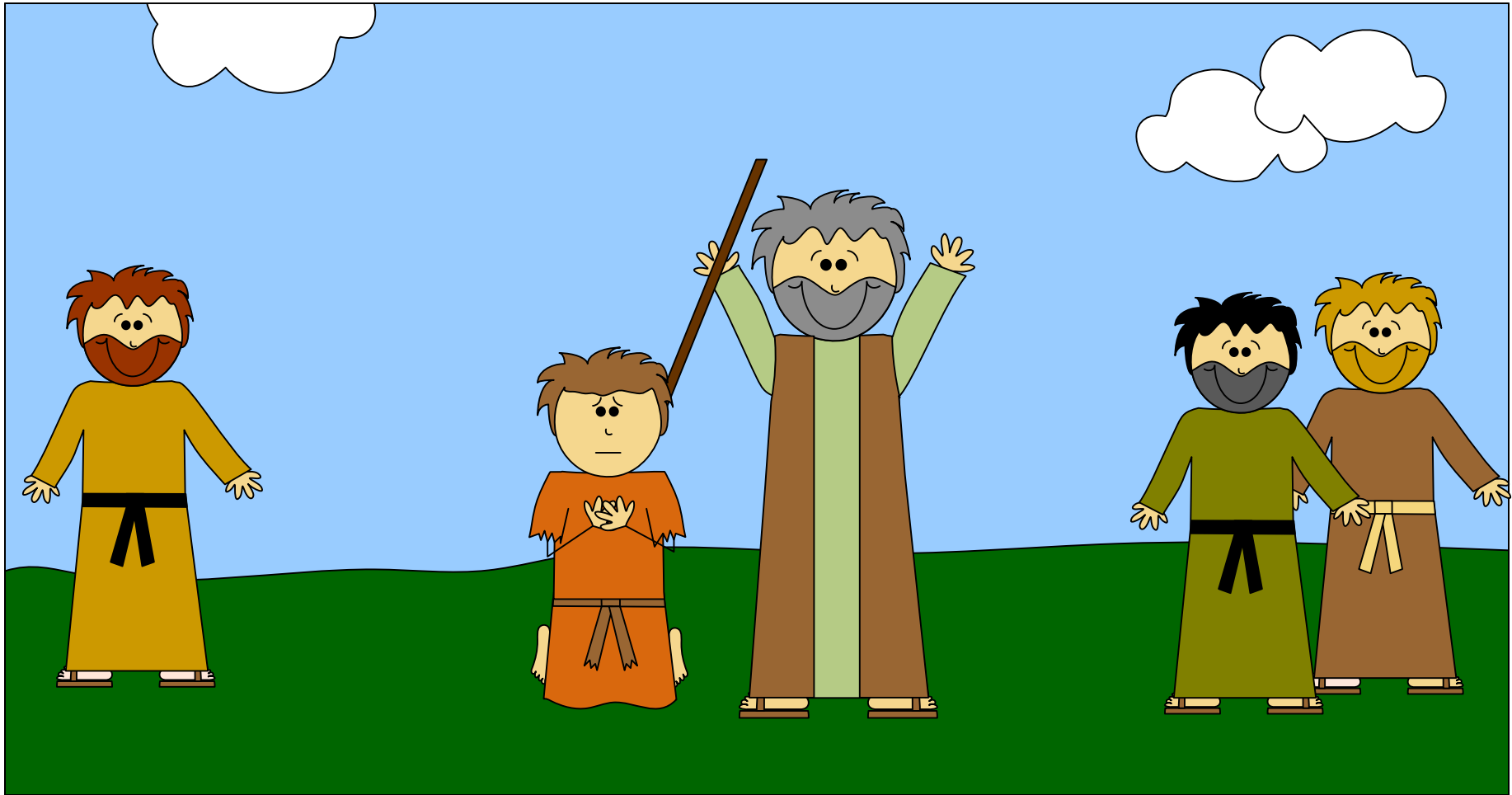
He decided to go back to his dad and say to him, “Dad I have sinned. I have done so many bad things. I shouldn’t be called your son anymore. Make me like one of your workers.” So he got up and went to his dad.



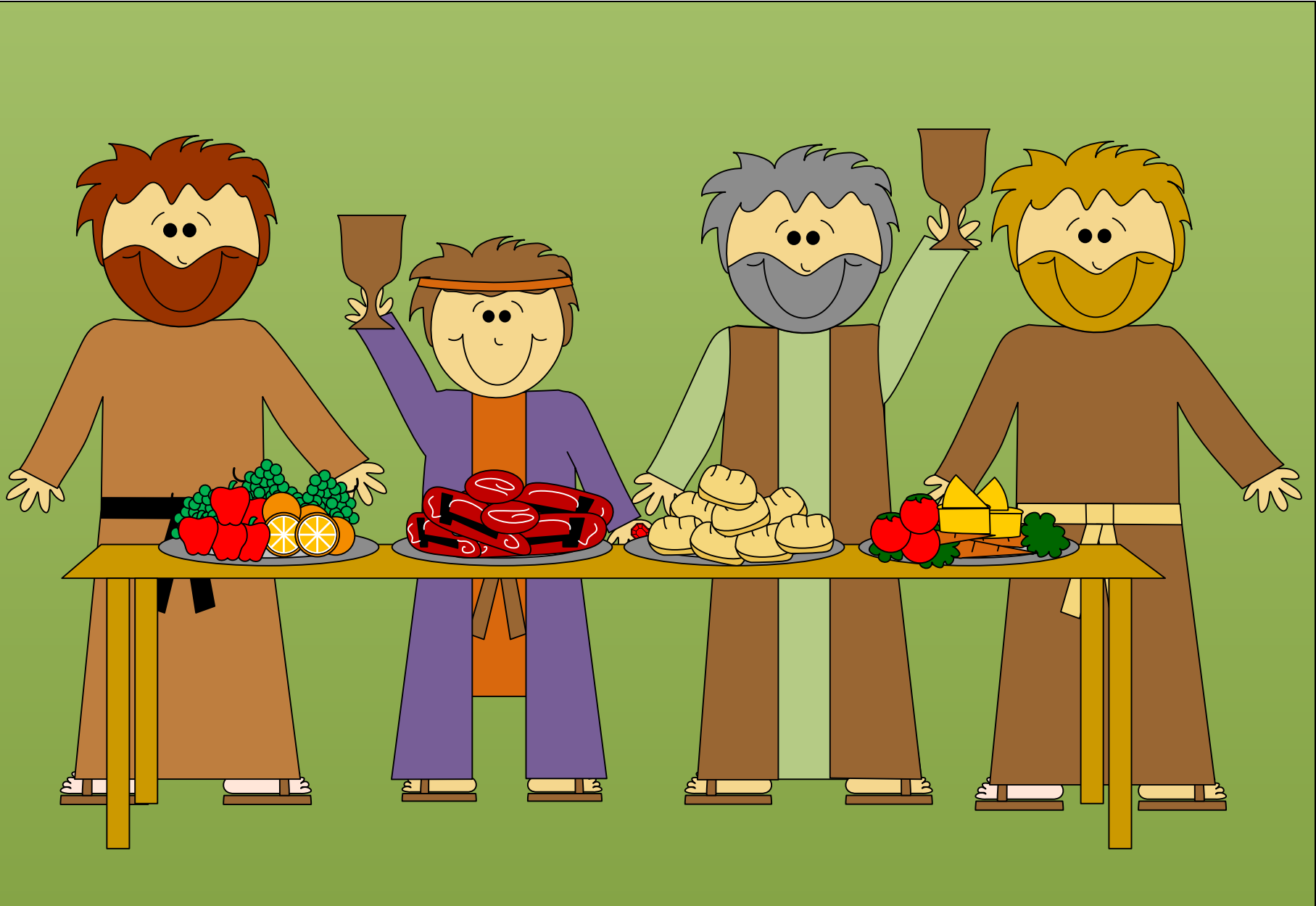
While he was still a long way away, his dad saw him coming. He was filled with love and grace for his son. He ran to his son and hugged and kissed him.



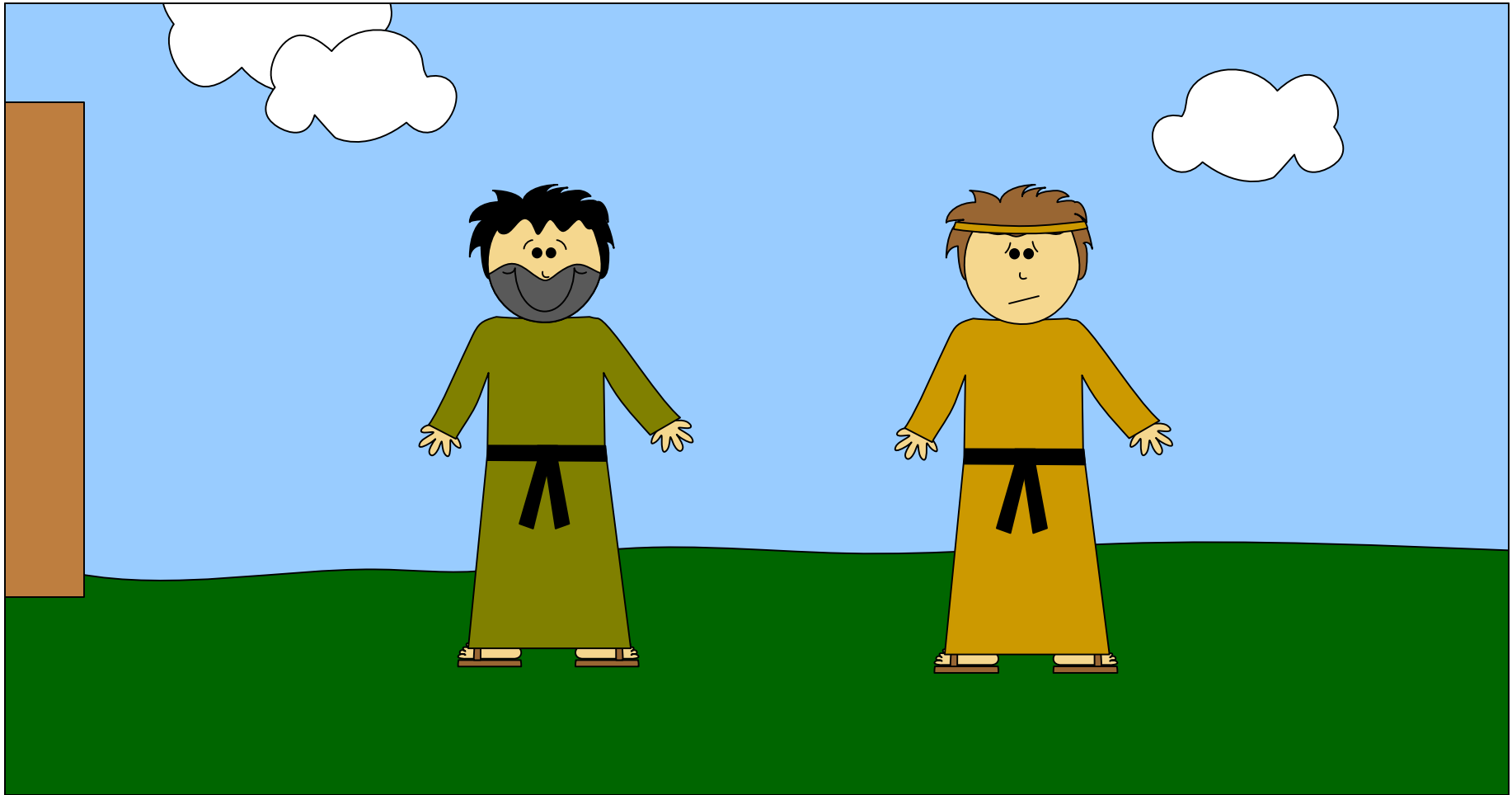
The son said to his dad, "Dad, I have sinned. I have done so many bad things. I shouldn't be called your son anymore."



But the dad said to his workers, “Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and shoes on his feet. Bring the best meat we have. Let’s have a big meal and party! For this son of mine was gone and is alive again. He was lost and is found!”



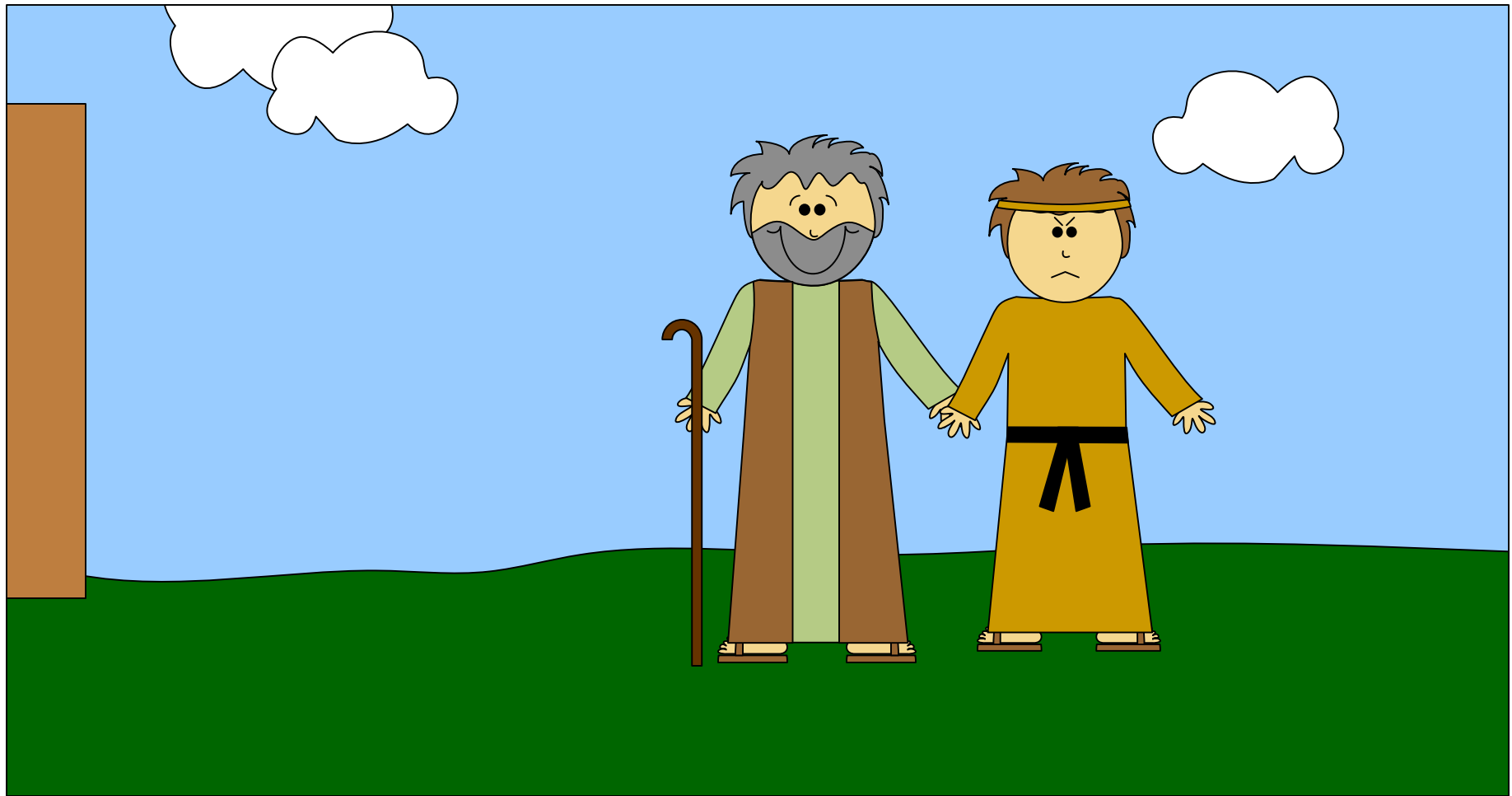
So they had a great party.



The older son was out in the field. When he got near the house, he heard music and saw dancing. He asked a worker what was going on. "Your brother has come home and your father is having a party because he is safe and sound," the worker told him.

The older brother got very mad and would not go to the party. His dad went out to try to get him to go to the party.

The older son told his dad, “Look! All this time I have been working so hard for you. I always did what you said. You never gave me even a little bit of meat so I could have a party with my friends. But when this son of yours who wasted all your money comes home, you get the best meat and throw a big party for him!”



The dad said, "My son, you are always with me. Everything I have is yours. But we had to have a party and be glad, because this brother of yours was gone and is alive again. He was lost and is found!"

Just like the dad loved both of his sons, God loves all of the people who follow him. Even when we go away from Him and do things that make Him sad, He will always let us come back to Him. That is grace – when God give us love even we do things that make him sad. We can show grace to people, too. How can you show grace to someone today?

