

## ***Bible Stories for Young Children***

*part of a curriculum prepared for young children*

# ***A LESSON ABOUT FORGIVING***

*by*

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**MATTHEW 18:21-35**  
**A LESSON ABOUT FORGIVING**  
*(An unforgiving servant)*  
File no. 130

**Peter was puzzled.  
He heard Jesus talking  
about forgiving one another.**

**So he asked,  
'When my brother or sister does  
something nasty to me,  
how many times  
do I have to forgive them?  
Is it seven times?'**

**Jesus replied,  
'Not just seven times  
but four hundred and ninety times.'**

**That means to keep forgiving,  
without counting.**



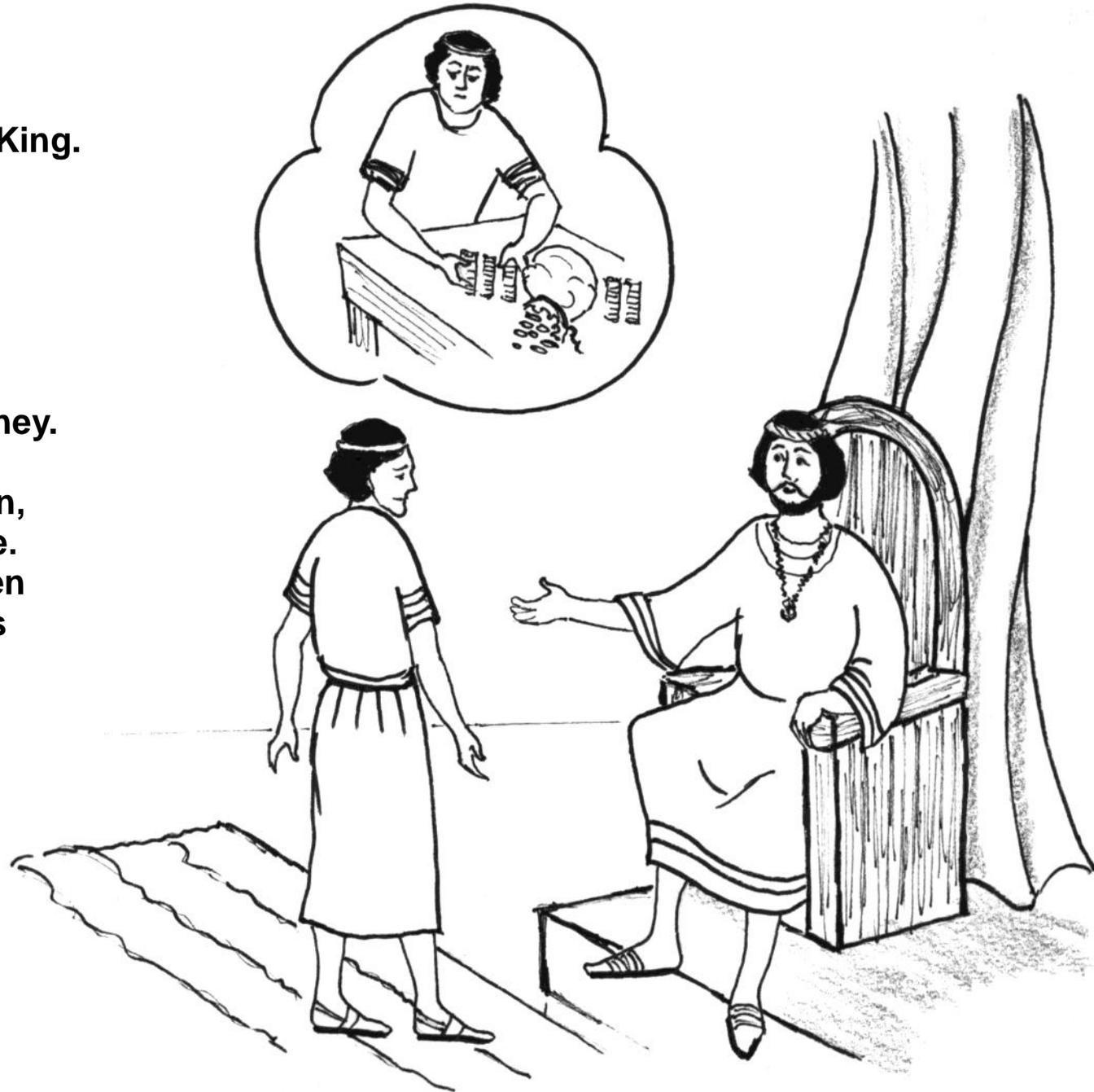
**Then He told this story:**

**A servant borrowed  
lots of money from the King.  
Then the time came  
for him to pay it back.**

**The king asked,  
'Where is my money?'**

**The servant had no money.**

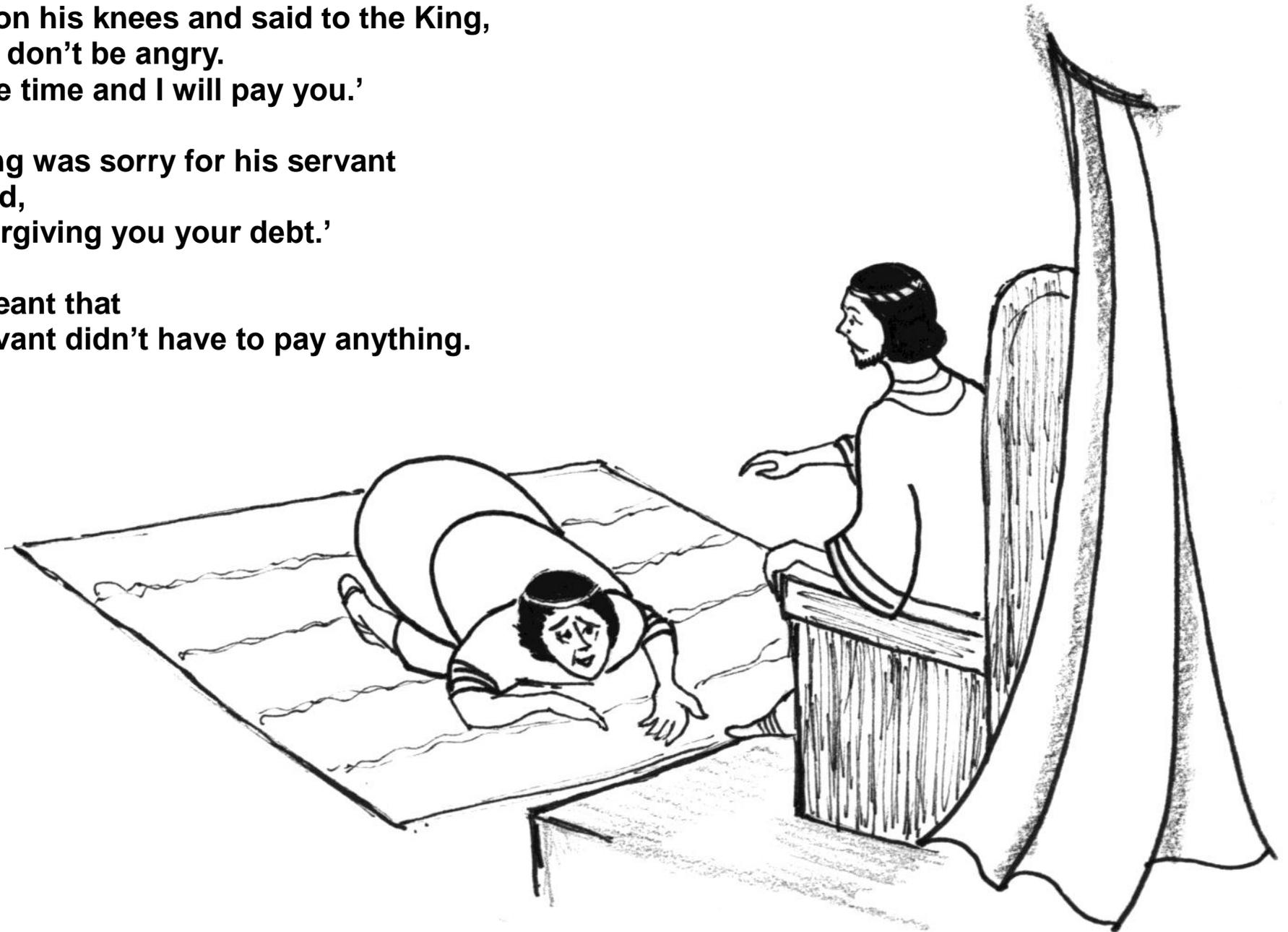
**The king said to his men,  
'Sell this man,  
his wife and children  
and everything he owns  
to pay his debt.'**



**The servant was afraid.  
He fell on his knees and said to the King,  
'Please don't be angry.  
Give me time and I will pay you.'**

**The King was sorry for his servant  
and said,  
'I am forgiving you your debt.'**

**That meant that  
the servant didn't have to pay anything.**

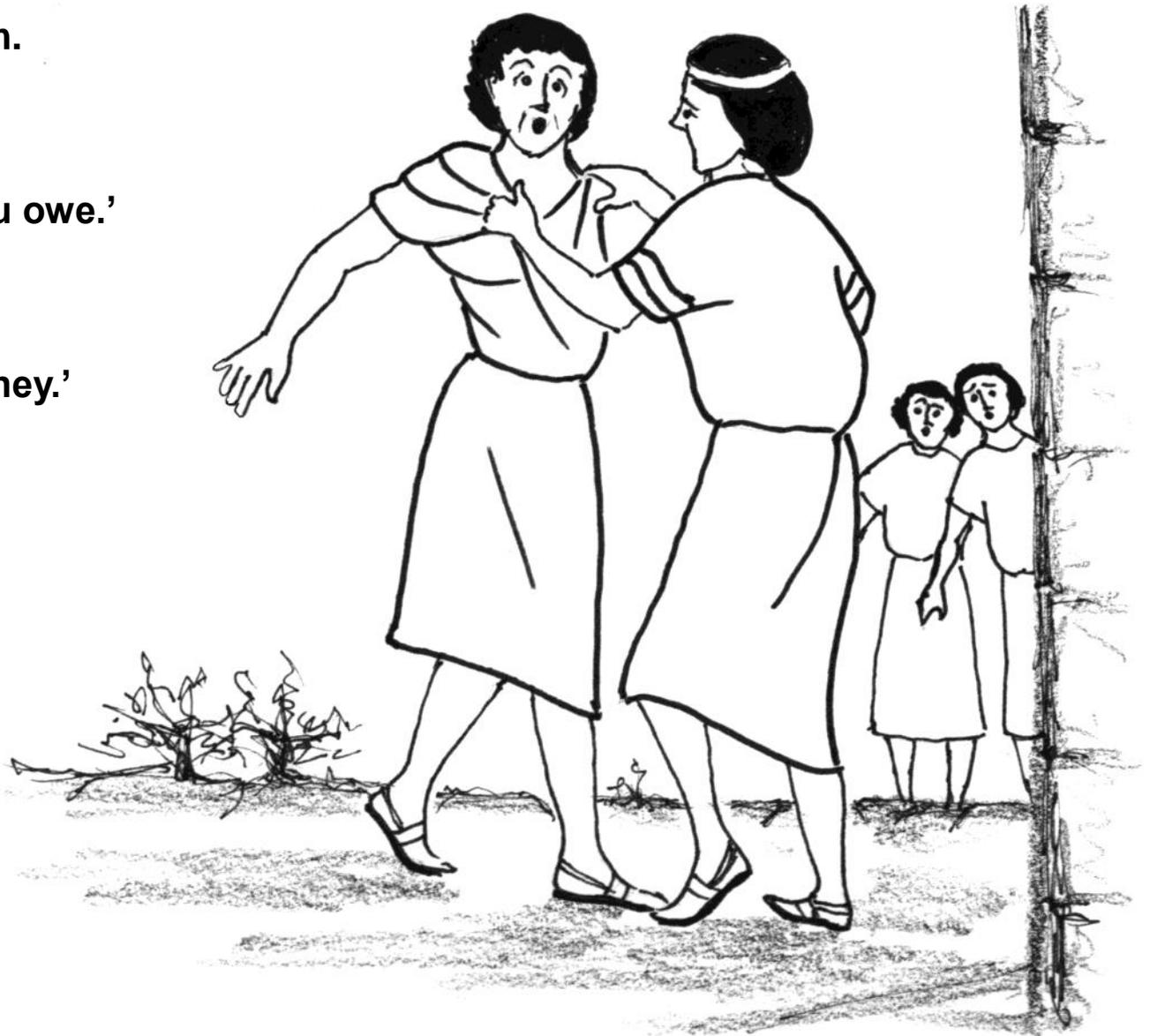


**As the servant was going outside,  
he met another servant,  
who had borrowed  
a little bit of money from him.**

**He grabbed hold of him,  
and said,  
'Pay me back the money you owe.'**

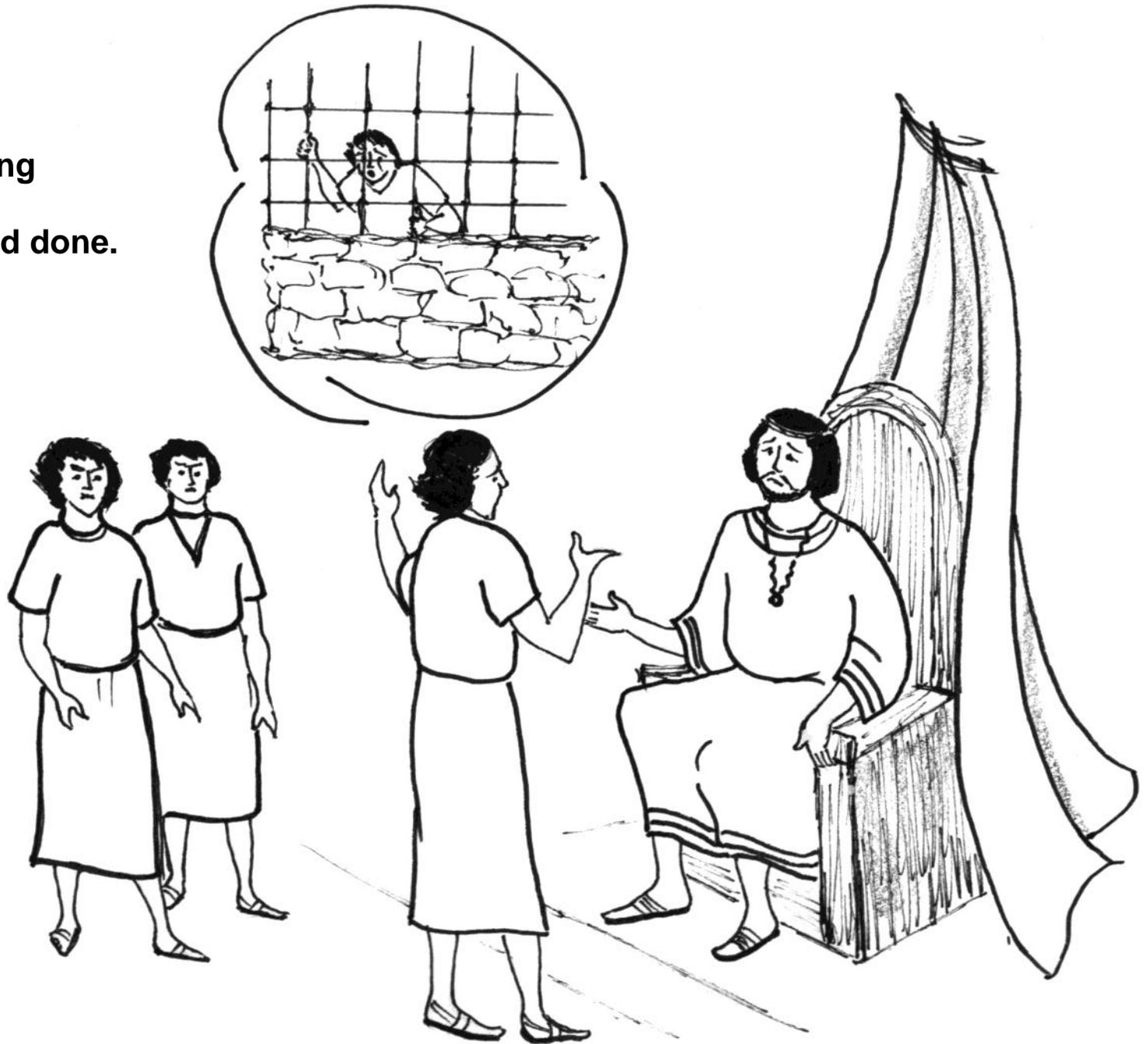
**'Please wait,'  
said the other servant,  
'and I will give you your money.'**

**'No,' said the first servant.  
'I want my money now.'**



**He put him into prison.**

**Someone went to the King  
and told him  
what the first servant had done.**



**The King was angry.**

**He said to the first servant,  
'I had mercy on you  
and forgave you all your debt.  
You should have been kind  
to the other servant  
like I had been kind to you.  
Because you did not forgive  
when you were forgiven,  
you will go to prison  
until your debt is paid.'**



**God knows that we cannot  
pay our debt to Him,  
so He sent Jesus to pay our debt  
by dying on the cross.**

**When we know  
that our sins are forgiven,  
we forgive those  
who do bad things to us.**

**Those who won't forgive others  
are not forgiven by God.**

