

***Bible Stories for Young Children***

*part of a curriculum prepared for young children*

***A WIDOW'S POT OF OIL /  
STORIES FROM THE SCHOOL OF THE PROPHETS***

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**2 KINGS 4:1–7; 38–44; 6:1–7**

**A WIDOW'S POT OF OIL /**

**STORIES FROM THE SCHOOL OF THE PROPHETS**

File no. 77

**A widow came to Elisha saying,  
'My husband is dead.  
He was a prophet like you,  
he loved and obeyed the Lord.  
Before he died,  
he borrowed some money.**

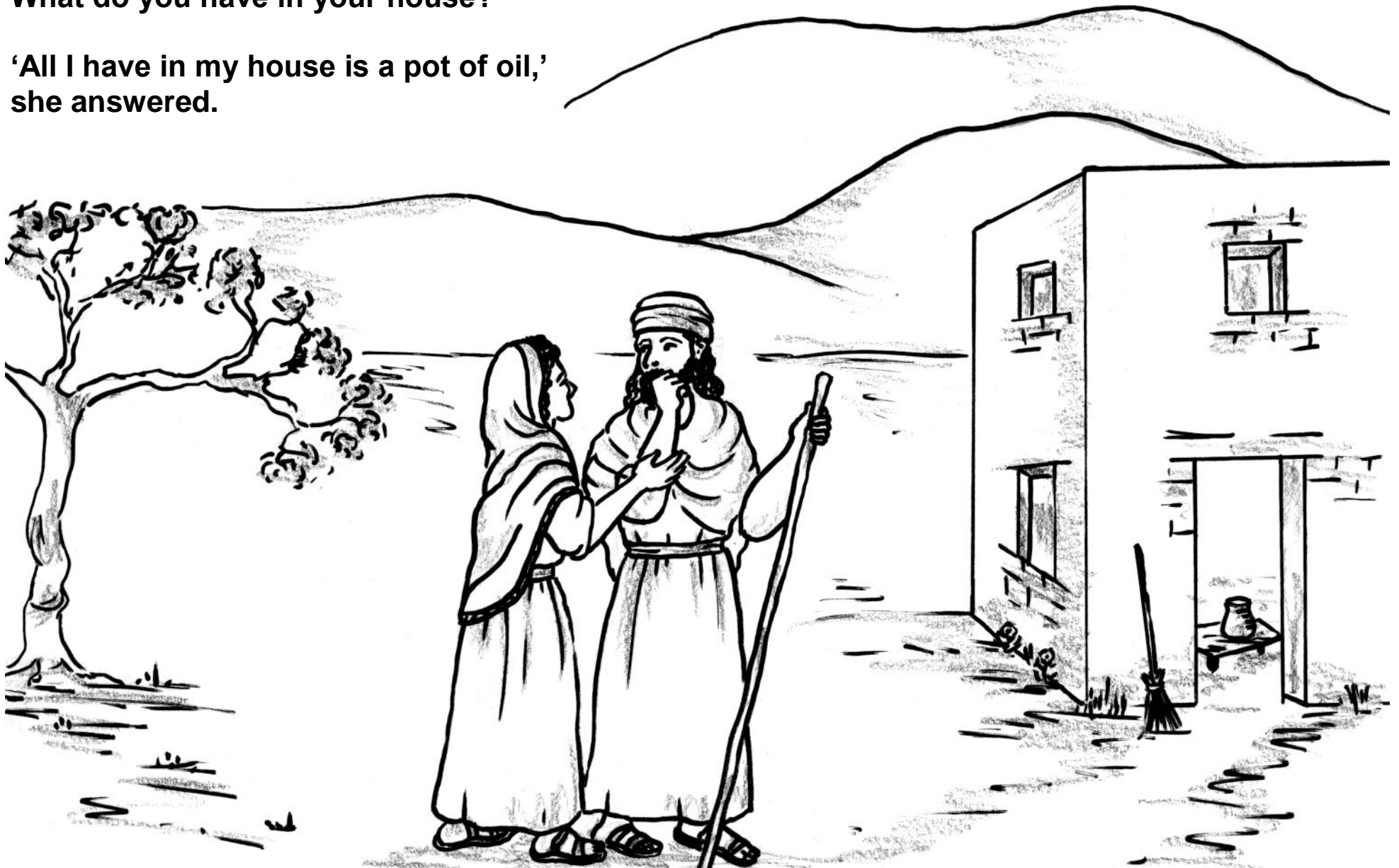
**'The man who lent my husband  
the money wants it back,  
but I do not have any.**

**'This man is coming  
to take my two boys away.  
He will make them his slaves.'**



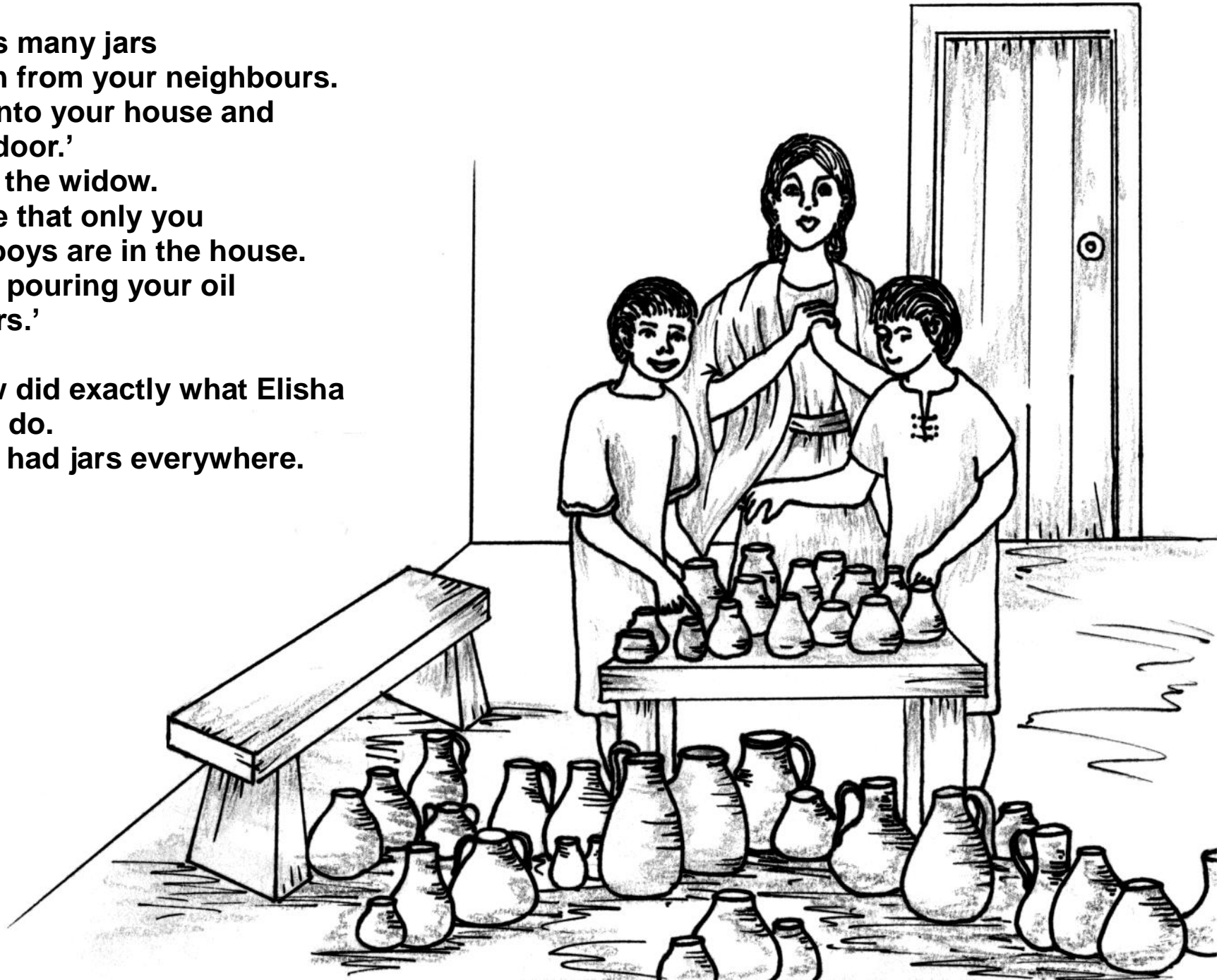
**‘How can I help you?  
asked Elisha.  
What do you have in your house?’**

**‘All I have in my house is a pot of oil,’  
she answered.**



**'Borrow as many jars  
as you can from your neighbours.  
Then, go into your house and  
close the door.'  
Elijah told the widow.  
'Make sure that only you  
and your boys are in the house.  
Then start pouring your oil  
into the jars.'**

**The widow did exactly what Elisha  
told her to do.  
Soon they had jars everywhere.**



She shut the door  
and began pouring her oil.  
Her boys kept bringing the jars  
to her and she filled them all  
until there were no jars left.  
Then, the oil stopped flowing.

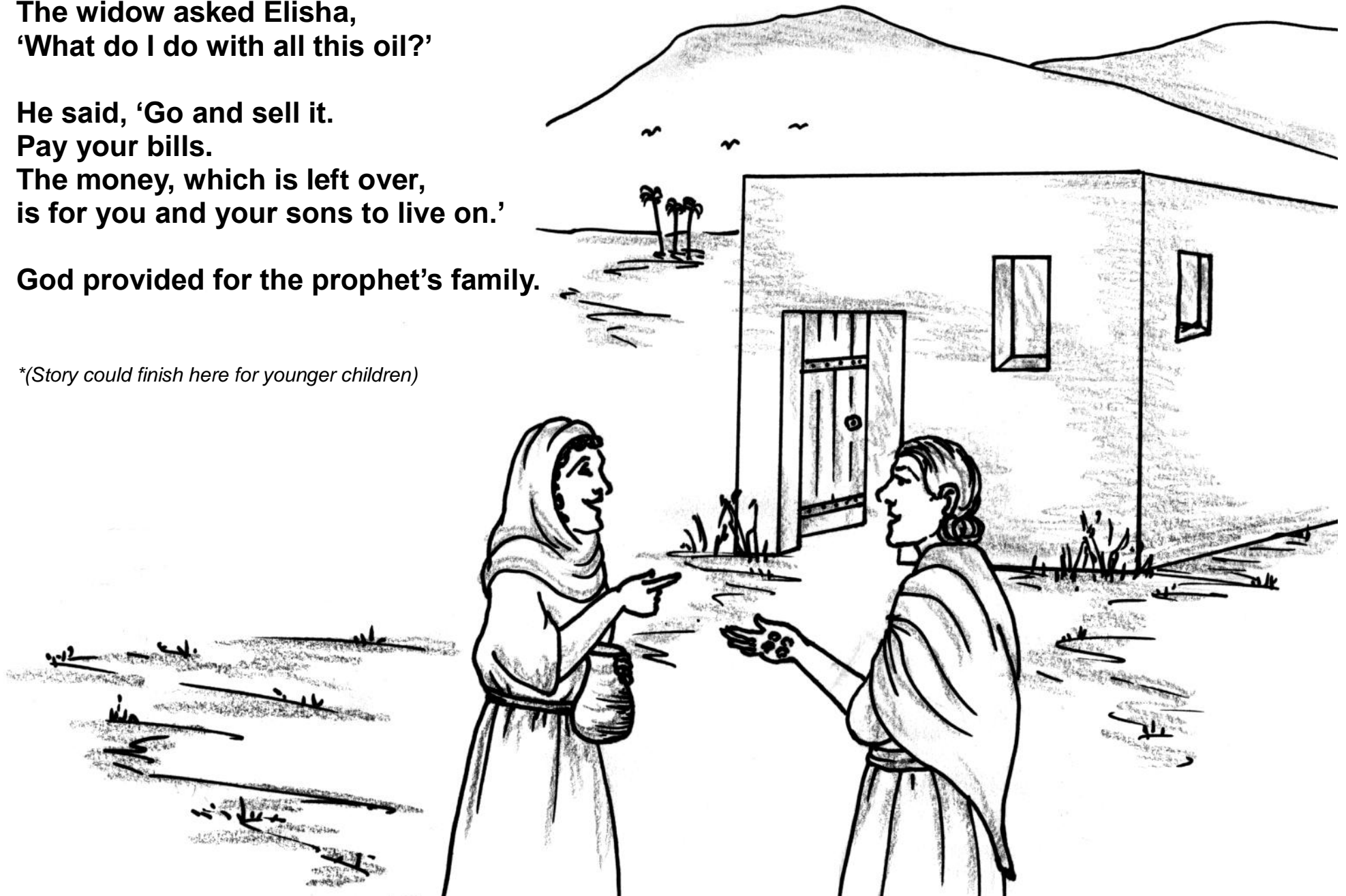


**The widow asked Elisha,  
'What do I do with all this oil?'**

**He said, 'Go and sell it.  
Pay your bills.  
The money, which is left over,  
is for you and your sons to live on.'**

**God provided for the prophet's family.**

*\*(Story could finish here for younger children)*



**Some time later Elisha was in Gilgal with a group of prophets.**

**He saw they were very hungry because of a terrible famine.**

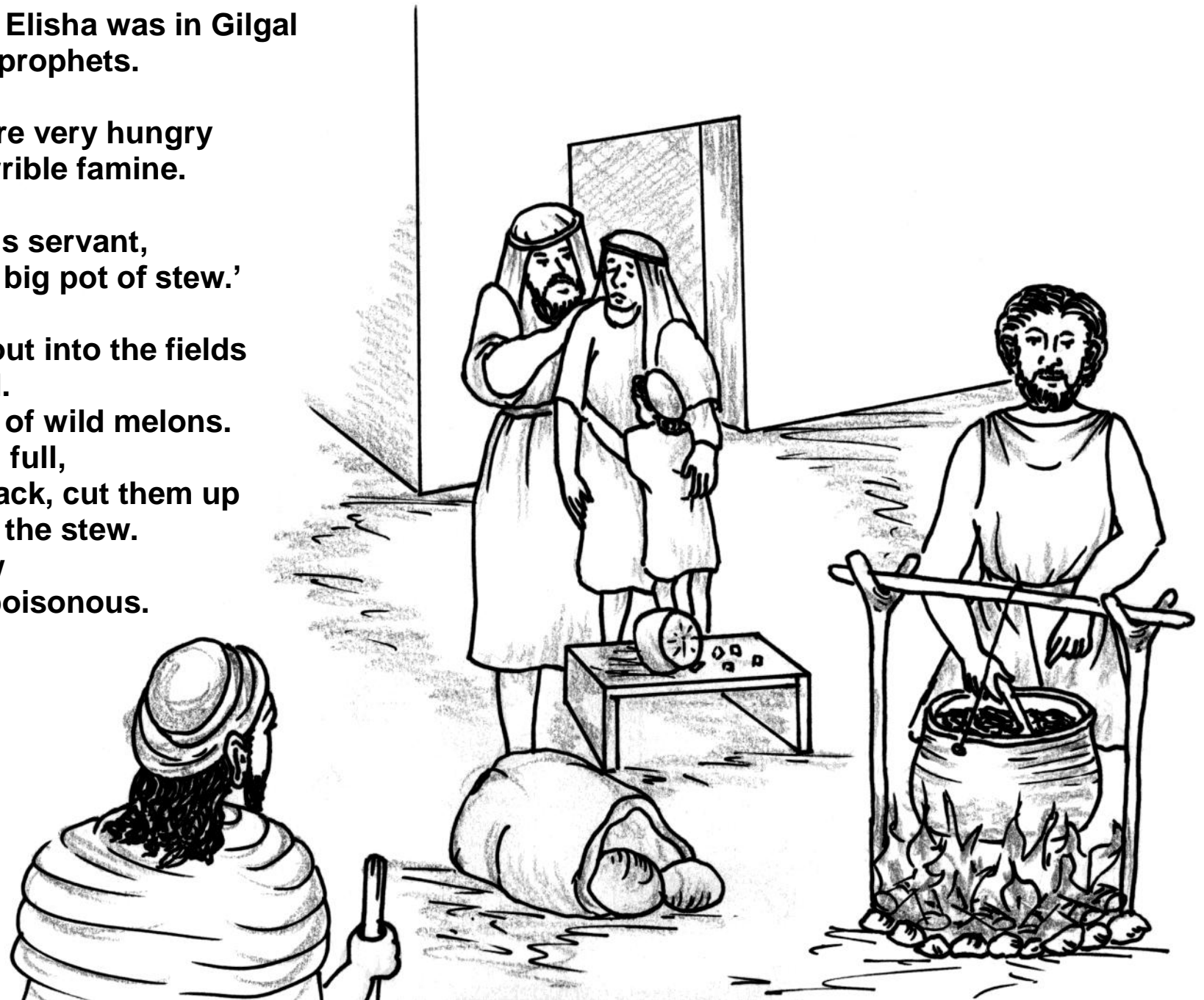
**Elisha said to his servant, 'Go and make a big pot of stew.'**

**One man went out into the fields looking for food.**

**He found a vine of wild melons.**

**He picked a bag full, brought them back, cut them up and put them in the stew.**

**He did not know that they were poisonous.**





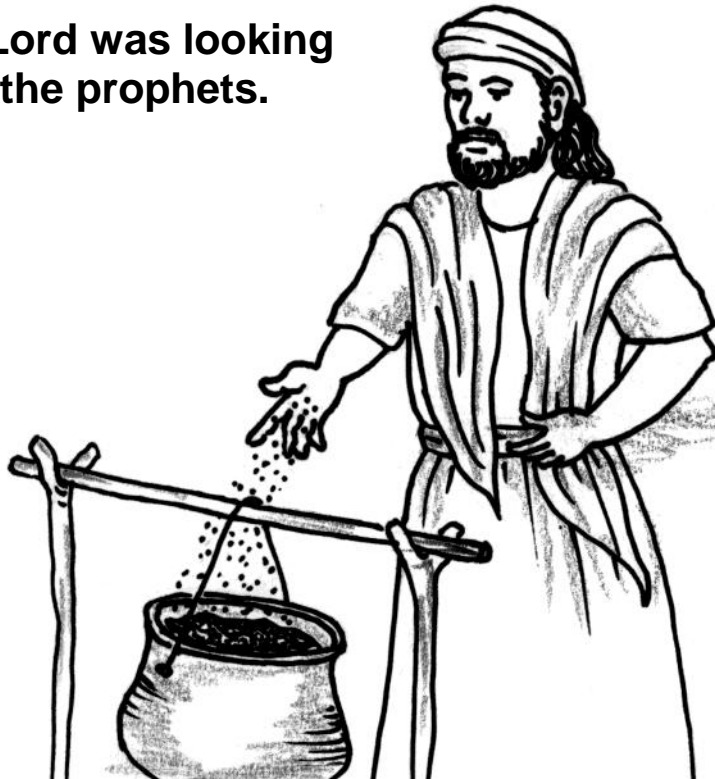
When it was cooked the stew  
was dished out and they began to eat.

Then they cried out,  
'The food is poisonous and we will die!'

'Bring me some flour,' ordered Elisha.

He put the flour into the stew  
and told them to serve it out.  
This time it was good to eat.

The Lord was looking  
after the prophets.

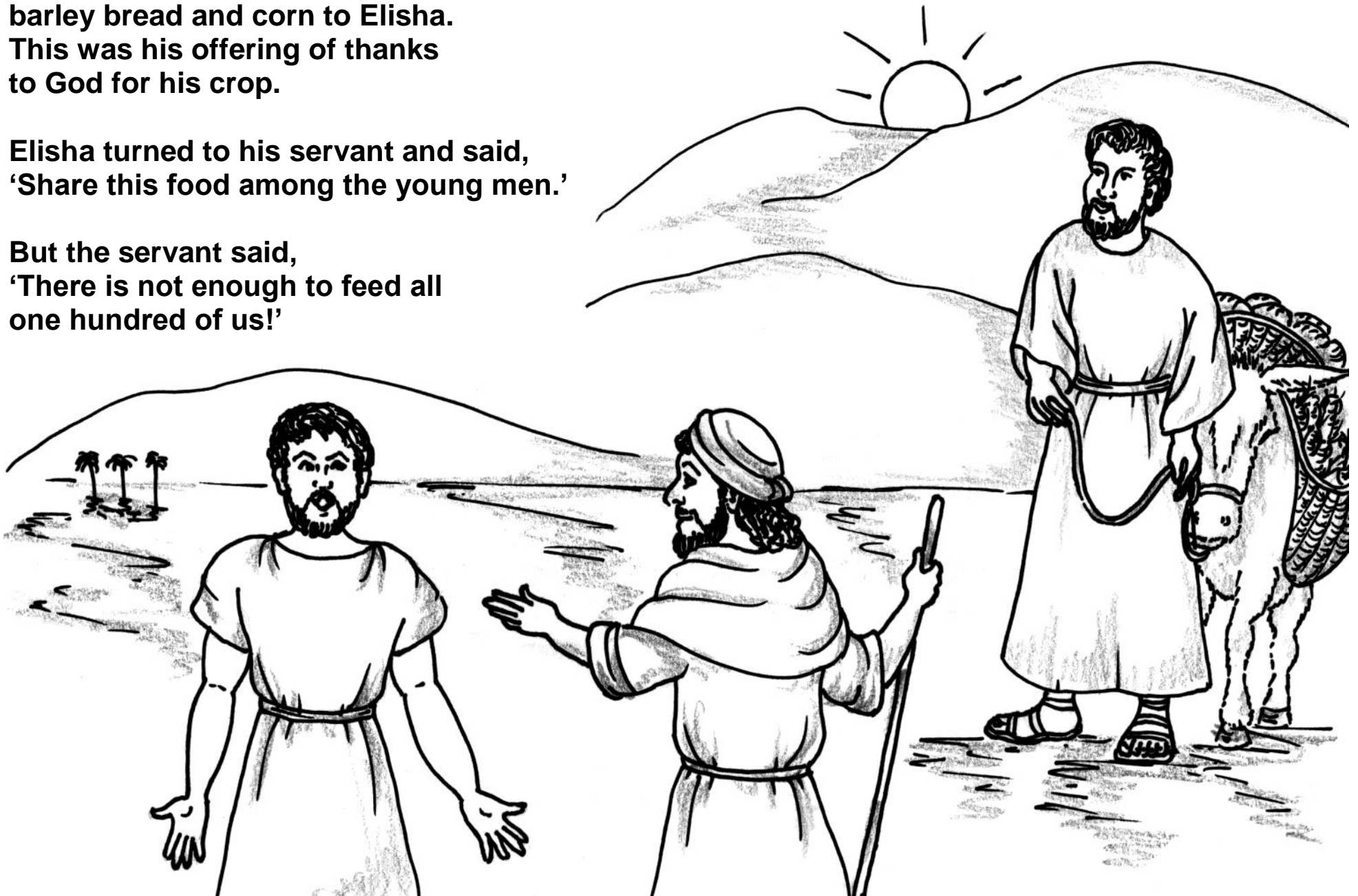




On another day, a man brought some barley bread and corn to Elisha. This was his offering of thanks to God for his crop.

Elisha turned to his servant and said, 'Share this food among the young men.'

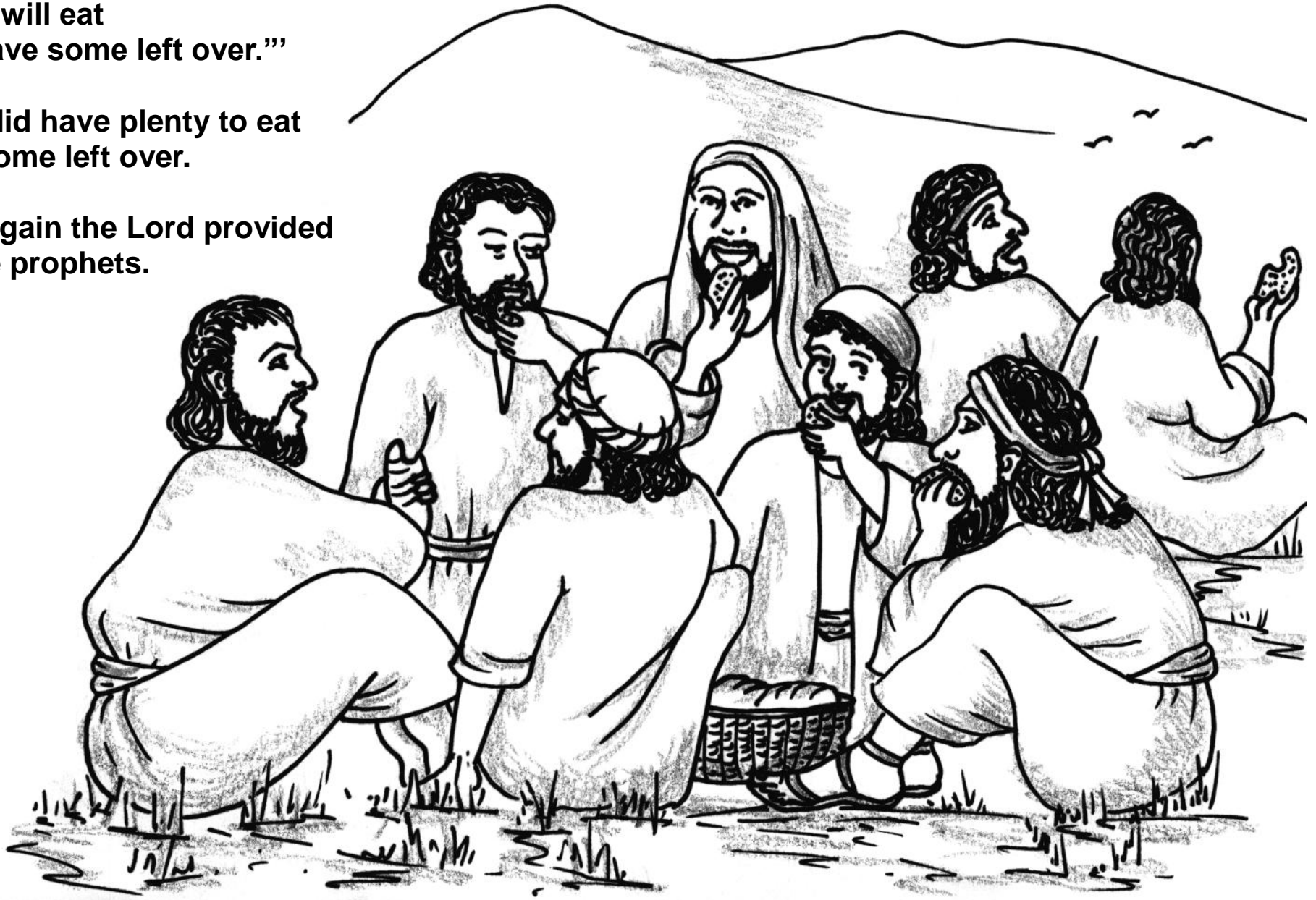
But the servant said, 'There is not enough to feed all one hundred of us!'



Elisha answered,  
'Give it to them for the Lord says,  
"They will eat  
and have some left over."'

They did have plenty to eat  
with some left over.

Here again the Lord provided  
for the prophets.

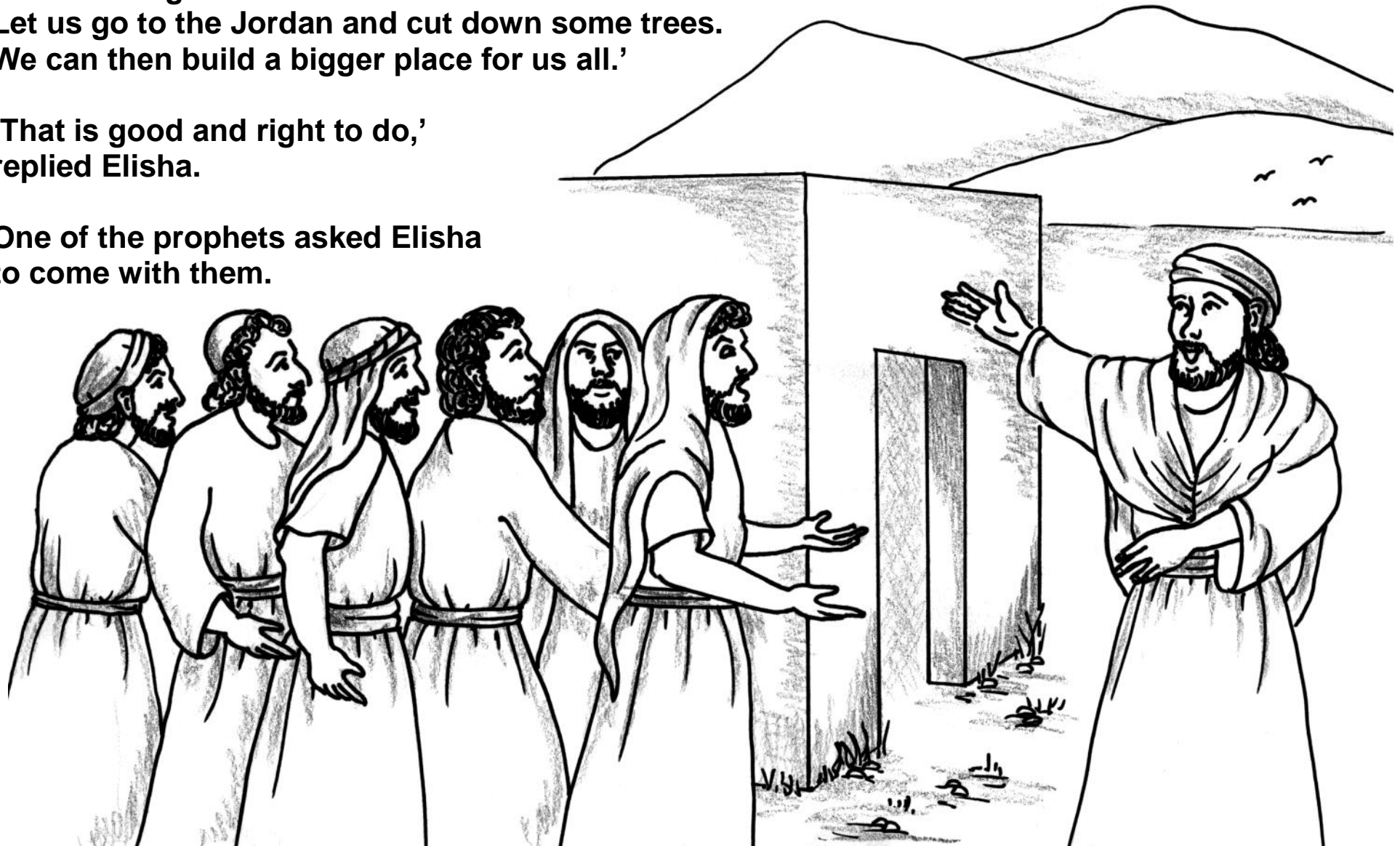


**Here is another story of God providing for his prophets.**

**The prophets at Gilgal said to Elisha,  
'Our building is too small for us.  
Let us go to the Jordan and cut down some trees.  
We can then build a bigger place for us all.'**

**'That is good and right to do,'  
replied Elisha.**

**One of the prophets asked Elisha  
to come with them.**



While one man was chopping into a tree  
his axe head fell into the water.  
He could not see it.

He called out to Elisha,  
'Master, the axe head has gone.  
It was not mine, it was borrowed.'

'Where did it fall?' asked Elisha.

The man pointed to the spot.  
Elisha cut off a stick  
and threw it into the water  
where the axe head had fallen.  
The axe head floated.  
He told the man to pick it up.

The man reached out  
and picked it up.

Again the Lord looked after  
his prophets.

