

Bible Stories for Young Children

part of a curriculum prepared for young children

CAPTAIN NAAMAN AND THE PROPHET IN ISRAEL

by

Chris Thorpe

& people from Coromandel Baptist Church

Illustrated by Muriel Auty

Website: www.corobaptist.org.au

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2 KINGS 5:1–27
CAPTAIN NAAMAN AND THE PROPHET IN ISRAEL
File no. 79

Naaman was a great leader.

**In an attack on God's people
he and his soldiers took
many slaves.**

**One of them was a young girl
who was given to Naaman's wife
as a servant.**

**However, Naaman was sick
with leprosy
and his skin
was covered with sores.**



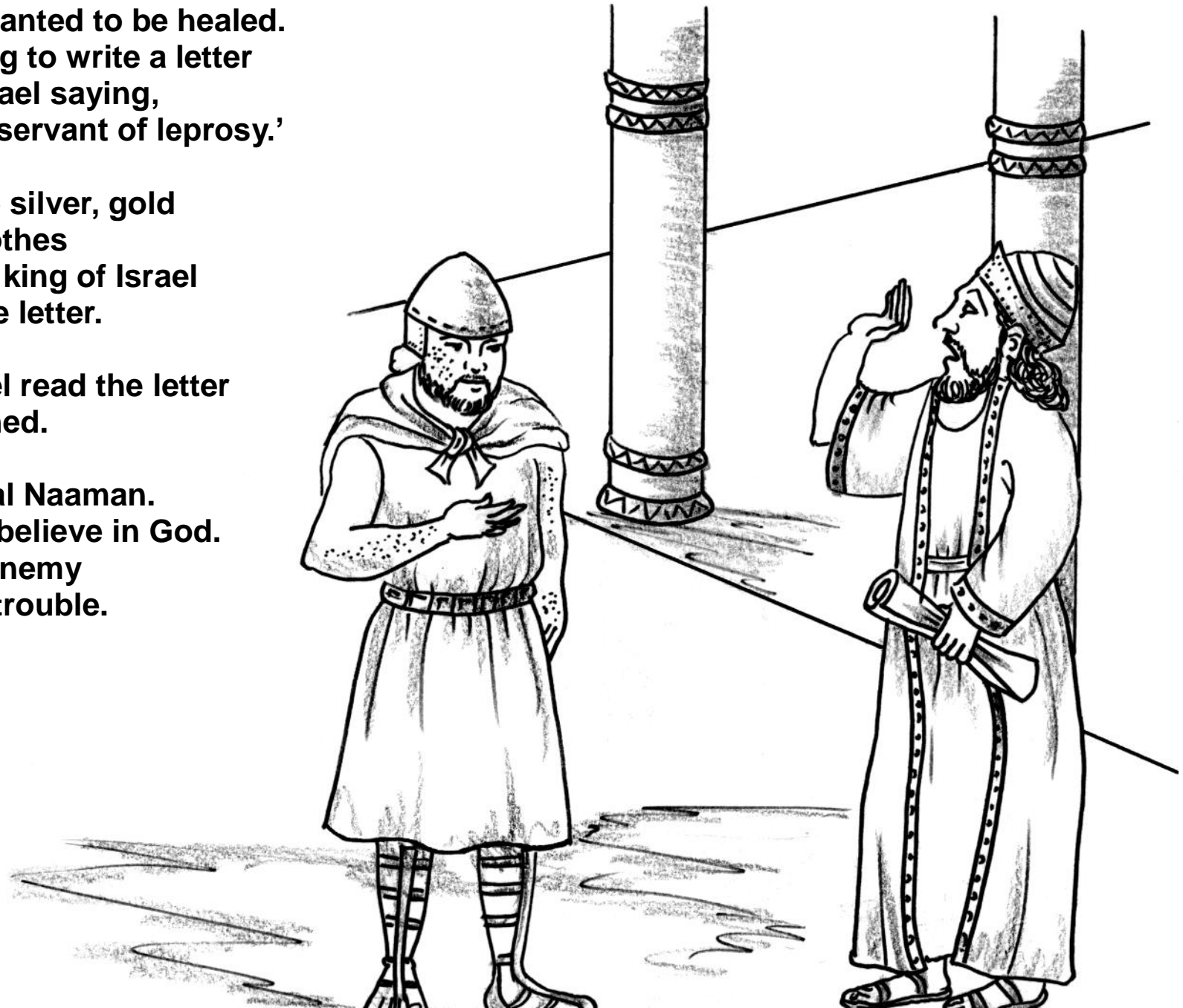
One day as the little girl
was helping her mistress
she said,
'I wish my master was with
the prophet in Samaria.
He would heal him.'



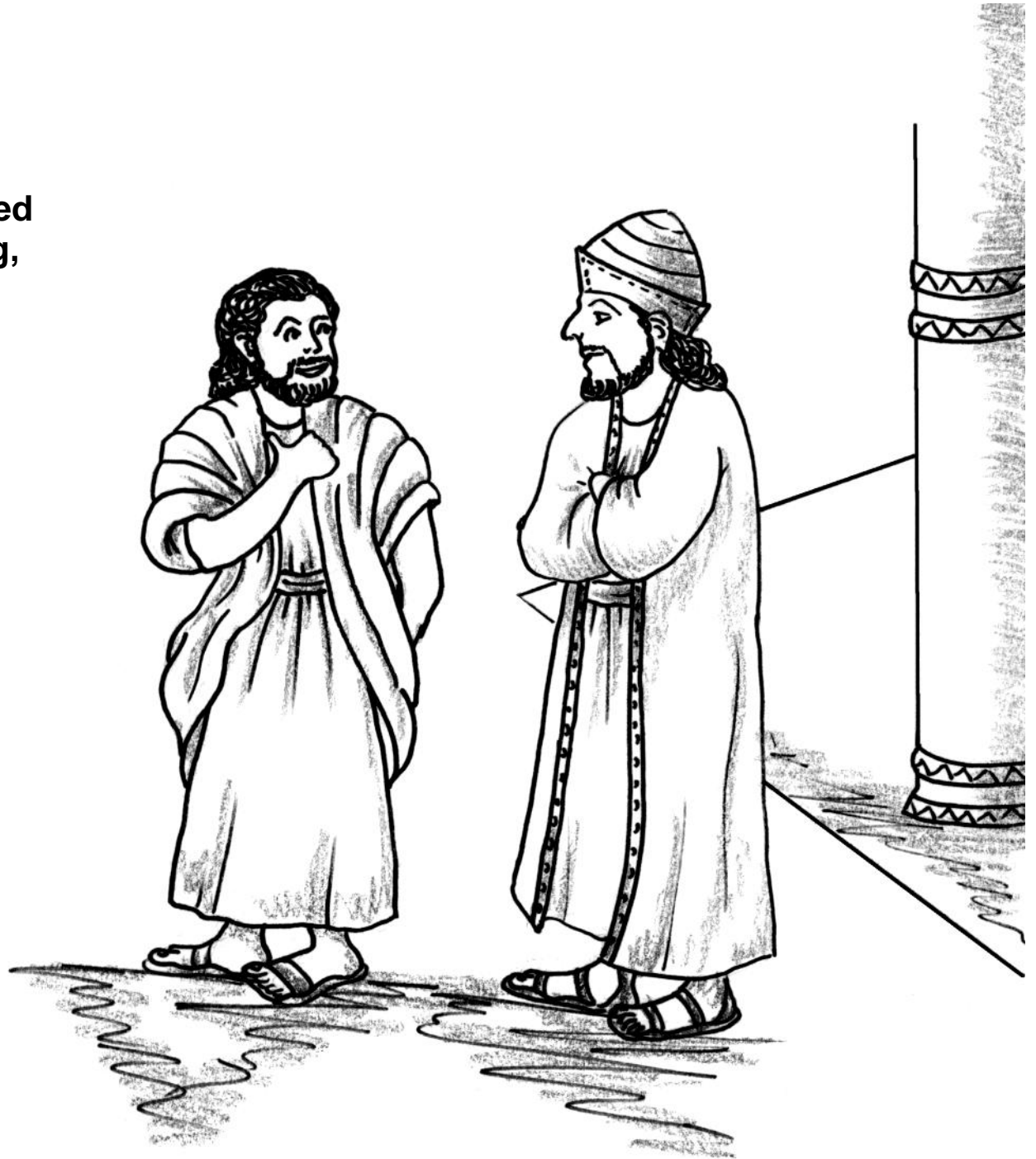
**Naaman really wanted to be healed.
He asked his king to write a letter
to the king of Israel saying,
'Please heal my servant of leprosy.'**

**He packed some silver, gold
and beautiful clothes
then went to the king of Israel
and gave him the letter.**

**The king of Israel read the letter
and was frightened.
He was not God.
He could not heal Naaman.
He did not even believe in God.
He thought his enemy
was looking for trouble.**

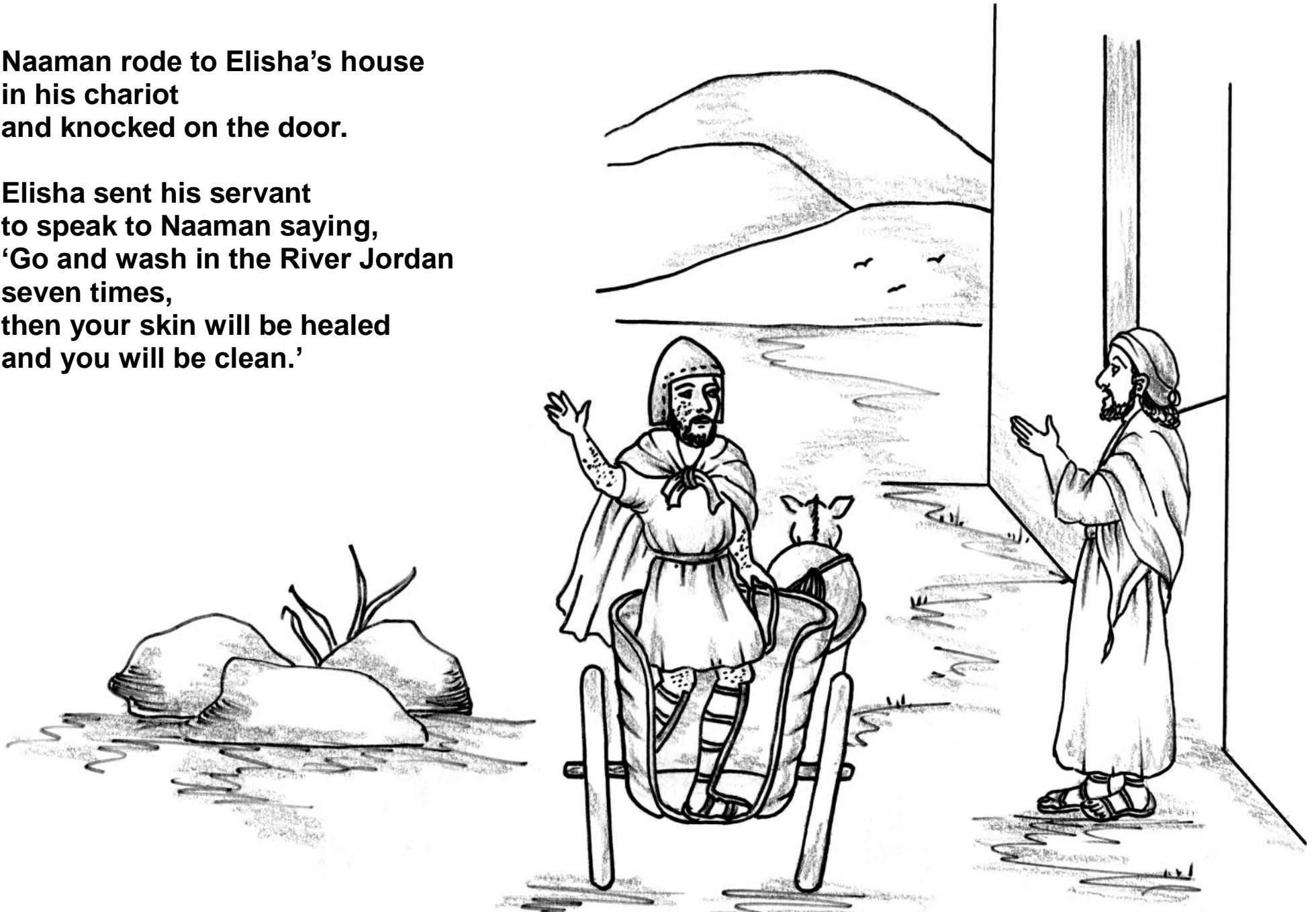


**When Elisha, the man of God,
heard that the king was frightened
he sent a message to him saying,
'Tell Naaman to come to me.
Then he will know
that there is a prophet in Israel!'**



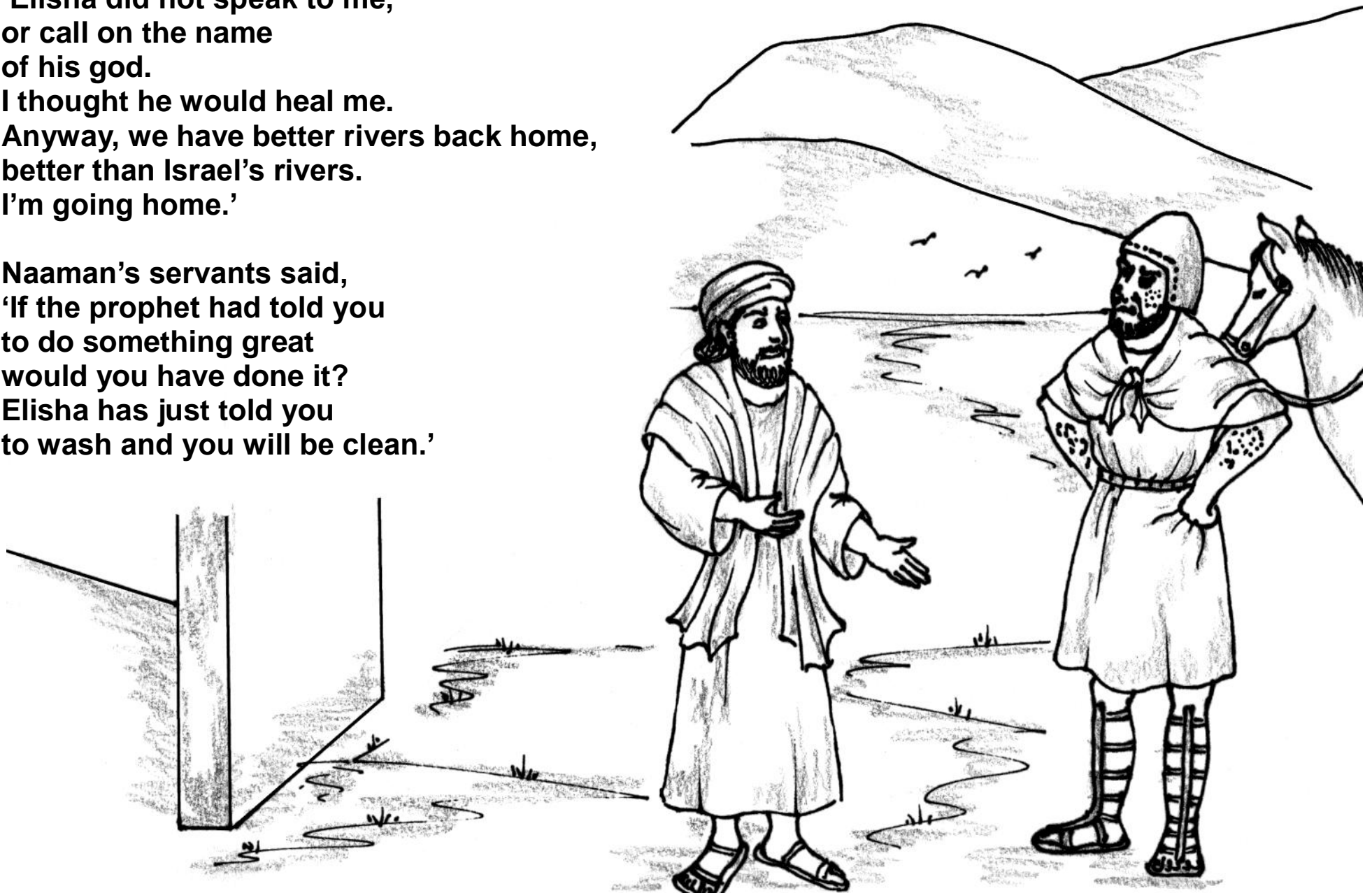
**Naaman rode to Elisha's house
in his chariot
and knocked on the door.**

**Elisha sent his servant
to speak to Naaman saying,
'Go and wash in the River Jordan
seven times,
then your skin will be healed
and you will be clean.'**



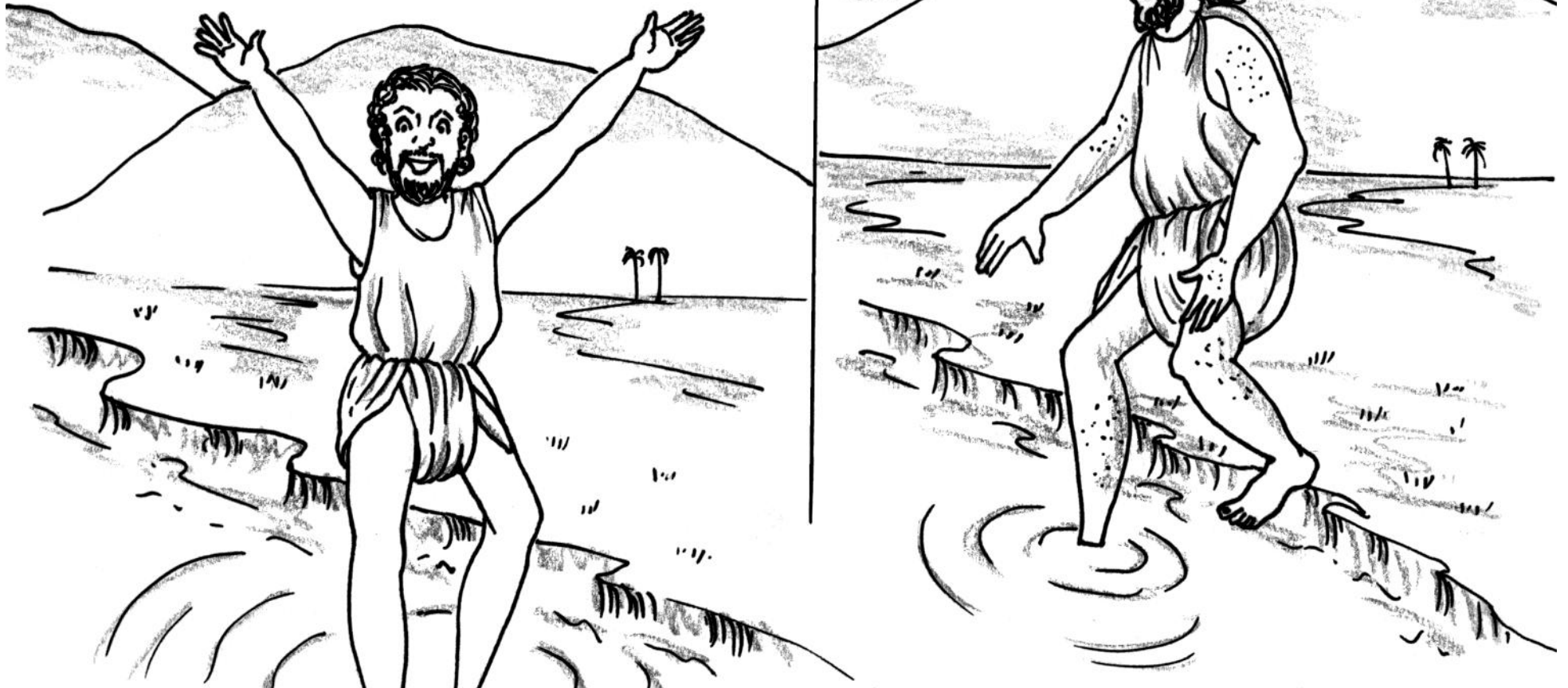
**Naaman was angry and said,
'Elisha did not speak to me,
or call on the name
of his god.
I thought he would heal me.
Anyway, we have better rivers back home,
better than Israel's rivers.
I'm going home.'**

**Naaman's servants said,
'If the prophet had told you
to do something great
would you have done it?
Elisha has just told you
to wash and you will be clean.'**



**Naaman changed his mind and went to the river.
He washed himself once,
twice, three times, again and again
until he had washed seven times.**

**He looked at his skin and it had become new.
He was healed. The leprosy was gone.**



Immediately Naaman went back to Elisha and said,
'Now I know
that there is only one God
in all the earth,
the god who is in Israel.
Please accepts these gifts.'

Elisha answered,
'As the Lord lives
and the One whom I serve,
I will not receive any gifts.'

