

DAVID



I SAMUEL 16:11-58

True stories of real people and their exciting lives serving the one true God



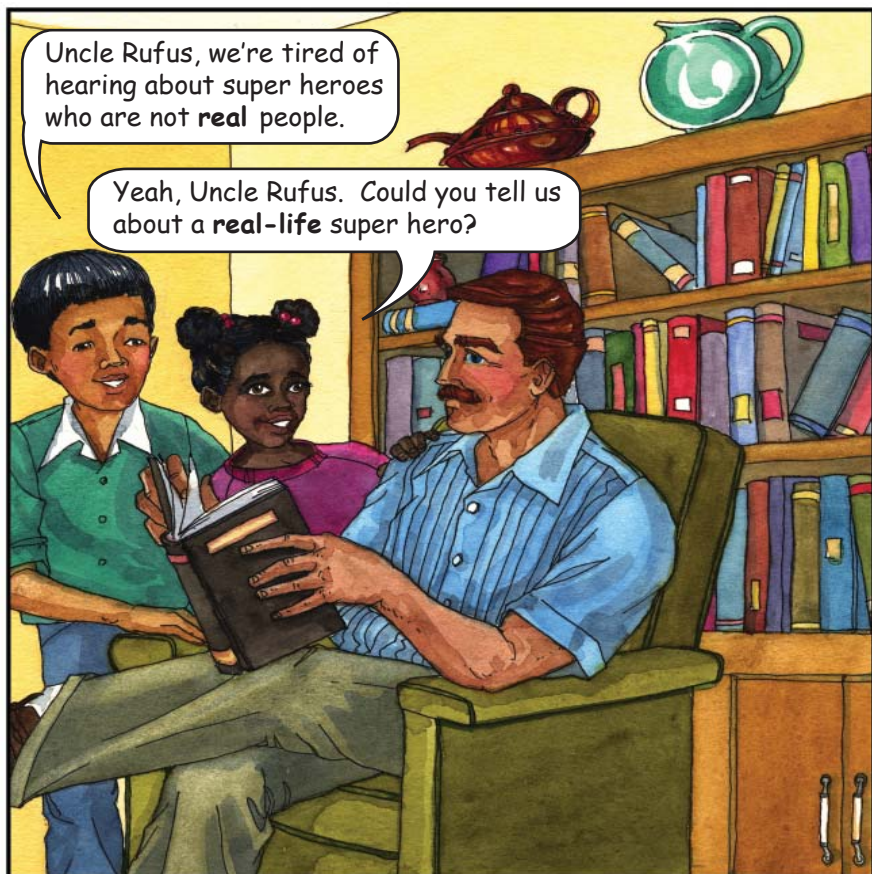
WRITTEN BY RON BAREFIELD
ILLUSTRATED BY JERRY & FAITH MCCOLLOUGH

In this comic book we present only a part of the exciting story of David. It is a true story about the work of God in the life of one person who was willing to place his trust in the one true God. The events described here took place in Israel about 1100 B.C.

Saul, the king who reluctantly sent David out to battle Goliath of Gath, was the first king of the nation of Israel. However, even before David went out to fight Goliath in the battle that made him a national hero, God had chosen this shepherd boy to succeed Saul on the throne. David, and later his son, Solomon, led Israel to its greatest exploits and expansion as a nation.

A more complete story of Saul and David can be read in the Bible in the book of First Samuel. The story of the battle between David and Goliath can be read in I Samuel Chapters 16 and 17.

The Heroes of the Faith Series. Published by ICI University, a division of Global University Center for Evangelism & Discipleship, 1211 S. Glenstone, Springfield, MO 65809, USA copyright 1992 by Global University. All rights reserved.
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It was very quiet in the meadow where the young shepherd boy was watching his father's sheep.



It was so quiet that he sat down and started practicing his harp.



But he didn't know that at that very moment, danger was lurking nearby.

Sloooooooooooooooooowly it crept up,



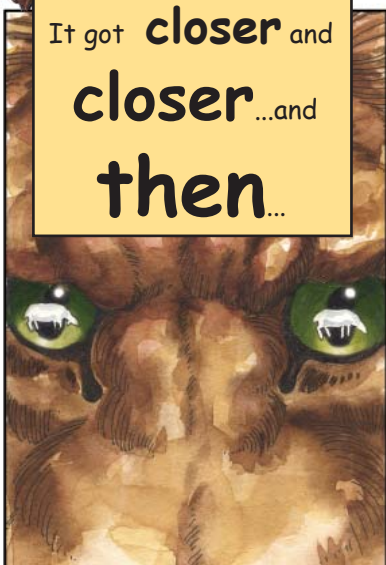
step by step...



inch by inch...



It got **closer** and
closer...and
then...



(be verrrrrry careful when you turn this page...)

**THE LION
ATTACKED!**



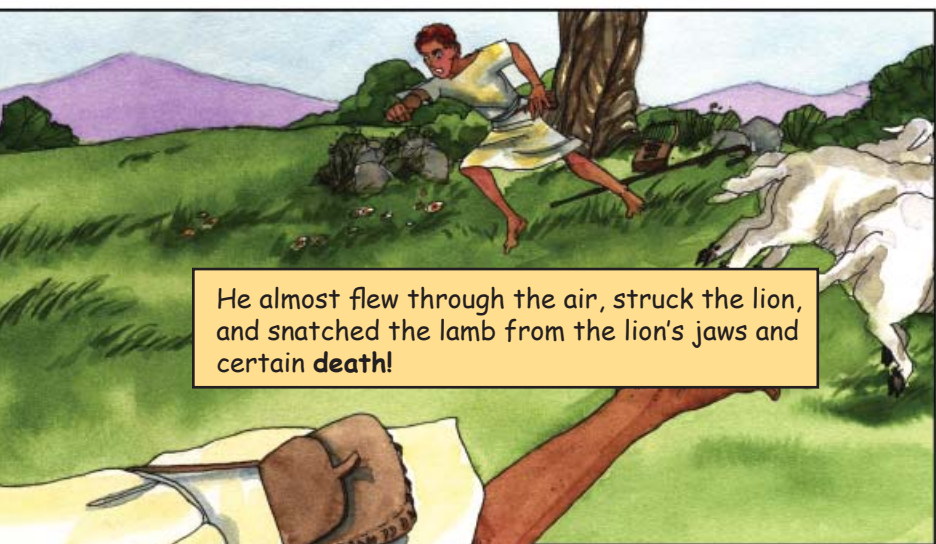
Grabbing one of the young boy's
lambs in his mouth,



the lion was ready for lunch
when...

The young shepherd boy jumped to his feet!





He almost flew through the air, struck the lion, and snatched the lamb from the lion's jaws and certain **death!**



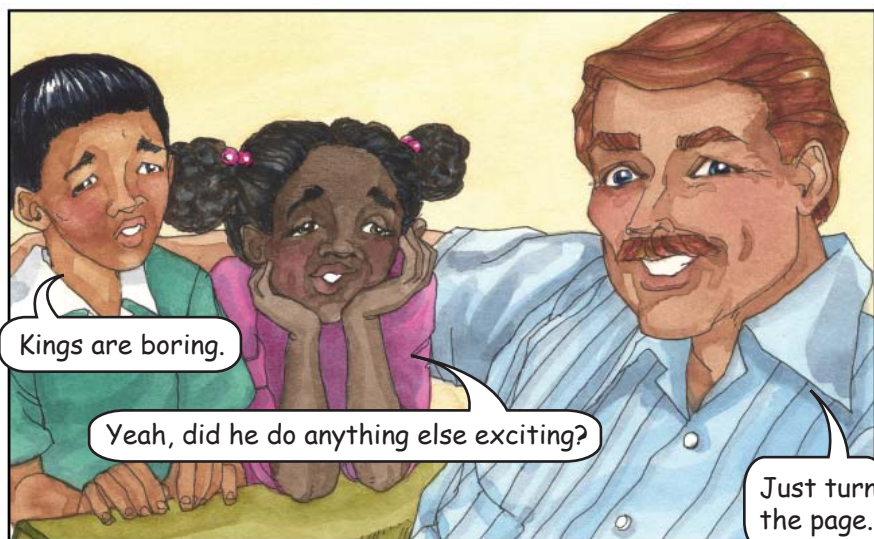
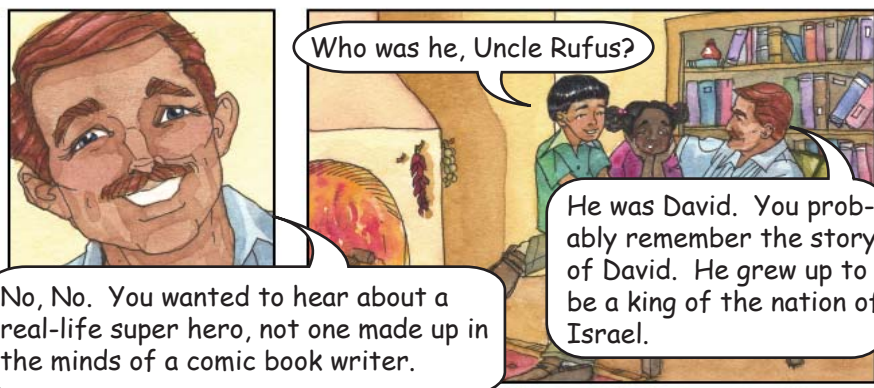
But... (You'll love what happens on the next page.)

Our super hero wasn't through with the lion.

How **dare** you attempt to have one of my lambs for lunch!!

Grabbing the lion by his beard, he jerked his head to the ground, killing him with his bare hands!

* CAUTION: Do not try this on your own at home without knowing that God wants you to attempt it.





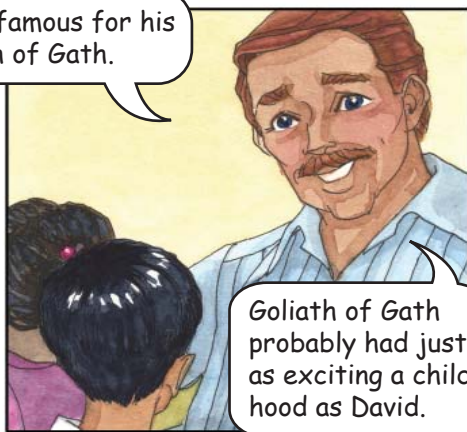
One day a bear made the worst mistake and **the last mistake** of his life. He thought it would be a good idea to have lamb chops for lunch. The mistake was attempting to eat them in David's meadow.



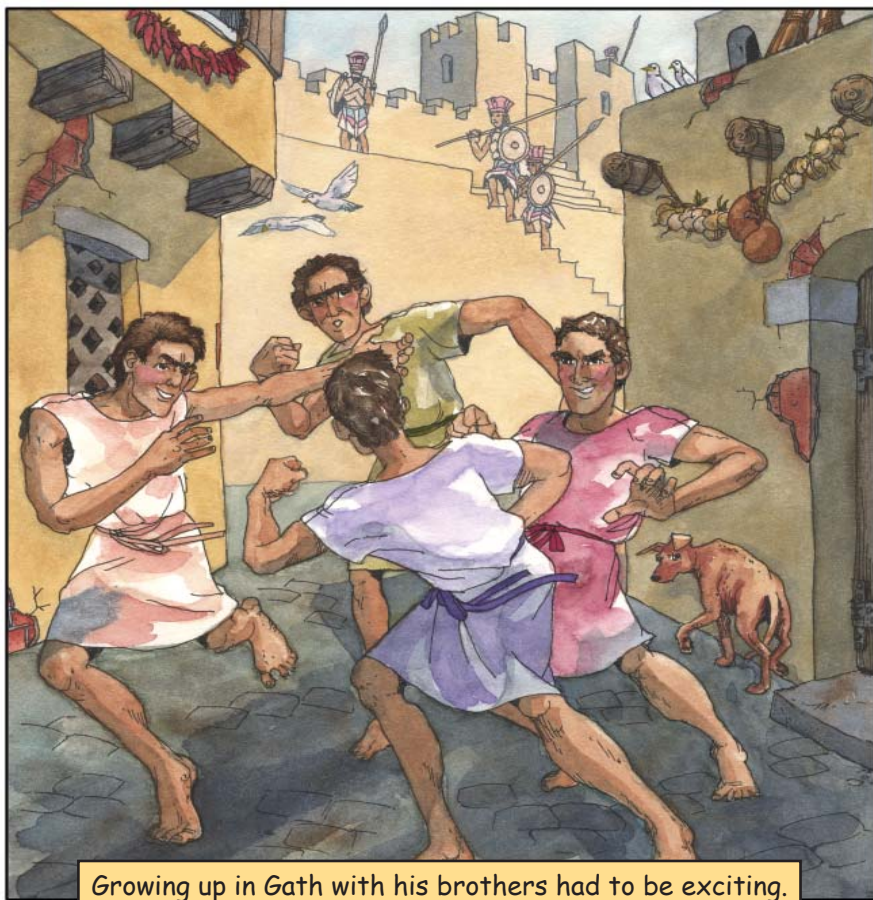
That bear met the same fate as the lion.



But David is most famous for his battle with Goliath of Gath.



Goliath of Gath probably had just as exciting a childhood as David.



Growing up in Gath with his brothers had to be exciting.

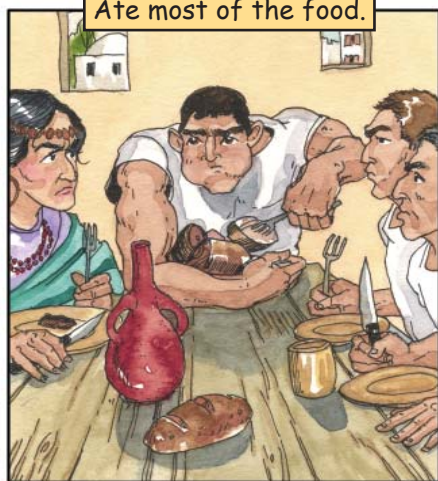
However, there were a few things that seemed different about Goliath.



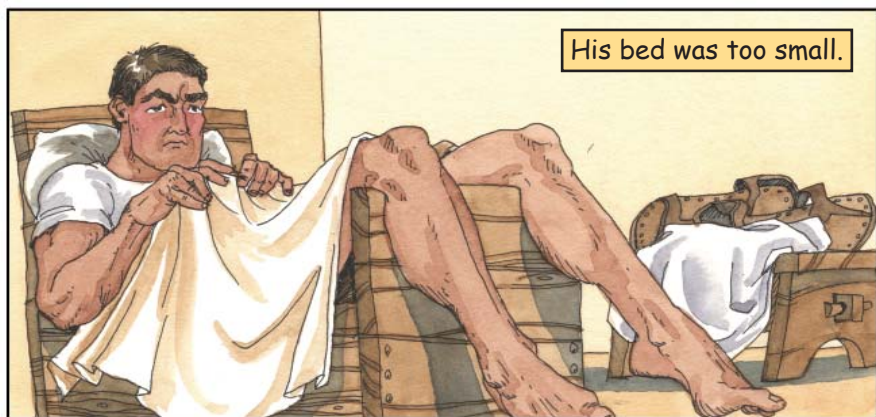
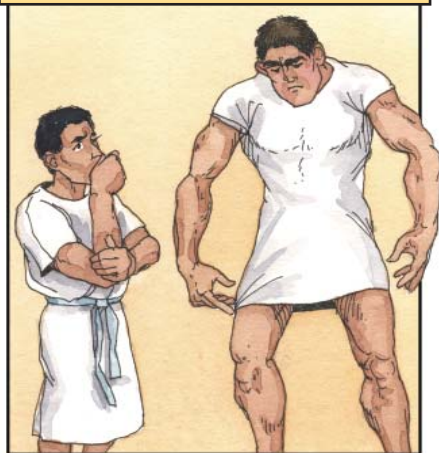
He broke all his chairs.



Ate most of the food.

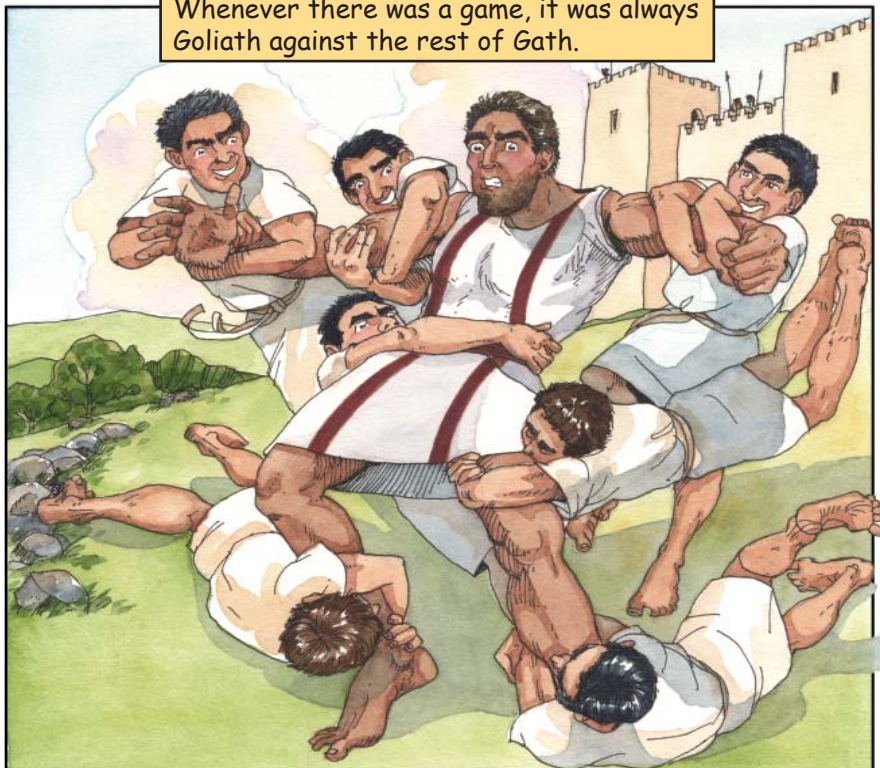


His clothes were always too little.

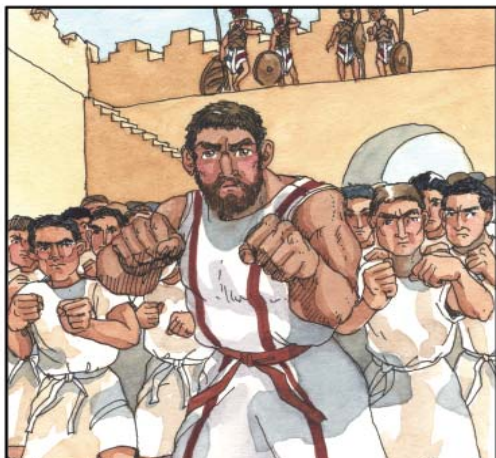
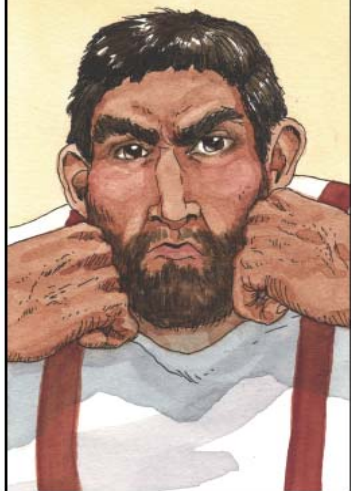


His bed was too small.

Whenever there was a game, it was always Goliath against the rest of Gath.



He just didn't seem to fit.



But when there was a fight, everyone, and I mean everyone, always wanted to be on Goliath's side.

Because Goliath of Gath was ...

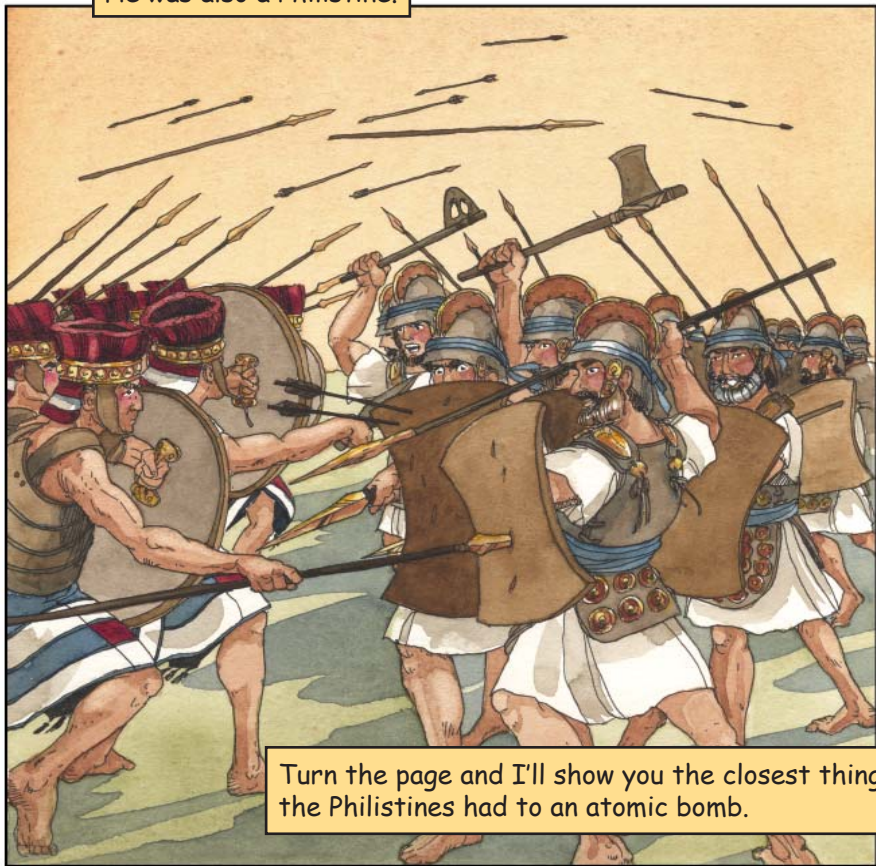


... a GIANT!



The Philistines were always fighting the Israelites, the nation of David, our super hero. They didn't have airplanes, tanks, missiles or atomic bombs.

He was also a Philistine.



Turn the page and I'll show you the closest thing the Philistines had to an atomic bomb.

GOLIATH OF GATH!

Bronze helmet

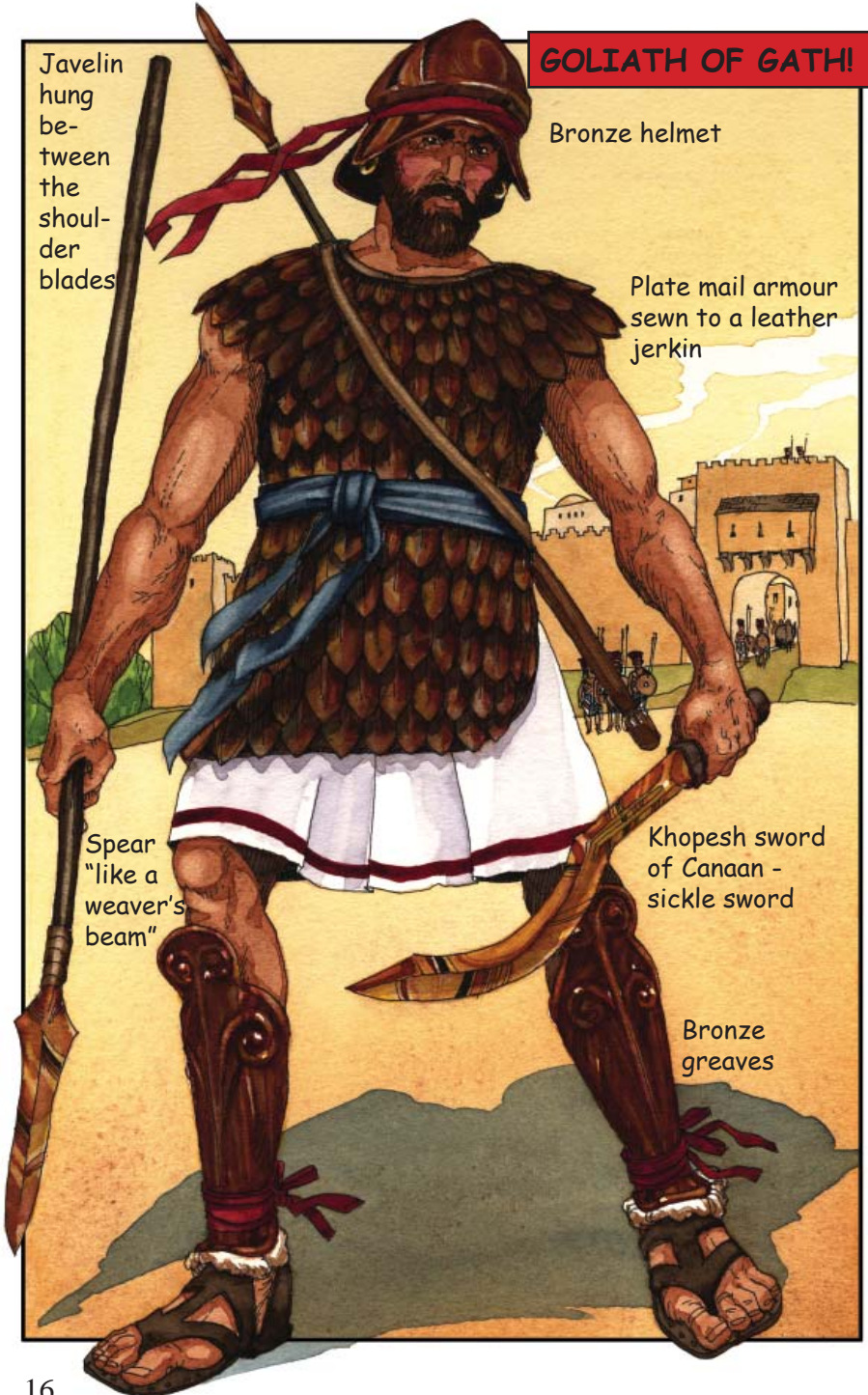
Plate mail armour
sewn to a leather
jerkin

Khopesh sword
of Canaan -
sickle sword

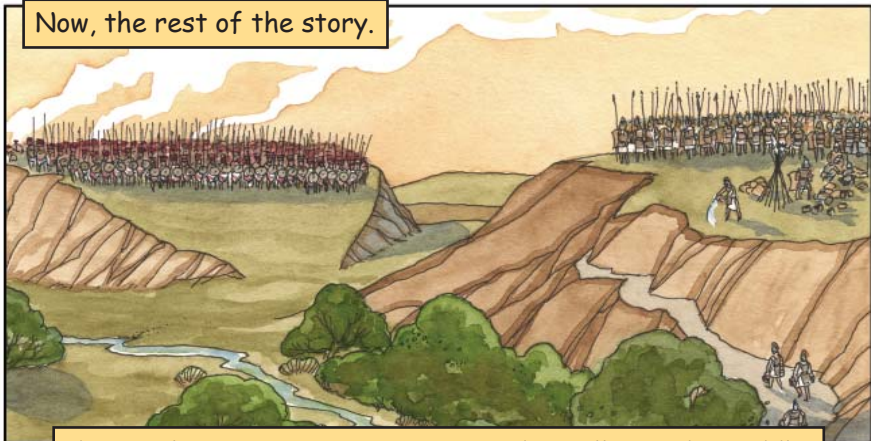
Bronze
greaves

Spear
"like a
weaver's
beam"

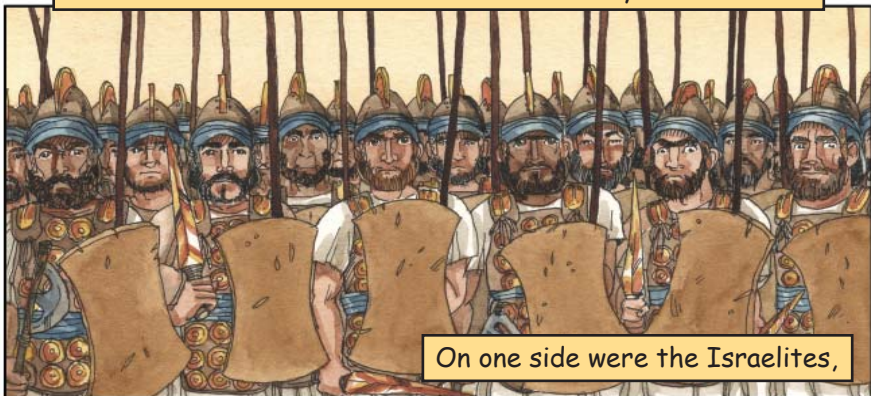
Javelin
hung
be-
tween
the
shoul-
der
blades



Now, the rest of the story.



The battle scene: Two mountains with a valley in the middle.



On one side were the Israelites,



On the other side, the Philistines.

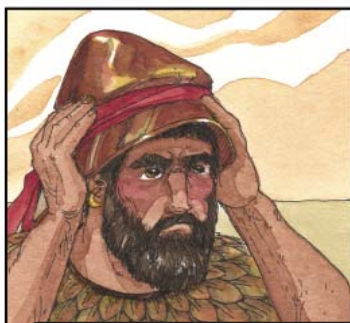
This is getting **boring**. Every day I get up, eat a little breakfast and go down to the valley to challenge the Israelites.



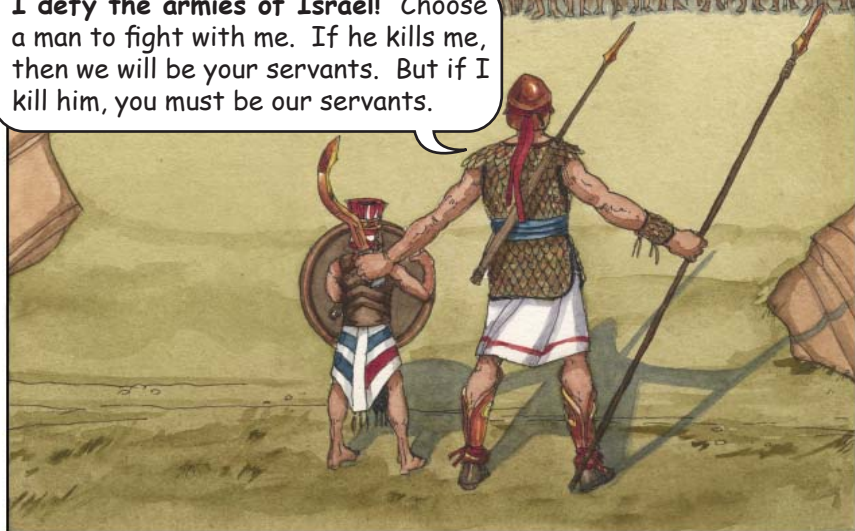
I've been doing this for forty days. Those Israelites are the biggest **cowards** on earth.

I sure hope something exciting happens today. This is boring. I want to go back to Gath where I can get a real breakfast.

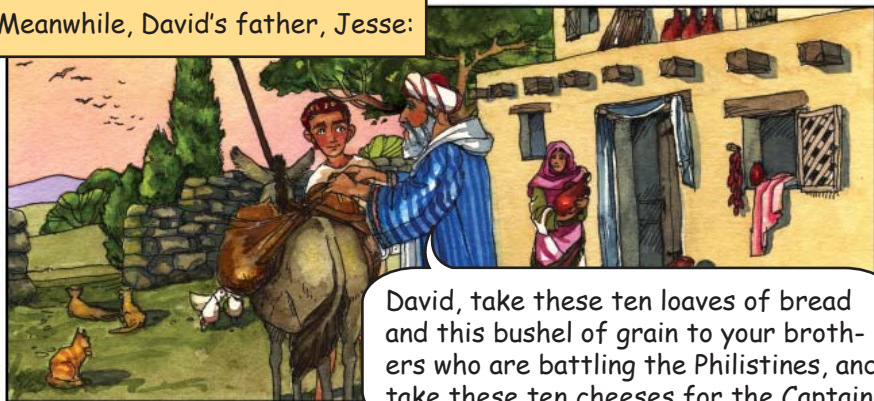




I defy the armies of Israel! Choose a man to fight with me. If he kills me, then we will be your servants. But if I kill him, you must be our servants.



Meanwhile, David's father, Jesse:

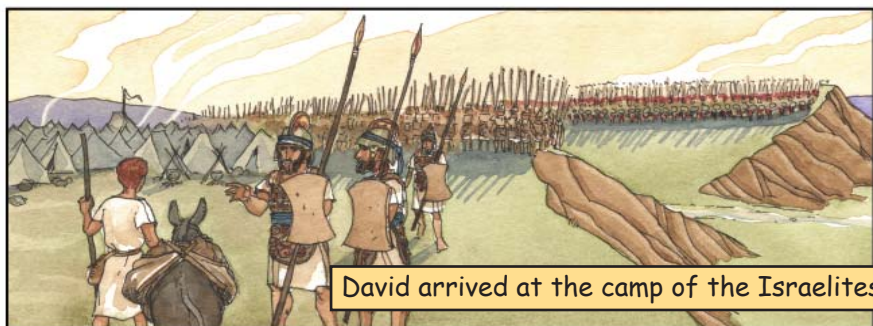


David, take these ten loaves of bread and this bushel of grain to your brothers who are battling the Philistines, and take these ten cheeses for the Captain.



Have a good journey and may the Lord of Israel be with you.

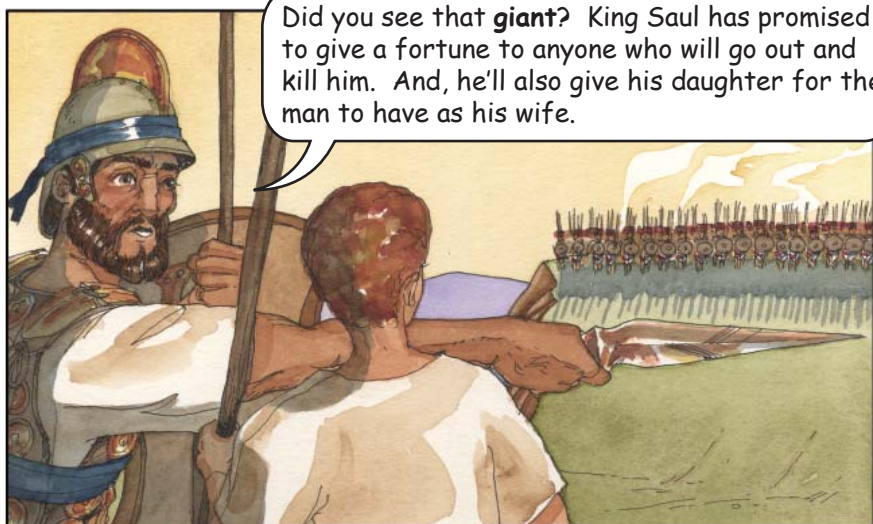




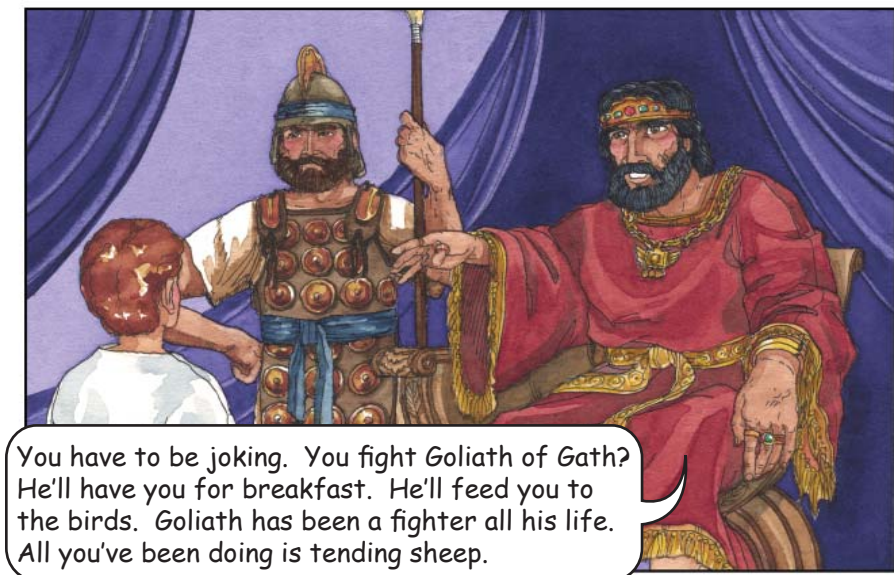
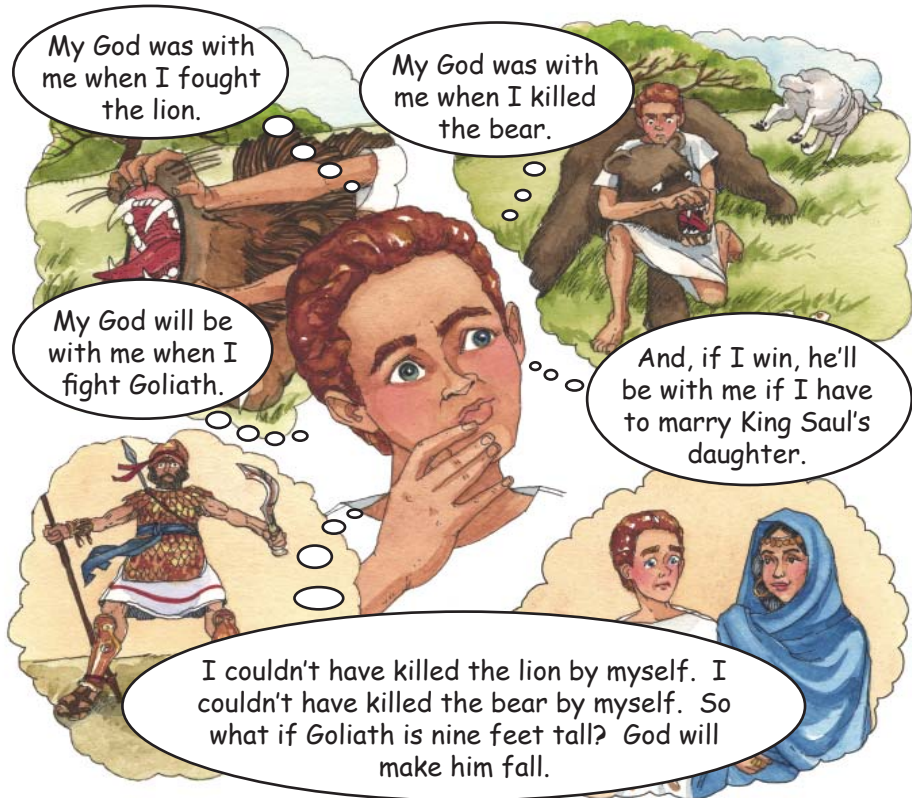
David arrived at the camp of the Israelites.

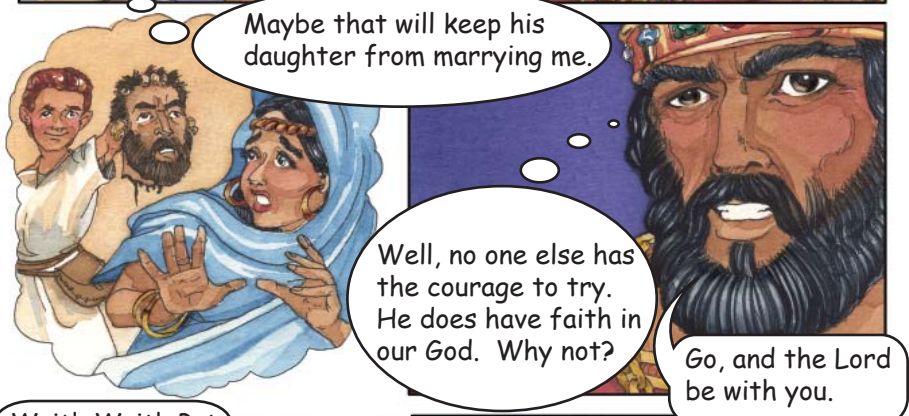
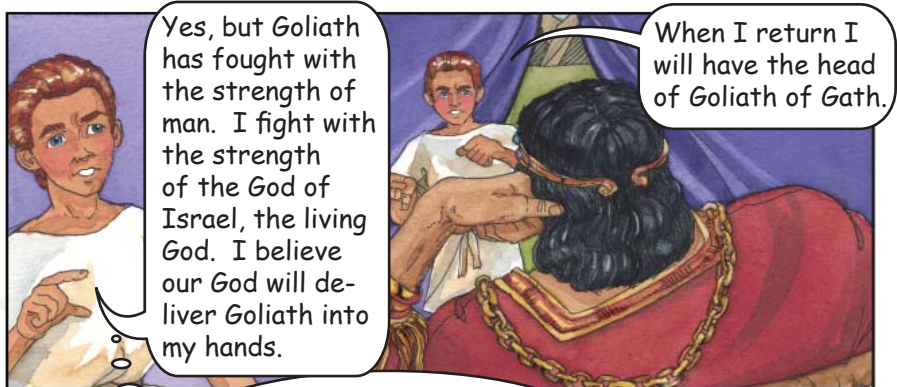


I defy the armies of Israel!
Send a man to fight with me!

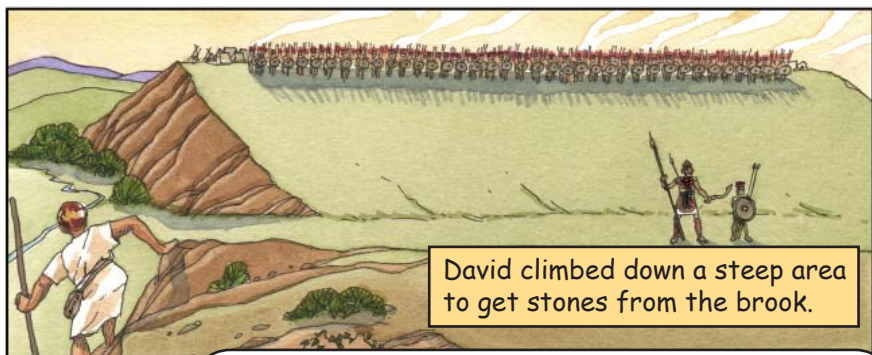


Did you see that **giant**? King Saul has promised to give a fortune to anyone who will go out and kill him. And, he'll also give his daughter for the man to have as his wife.





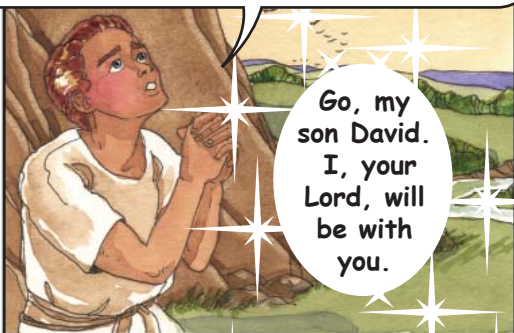




David climbed down a steep area to get stones from the brook.



Oh God, I'm scared. I didn't have time to think about the lion or the bear, but me facing Goliath of Gath? What am I going to do? I feel so alone.



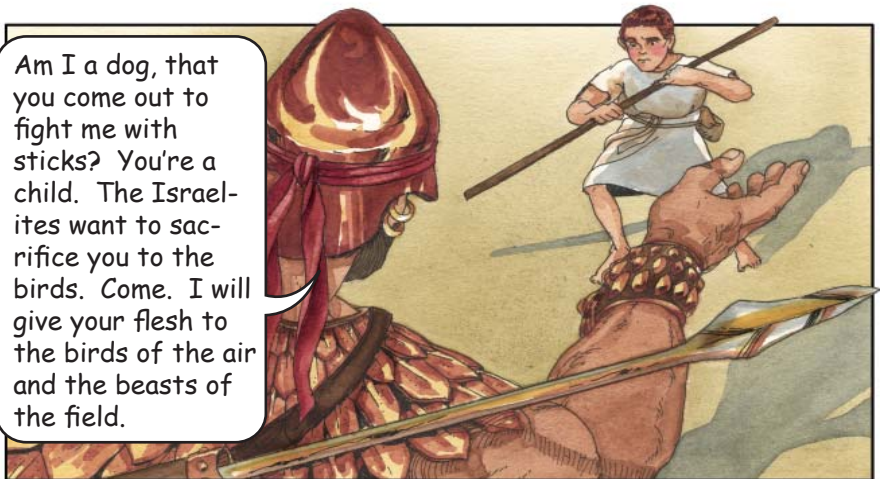
Go, my son David.
I, your Lord, will be with you.



One is all we need.
But if you must, take five.



Am I a dog, that you come out to fight me with sticks? You're a child. The Israelites want to sacrifice you to the birds. Come. I will give your flesh to the birds of the air and the beasts of the field.



You come to me with a sword, a spear and a shield. I come to you in the Name of the **Lord of Hosts!** The God of the armies of Israel! The God you have defied. My God does not need swords nor shields nor spears.



With this tiny stone, **I will strike you down!**



I will cut off your head and the birds of the air and the beasts of the field will devour your body and those of the other soldiers in the Philistine army.



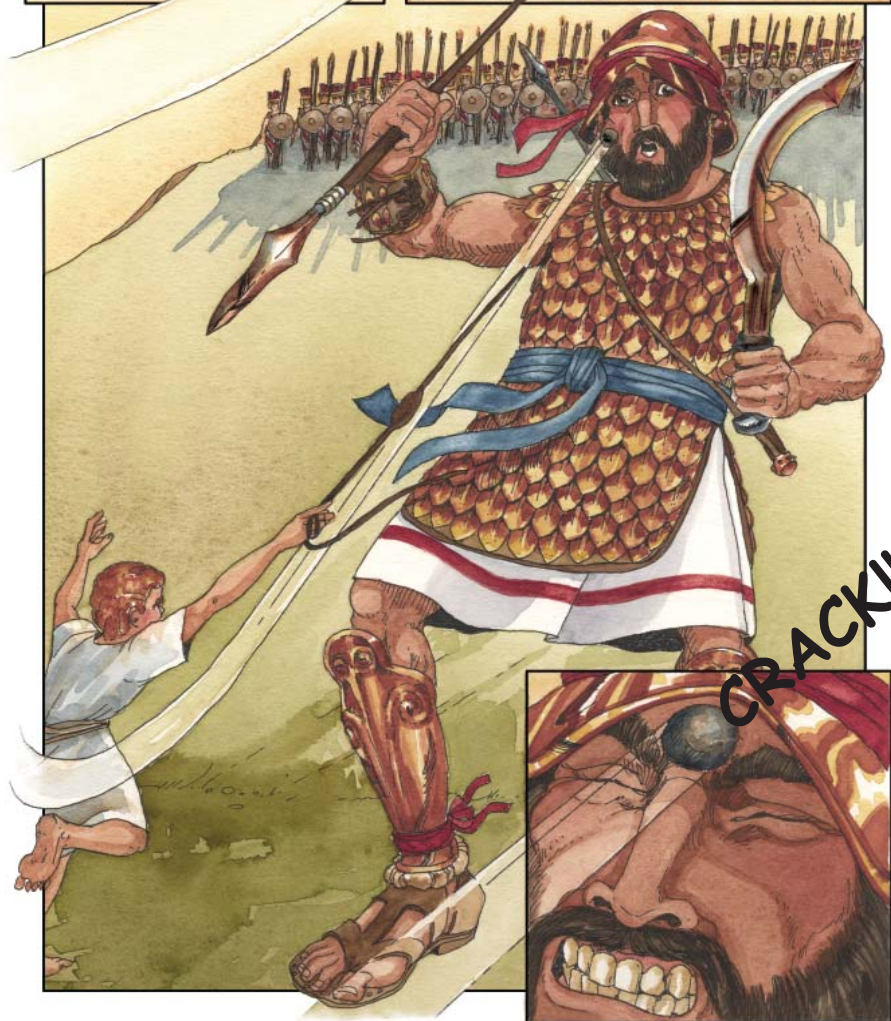


This battle is the **Lord's** and He will deliver you into my hands.

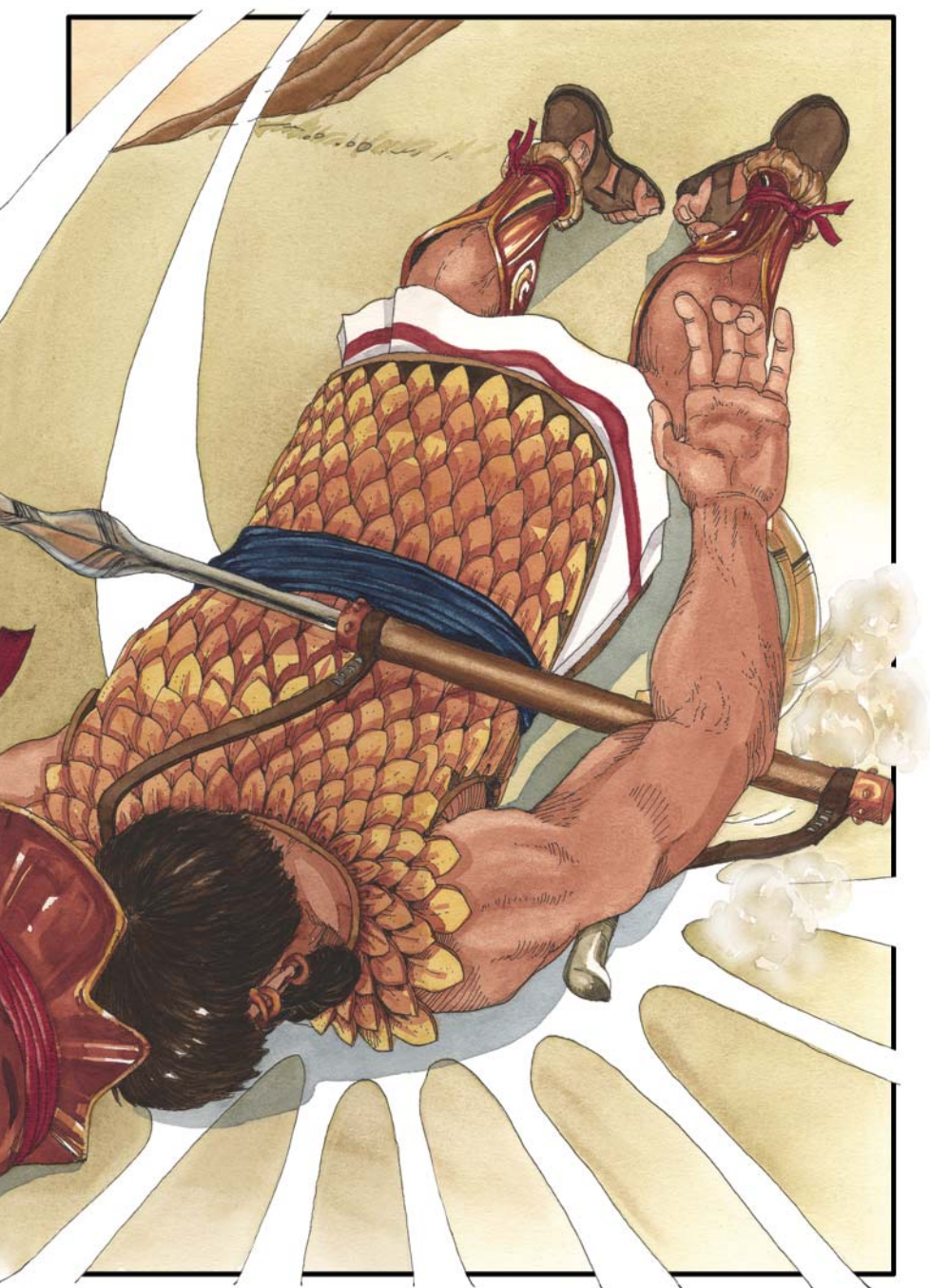


I'm getting **mad**. Guess I'll have to stand up so I can **smash** you better.

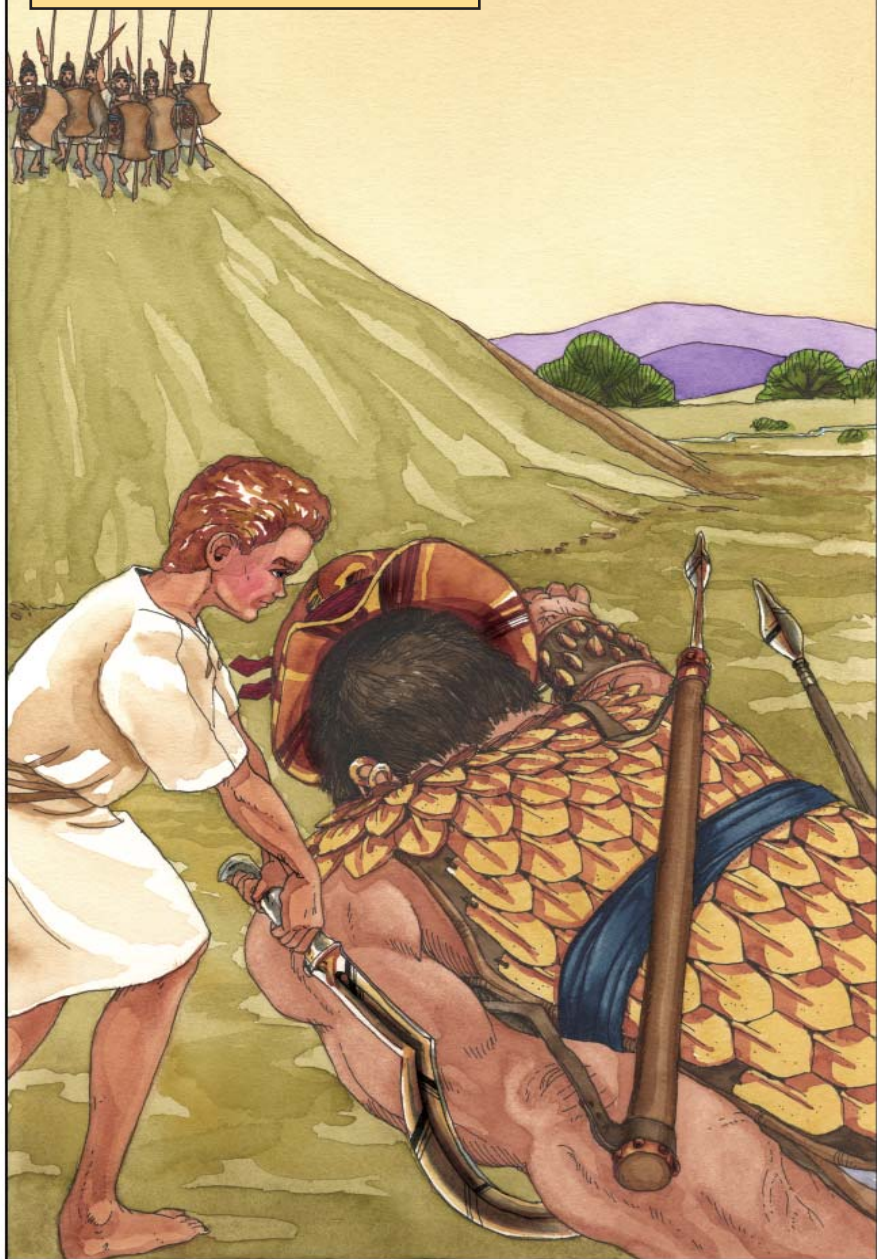


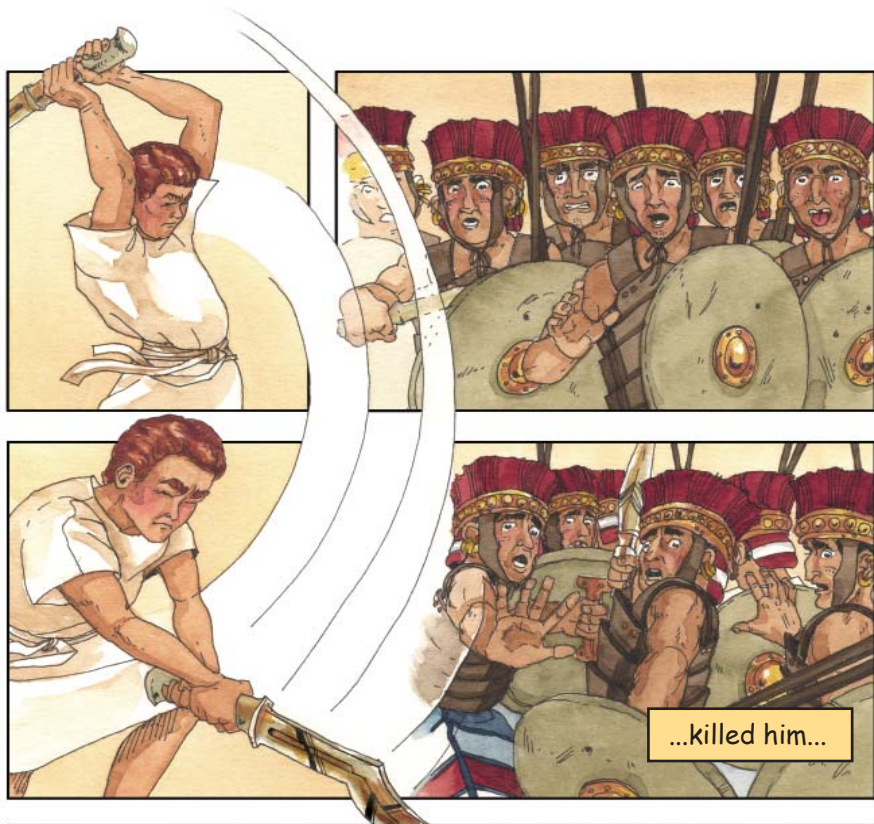






David ran over to the fallen giant,
took his sword...

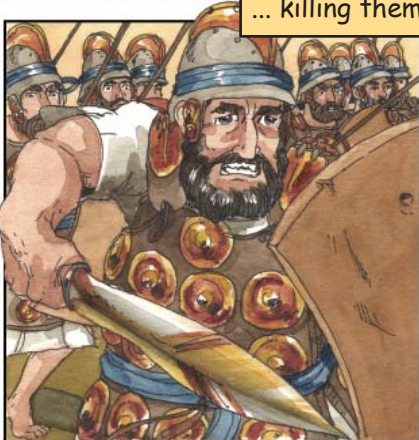




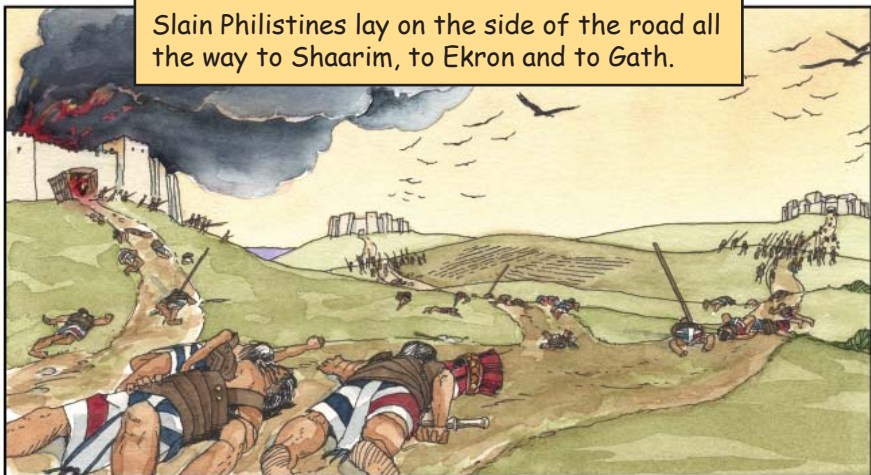
The Philistines fled. Then, the "brave" Israelite soldiers chased the Philistines...



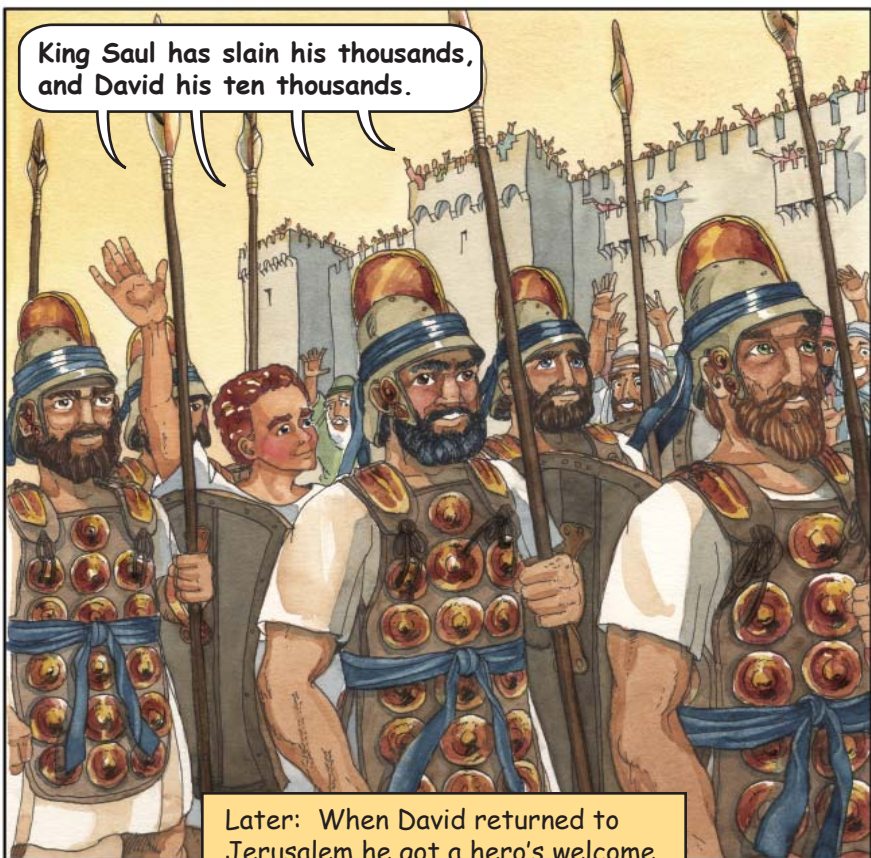
... killing them as they went.



Slain Philistines lay on the side of the road all the way to Shaarim, to Ekron and to Gath.



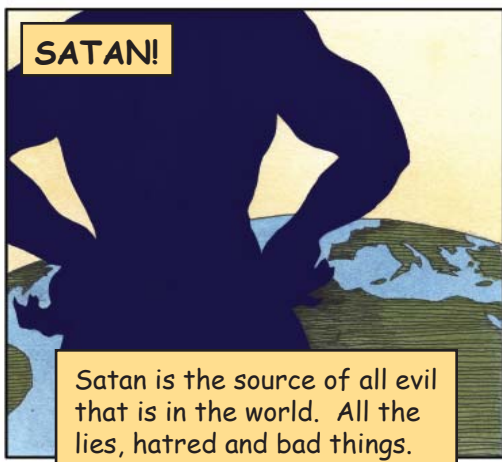
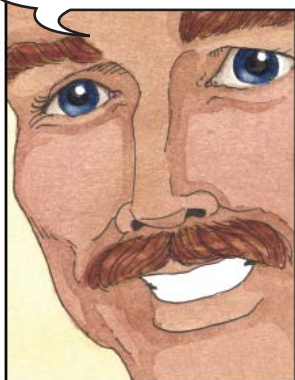
King Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands.



Later: When David returned to Jerusalem he got a hero's welcome.



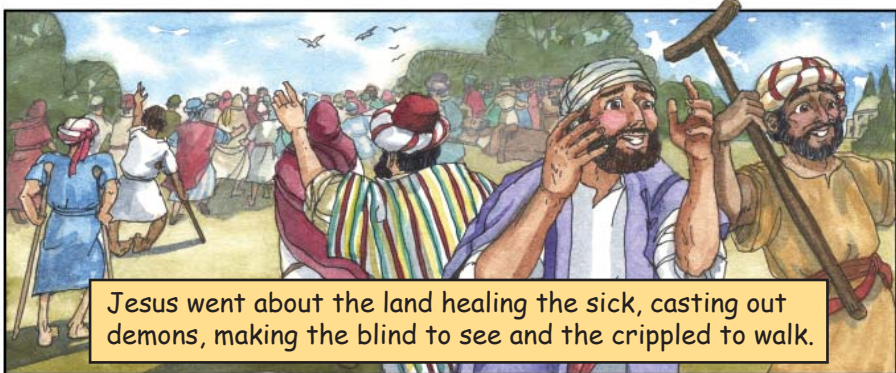
David conquered the lion, the bear and the giant, but the hero I want to tell you about conquered even more for you and me.



But Jesus is more powerful.

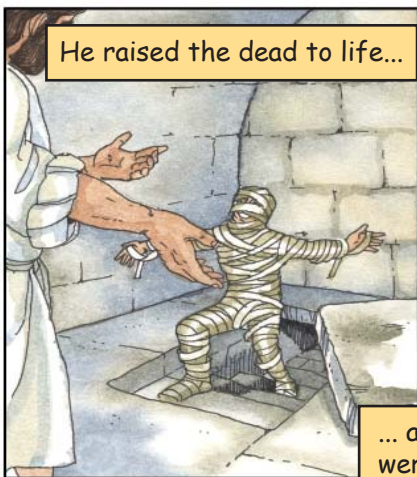


He is God's Son, sent down from heaven so that He can really know how we feel.



Jesus went about the land healing the sick, casting out demons, making the blind to see and the crippled to walk.

He raised the dead to life...



... and comforted those who thought they were too sinful for God to love them.

Satan used some powerful men to try to destroy Jesus.



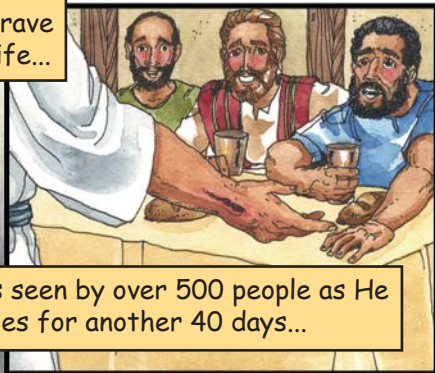
Jesus was put on trial although he had done nothing wrong.

Jesus was beaten although he did not hurt anyone.



Jesus was killed on a cross although he came to earth so that all people might have life with God that never ends. After Jesus was killed on the cross, Satan was very happy. He thought he had defeated Jesus. But it was God's plan that Jesus would give His life as a sacrifice for everyone's sin.

After Jesus had been in the grave three days, He came back to life...

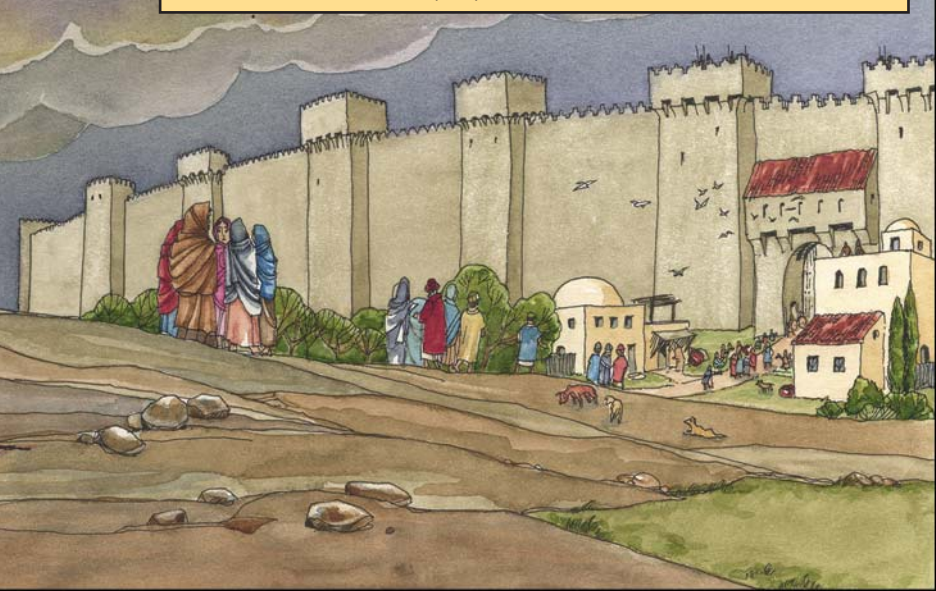


... and was seen by over 500 people as He did miracles for another 40 days...

... before going back to heaven.



Then He sent His Holy Spirit to be with us and comfort us.





We don't have to worry about lions, bears, giants, kings or even Satan when we ask Jesus into our lives.

It's really very simple. All you have to do is admit that you have sinned (done bad things), and ask Jesus to forgive you. Let's stop right now and pray to Jesus.

Jesus, I haven't always been good. I have sinned, but I would like to ask you to forgive me for my sins. I **believe** that you are the Son of God, and I want to serve you all my life.



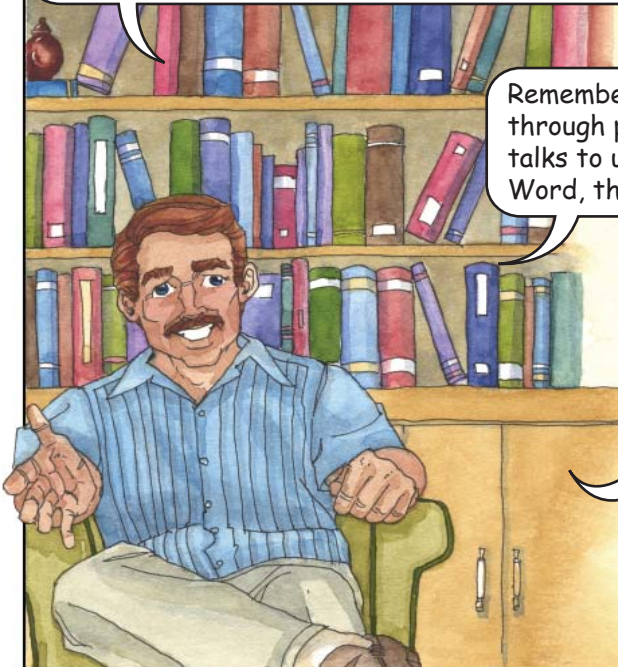
Yeah, thanks for telling us about David and Jesus. But I've got one question, Uncle Rufus. What do we do now?

Thanks, Uncle Rufus.



Simple, kids. Follow these three easy steps:

1. Go to a church that believes the Bible.
2. Get a Bible that you can read, or ask someone to read it to you.
3. Make a habit of praying to God every day. Praying is talking to God just like you would talk to me. It helps to begin by thanking God for all the good things He's done in your life.

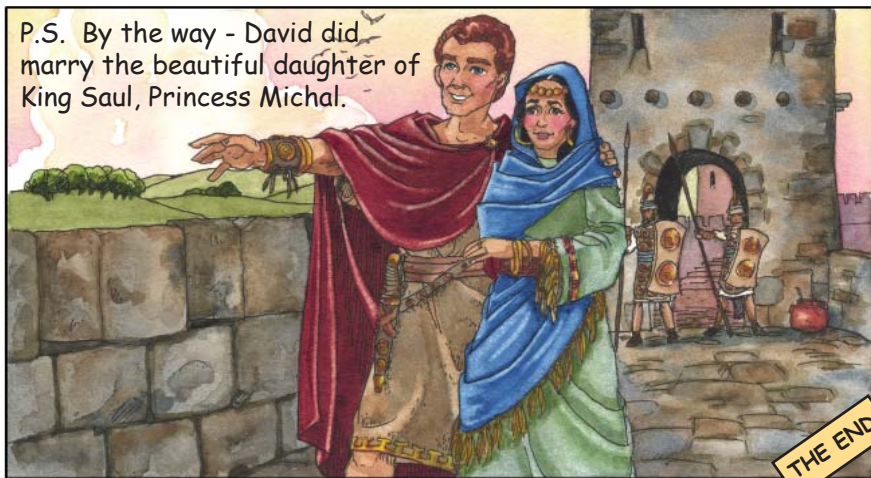


Remember we talk to God through prayer, and He talks to us through His Word, the Bible.

Also, remember that **God loves you** just the way you are. You don't have to be perfect before coming to God. He loves us more than we can know.

God bless you!

P.S. By the way - David did marry the beautiful daughter of King Saul, Princess Michal.



THE END

Who is
David - a
shepherd
boy, a hero
or a King?



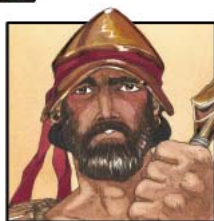
How did he
save the Is-
raelite army
from the
Philistines?



**Defeated
a bear!**



**Conquered
a lion!**



**Killed a
giant!**

Inside read the exciting **true** story of David, the
boy who dared to trust in the one true God.

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Ron Barefield began his career as a sportswriter, but has been writing for the past 25 years with missions organizations helping build the church of Jesus Christ around the world.

Jerry and Faith McCollough have been illustrating evangelistic material since 1987. Spreading the Gospel through illustration is the realization of a long held dream for them.



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