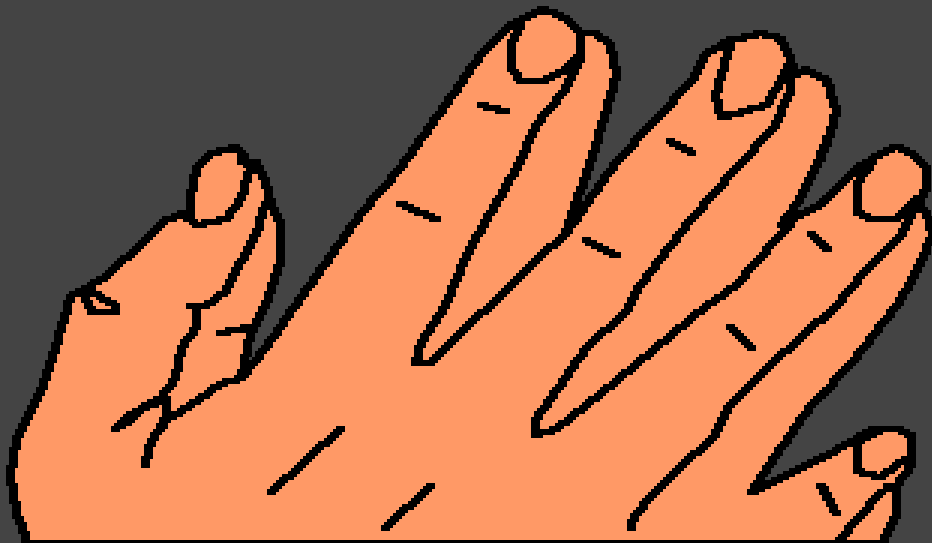


Online Bible for Children  
presents

# PETER AND THE POWER OF PRAYER



Written by Edward Hughes

Illustrated by Janie Forest and Lazarus

Adapted by Lyn Doerksen

The Bible text in this story is from:

The New King James Version

©1979, 1980, 1982, Thomas Nelson, Inc.,  
Publishers

Produced by Genesis Research Corporation

[bible@genesis.mb.ca](mailto:bible@genesis.mb.ca)

©2002 Genesis Research Corporation

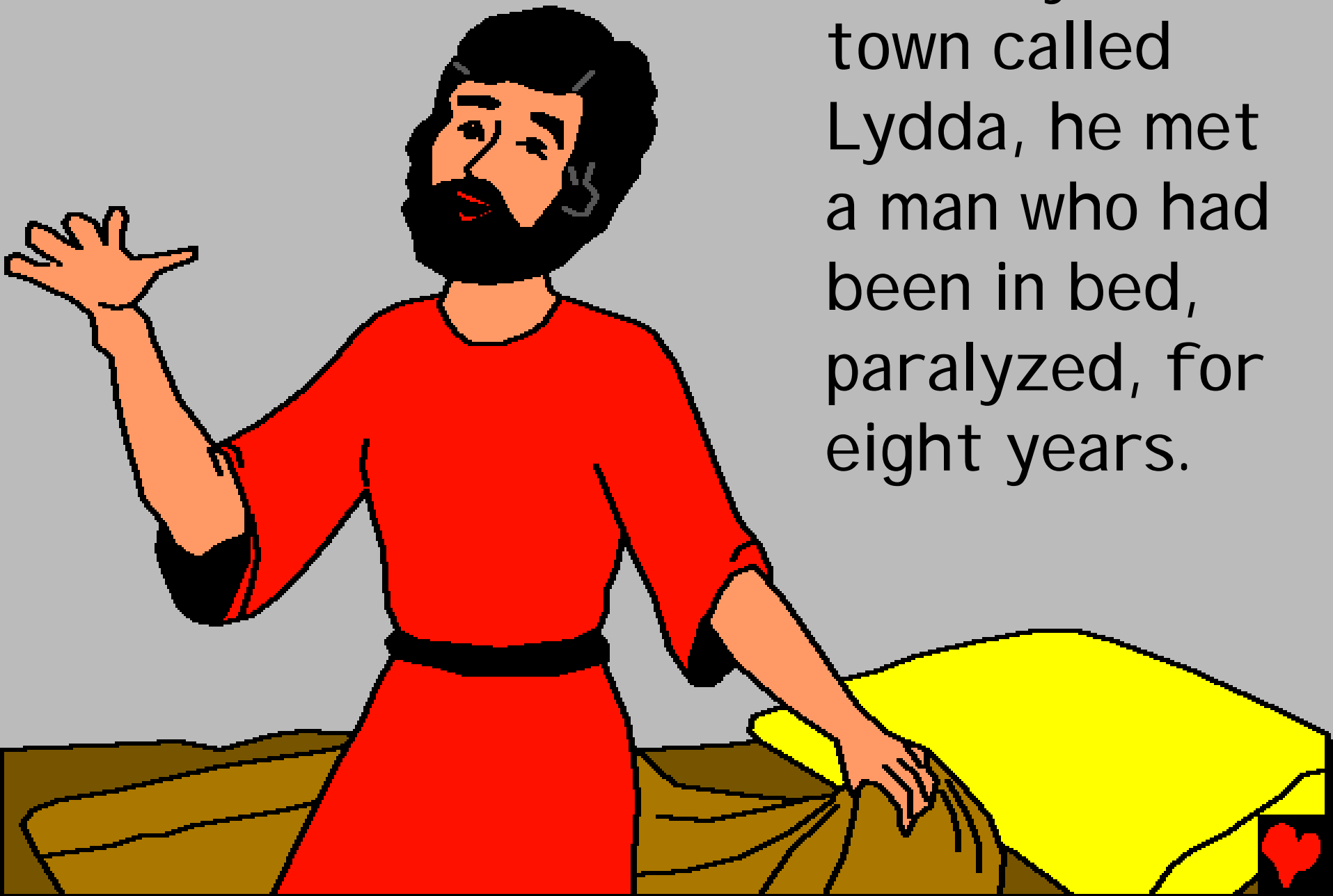
License: You have the right to copy or print this story, as long as you do  
not sell it.



The apostle  
Peter traveled  
all over the  
country to tell  
others about  
Jesus.



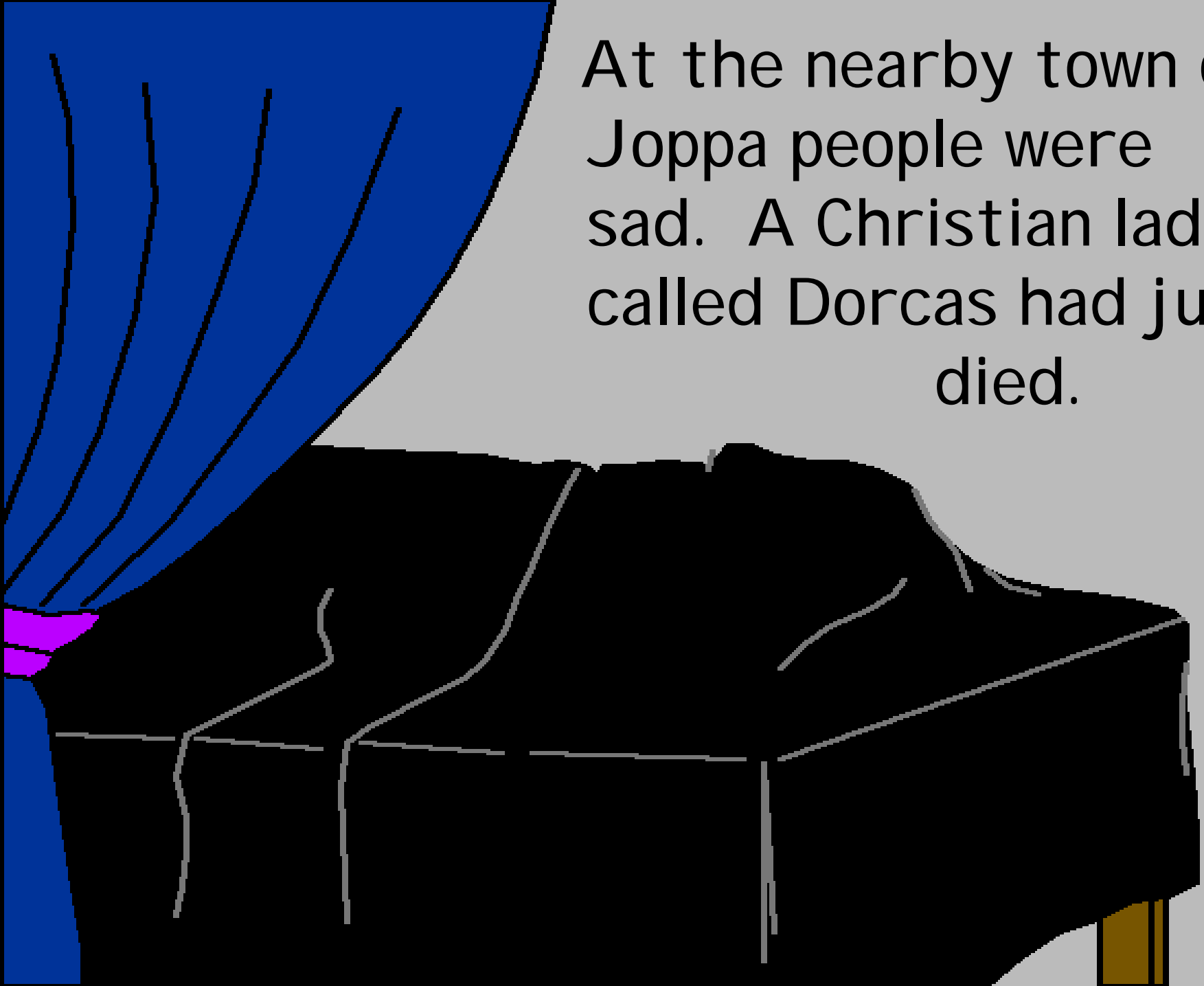
One day, in a town called Lydda, he met a man who had been in bed, paralyzed, for eight years.



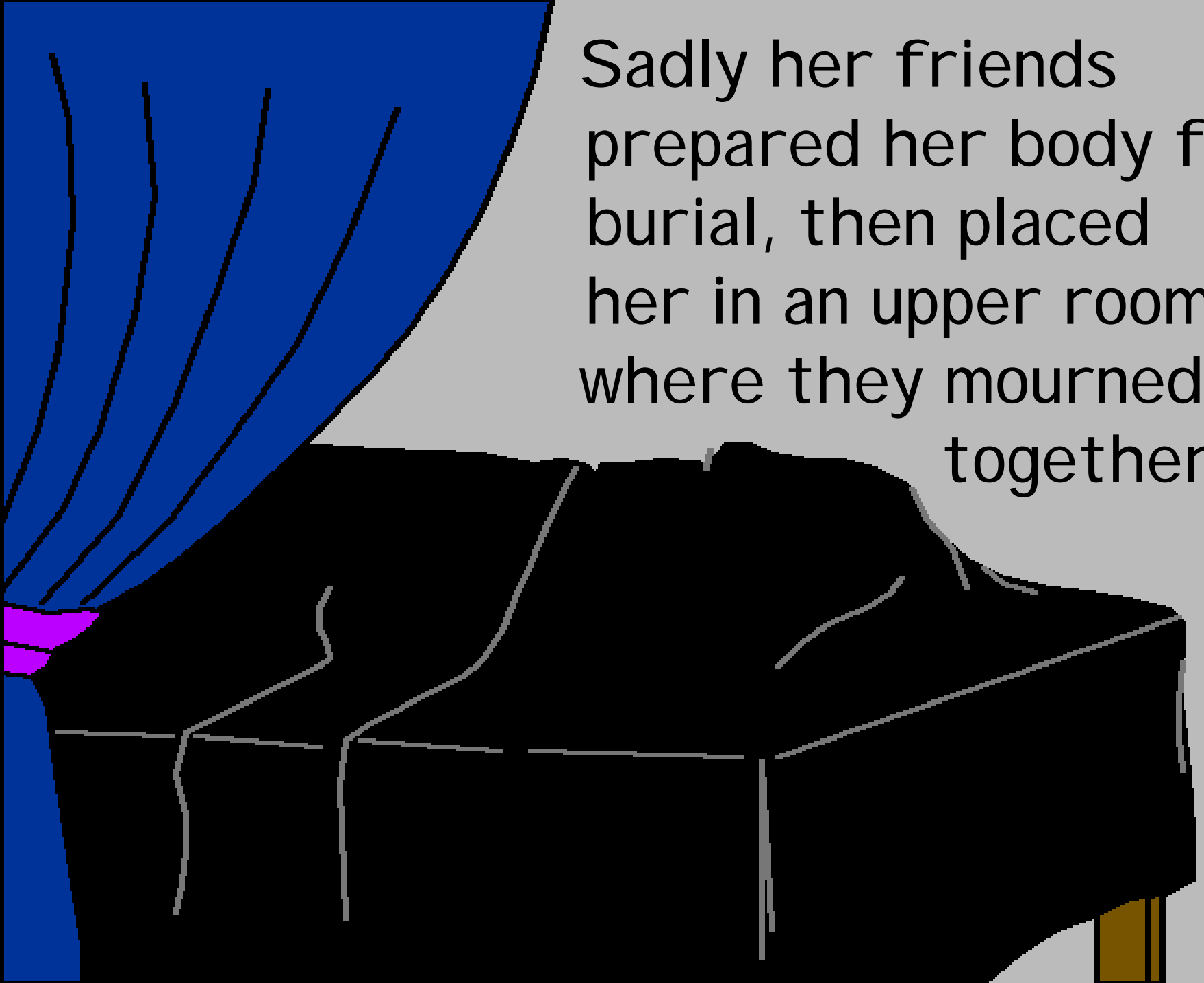
"Jesus Christ heals you," Peter said. "Arise and make your bed." The man got up immediately. People who saw this turned to the Lord.

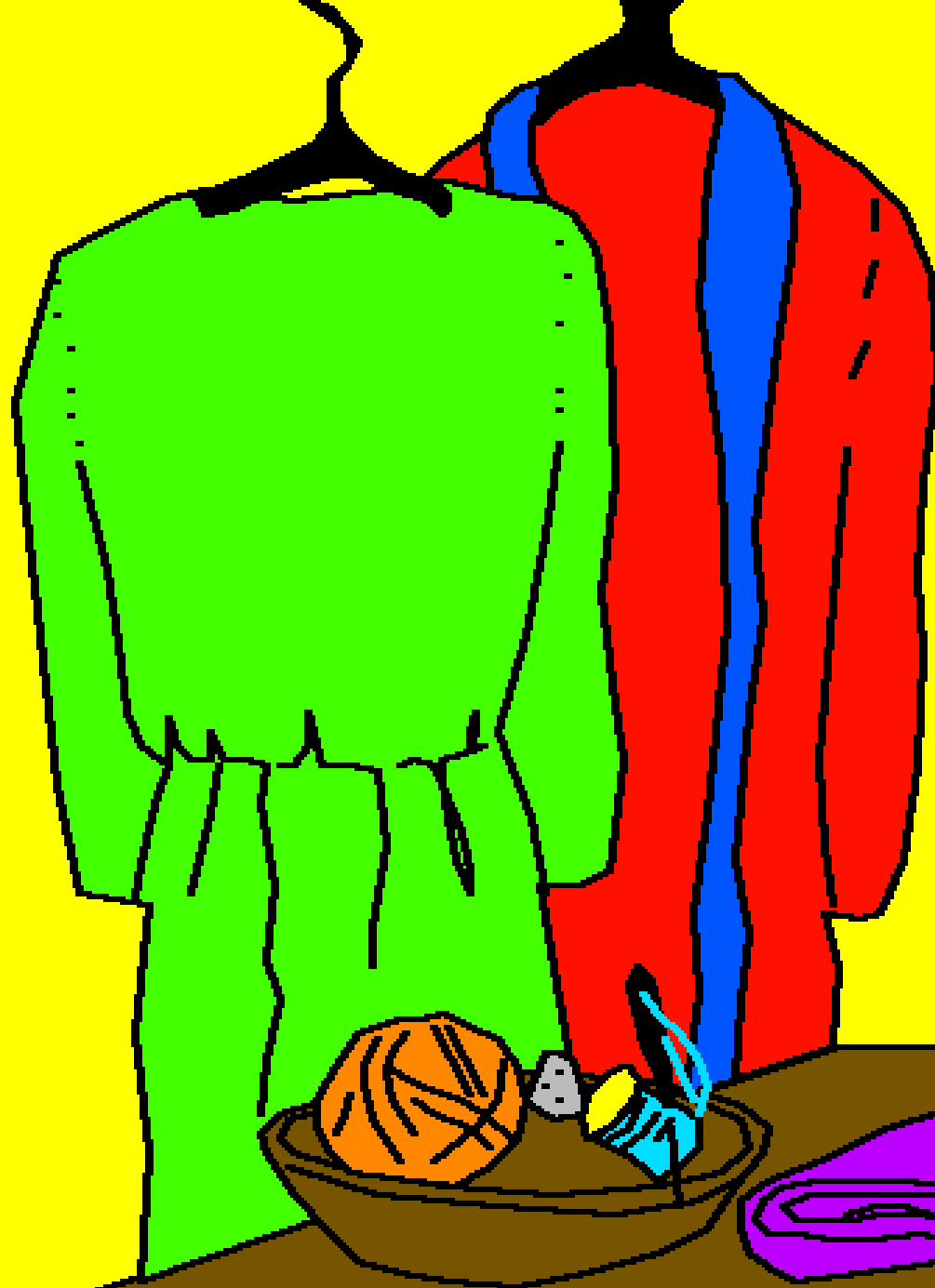


At the nearby town of Joppa people were sad. A Christian lady called Dorcas had just died.



Sadly her friends prepared her body for burial, then placed her in an upper room where they mourned together.



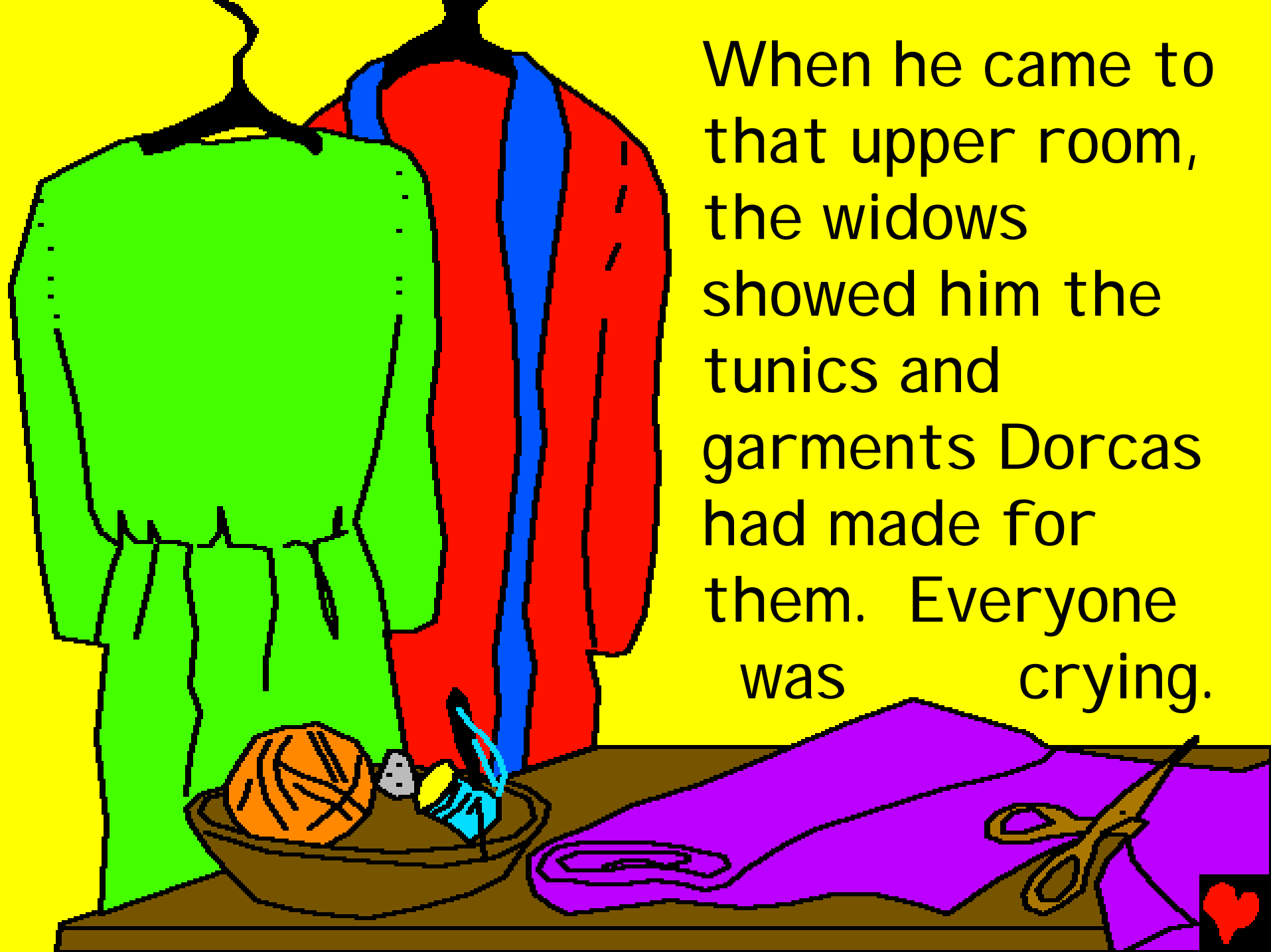


But Dorcas' friends heard that Peter was in the area. They called for Peter to come to Joppa right away.





When he came to that upper room, the widows showed him the tunics and garments Dorcas had made for them. Everyone was crying.



But Peter put them all out, and knelt down and prayed. And turning to the body he said, "Dorcas, arise." And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up.

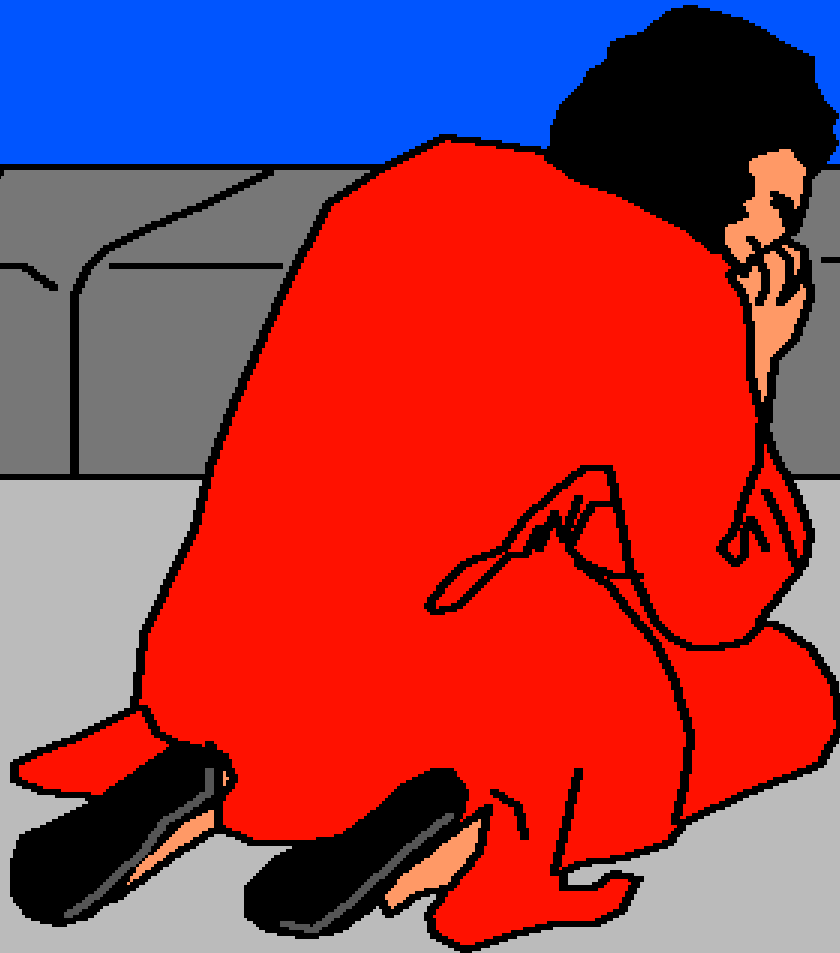




Then he gave her his hand and lifted her up; and when he had called the saints (Christians) and widows, he presented her alive. And it became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed on the Lord.



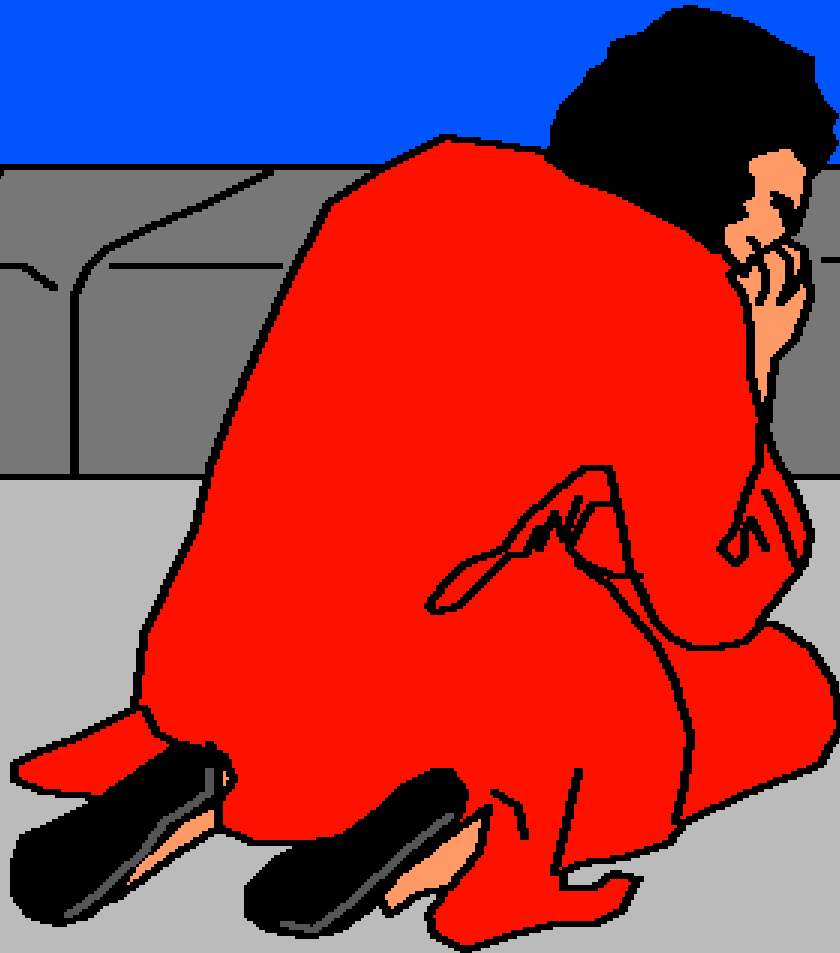
Peter stayed a long time in Joppa,  
in a house by the sea.



One day Peter  
went up on  
the house-top  
to pray.



If he had looked over the city walls, he may have seen



three  
travelers  
coming to  
find him.



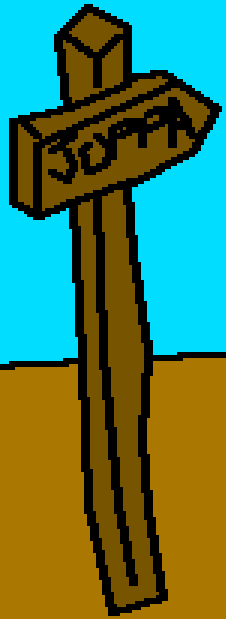
These men were servants of a Roman soldier named Cornelius who worshiped God.



Cornelius sent his servants to find Peter because an angel told him in a vision, "Send for Peter."



He is lodging with Simon, a tanner,



whose house  
is by the sea.  
He will tell  
you what you  
must do."



While Peter prayed on the house-top,  
God sent him a vision. It looked like a

great sheet being  
lowered to the

earth. On

the sheet  
were

animals and

birds. Peter  
could tell that

these were

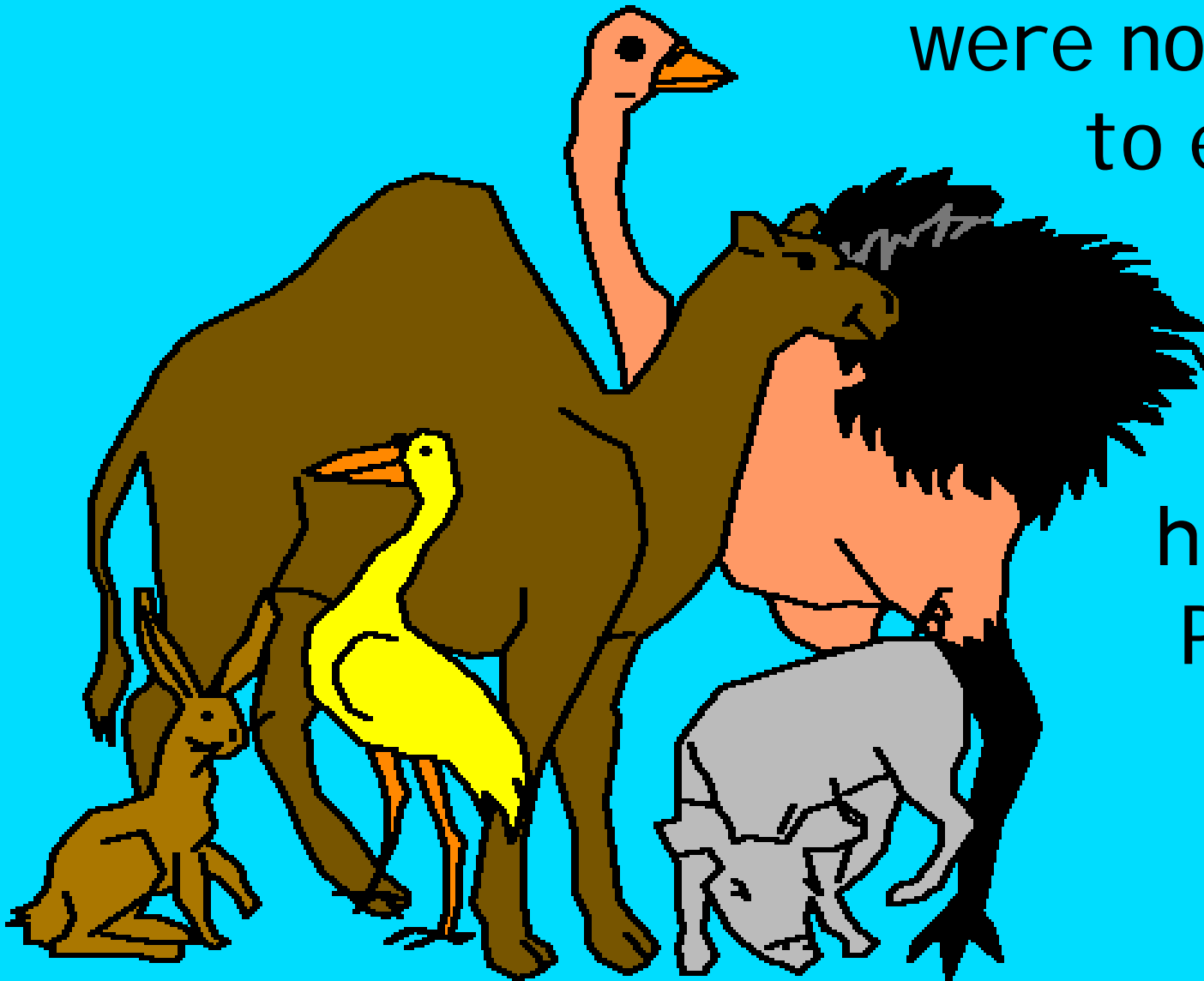
"unclean".





That meant  
religious Jews  
were not allowed  
to eat them.

Suddenly,  
a voice  
came to  
him. "Rise,  
Peter, kill  
and eat."



"Not so, Lord!" Peter told God. "For I have never eaten anything common or unclean."

A voice spoke to him a second time.

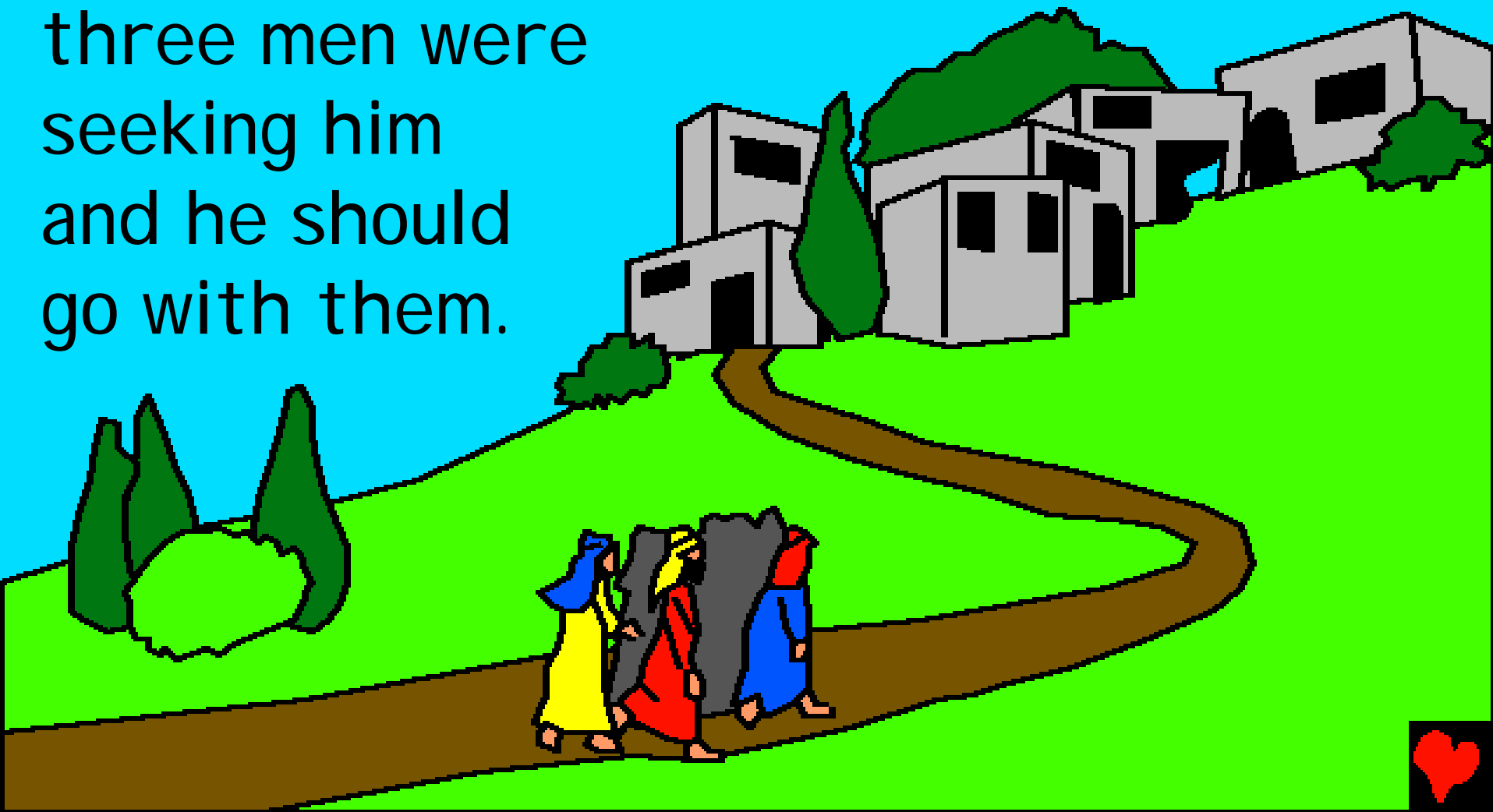
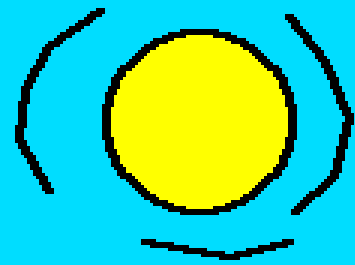
"What God has cleansed you must not call common."



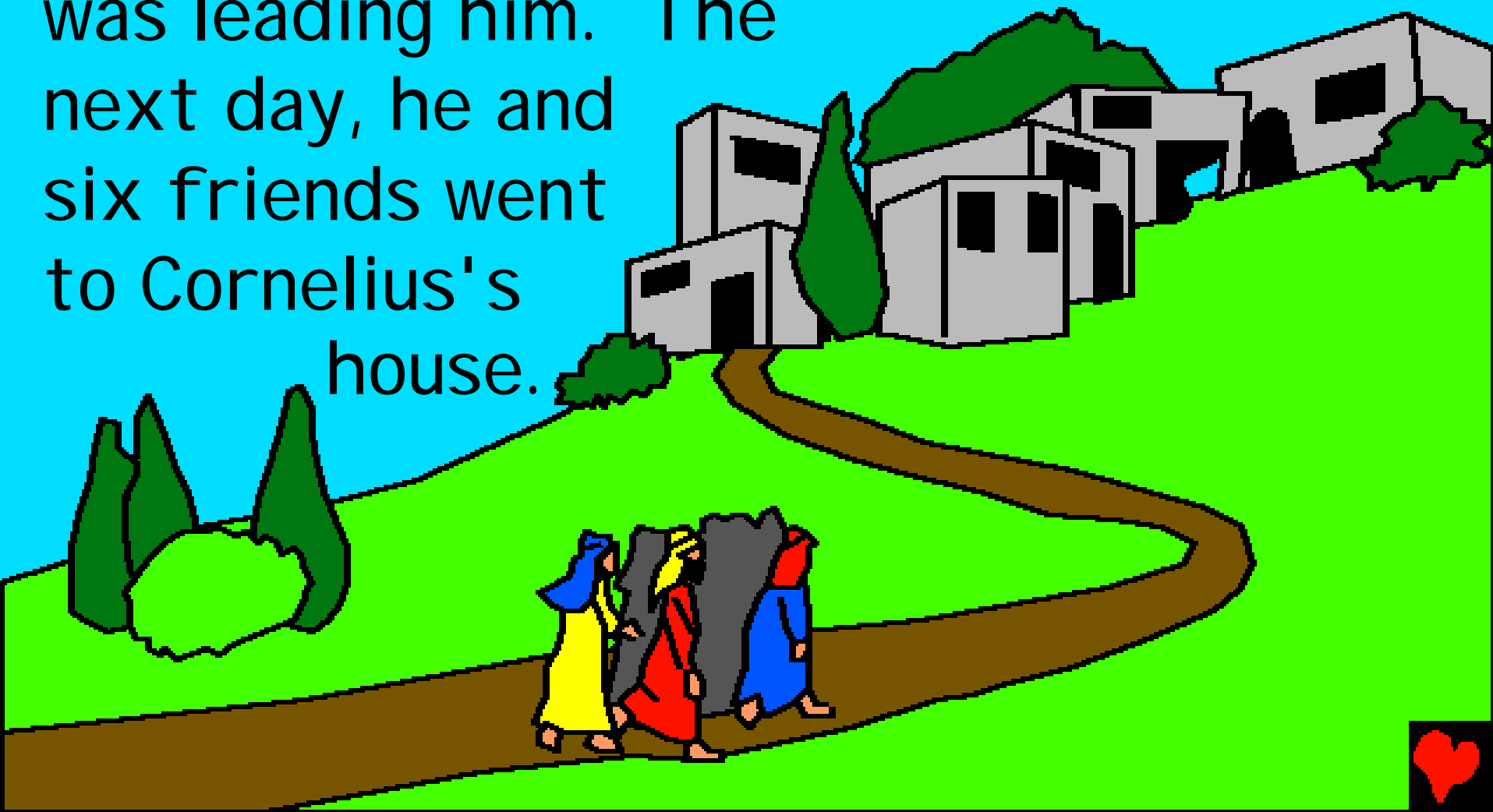
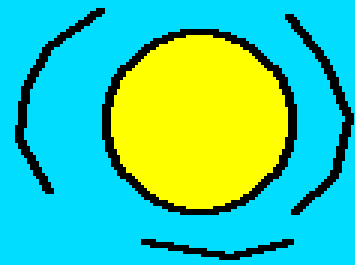
This was done  
three times.  
And then the  
sheet was taken  
up into heaven  
again.

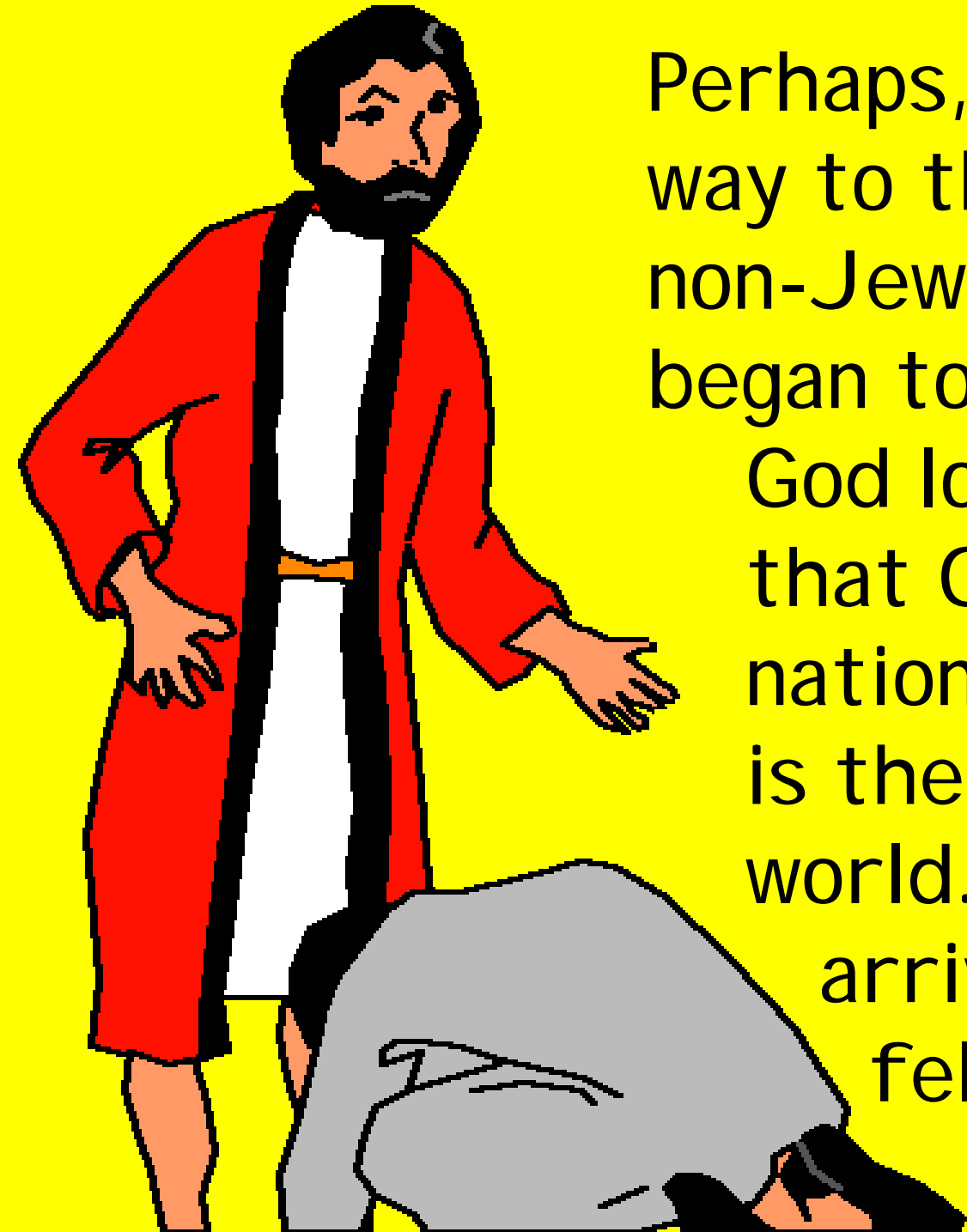


Peter didn't understand what the vision meant. As he thought about it, God told him that three men were seeking him and he should go with them.



When the three men told Peter that a holy angel told Cornelius to send for him, Peter knew God was leading him. The next day, he and six friends went to Cornelius's house.





Perhaps, as he made his way to the house of a non-Jewish man, Peter began to understand that God loves all people – that God wants all nations to know Jesus is the Savior of the world. When Peter arrived, Cornelius fell down in worship before him.



"Stand up. I myself am also a man,"  
Peter told Cornelius. Then he said to all  
the people in the house, "You know how  
unlawful it is . . ."



... for a Jewish man to keep company with or go to one of another nation."

"But God has shown me that I should not call

any man

common

or

un-

clean."





Peter told these Gentiles (non-Jews) that Jesus is the son of God Who died on the cross and rose again to be Savior of the world. Then the Holy Spirit fell upon them all and they began to praise God.



Peter's six Jewish friends were astonished. It was like Pentecost. The gift of the Holy Spirit was being poured out on the Gentiles also. Then Peter baptized the new believers in Jesus.



In Jerusalem, the Christians scolded Peter for visiting Gentiles. So Peter told them about the visions he and Cornelius had received in prayer.



When they heard these things, the Jerusalem Christians became silent. And they glorified God, Who had, through prayer, shown the Christian church that God's love is for everybody.



# Peter and the Power of Prayer

A story from God's Word,  
the Bible,  
is found in  
Acts 9-12

"The entrance of Your Word gives light."  
Psalm 119:130



The End

