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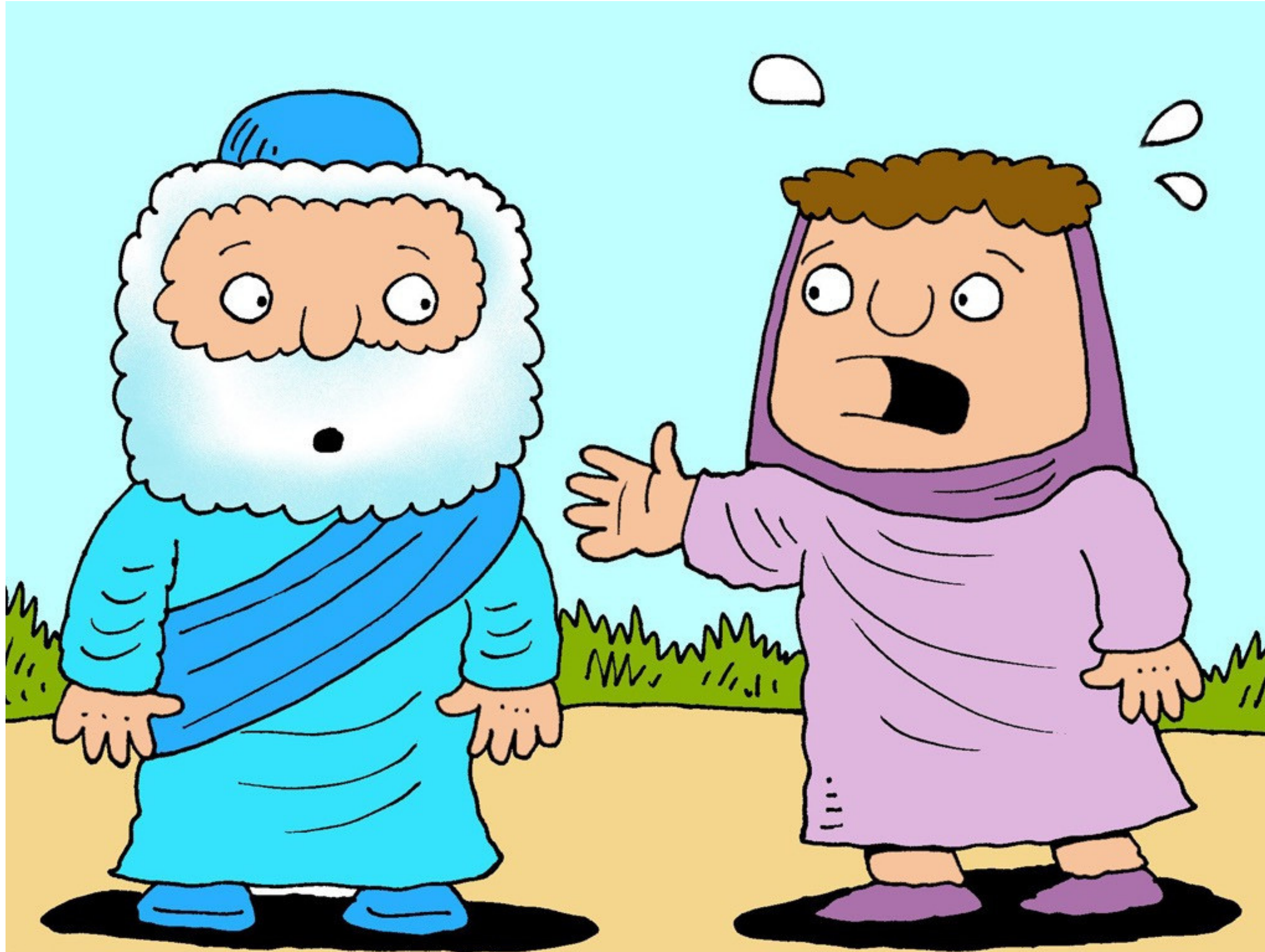
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ELISHA AND THE WIDOW'S OIL

2 Kings 4:1-7

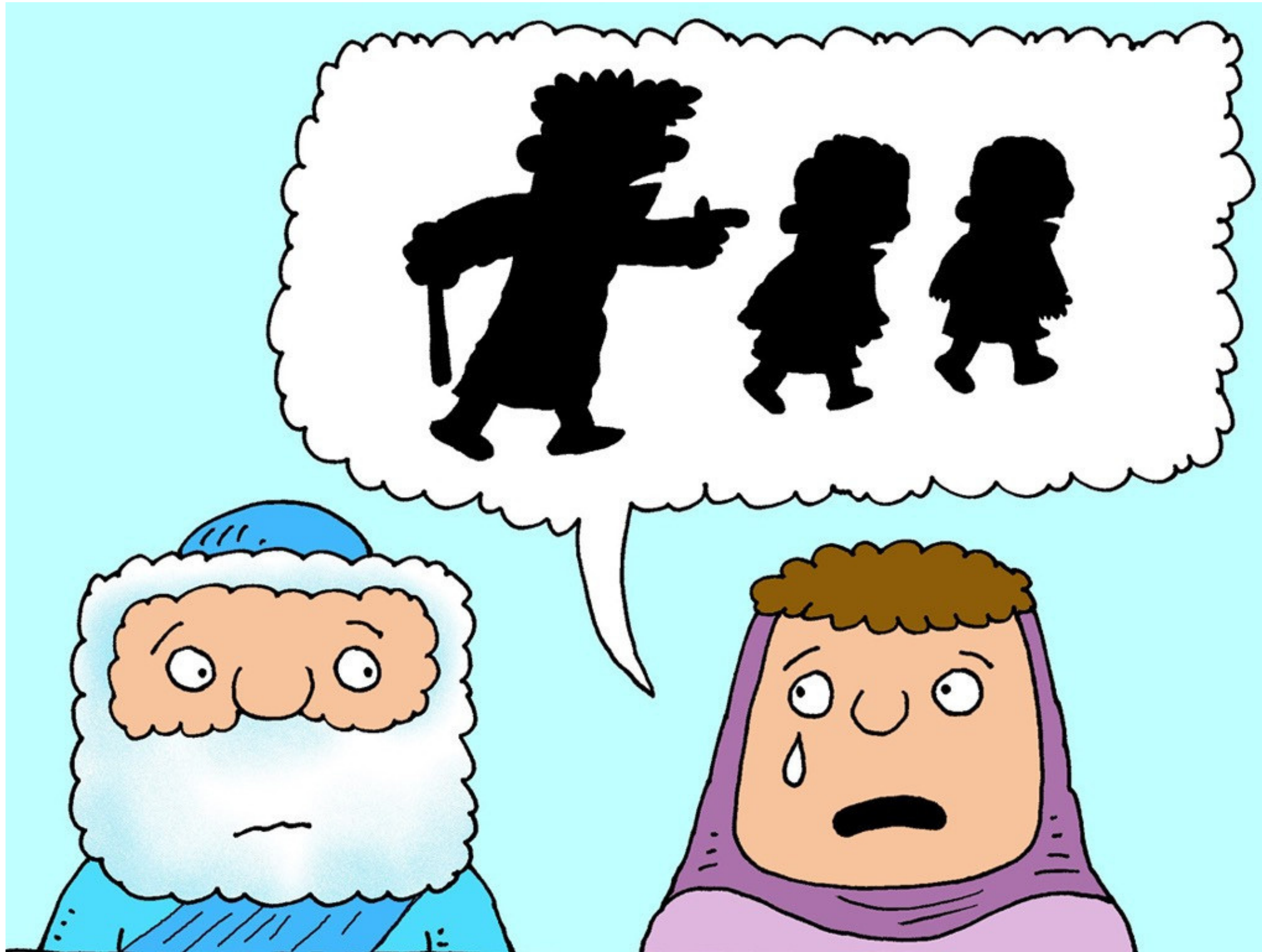
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One day, a woman, the wife of one of the prophets of God, came to see Elisha. She was clearly upset and needed help.



‘My husband is dead,’ she cried out. ‘As you know, he was a believer in the one true God. He was very poor and when he died he had many debts.’



‘One of the men he owed money to wants his money back. As I cannot pay, the man is threatening to take away my two sons and make them his slaves.’



Elisha asked the Lord for guidance. How could God help this poor woman? 'Tell me, what do you have in your house?' Elisha asked.



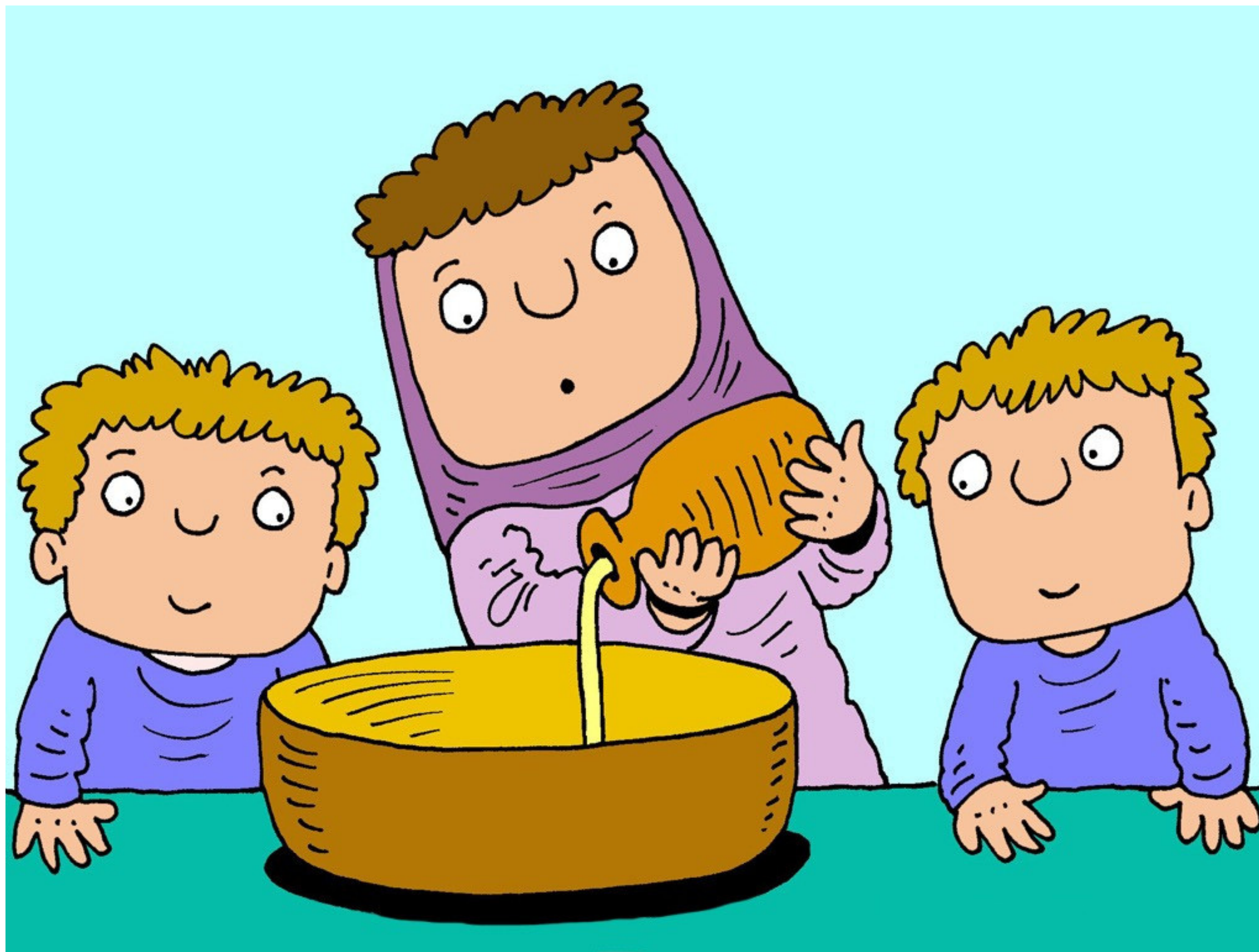
‘Only one small pot of oil,’
the tearful woman replied.



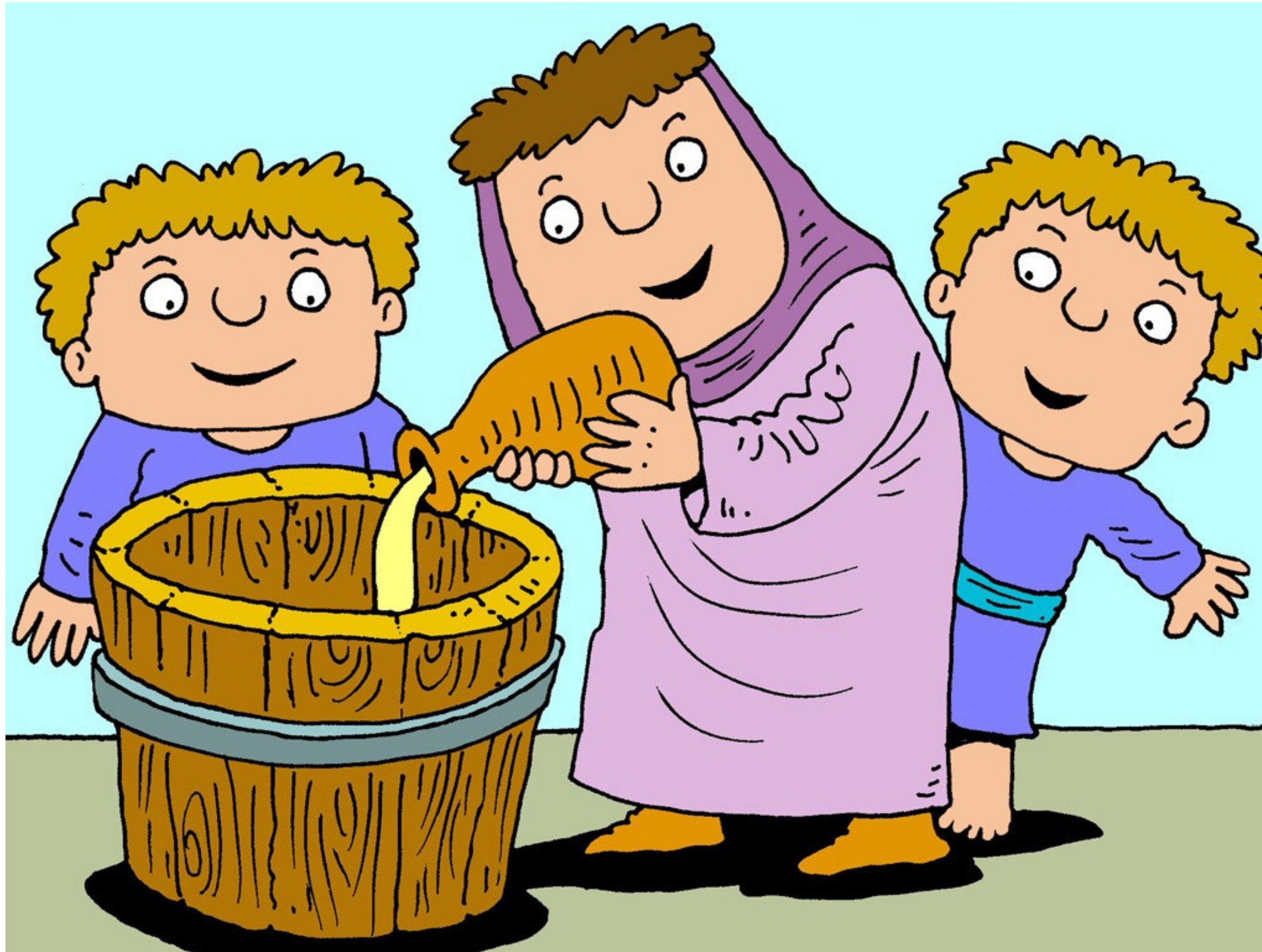
Here's what you must do,' said Elisha. 'Go home and gather all the empty vessels you can find. Borrow empty jars from your neighbours too. You need to gather as many jars as you can.' 'Why? What for?' the woman asked. Elisha then told her what to do once the jars had been collected.



The widow went home and she and her two sons gathered as many empty vessels as they could find. They borrowed bowls and jars from their neighbours and friends. It made quite a collection!



Then the woman went into her house and closed the door, just as Elisha had told her. Then she started tipping the oil from her one small jar of olive oil into the first large bowl. She poured and poured and the little jar did not empty. The oil kept flowing and flowing until the big bowl was filled.



Then she tipped the small jar of oil into a big bucket. Wow! The whole bucket filled up, right to the top.



The woman looked into her small jar of oil and it still wasn't empty. So she poured it into another large jar.



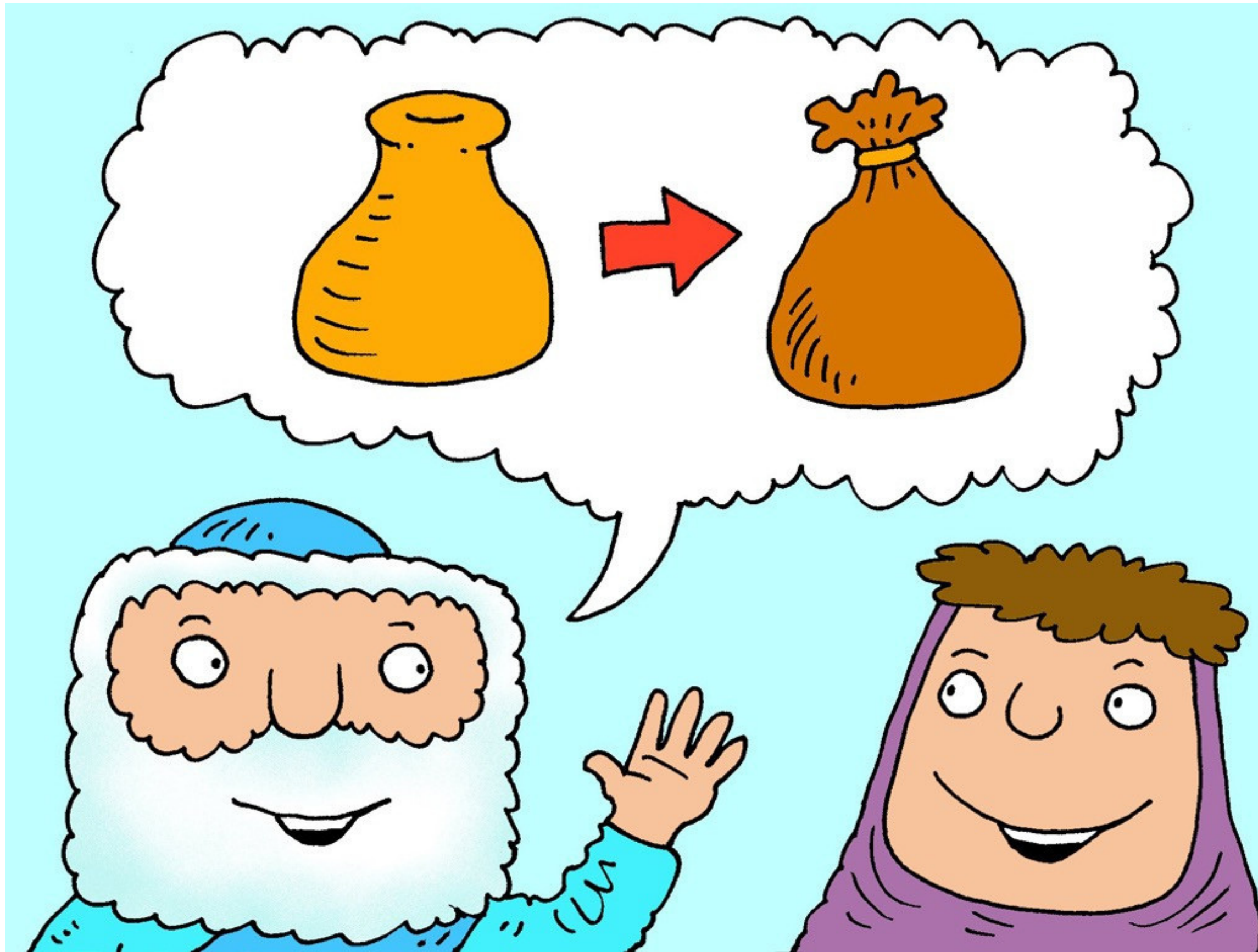
And when the jar filled, she keep pouring the olive oil into basins, bowls, jugs and pots. All of them were filled right up to the top.



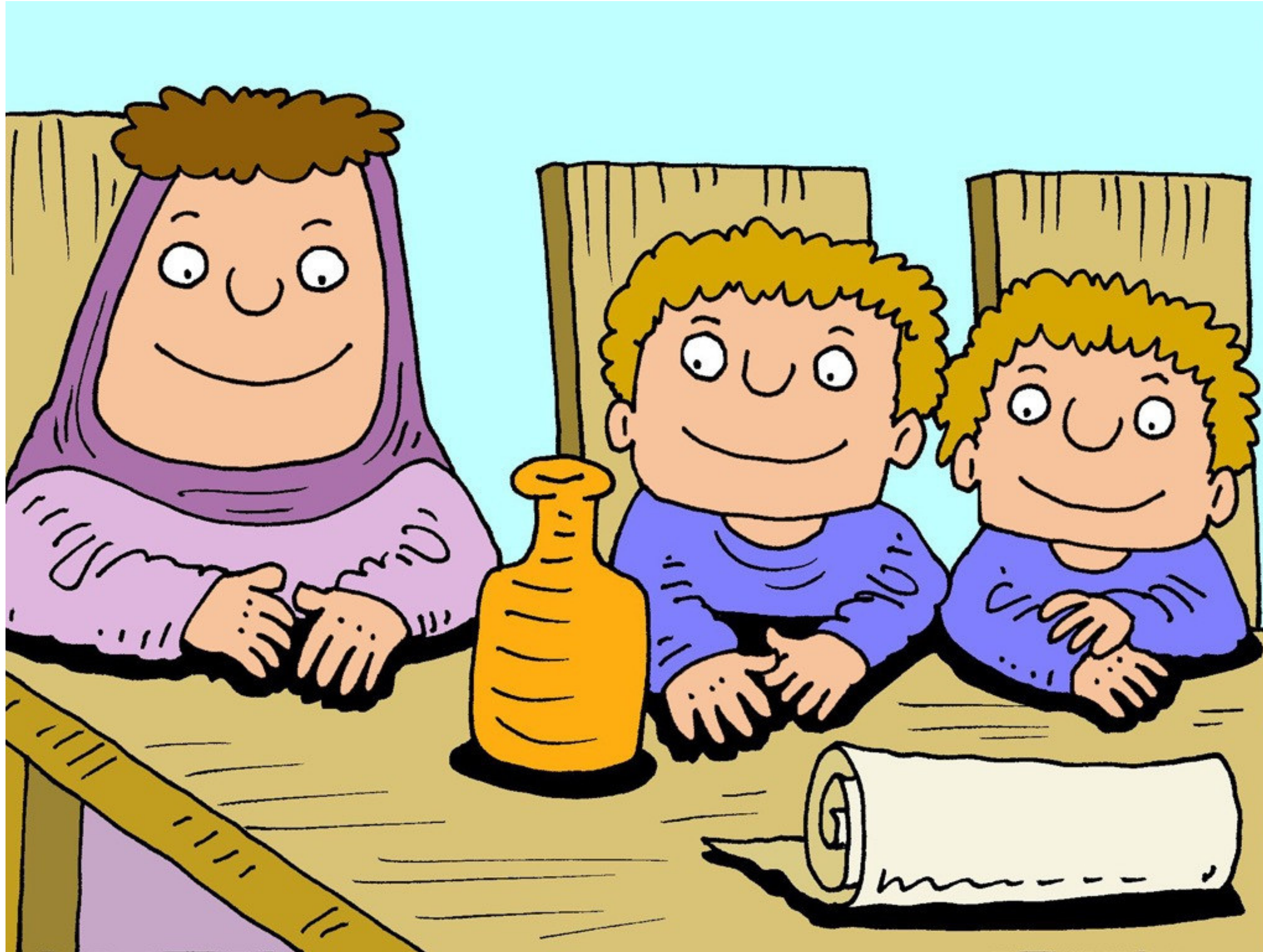
‘Are there any containers left to fill?’ the woman asked her sons. ‘No,’ they replied, ‘You have filled them all.’ As soon as the woman heard this the oil in her pot stopped coming out. It was totally empty.



The happy woman ran to find Elisha. 'I did everything you told me and now I have masses and masses of olive oil.'



Elisha was pleased. 'Now, go and sell the oil and use the money to pay your husband's debts. There should be enough money left for you and your sons to buy the food, clothes and the things you need.'



The woman returned home very happy. God had looked after them. Why? She had trusted and obeyed God. Faith and obedience always go together like that.

**Let's Talk About
The Story...**



**What happened to the
widow's husband?**



**What was the widow
with 2 sons sad and
concerned about?**



**What did the widow
only have a little of?**



**What did Elisha tell her
sons to go and get from
the neighbors?**



**What did Elisha tell the
widow to do with the
jars?**



**What did the widow do
with all the jars of oil?**



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