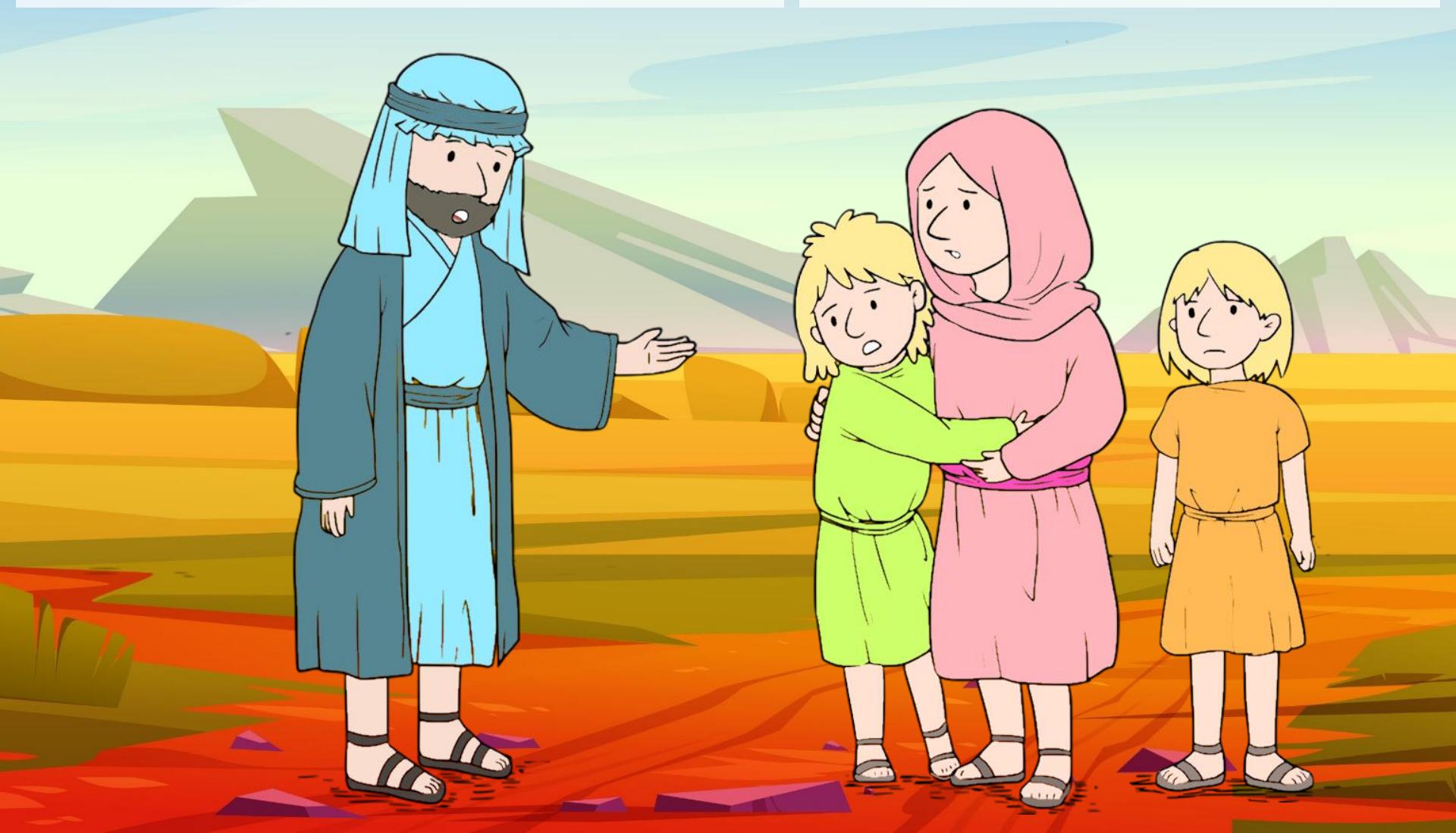


Elisha Helps a Poor Widow

One day a widow came to the prophet Elisha and cried out, "My husband is dead. But he owed money to a man. Now that man is coming to take my two boys and make them his slaves!"

Eliseo aiuta una povera vedova

Una donna gridò al profeta Eliseo: - Mio marito è morto. Aveva un debito con un tale che ora vuol prendersi i miei due figli come schiavi.



"What can I do to help you?" Elisha asked. "Tell me, what do you have in the house?"

"Nothing at all, except a flask of olive oil," she replied.

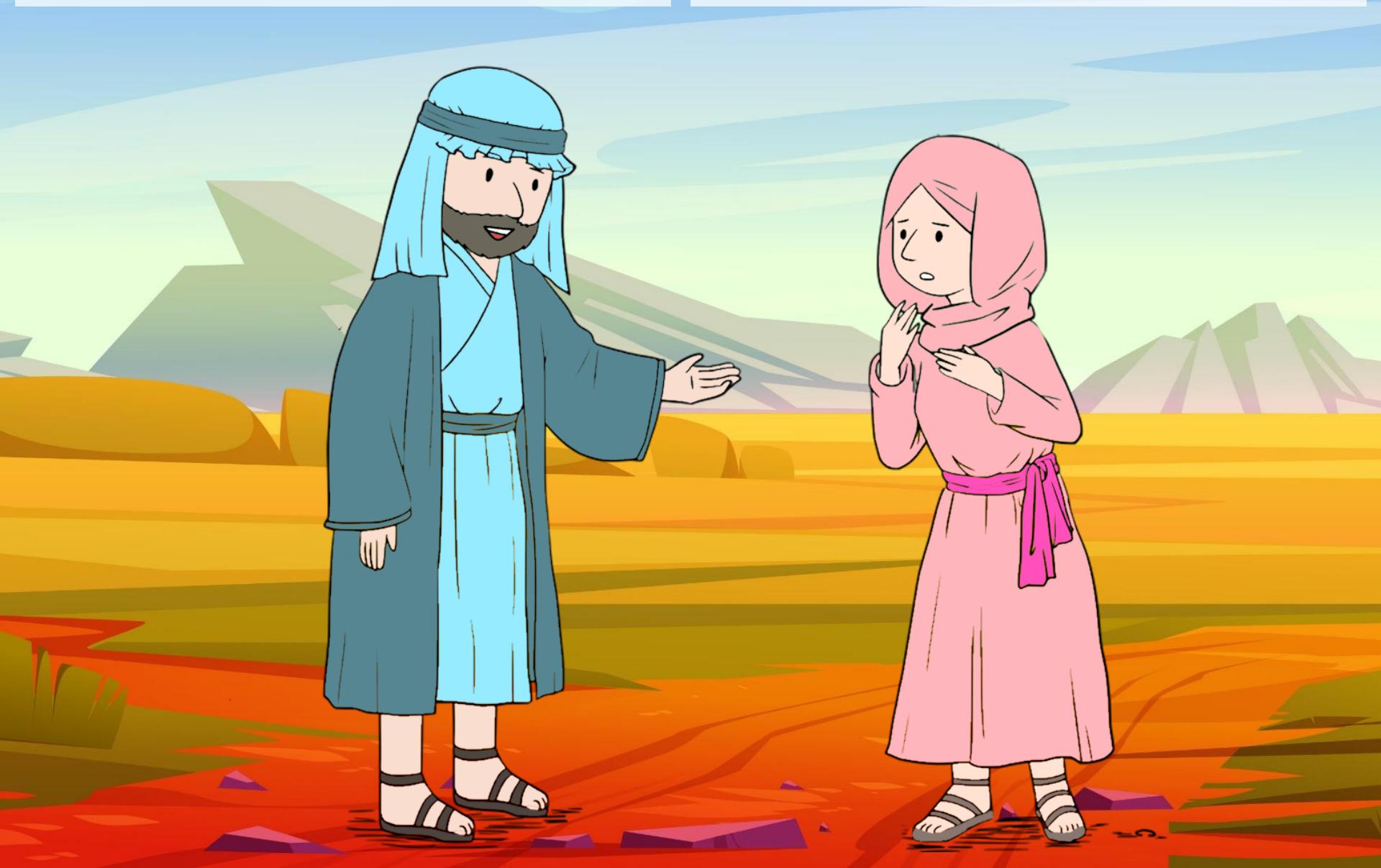


Eliseo le chiese: - Che cosa posso fare per te? Dimmi che cosa hai in casa.

La donna rispose: - In casa non ho più niente: mi è rimasto solo un vasetto d'olio.

Elisha said, "Borrow as many empty jars as you can from your friends and neighbors. Then pour olive oil from your flask into the jars. Fill them, and put them in a separate place."

- Allora, - rispose Eliseo, - fatti imprestare alcuni recipienti dai tuoi vicini, il maggior numero possibile. Poi versa l'olio in ogni recipiente e, quando uno è pieno, mettilo da parte.



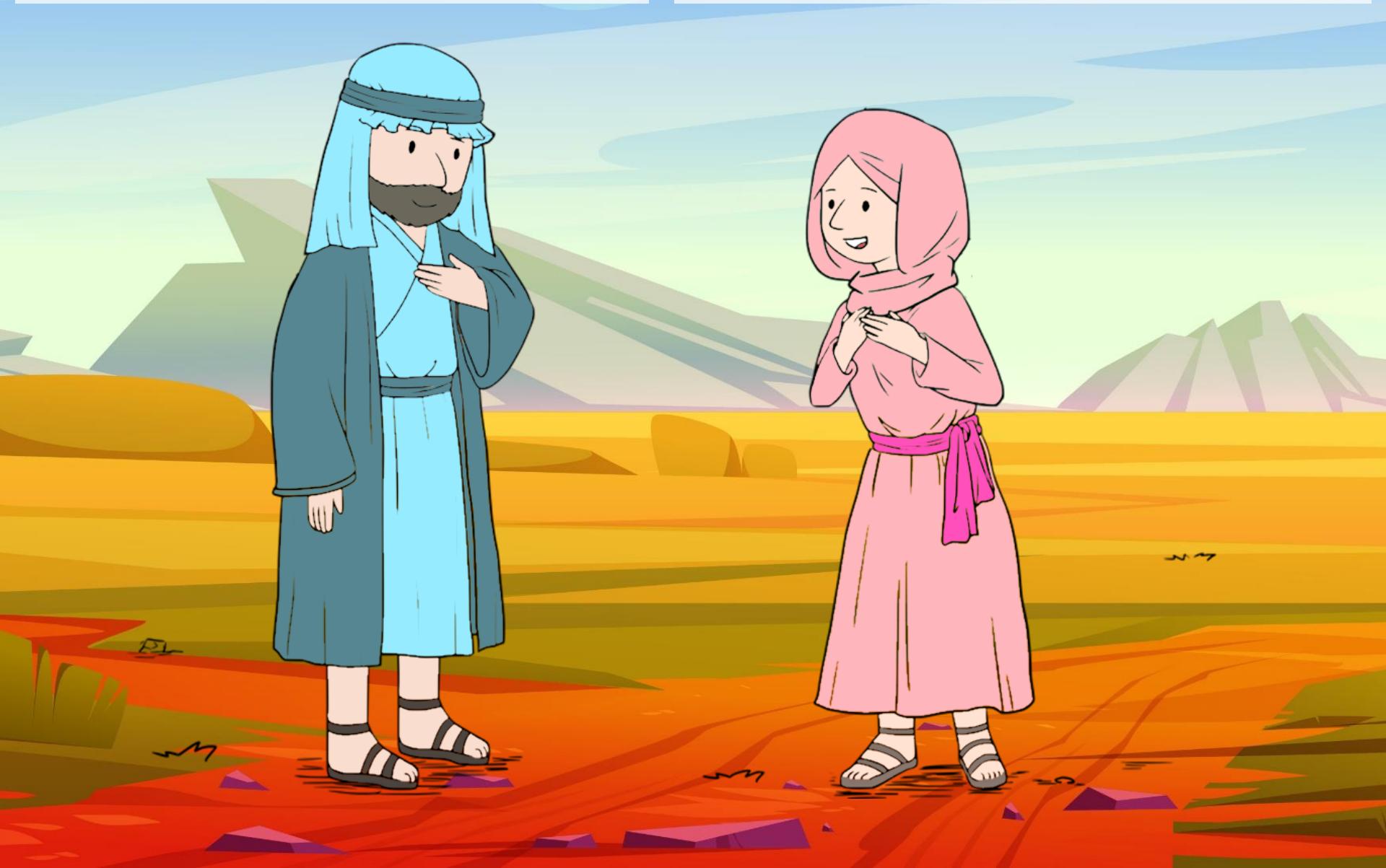
So she did as she was told. Her sons kept bringing jars to her, and she filled one after another. Soon every container was full to the brim!

La donna andò a chiudersi in casa con i suoi figli: loro le passavano i recipienti, e lei versava l'olio. I recipienti si riempivano.



When she told the man of God what had happened, he said to her, "Now sell the olive oil and pay your debts, and you and your sons can live on what is left over."

La donna corse a riferire al profeta quel che era successo. Egli le disse: - Va' a vender l'olio. Con il ricavato pagherai il tuo debito. Ne avanzerà abbastanza da far vivere te e i tuoi figli.



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Text from the Bible, 2 Kings 4:1-7