

Jesus died on the cross to forgive sinners

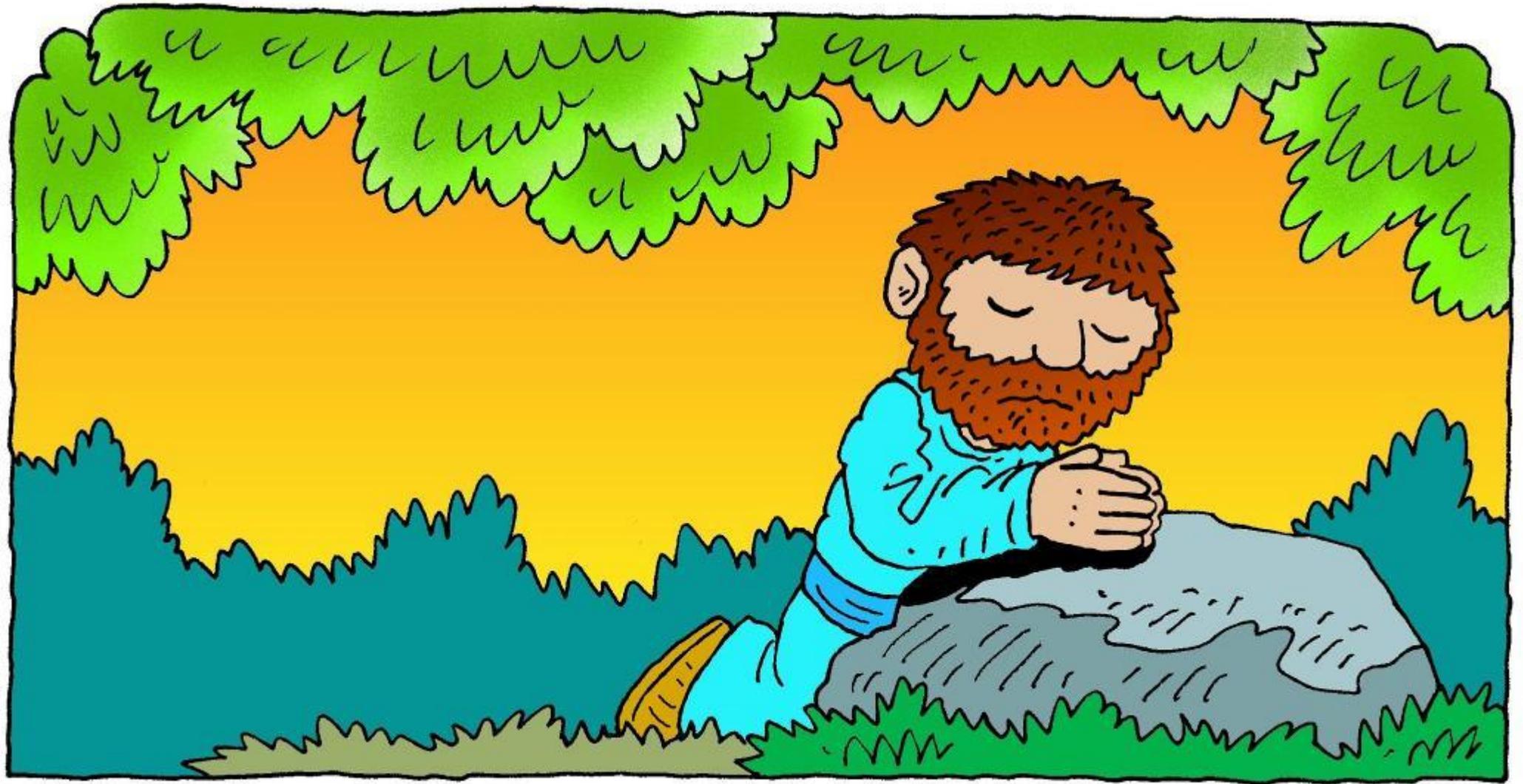
By Jill Kemp

Illustrated by Richard Gunther





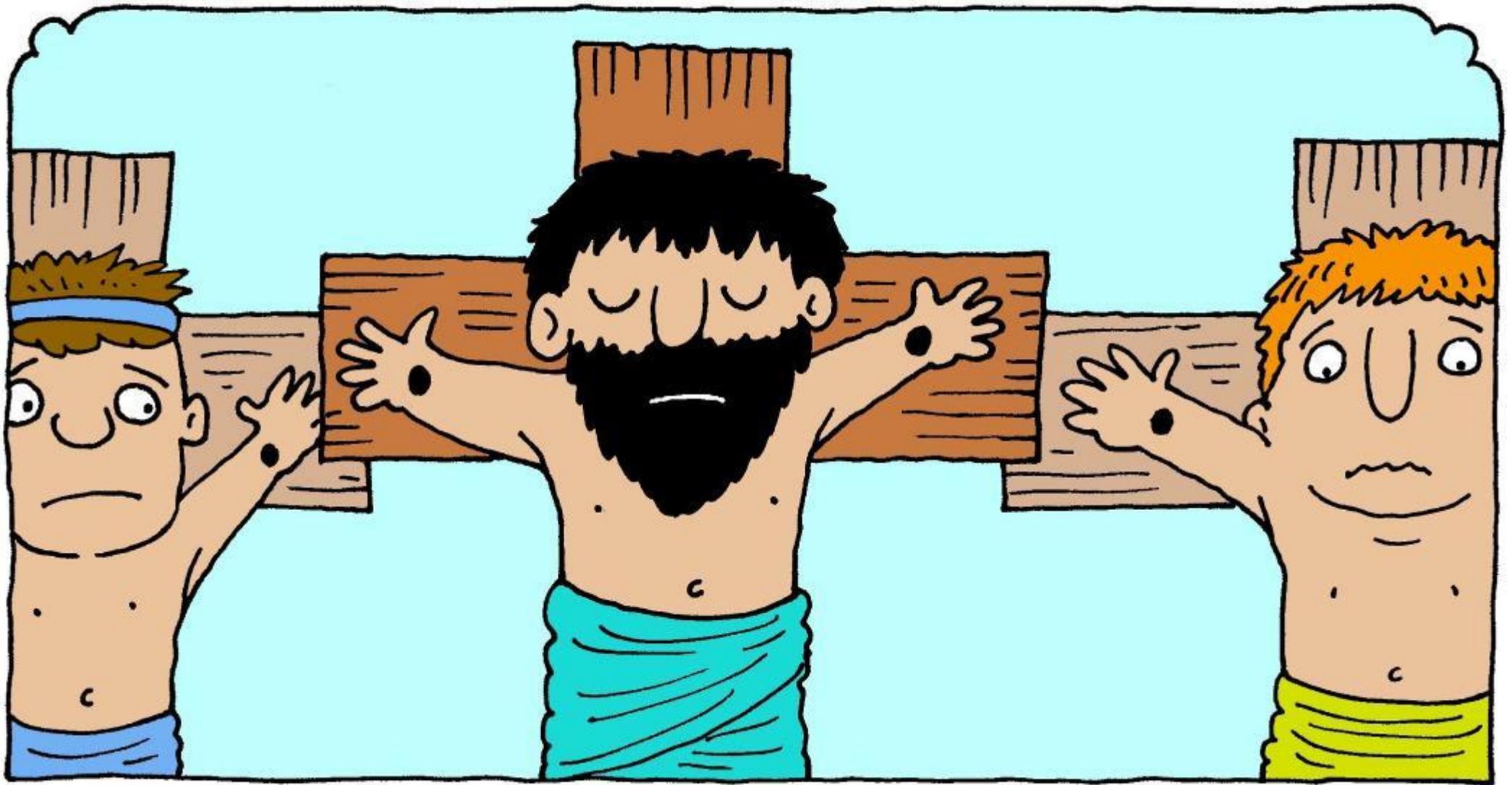
Jesus was sad because he knew that soon he would die on the cross. He took Peter, James and John to the olive orchard in the garden of Gethsemane, to pray.



His friends sat down in the garden while Jesus went a little way off to pray by himself, asking his Heavenly Father to help him face what was about to happen.



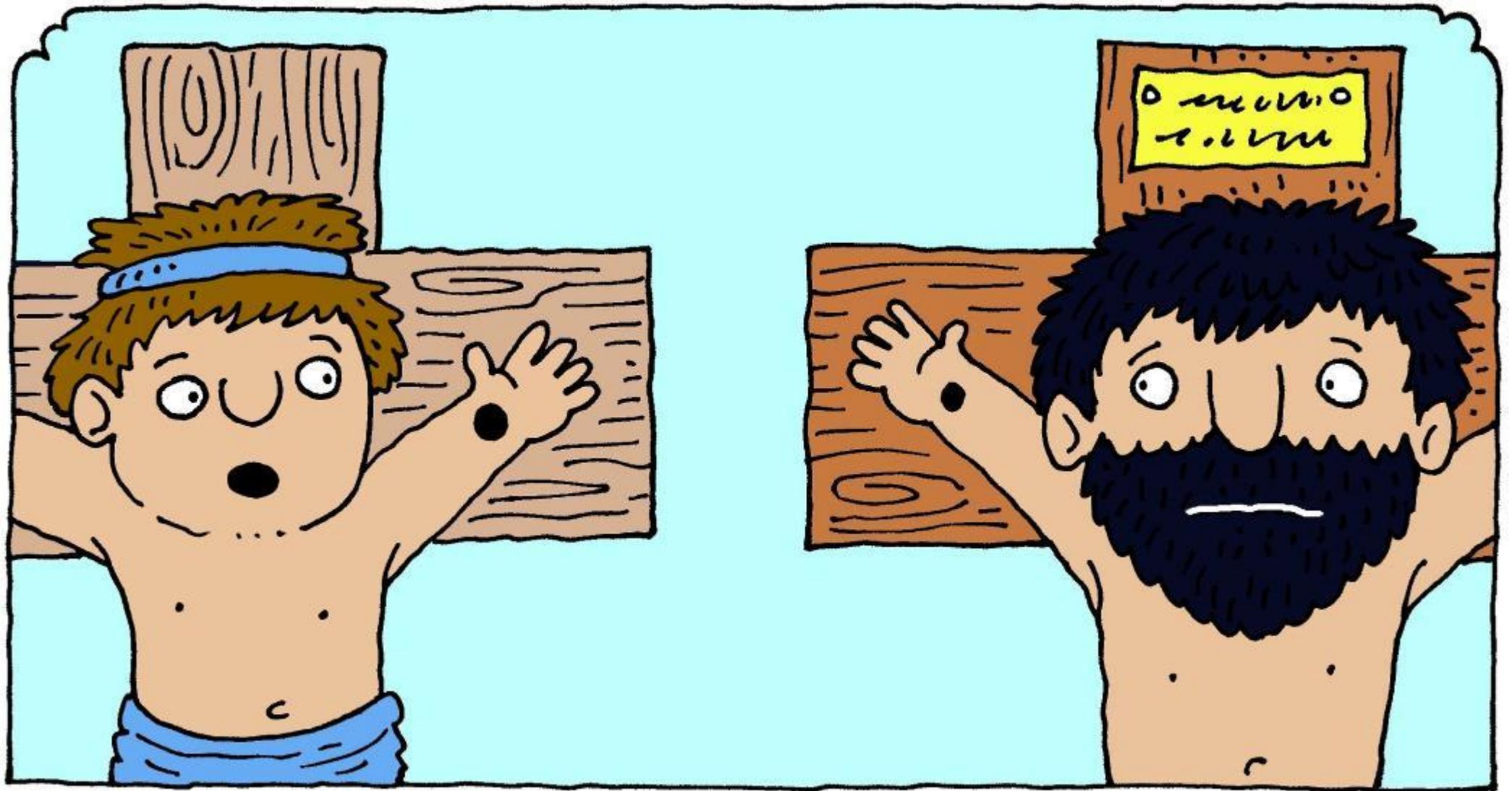
The soldiers came and arrested Jesus.
They took him away.
They decided to put Jesus up on a cross.



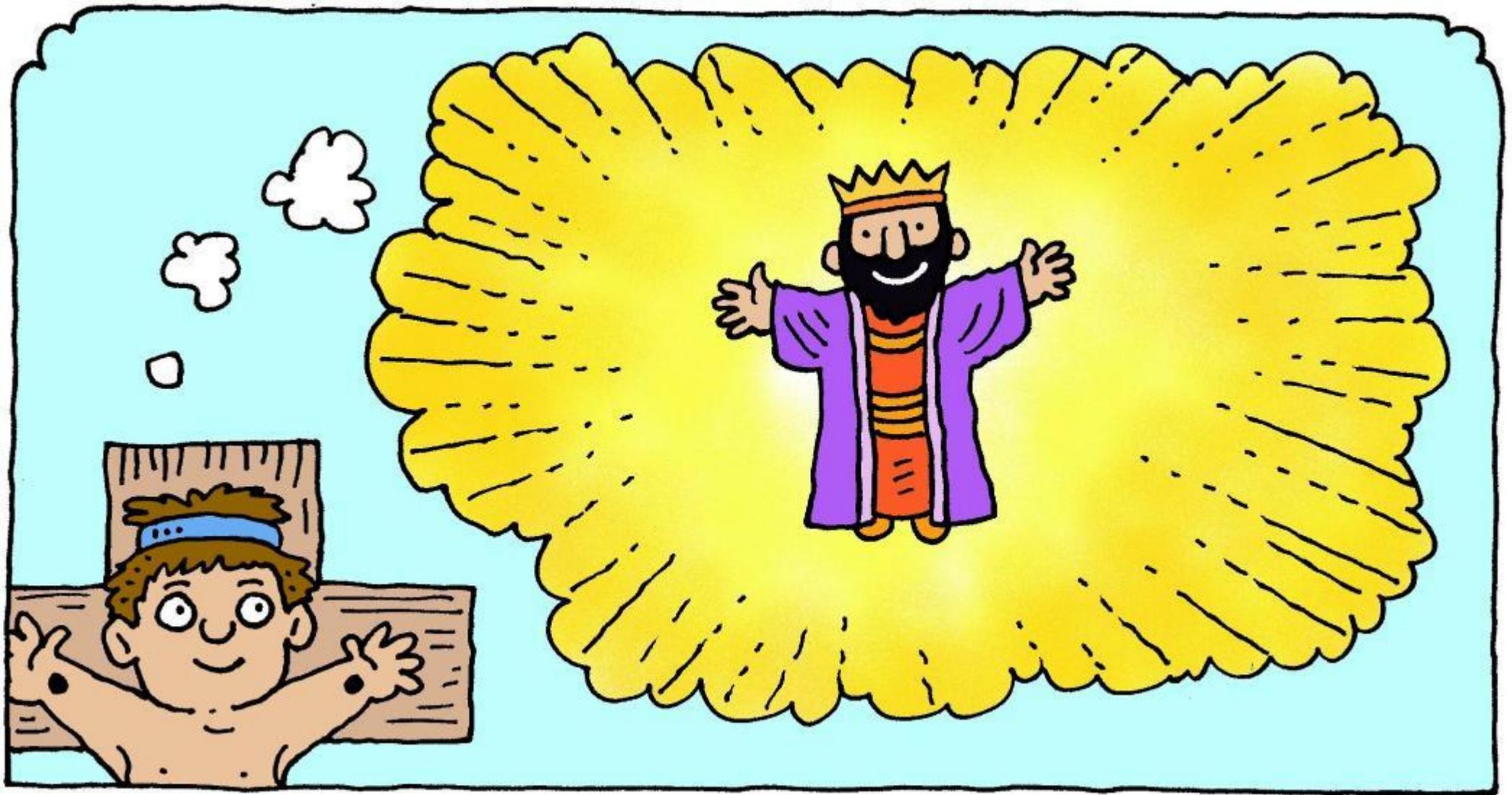
Jesus was crucified on a cross
between two bad men.
They were being punished
for stealing other people's things.



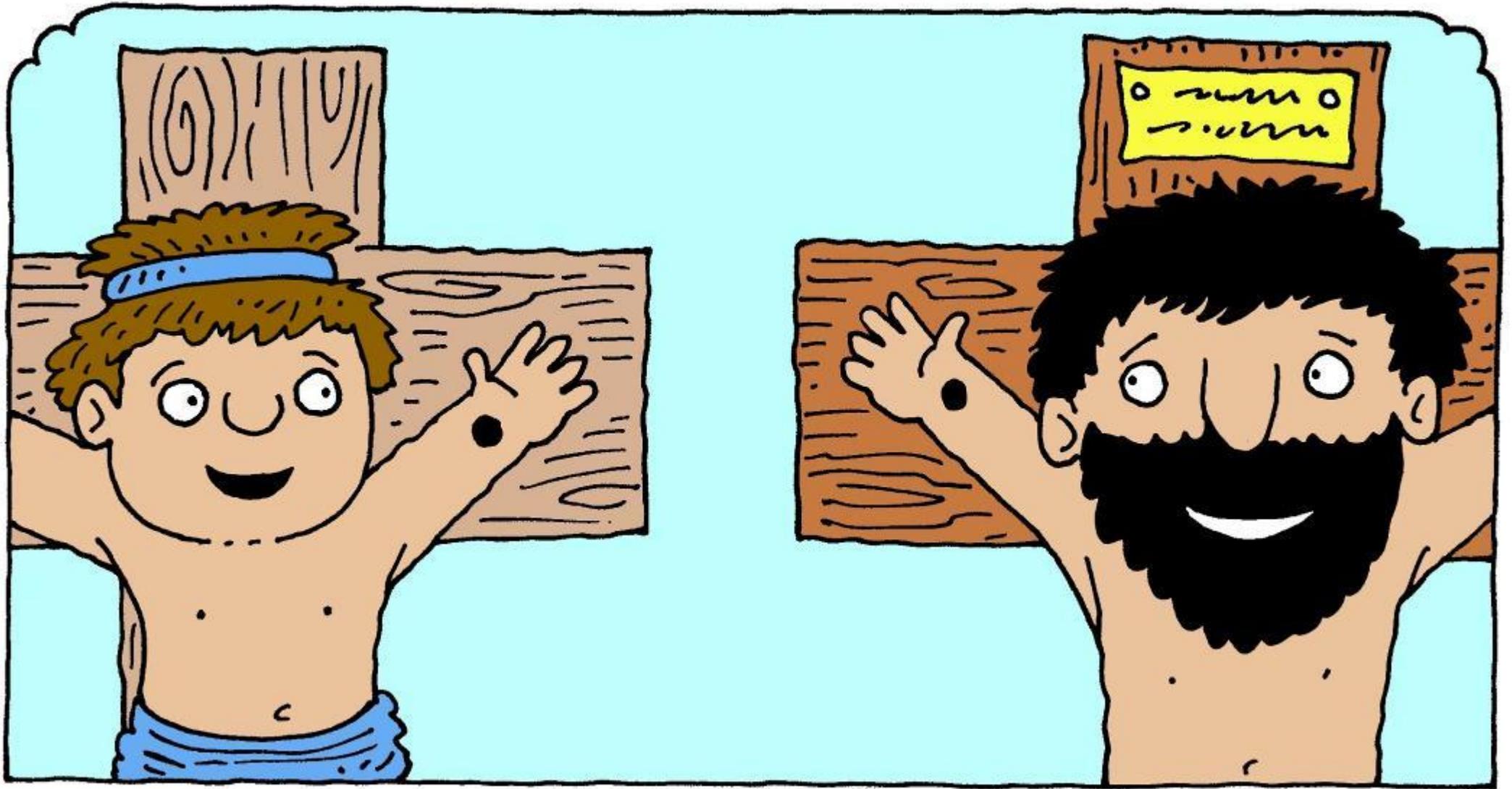
One of the men said “If you really are God’s king,
why don’t you get down off the cross,
and rescue us too!”



The other thief was sorry for all the bad things that he had done. "God knows that we deserve to pay for what we did, but Jesus has done nothing wrong."



“Jesus,” he said, “remember me when you come into your kingdom.”
Jesus answered, “I tell you truthfully that today you will be with me in paradise!”



Jesus forgave the man. The man was so happy!

Now he could be friends with God.

Jesus stayed on the cross and died, so that we could be forgiven too.

Now we can be friends with God!