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# **A Knock at the Door**

**By: Wardah Burhan**

First Published in the UK: 2021

© Islam International Publications Ltd.

Published by Lajna Imaillah UK

Iwan e Nusrat Jahan

Unit B, Endeavour Place

Coxbridge, Business Park

Farnham, Surrey

GU10 5EH

Printed in the UK at: Raqeeem Press, Farnham

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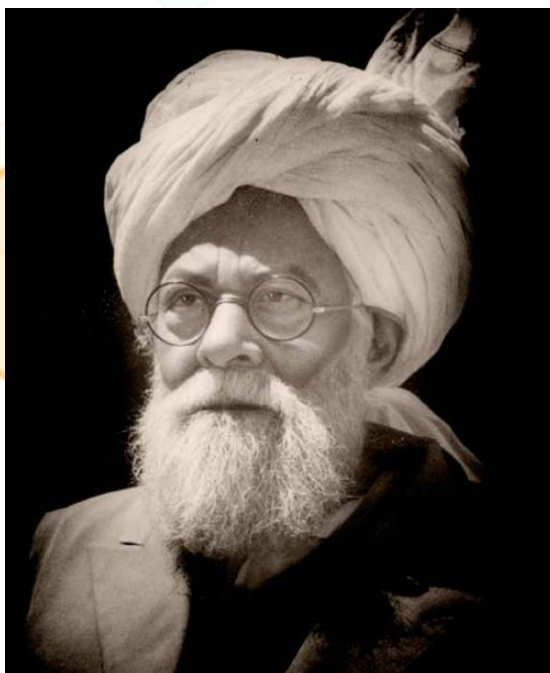
ISBN: 978-1-84880-771-6



Story related by:  
Hazrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmud  
Ahmad  
Khalifatul Masih II<sup>(ra)</sup>  
(Khutbaat-e-Mahmud Volume 2. Page 299-301)

Dedicated to:  
My Beloved Huzoor,  
Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad,  
Khalifatul Masih V  
(May Allah be his Helper)





Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Bashīr-ud-Dīn Maḥmūd Aḥmad

Khalīfatul-Masīḥ II<sup>ra</sup>

1889-1965

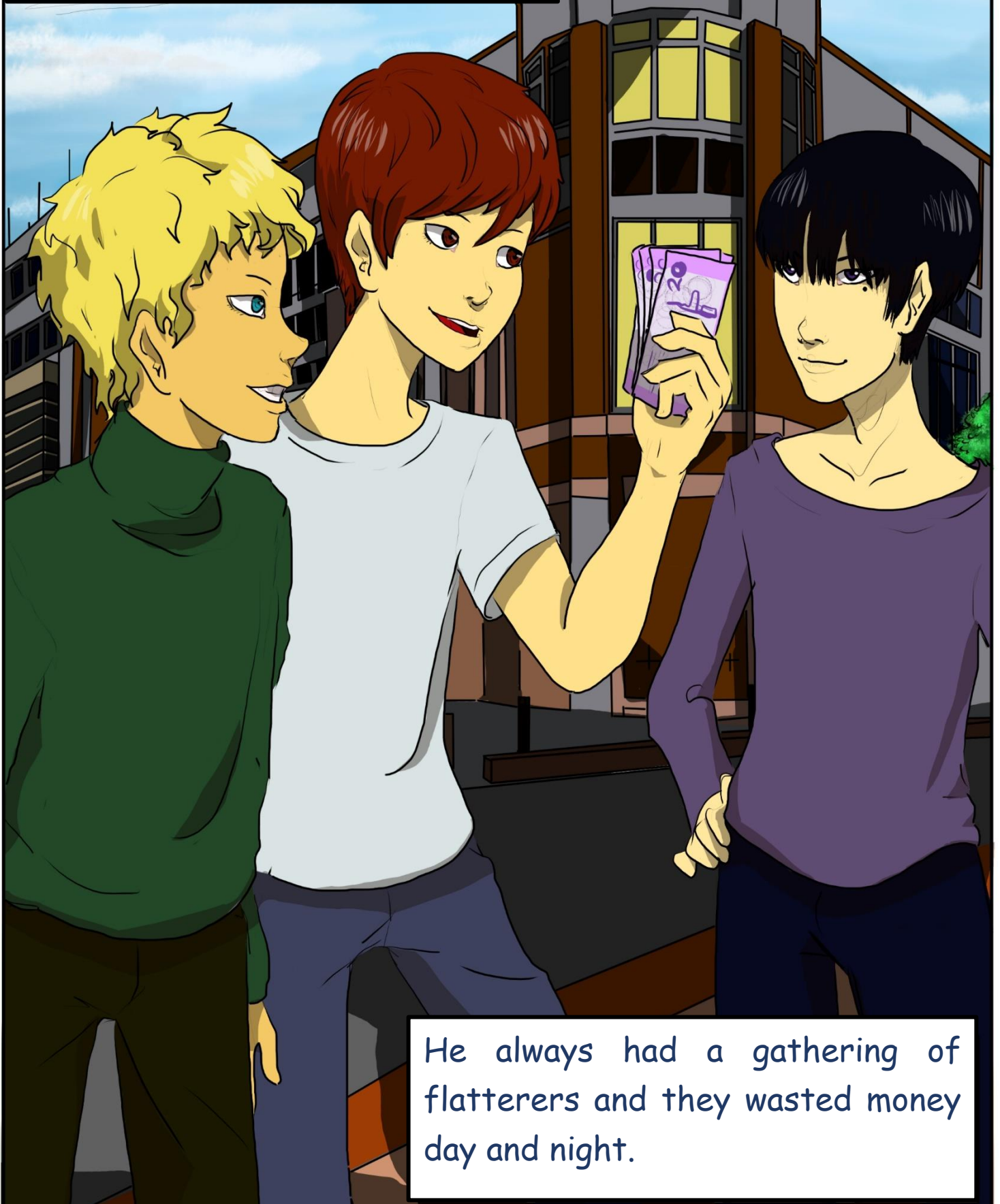
Promised son of Ḥaḍrat Mirzā Ghulām Aḥmad, the Promised Messiah and Maḥdī, ‘alaihissalām, head of the worldwide Aḥmadiyya Muslim Community 1914-65.

He established the city of Rabwah in Pakistan after his migration from Qadian (India) at the partition of the subcontinent in 1947 that has now grown into a world renowned centre for religious research.

A great scholar of Islam, God-given gifts of oratory and exegesis accompany his research on comparative religion. He left behind an immense treasury of speeches and writings on all aspects of the faith.



A famous story states that a young man was in the habit of wasting his father's wealth on his friends all the time.



He always had a gathering of flatterers and they wasted money day and night.



His father always told him,

They are flattering and selfish young men. They do not have real love for you. Do not destroy your wealth on them.



But the young man never accepted his father's advice



They are my true friends



The father said,

How come you have gathered so many friends around while I have been able to find only one close friend?

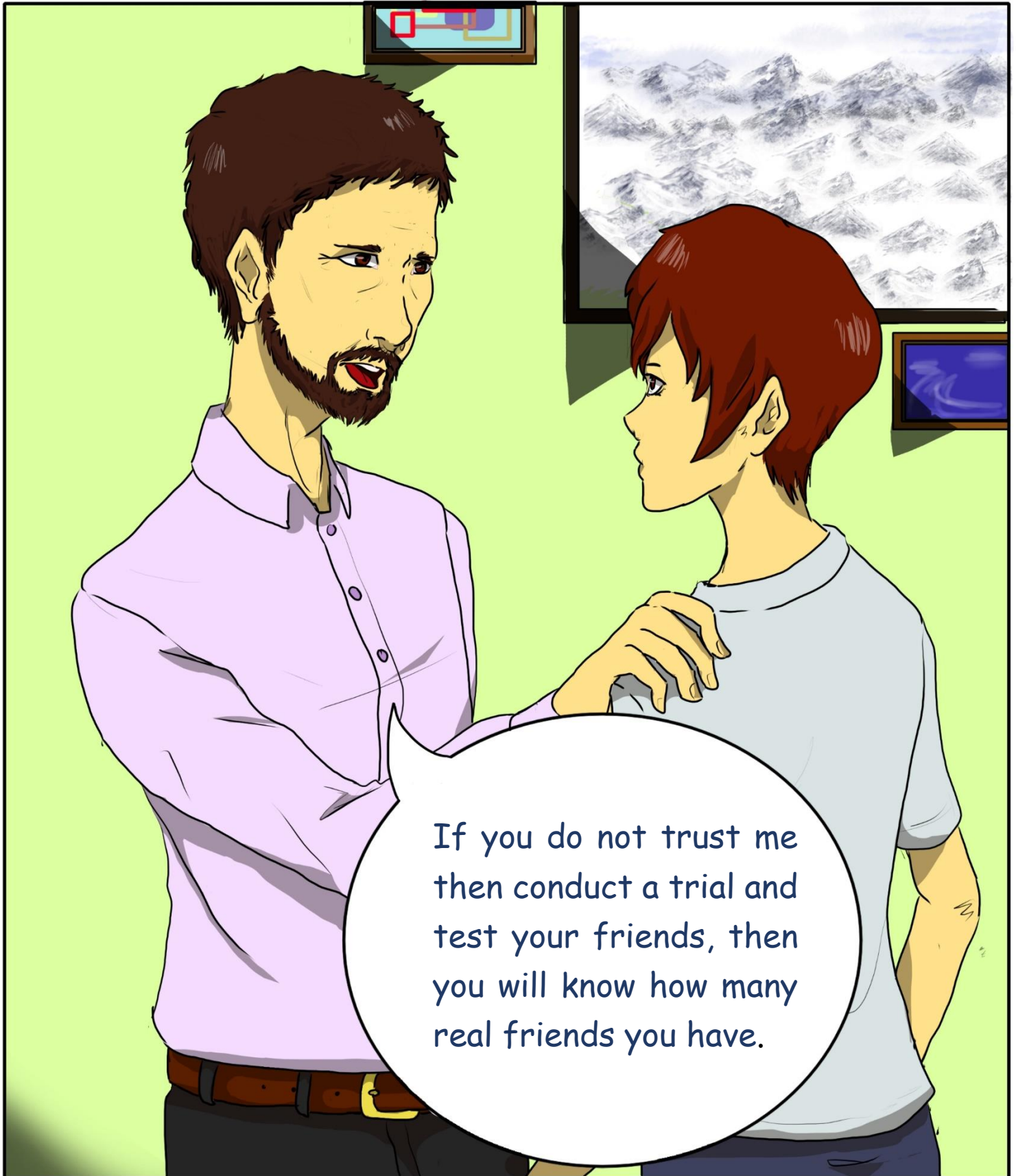
How come there is a large gathering of friends around you all of the time?"





A long time passed, and the young man did not accept his father's advice. One day, the father said,

4





The son asked,

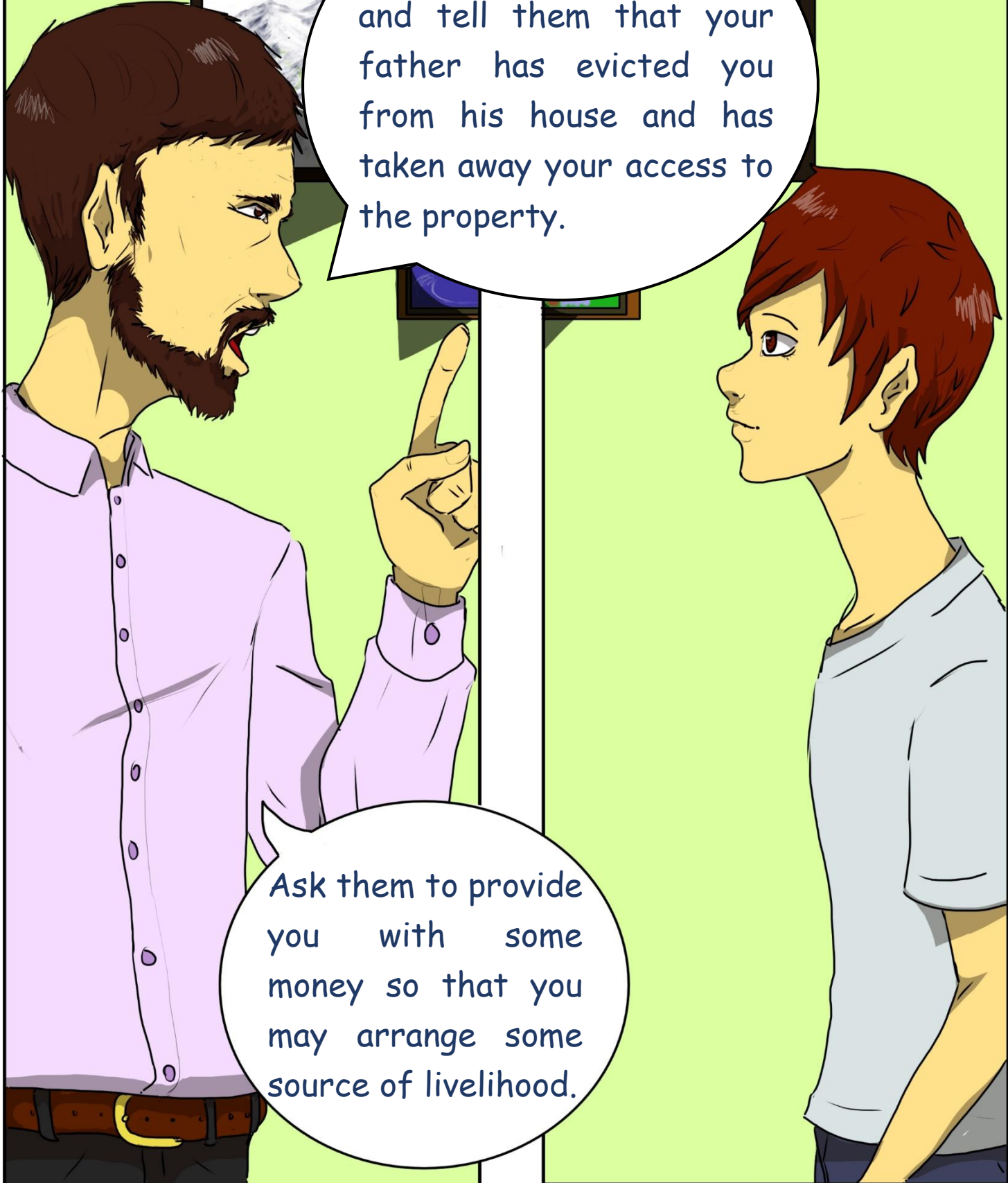
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His father replied,

6

A man with dark brown hair and a beard, wearing a light purple button-down shirt, is pointing his right index finger towards a young man. The young man has short reddish-brown hair and is wearing a light blue t-shirt. They are standing in a room with a light green wall. In the background, there is a large framed picture of a snowy mountain range. A speech bubble from the man on the left contains the text: "Go to every friend's home, and tell them that your father has evicted you from his house and has taken away your access to the property." Another speech bubble from the same man at the bottom contains the text: "Ask them to provide you with some money so that you may arrange some source of livelihood."

Go to every friend's home,  
and tell them that your  
father has evicted you  
from his house and has  
taken away your access to  
the property.

Ask them to provide  
you with some  
money so that you  
may arrange some  
source of livelihood.



When he went to his friends' homes and told them that his father had evicted him,

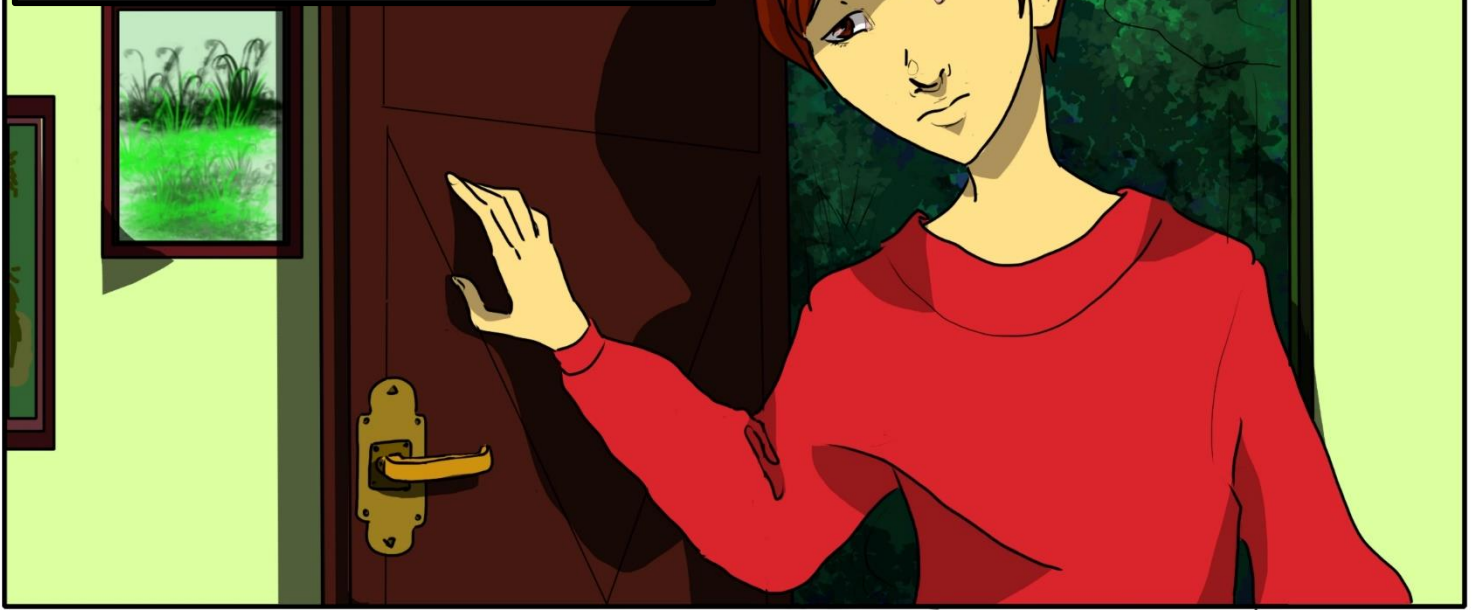
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One sent a message out through a servant that he was sick and regretted that he could not meet him at that time.

Some excused saying that they had the money but had given it to someone else just that day.



The young man returned home empty handed and said to his father that what his father had been saying was proven true; no one helped him.



The Father said,

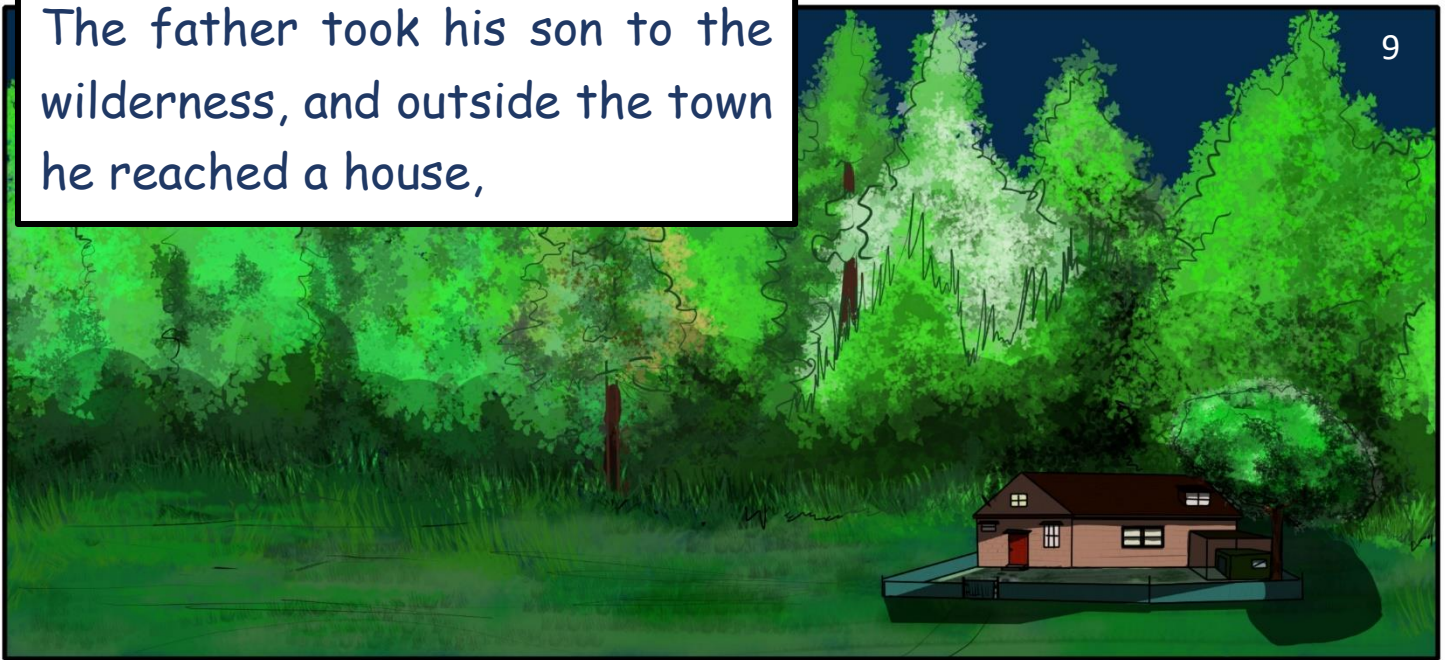


Let me show you  
my friend now.



The father took his son to the wilderness, and outside the town he reached a house,

9



And called out. There was a query from inside,



Who is this?





The father announced his own name.

The voice from the house said,

Okay.





Then there was silence without a response for half an hour.

11

The son said,


Your friend has proven to be like my friends.





The father said,

12



Do not be impatient;  
you will know soon why  
he has taken so long to  
come out.



A few minutes later, the father's friend came out holding the hand of his wife. He had his scabbard fastened to his waist and had a sword in the other hand.






As he came out, he said,


Forgive me my friend,  
you came at midnight  
and I have been delayed  
since you knocked at the  
door. I assumed that  
your coming at midnight  
has some purpose in it.







I thought, maybe you are in trouble and you have come to me for help.



On this thought, I picked up my sword because that is what I would use to help you.




Then I thought that although you are a billionaire, even billionaires can have financial problems and need any penny they can get.



I had collected four to five hundred dollars penny by penny throughout my life and had buried them. I dug the ground and extracted that bag.








I was further delayed on thinking that maybe your wife is not well and there may be some need to tend to her



So I awoke my wife and brought her with me.





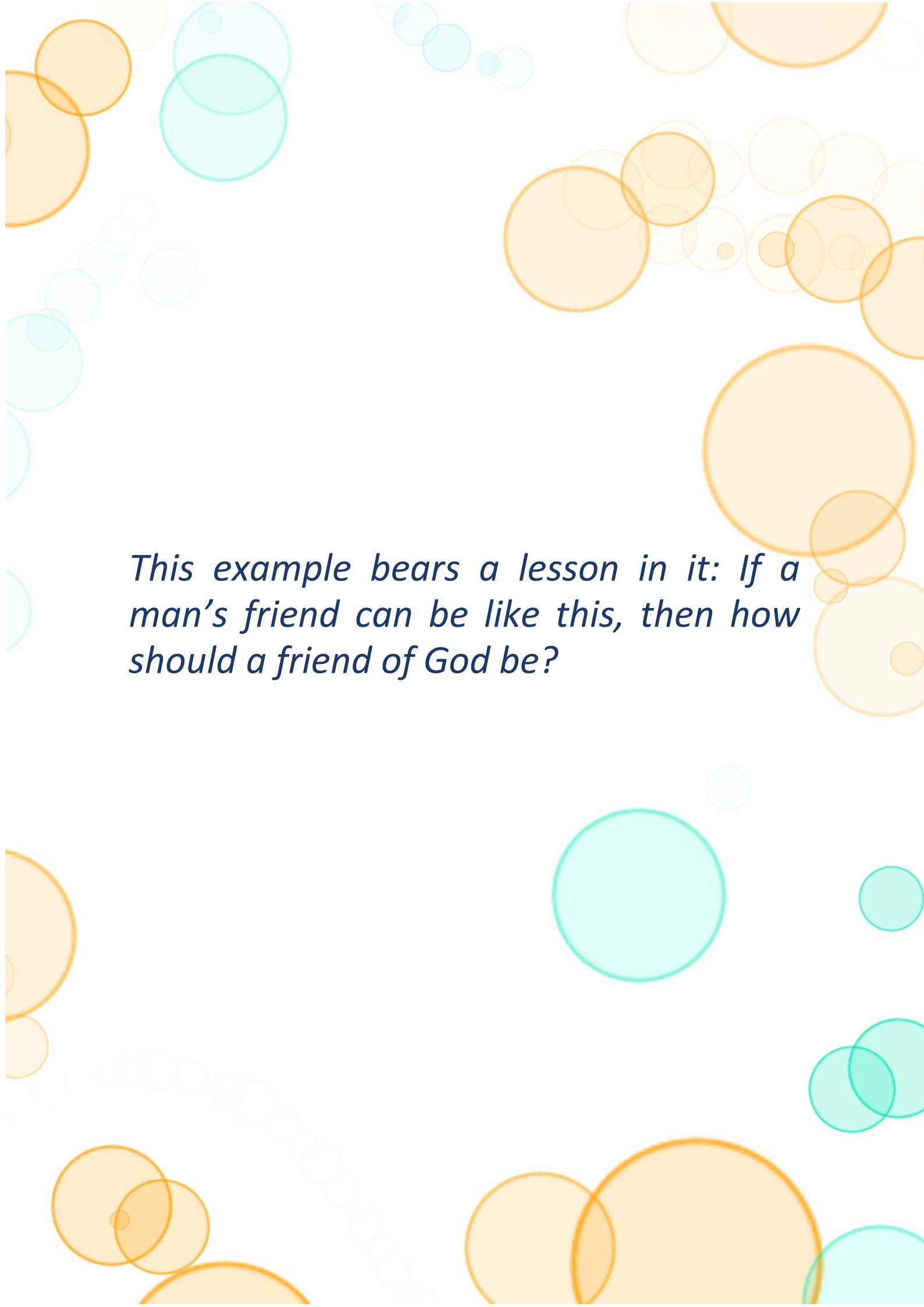
All these three things are at your disposal. How can we be of help?



He said to his son,

Such ones are the friends.





*This example bears a lesson in it: If a man's friend can be like this, then how should a friend of God be?*



The sign of a true friend is that he is ready to sacrifice everything for his friend and beloved. Imagine a beloved and a friend who is not only a beloved and a friend but also is the Creator, the Master, and the Lord.