

Bible Stories for Young Children

part of a curriculum prepared for young children

***GIDEON PREPARES FOR WAR /
HOW GIDEON WON***

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JUDGES 6:33 – 8:28

GIDEON PREPARES FOR WAR / HOW GIDEON WON

File no. 46

Gideon wanted to be sure that God was going to help him defeat their enemy.

So he asked God to show him a sign.

‘Tonight I am going to put out a sheepskin on the ground.

Please let the dew fall on the wool and not on the ground.

Then I will know that You will be with me’

In the morning

Gideon found the sheepskin was wet and the ground was dry.

‘Please don’t be angry,’ said Gideon.

‘I want to do the test again

but this time when I put out the sheepskin

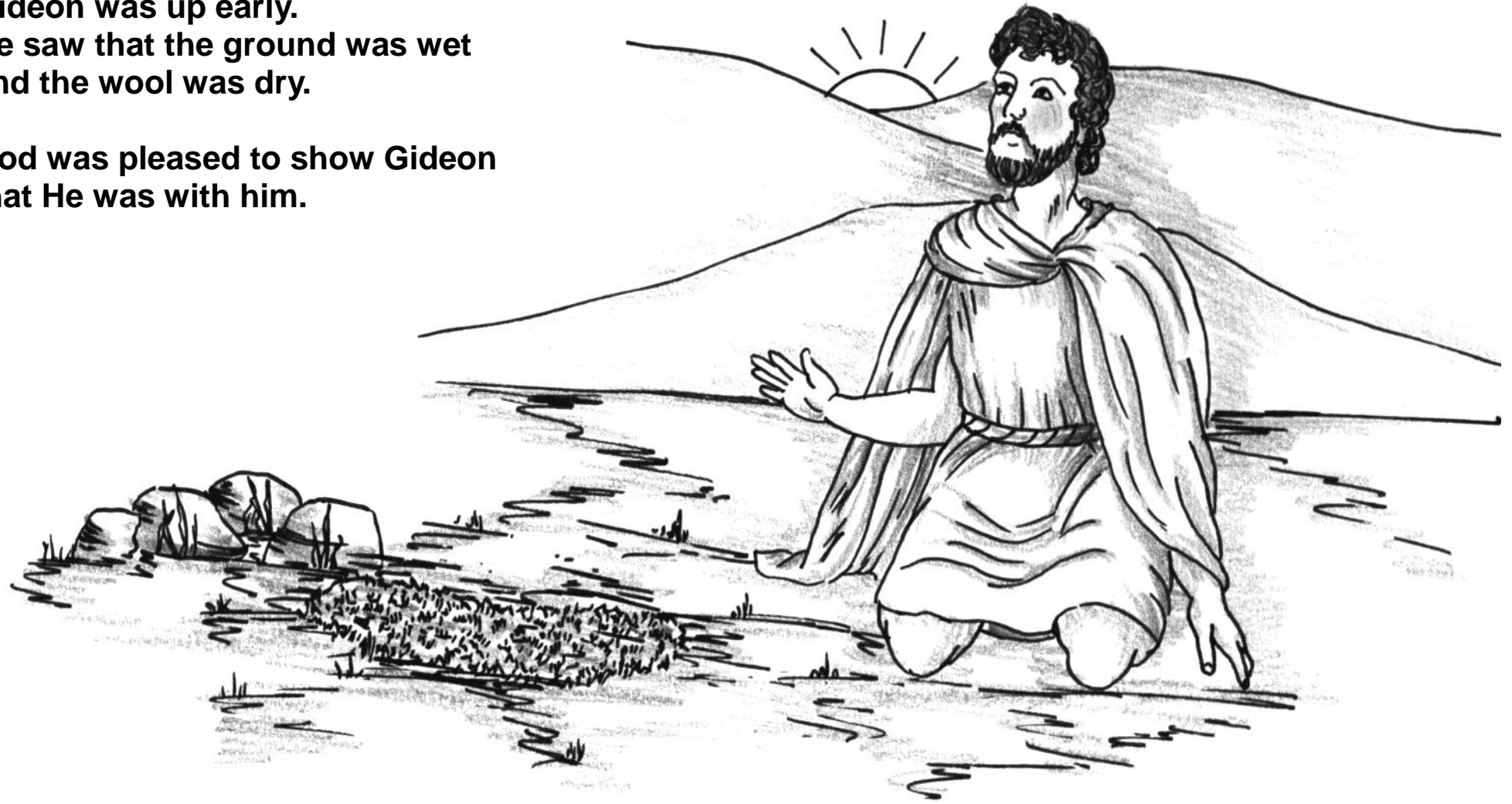
let the wool be dry

and the ground wet.’



**The next morning
Gideon was up early.
He saw that the ground was wet
and the wool was dry.**

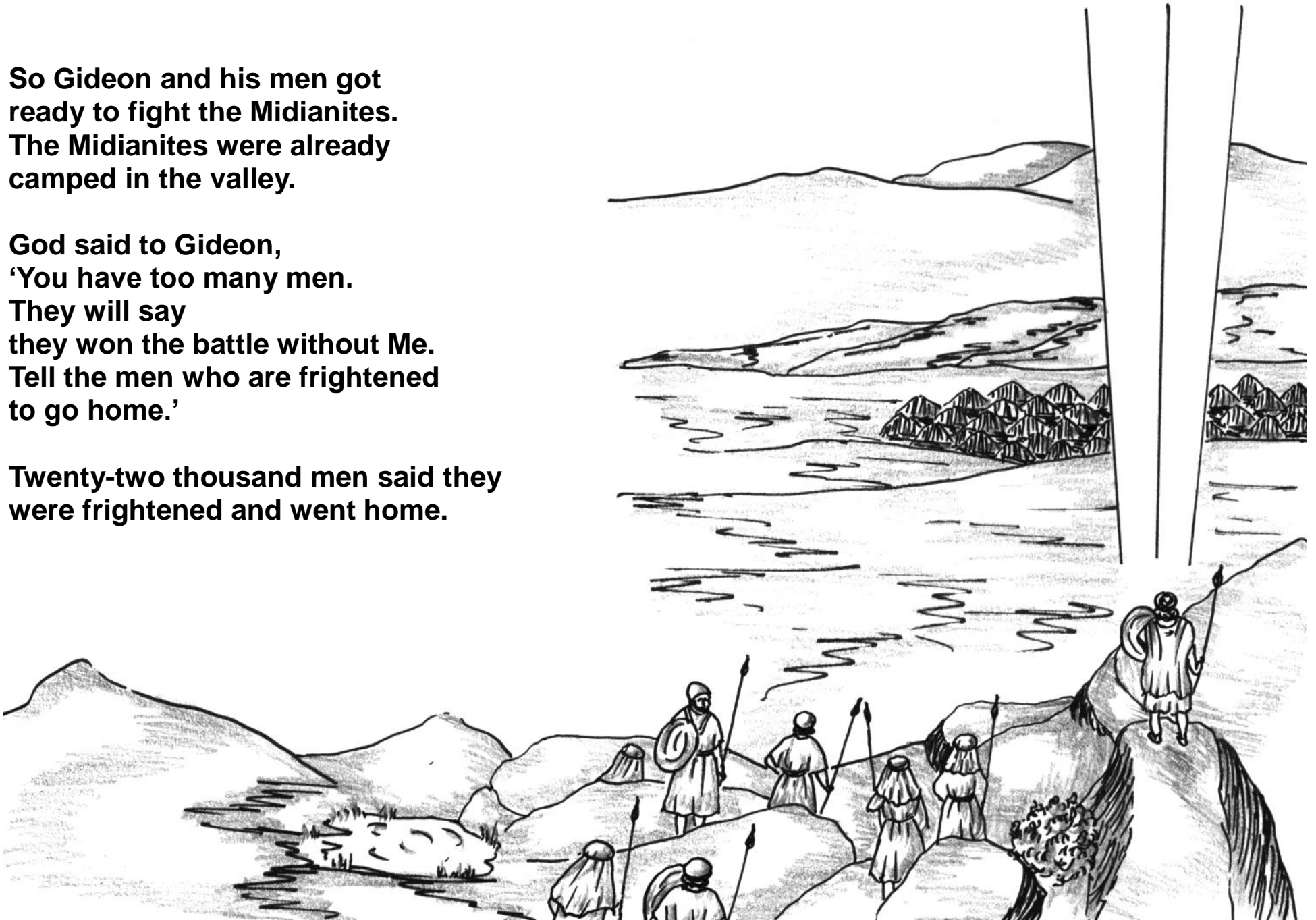
**God was pleased to show Gideon
that He was with him.**



So Gideon and his men got ready to fight the Midianites. The Midianites were already camped in the valley.

**God said to Gideon,
'You have too many men.
They will say
they won the battle without Me.
Tell the men who are frightened
to go home.'**

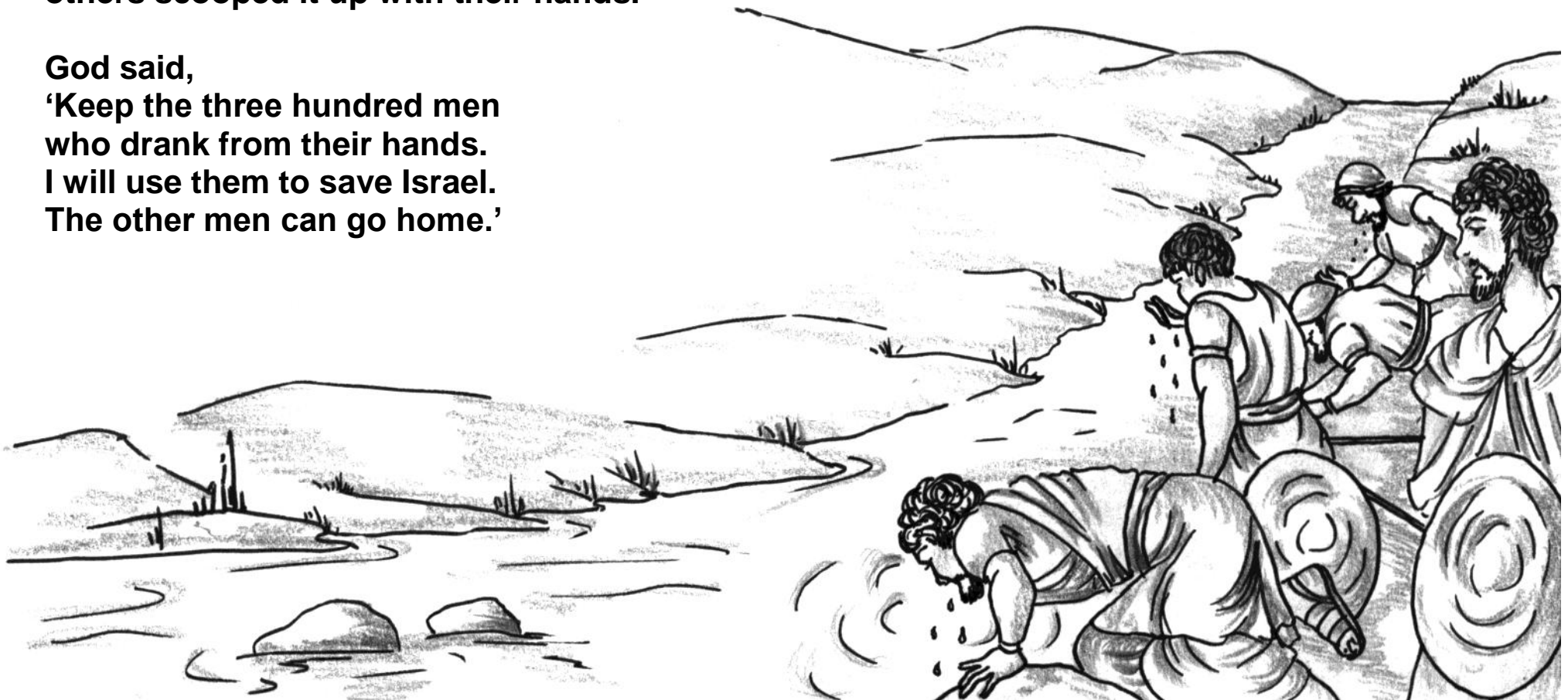
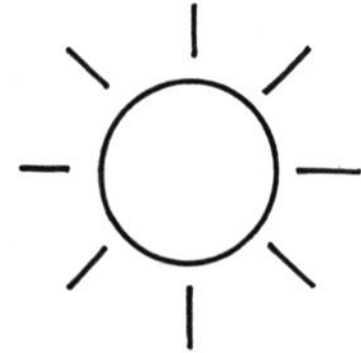
Twenty-two thousand men said they were frightened and went home.



**God said to Gideon,
'You still have too many men.
Take the men down to the water
and I will tell you who to keep.'**

**The men had a drink.
Some put their mouths to the water
others scooped it up with their hands.**

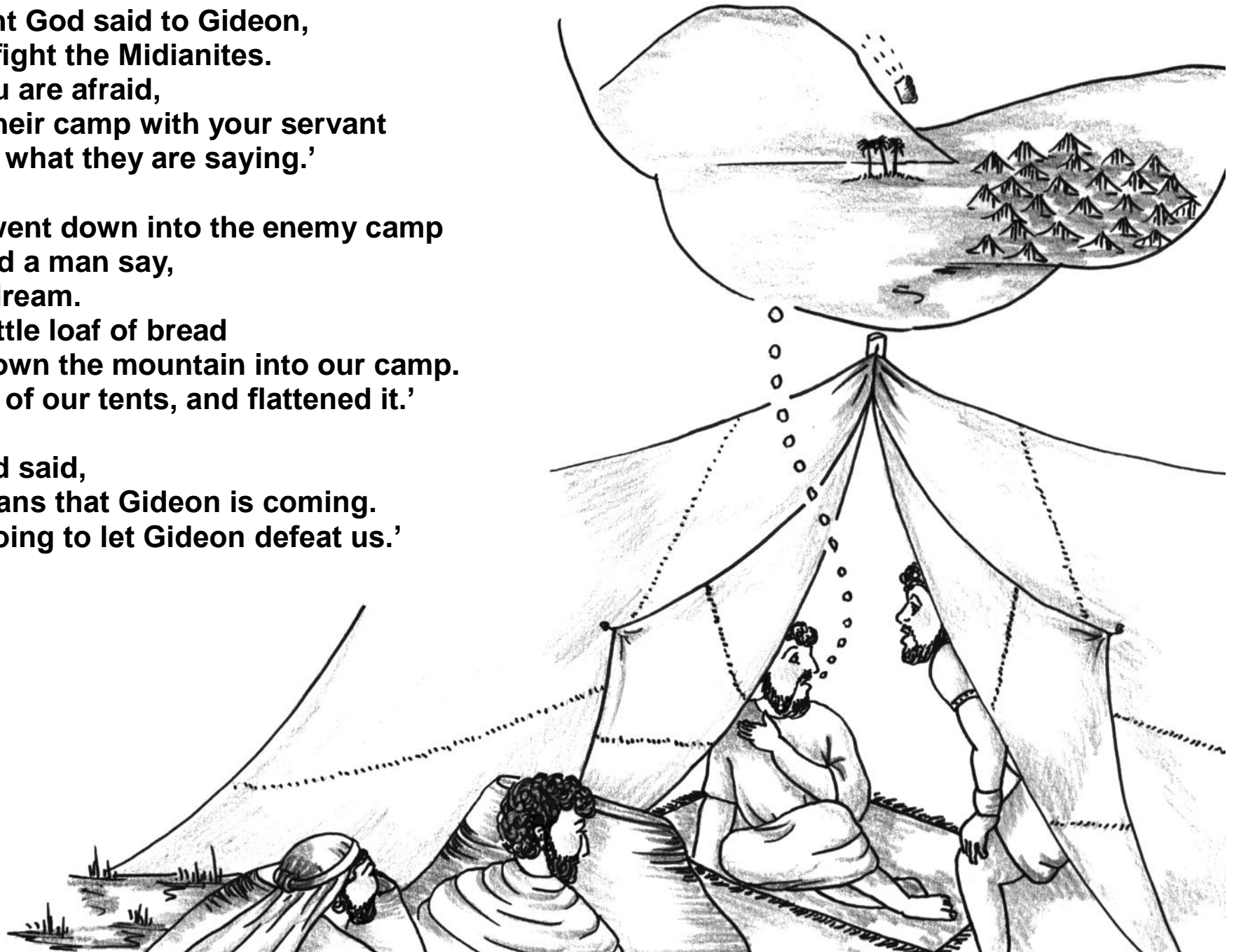
**God said,
'Keep the three hundred men
who drank from their hands.
I will use them to save Israel.
The other men can go home.'**



**That night God said to Gideon,
'Go and fight the Midianites.
But if you are afraid,
go into their camp with your servant
and hear what they are saying.'**

**Gideon went down into the enemy camp
and heard a man say,
'I had a dream.
I saw a little loaf of bread
rolling down the mountain into our camp.
It hit one of our tents, and flattened it.'**

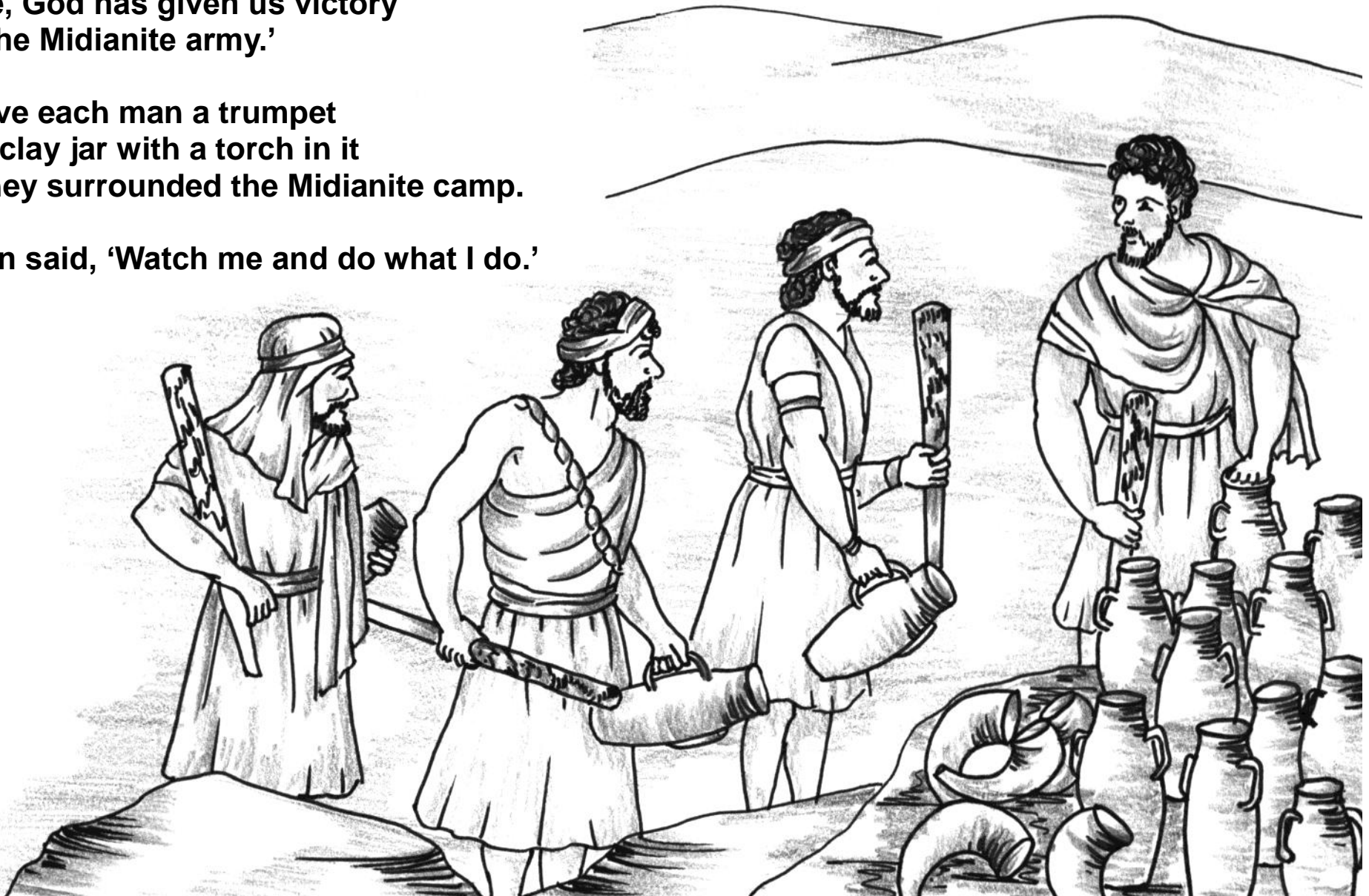
**His friend said,
'That means that Gideon is coming.
God is going to let Gideon defeat us.'**



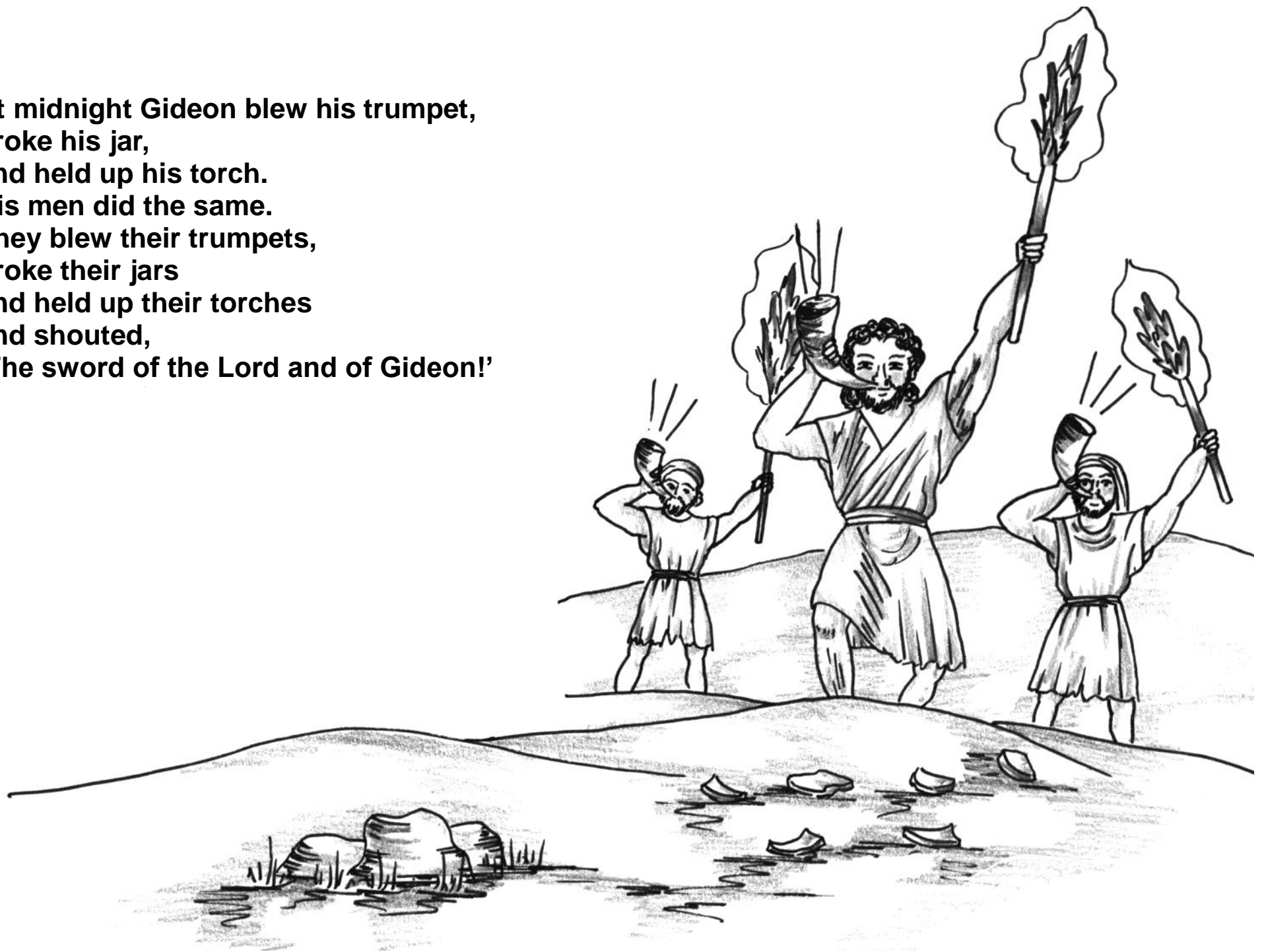
**When Gideon heard this
he worshipped the Lord,
then hurried back to his men and said,
'Come, God has given us victory
over the Midianite army.'**

**He gave each man a trumpet
and a clay jar with a torch in it
and they surrounded the Midianite camp.**

Gideon said, 'Watch me and do what I do.'



**At midnight Gideon blew his trumpet,
broke his jar,
and held up his torch.
His men did the same.
They blew their trumpets,
broke their jars
and held up their torches
and shouted,
'The sword of the Lord and of Gideon!'**



**The noise woke the Midianites
and they saw the flashing lights.
They were afraid and ran away
and fought each other as they ran.**

**Gideon's men went after them.
God saved Israel,
as He said He would.**

**The people wanted Gideon
to rule over them.**

**But Gideon said,
'No, the Lord will rule over you.'**

