

## ***Bible Stories for Young Children***

*part of a curriculum prepared for young children*

# ***MEPHIBOSHETH, THE LAME PRINCE***

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**2 SAMUEL 4:4; 9:1-13**

**MEPHIBOSHETH, THE LAME PRINCE**

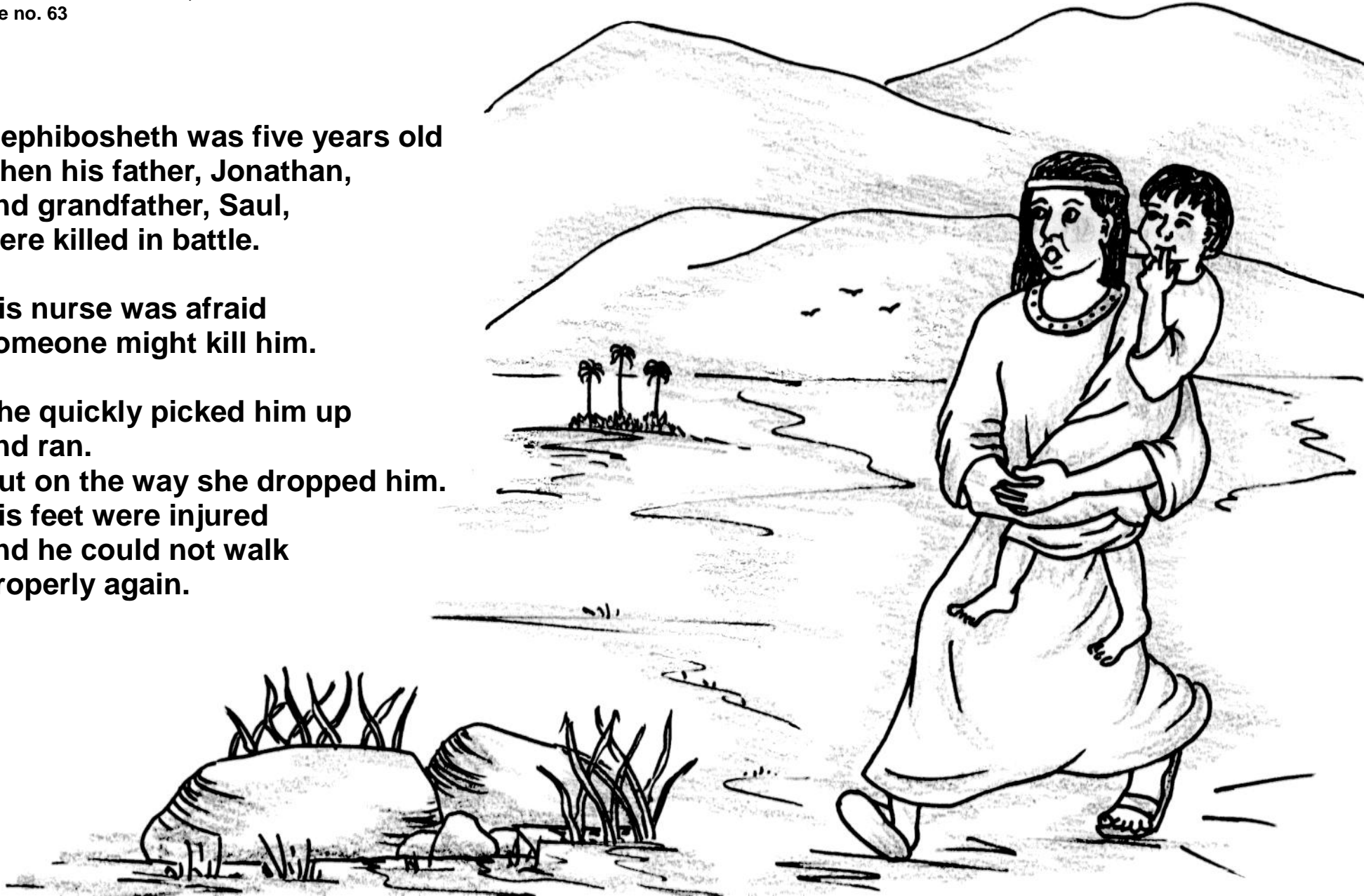
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**Mephibosheth was five years old when his father, Jonathan, and grandfather, Saul, were killed in battle.**

**His nurse was afraid someone might kill him.**

**She quickly picked him up and ran.**

**But on the way she dropped him. His feet were injured and he could not walk properly again.**



When David became king,  
Mephibosheth, the lame prince,  
was taken to a safe place  
to live.



**Then David  
remembered his promise to Jonathan.  
He wanted to be kind  
to his family.**

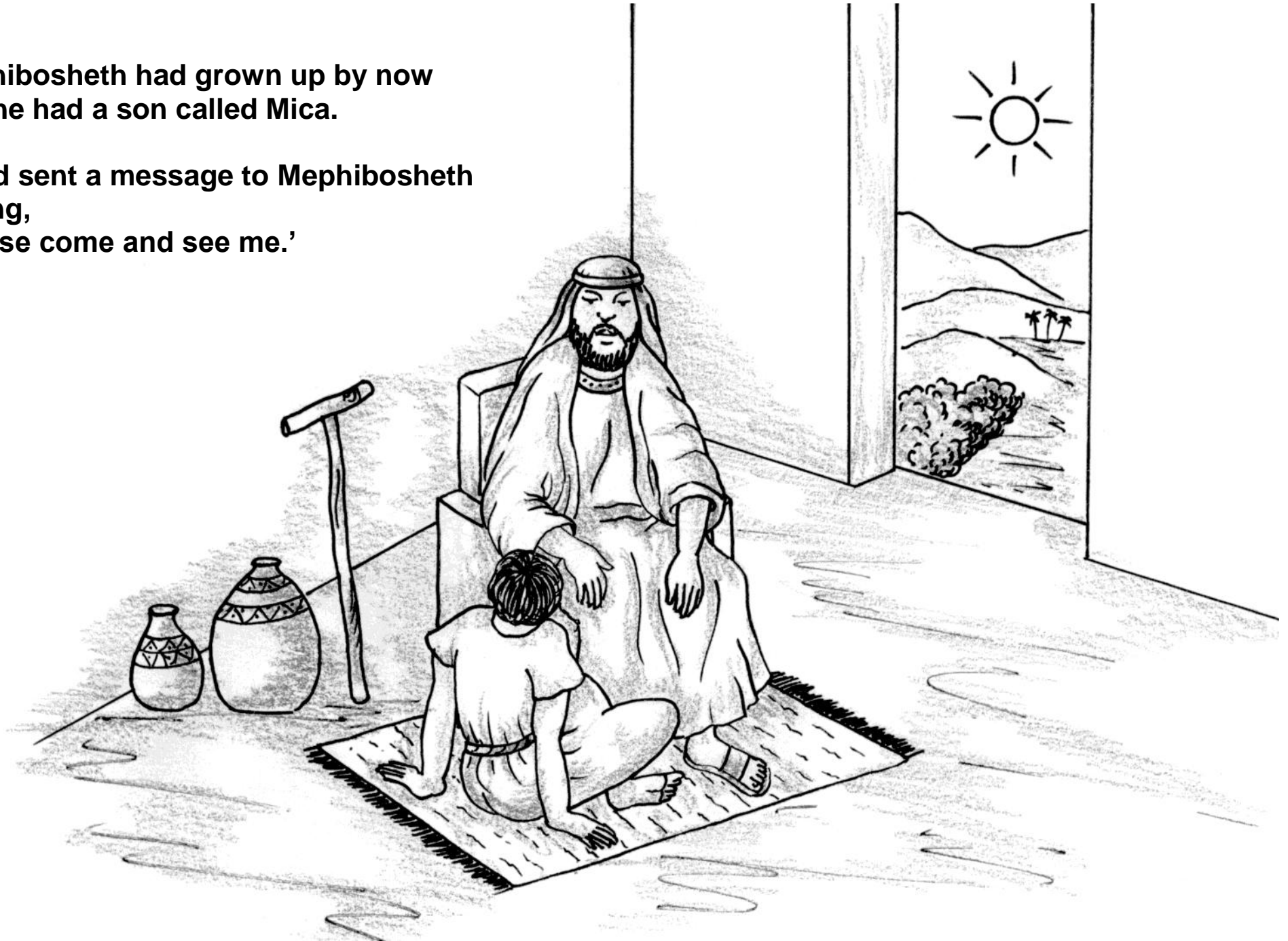
**He asked Ziba,  
who had been a servant of Saul's,  
'Is there anyone still alive in Saul's family?  
I would like to be kind to them  
for Jonathan's sake.'**

**Ziba answered,  
'There is Mephibosheth, Jonathan's son.  
He can't walk properly  
and he lives with friends.'**



**Mephibosheth had grown up by now  
and he had a son called Mica.**

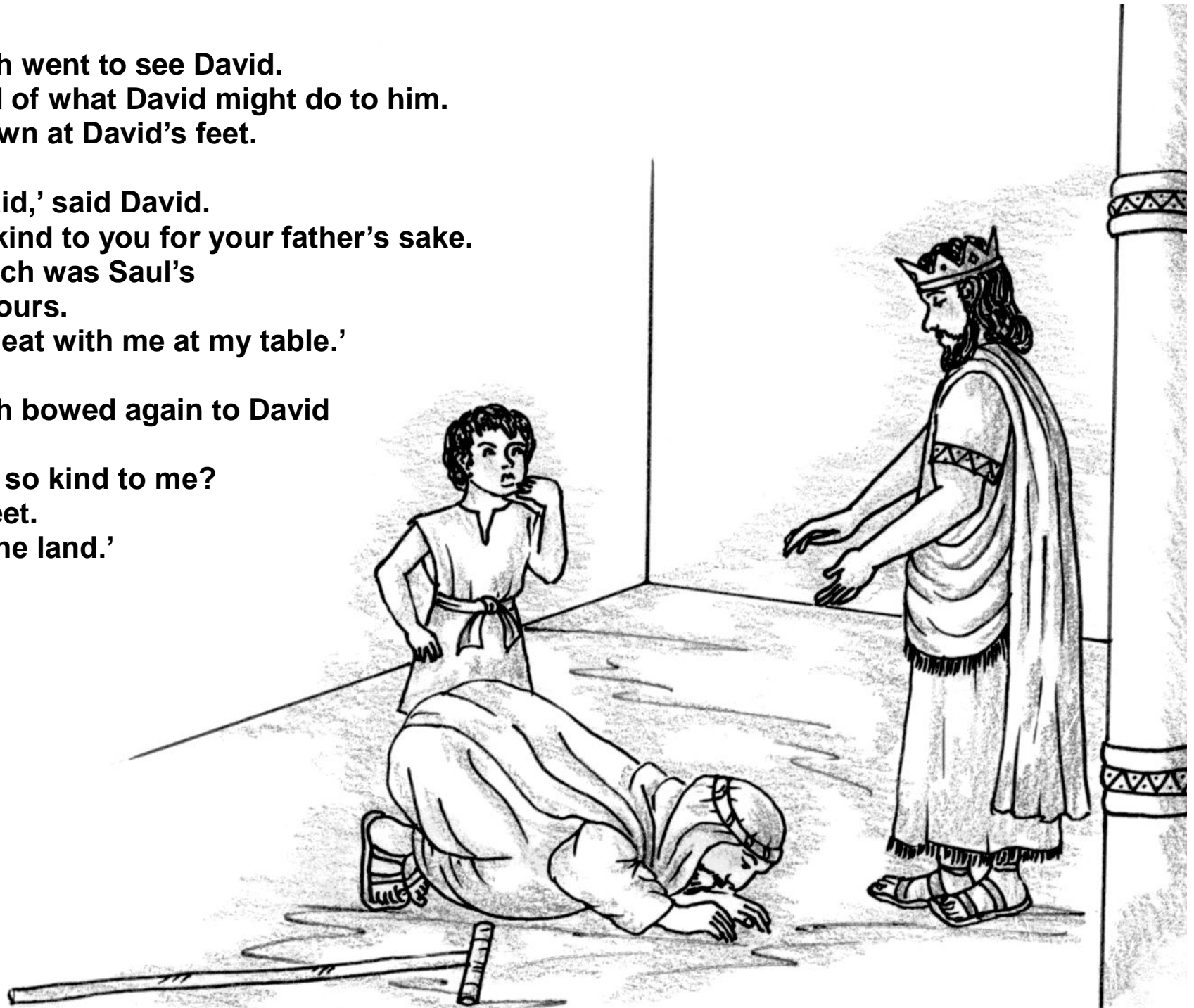
**David sent a message to Mephibosheth  
saying,  
'Please come and see me.'**



Mephibosheth went to see David.  
He was afraid of what David might do to him.  
He bowed down at David's feet.

'Don't be afraid,' said David.  
'I want to be kind to you for your father's sake.  
The land, which was Saul's  
will now be yours.  
I want you to eat with me at my table.'

Mephibosheth bowed again to David  
and asked,  
'Why are you so kind to me?  
Look at my feet.  
I can't work the land.'





David turned to Ziba and said,  
'You, your sons and your servants  
shall work the land for Mephibosheth.  
Mephibosheth will always eat  
at my table.'

So Ziba, his sons and his servants  
worked the land for Mephibosheth.

Mephibosheth, his wife and young son  
ate with David every day,  
just like he was one of the  
king's own sons.

This way David kept his promise  
to his friend Jonathan.

