



God Speaks to Samuel

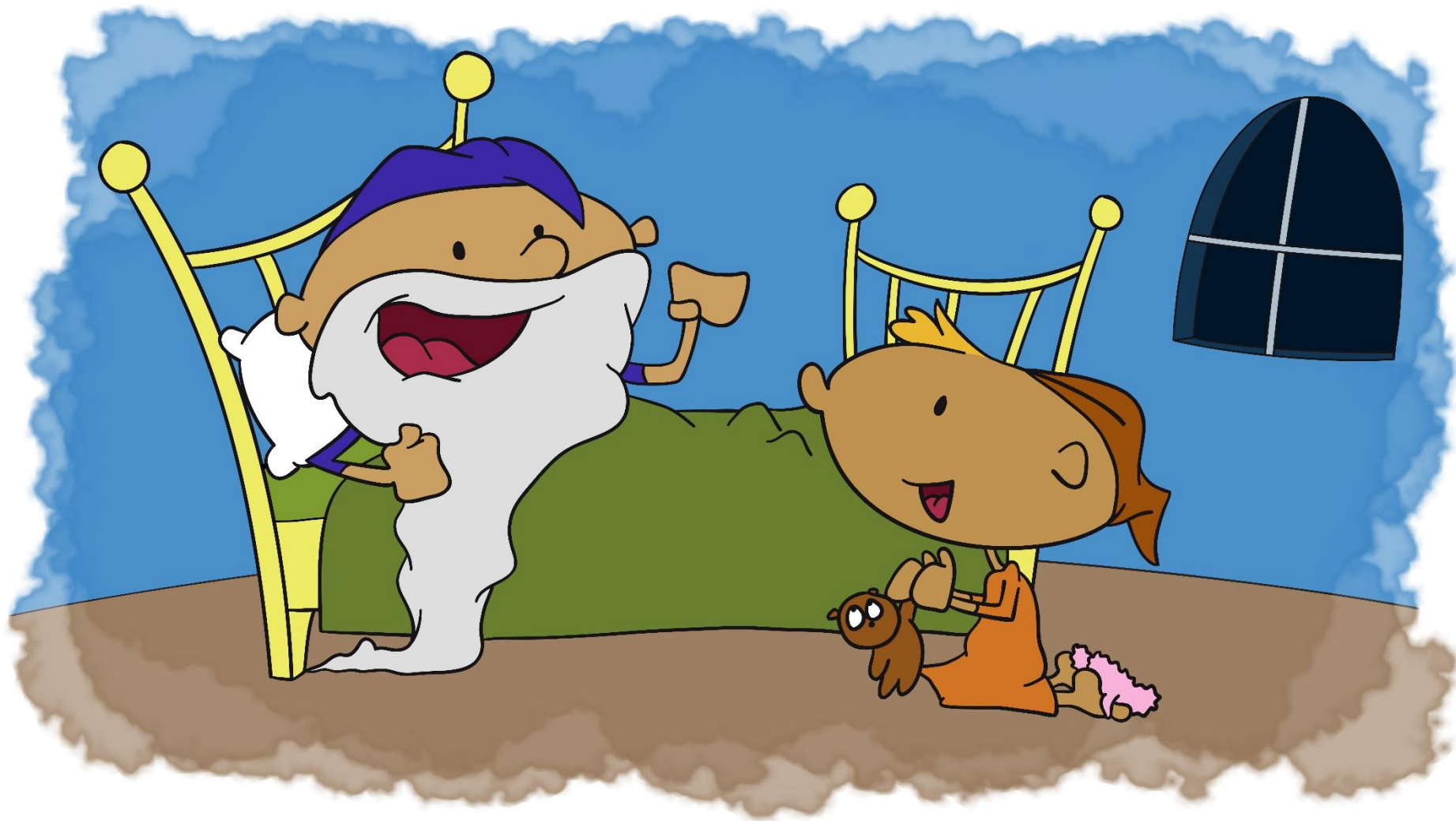
1 Samuel 3:1-21

A long time ago, people called their church the Temple. There was a boy named Samuel who lived at the Temple. He helped the priest who worked there. The priest's name was Eli.



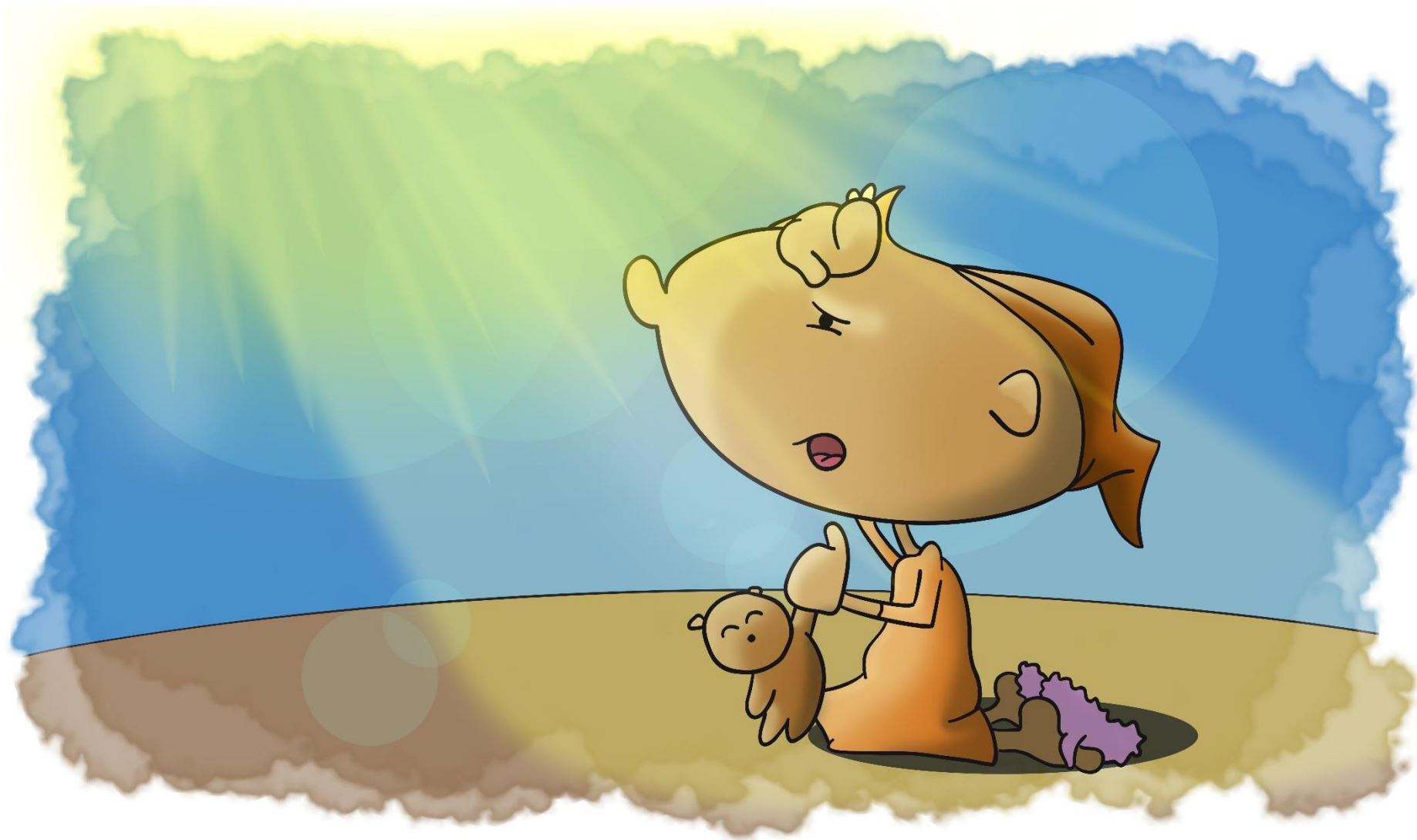
One night, Eli had already gone to bed and Samuel was sleeping in the Temple. Soon, Samuel heard a voice! It said, “Samuel, Samuel!”

Samuel thought Eli was calling him, so he got up, ran to Eli’s room, and said, “Here I am, Eli!” But it wasn’t Eli who called Samuel.



Samuel went back to sleep and the voice called to him again. Thinking that it was Eli calling, Samuel ran to Eli's room. But Eli hadn't called Samuel.

This happened three times, and then Eli realized that it was GOD speaking to Samuel.



***Samuel went back to sleep one more time.
When the voice called to him again,
Samuel said, “Speak, Lord. I am listening.”***

***God told Samuel, “I am going to punish Eli
like I said I was going to do. Eli’s sons were
saying and doing bad things against God,
but Eli did not stop them.”***



The next morning, Eli wanted to hear what God had told Samuel. But Samuel was scared to tell Eli the truth that God was going to punish him!

Finally, Eli said, “What did God say to you? Don’t hide it from me.” So Samuel told Eli the whole truth. He didn’t hide anything from him.”



It was hard for Samuel to choose to tell the truth. Eli could've gotten very mad at Samuel for saying those things!

Since Samuel told the truth, people respected him and knew he could be trusted. Samuel grew up to be a very powerful leader, and God helped Samuel always speak words that were true.