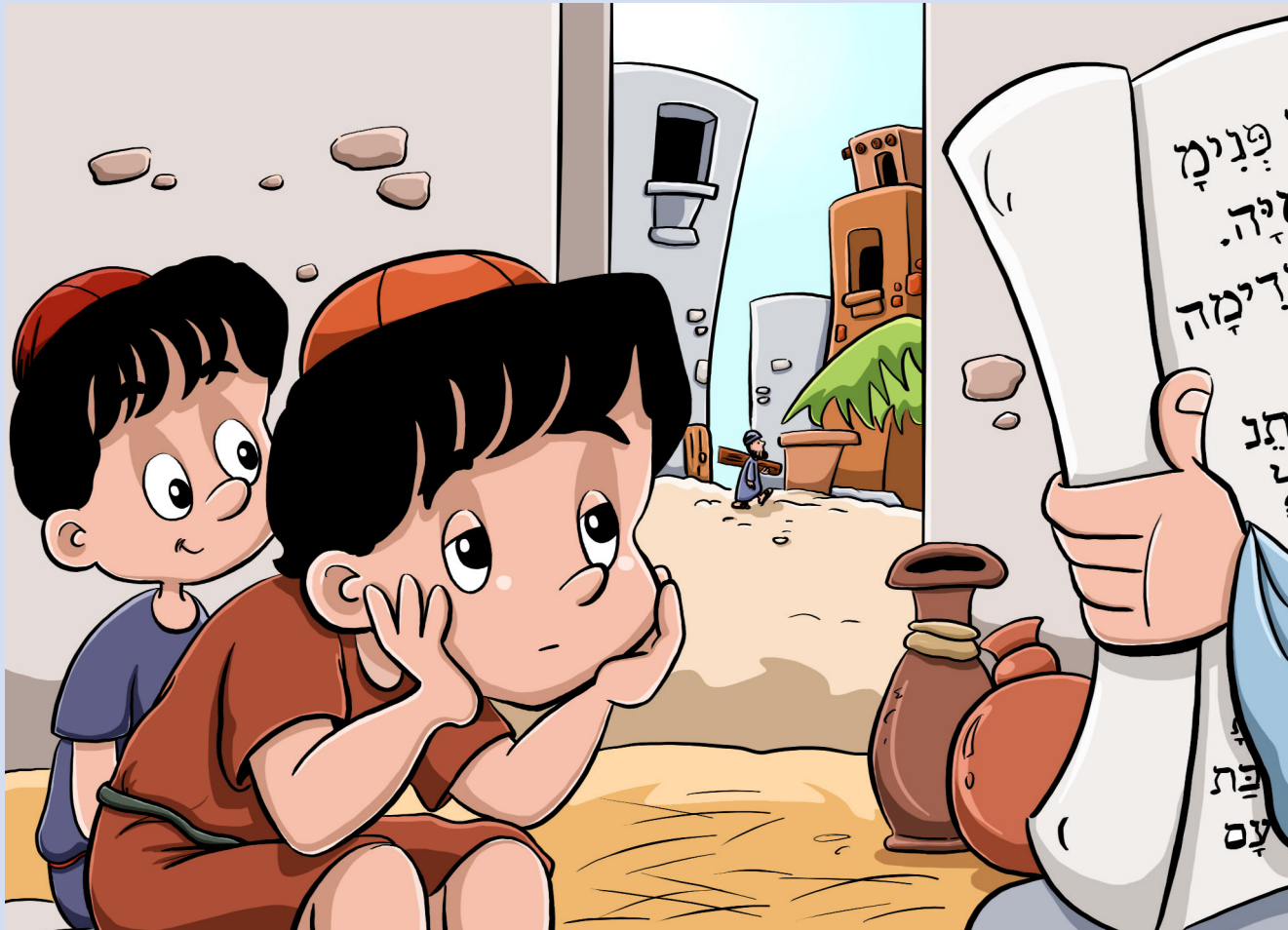


STUDY DILIGENTLY



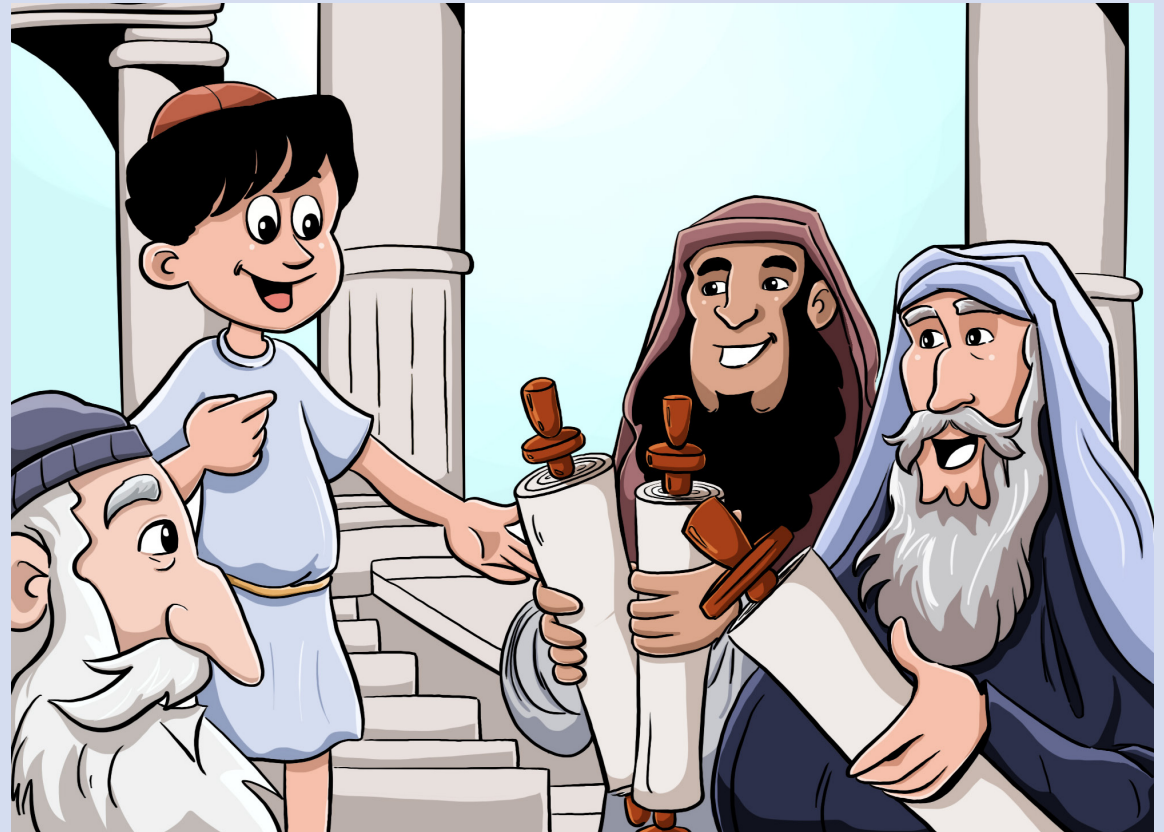
DO YOU EVER WONDER HOW YOU WILL USE WHAT YOU ARE STUDYING TODAY WHEN YOU ARE OLDER? IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT, JESUS MIGHT HAVE EXPERIENCED SOMETHING SIMILAR.

AS A BOY JESUS WAS TAUGHT ABOUT BIBLICAL LAW FROM THE BOOKS OF THE OLD TESTAMENT, BUT MAYBE HE WONDERED IF THESE STUDIES WOULD BE USEFUL TO HIM IN THE CARPENTRY WORK HE ENJOYED LEARNING FROM HIS EARTHLY FATHER, JOSEPH.

HOWEVER, LATER IN JESUS' LIFE, HE MADE GREAT USE OF THAT KNOWLEDGE HE HAD GAINED FROM THOSE YEARS OF STUDYING. FOR EXAMPLE, WHEN HE TWELVE, HE WAS ABLE TO SPEAK TO THE RELIGIOUS TEACHERS IN THE TEMPLE WITH GREAT UNDERSTANDING.¹ AND AS AN ADULT, WHEN HE ENCOUNTERED THE DEVIL IN THE WILDERNESS, IT WAS JESUS' KNOWLEDGE OF THE SCRIPTURES THAT HE USED TO ANSWER THE DEVIL AND CAUSE HIM TO LEAVE.²

DURING THE YEARS OF HIS MINISTRY ON EARTH, AS JESUS TAUGHT IN THE TEMPLE AND THE SYNAGOGUES, AS WELL AS WHEN GIVING CLASSES TO HIS FOLLOWERS, HE USED WHAT HE HAD LEARNED FROM HIS STUDIES.³ JESUS ALSO MADE USE OF THAT KNOWLEDGE TO ANSWER THOSE WHO ACCUSED HIM⁴ AND TO ENCOURAGE HIS DISCIPLES WHOM HE MET ON THE ROAD TO EMMAUS AFTER HIS RESURRECTION.⁵

WHETHER IT'S YOUR BIBLE STUDIES, YOUR SCHOLASTIC STUDIES, OR STUDIES FOR GAINING OTHER SKILLS, IT'S IMPORTANT TO KEEP STUDYING AND TO NOT GIVE UP. SOMEDAY YOU, TOO, WILL APPRECIATE ALL YOU'VE GAINED FROM YOUR EDUCATION.



Footnotes:

¹ See Luke 2:46–47.

² See Luke 4:1–13.

³ An example of this is found in John 7:38–40.

⁴ An example of this is found in Matthew 9:10–13 when Jesus referred to Hosea 6:6.

⁵ See Luke 24:13–27.