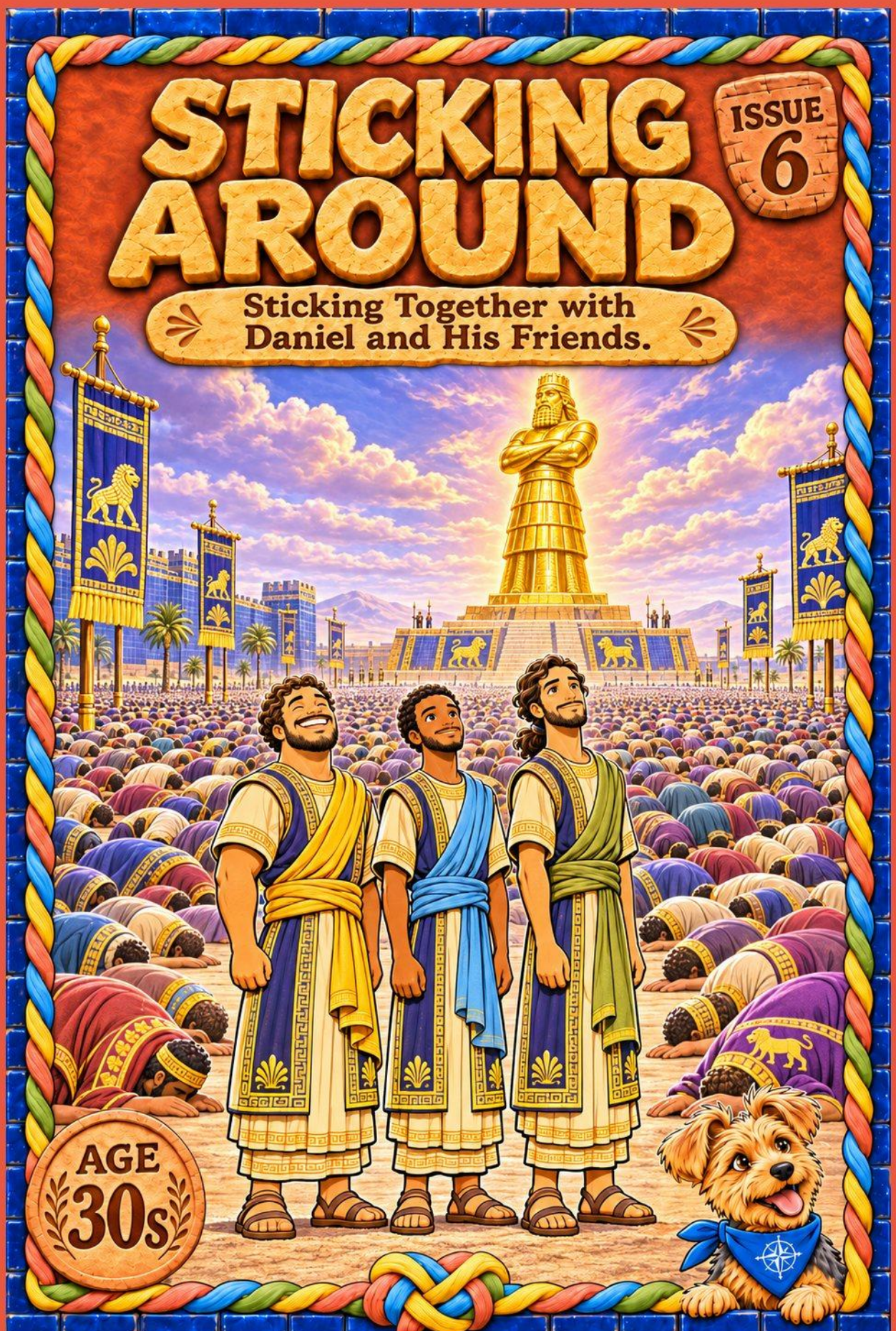
COMIC BOOK ISSUE 6 OF 8 · AGES 6–11 by Rick Melick

STICKING AROUND

ISSUE 6

Sticking Together with Daniel and His Friends.



AGE 30s

MEET YOUR TOUR GUIDE

Before the story starts



Hi! I'm Baxter. I'm 13 pounds of scruffy, and the compass on my bandana is special. When a kid has a problem, it takes us into a Bible story where someone faced the same thing!

MY FRIENDS (THEY LIVE ON MY STREET)

MAYA age 10
Always has her notebook

ELI age 11
The jokester

SAM age 9
Quiet, and new in town

SOFIA age 11
The artist

IN BABYLON, WATCH THE SASH COLORS

DANIEL DAN-yul

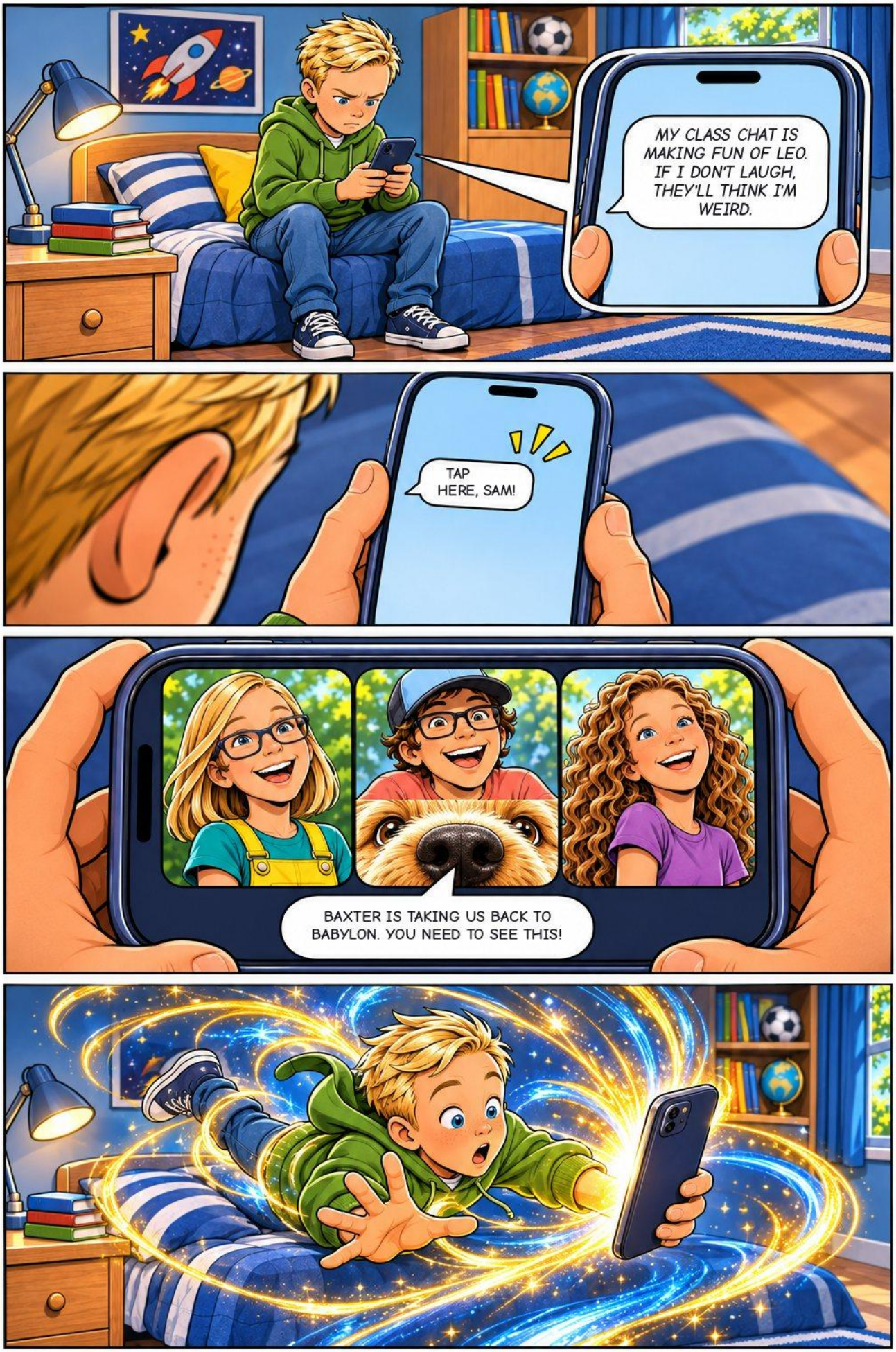
SHADRACH SHAD-rak

MESHACH MEE-shak

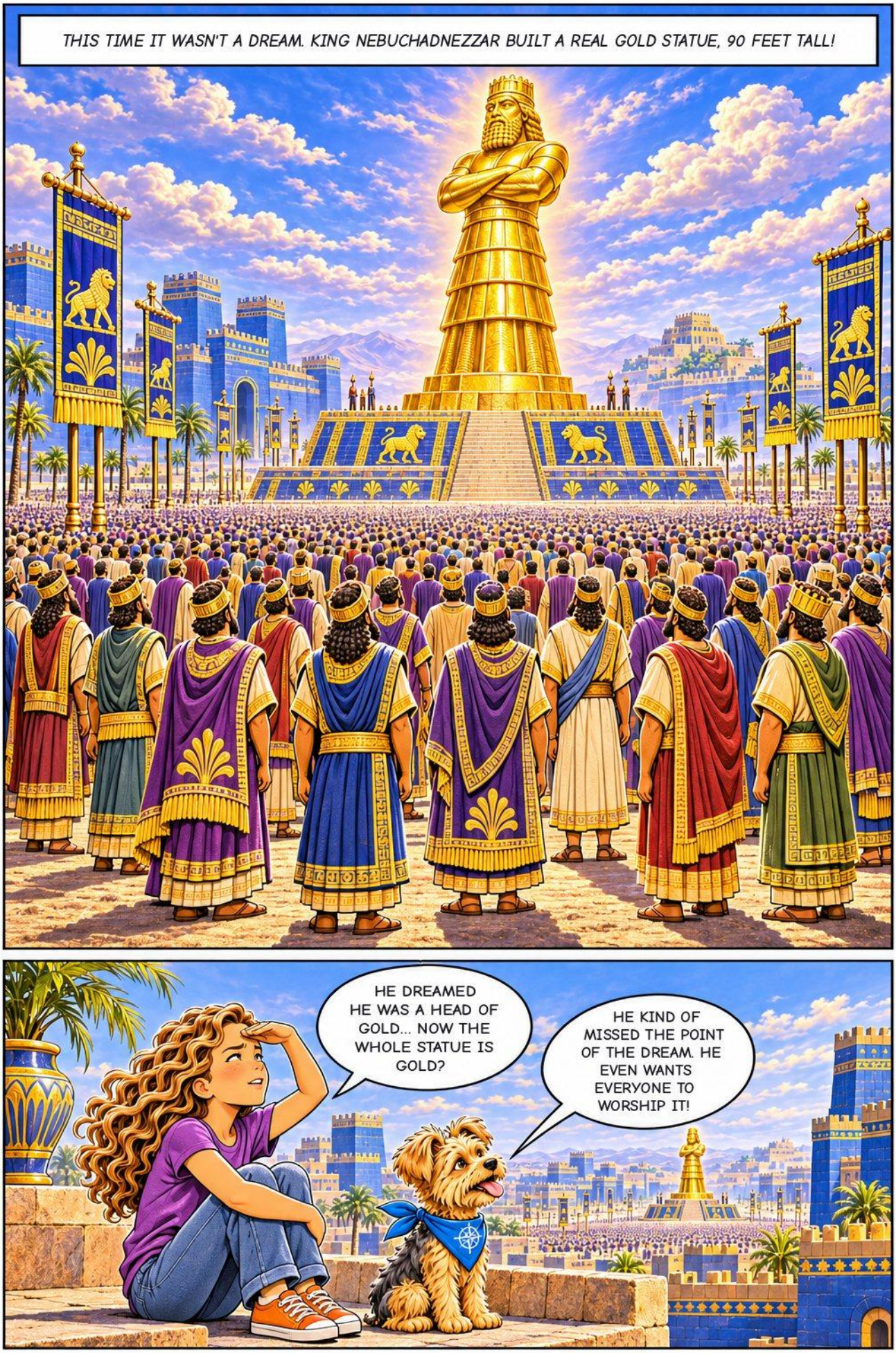
ABEDNEGO uh-BED-nee-go

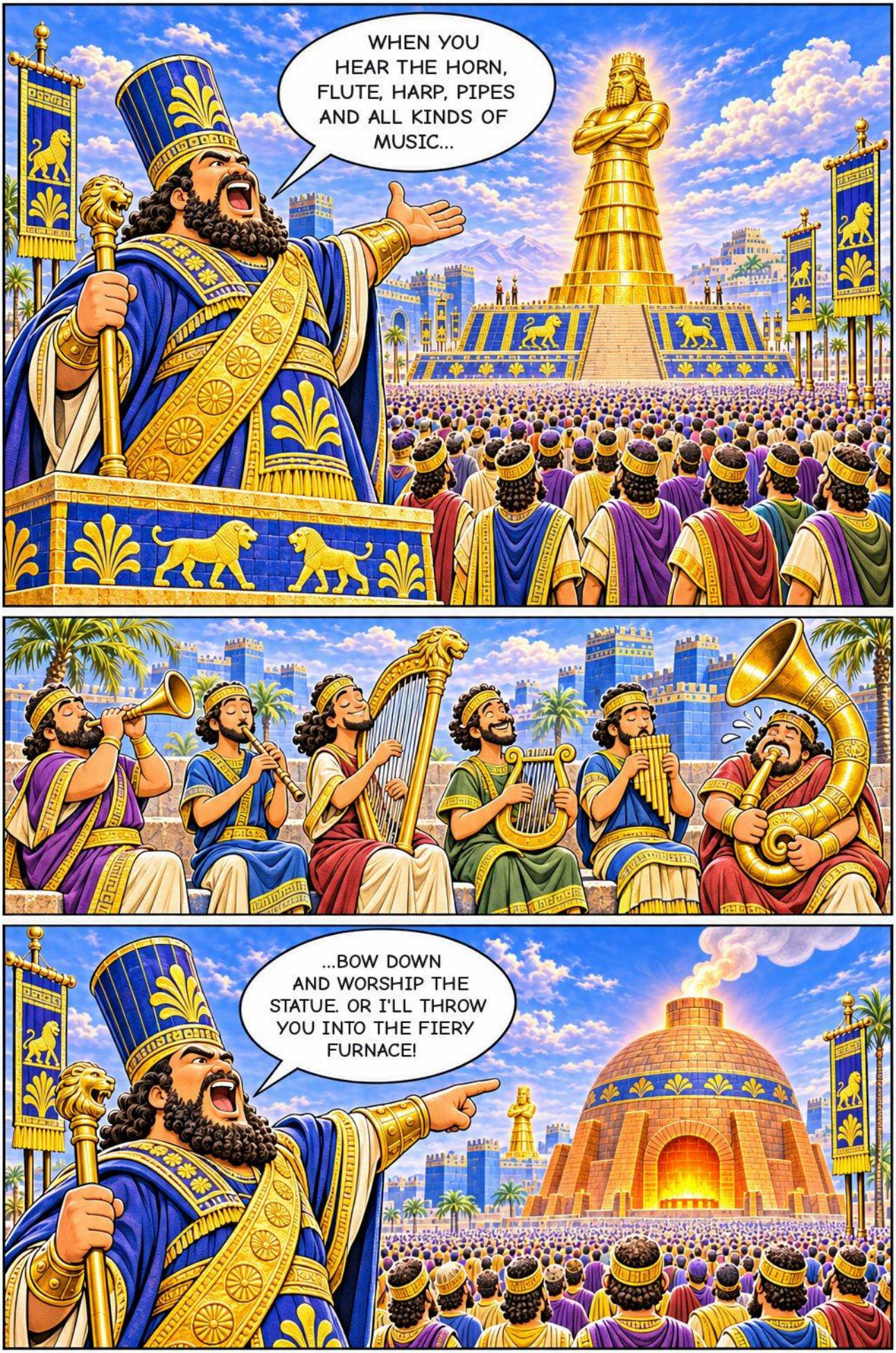
Grab my bandana, and we're off. In this series we visit Daniel and his three friends, who were taken far from home to Babylon. They held on to God, and to each other. Watch for their cord: four strands, one for each friend.


SAM'S NEW SCHOOL GROUP CHAT.
LOL
HAHAHA
SEND IT TO THE WHOLE GRADE
EVERYBODY'S DOING IT... BUT LEO'S MY FRIEND.

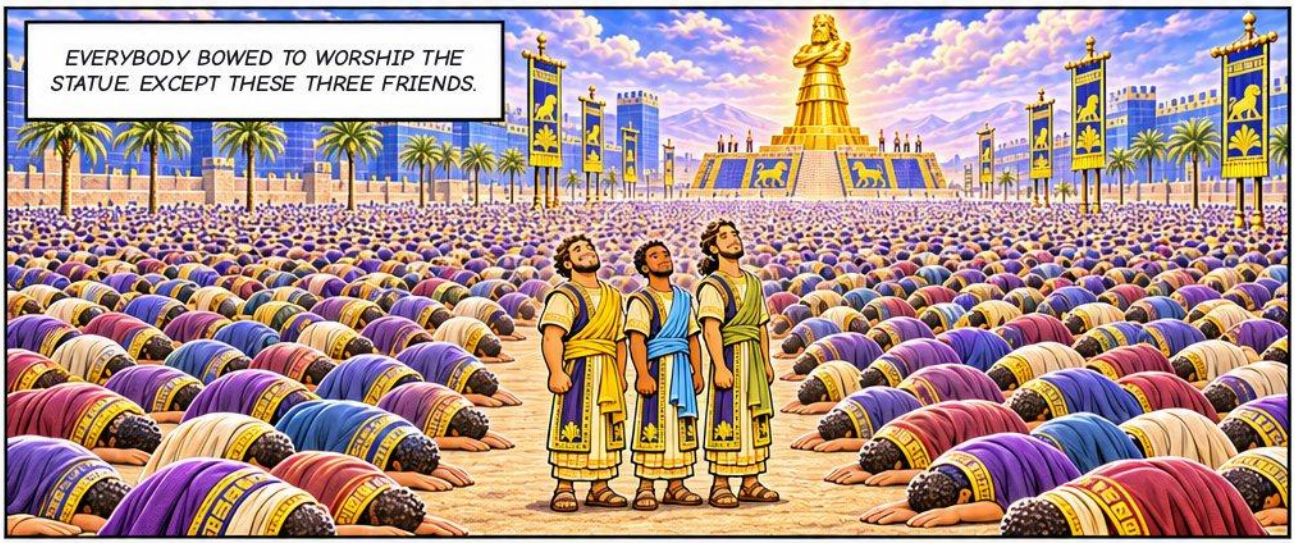

MY CLASS CHAT IS MAKING FUN OF LEO. IF I DON'T LAUGH, THEY'LL THINK I'M WEIRD.
TAP HERE, SAM!
BAXTER IS TAKING US BACK TO BABYLON. YOU NEED TO SEE THIS!

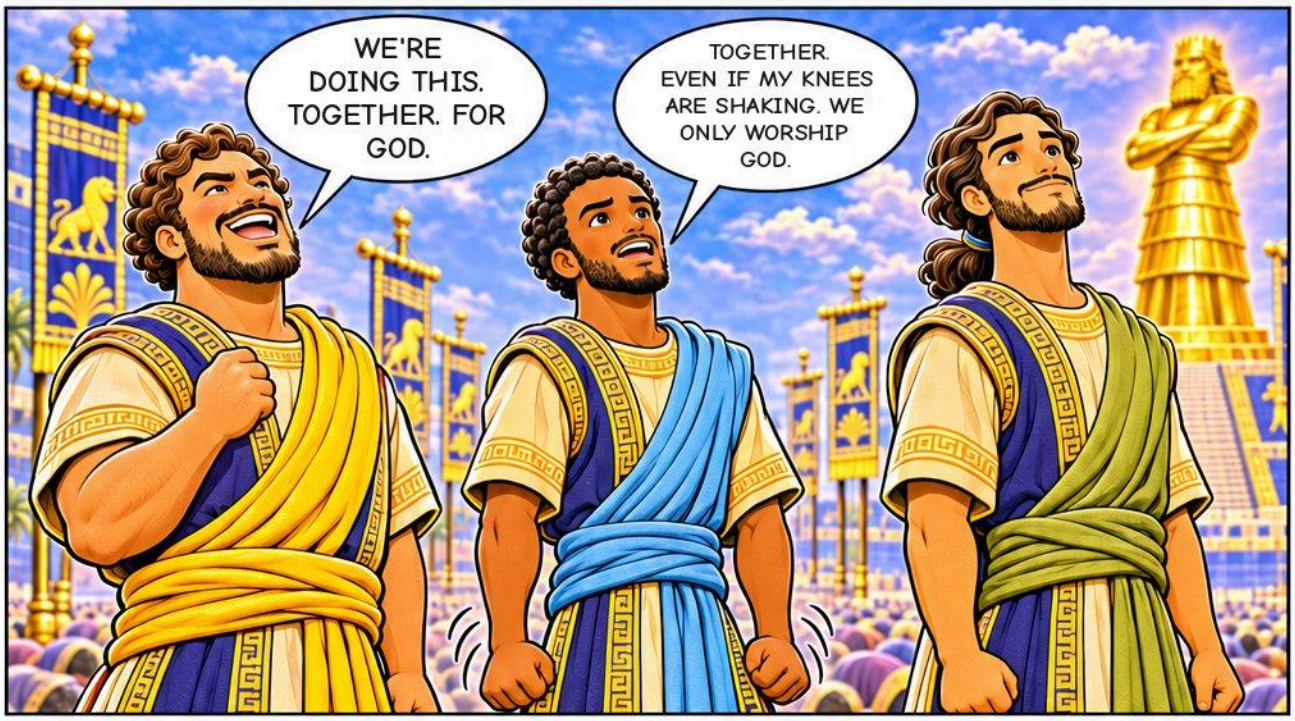

FIFTEEN YEARS AFTER THEY CAME TO BABYLON.
THEY'RE ALL GROWN UP NOW!
FIFTEEN YEARS IN BABYLON. FIFTEEN YEARS OF MAKING THE RIGHT CHOICES.
DANIEL IS ON A BUSINESS TRIP FOR THE KING. SHADRACH, MESHACH AND ABEDNEGO ARE ON THEIR OWN.


THIS TIME IT WASN'T A DREAM. KING NEBUCHADNEZZAR BUILT A REAL GOLD STATUE, 90 FEET TALL!
HE DREAMED HE WAS A HEAD OF GOLD... NOW THE WHOLE STATUE IS GOLD?
HE KIND OF MISSED THE POINT OF THE DREAM. HE EVEN WANTS EVERYONE TO WORSHIP IT!

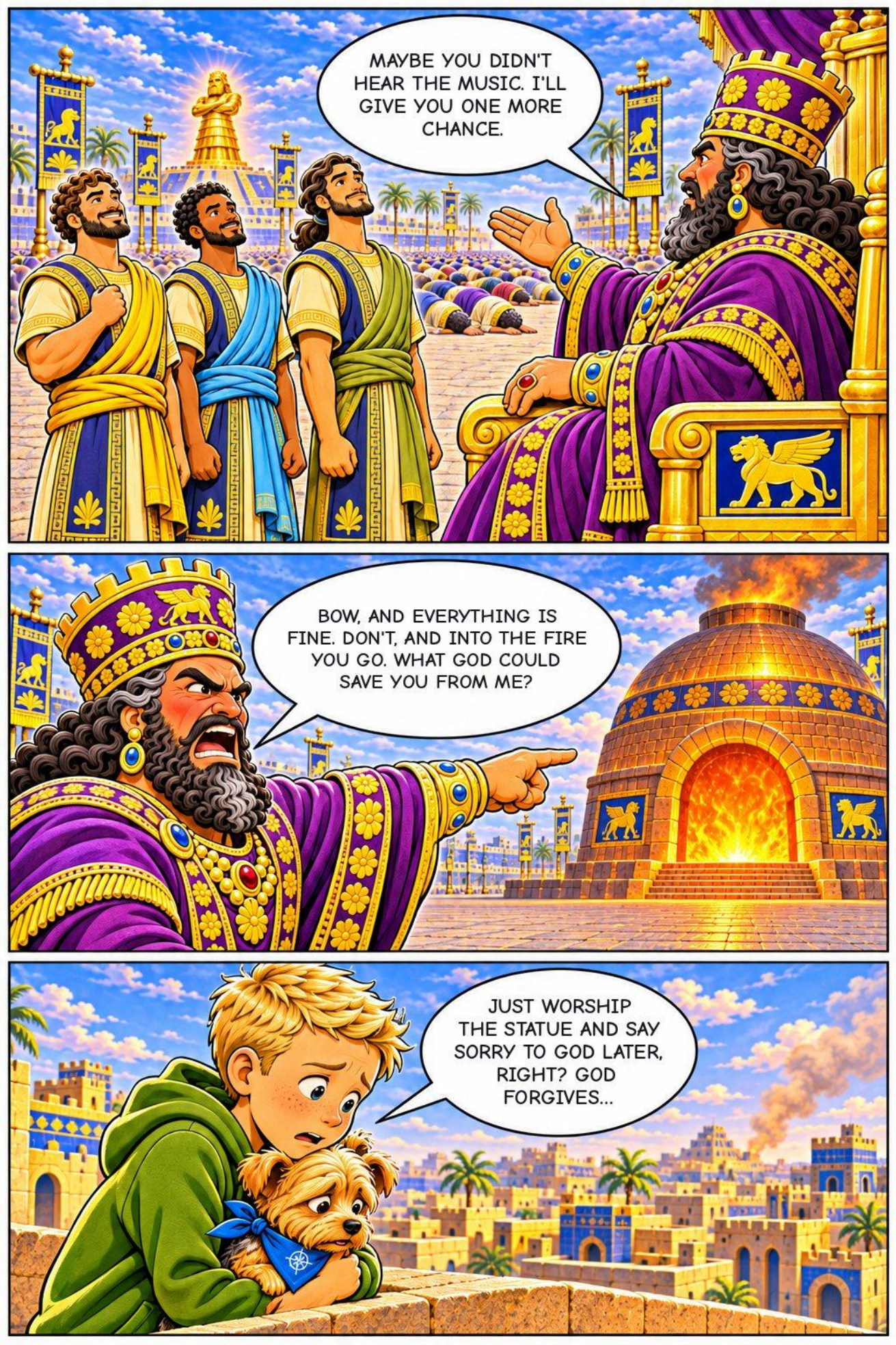

WHEN YOU HEAR THE HORN, FLUTE, HARP, PIPES AND ALL KINDS OF MUSIC...
...BOW DOWN AND WORSHIP THE STATUE. OR I'LL THROW YOU INTO THE FIERY FURNACE!

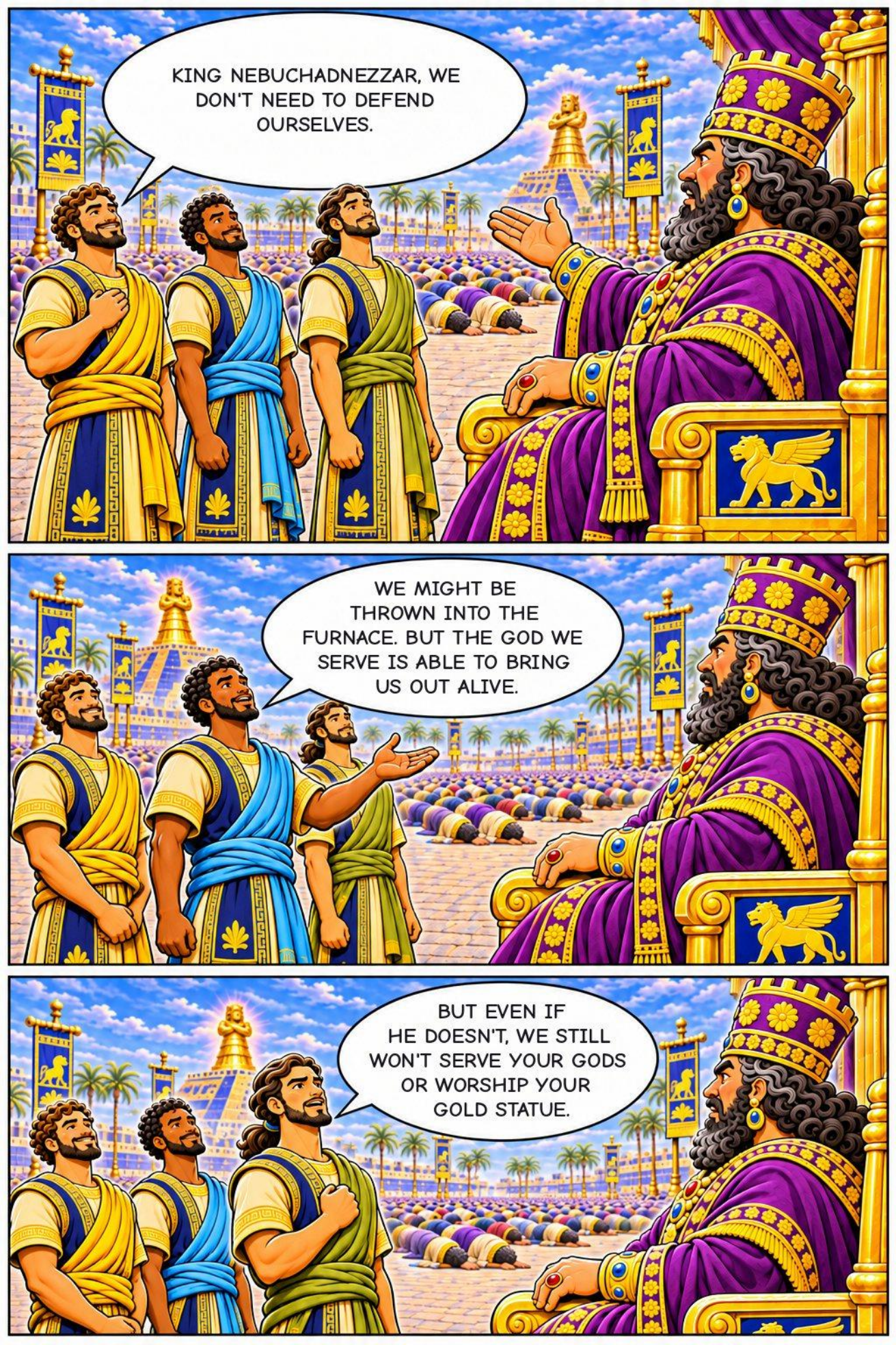



EVERYBODY BOWED TO WORSHIP THE STATUE. EXCEPT THESE THREE FRIENDS.


WE'RE DOING THIS. TOGETHER. FOR GOD.
TOGETHER. EVEN IF MY KNEES ARE SHAKING. WE ONLY WORSHIP GOD.


YOUR MAJESTY! SHADRACH, MESHACH AND ABEDNEGO WON'T BOW TO YOUR STATUE!
WHAT? I AM THE BOSS! I AM THE KING!

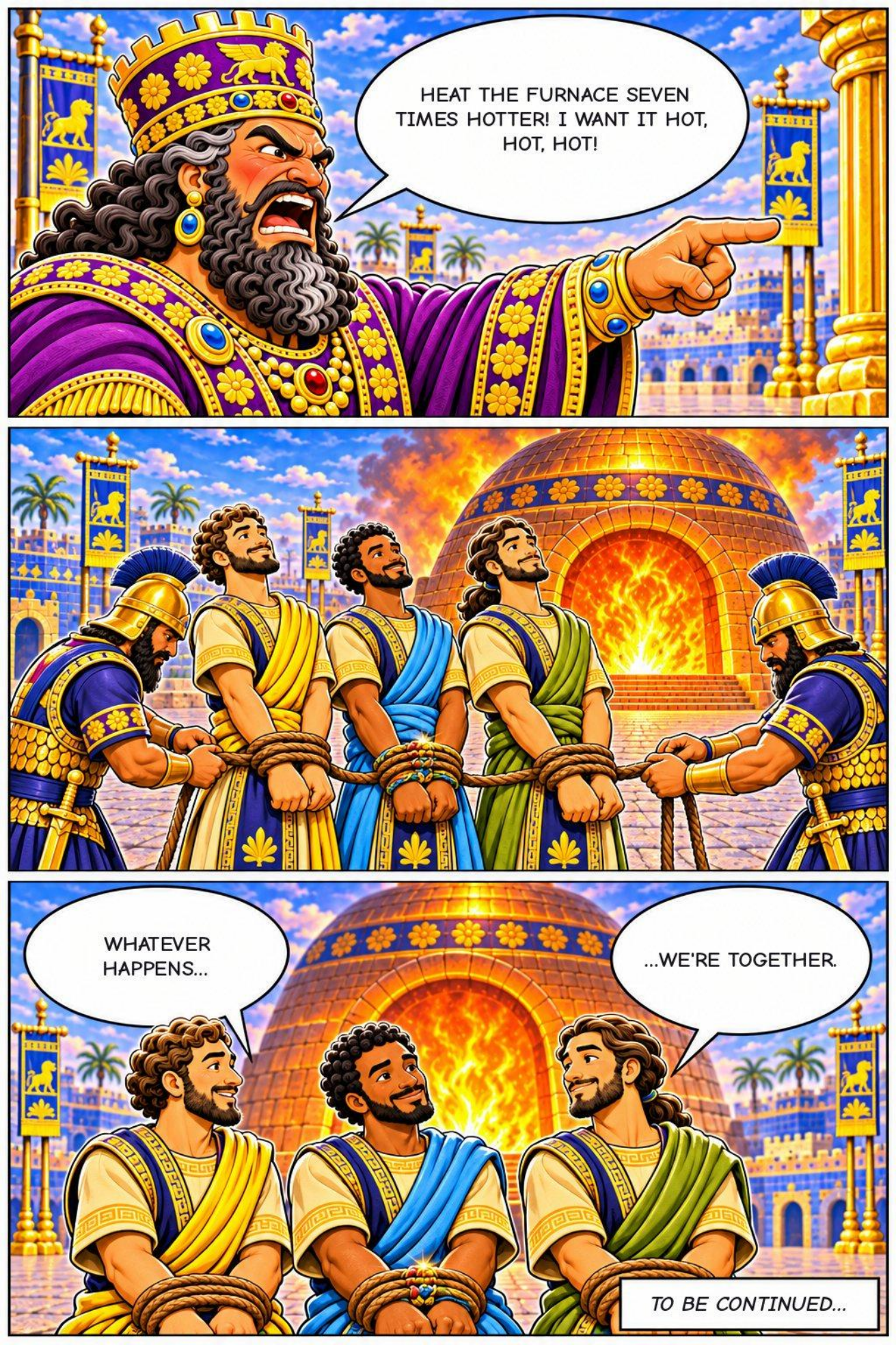

MAYBE YOU DIDN'T HEAR THE MUSIC. I'LL GIVE YOU ONE MORE CHANCE.
BOW, AND EVERYTHING IS FINE. DON'T, AND INTO THE FIRE YOU GO. WHAT GOD COULD SAVE YOU FROM ME?
JUST WORSHIP THE STATUE AND SAY SORRY TO GOD LATER, RIGHT? GOD FORGIVES...


KING NEBUCHADNEZZAR, WE DON'T NEED TO DEFEND OURSELVES.
WE MIGHT BE THROWN INTO THE FURNACE. BUT THE GOD WE SERVE IS ABLE TO BRING US OUT ALIVE.
BUT EVEN IF HE DOESN'T, WE STILL WON'T SERVE YOUR GODS OR WORSHIP YOUR GOLD STATUE.


CAN GOD SAVE THEM? YES, HE CAN.
WILL HE? THEY DIDN'T KNOW.
EVEN IF HE DOESN'T, THEY'LL STILL TRUST HIM.
MESHACH WAS THE QUIET ONE. AND HE WAS THE ONE WHO SAID IT TO THE KING!

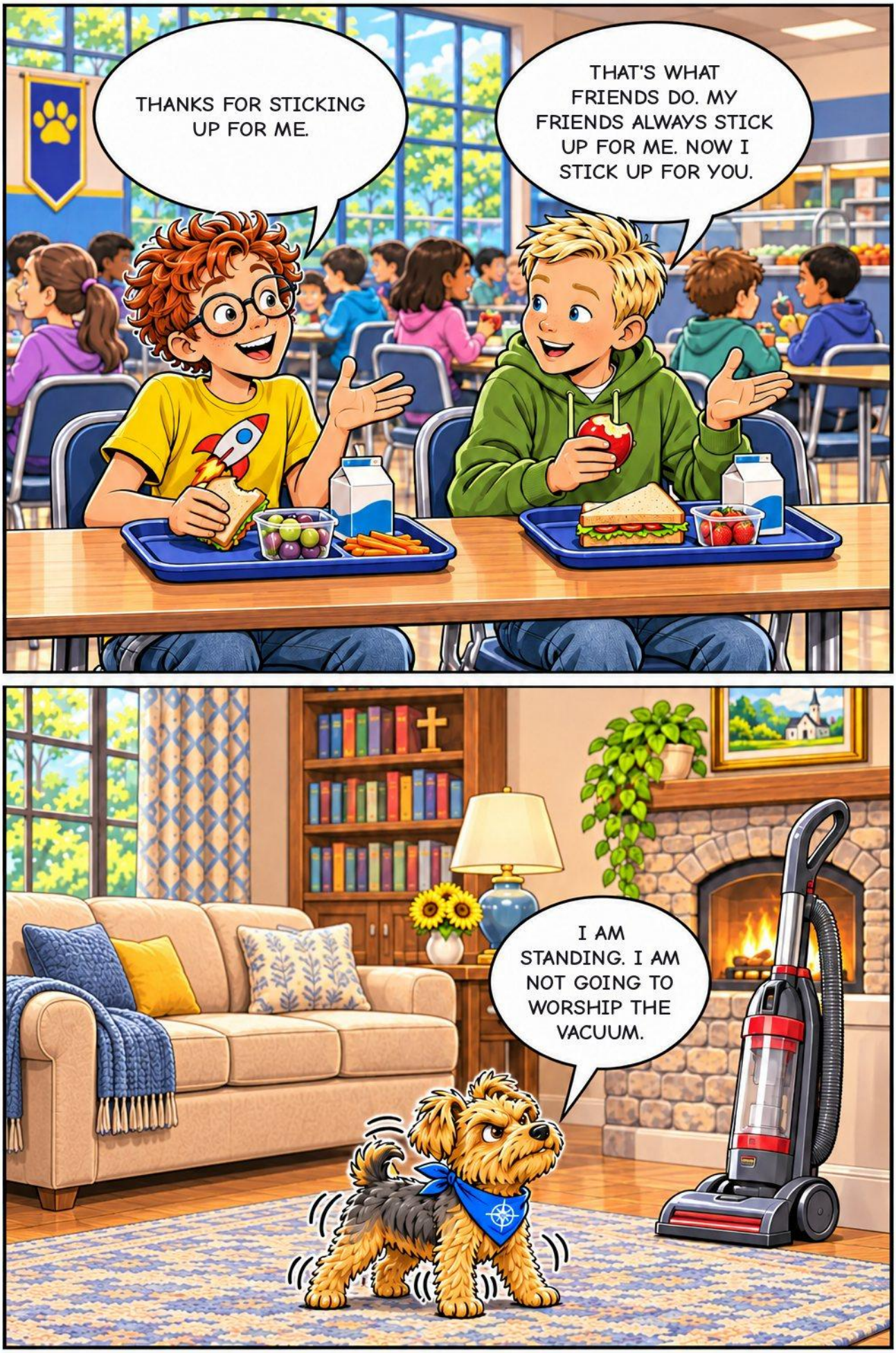

DANIEL WAS FAR AWAY. BUT THE FRIENDSHIP THEY BUILT TOGETHER WAS STILL THERE.


THREE FRIENDS. EACH WITH A ROPE MADE OF WHAT GOD TAUGHT THEM. STILL HOLDING STRONG.


HEAT THE FURNACE SEVEN TIMES HOTTER! I WANT IT HOT, HOT, HOT!
WHATEVER HAPPENS...
...WE'RE TOGETHER.
TO BE CONTINUED...


GOD CAN HELP. THEY MIGHT NOT STOP. EVEN IF THEY DON'T...
NOT COOL. LEO'S MY FRIEND. I'M NOT MAKING FUN OF HIM. IT'S WRONG.


YEAH... SAM'S RIGHT. DELETE IT.
SORRY LEO
ME TOO
SAM! THE QUIET ONE!
JUST LIKE MESHACH!


THANKS FOR STICKING UP FOR ME.
THAT'S WHAT FRIENDS DO. MY FRIENDS ALWAYS STICK UP FOR ME. NOW I STICK UP FOR YOU.
I AM STANDING. I AM NOT GOING TO WORSHIP THE VACUUM.

REMEMBER IT!

ISSUE 6

GOD CAN. HE MAY. EVEN IF HE DOESN'T, I'LL TRUST HIM.

HAND MOTION

Make a strong arm (God can), open both hands (he may), put your hand on your heart (I'll trust him).

MEMORY VERSE

"Even if we knew that our God wouldn't save us, we still wouldn't serve your gods."
Daniel 3:18 (NIrV)



BAXTER'S BARK: THREE GUYS STOOD UP IN A CROWD OF THOUSANDS. I CAN'T EVEN STAND UP TO THE VACUUM CLEANER.

WHO'S WHO · SAY IT LIKE THIS

DANIEL *DAN-yul*
red sash · Babylon called him Belteshazzar

SHADRACH *SHAD-rak*
gold sash · Hebrew name: Hananiah

MESHACH *MEE-shak*
blue sash · Hebrew name: Mishael

ABEDNEGO *uh-BED-nee-go*
green sash · Hebrew name: Azariah

The king: Nebuchadnezzar *(neb-uh-kad-NEZ-er)*

THE ROPE · KNOT 6 OF 8

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

The knotted cord, held by three hands. Three strands still hold.

TALK IT OVER

1. When have you seen "everybody" doing something wrong? What did you do?
2. What would "even if he doesn't" sound like for something you're praying about?
3. Who stands with you when it's hard to do the right thing?

TRY IT THIS WEEK

If you see someone being made fun of, in person or online, be the first to say "not cool." Tell a grown-up you trust if it keeps happening.

THE END OF ISSUE 6

Sticking Around · a comic by Rick Melick

UP NEXT: ISSUE 7

The Fourth Man in the Fire

MISSED ONE? ISSUE 5

Don't Forget Your Friends

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