



House on the Rock

Jesus liked to teach people by telling them stories.

Sometimes he told stories called parables. Through

parables, people learned

God would help them,

especially when

things were not easy

in their lives. Jesus told

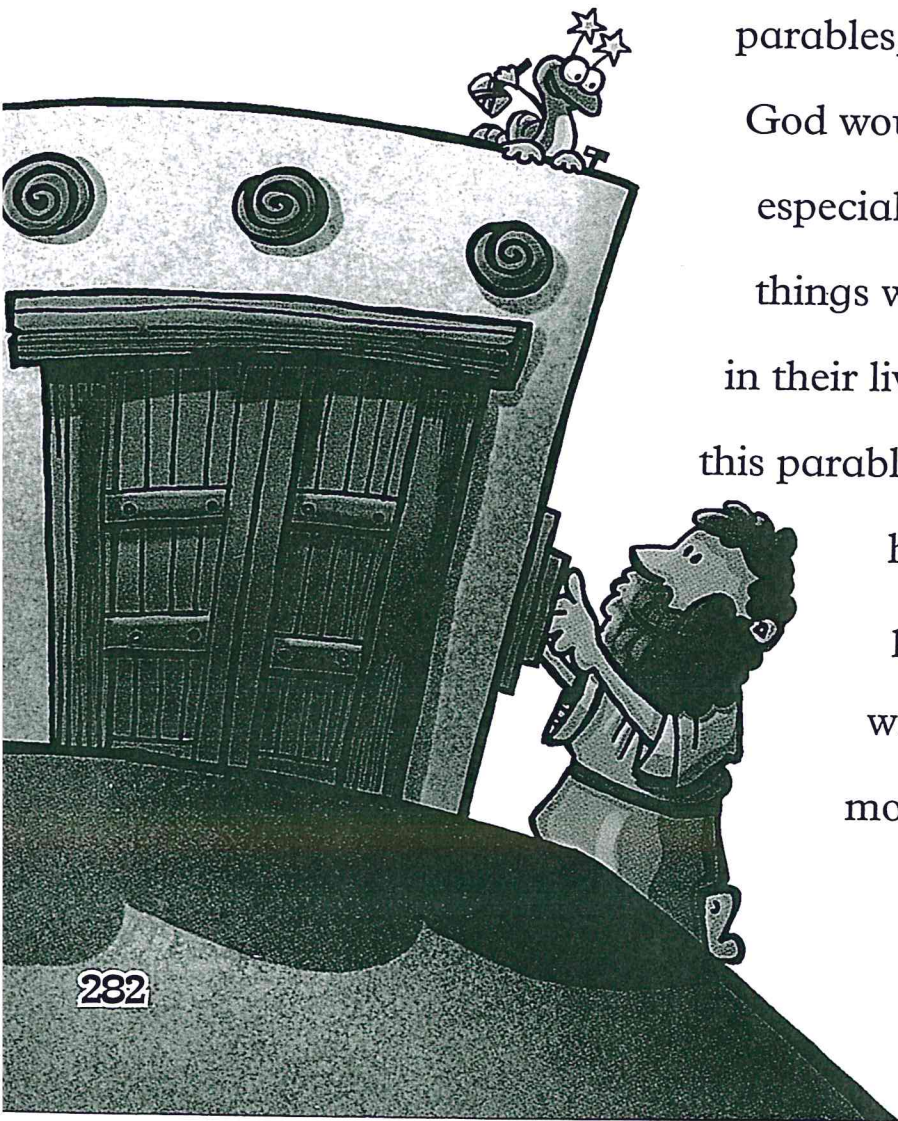
this parable about two

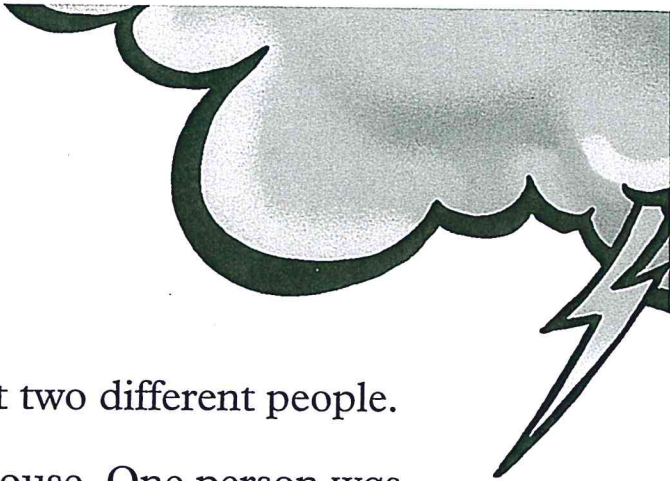
houses to many

people as he sat

with them on a

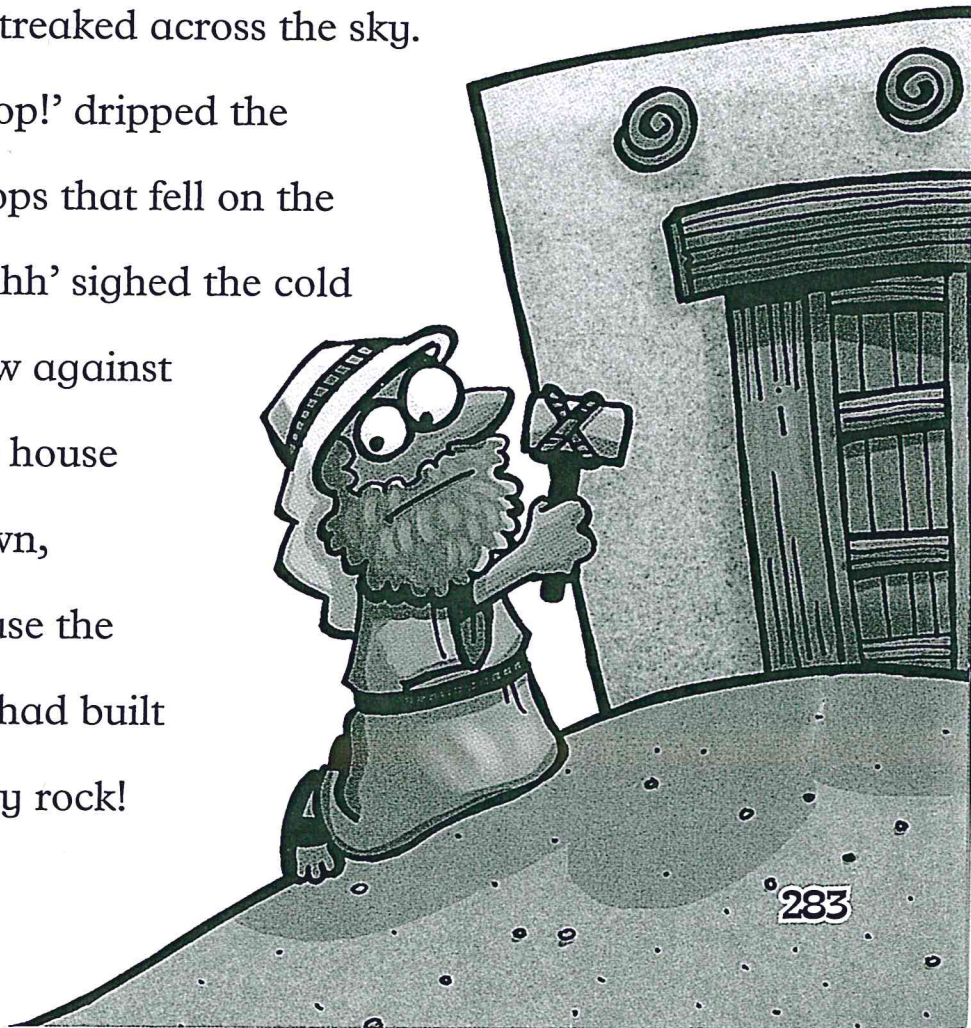
mountain one day.





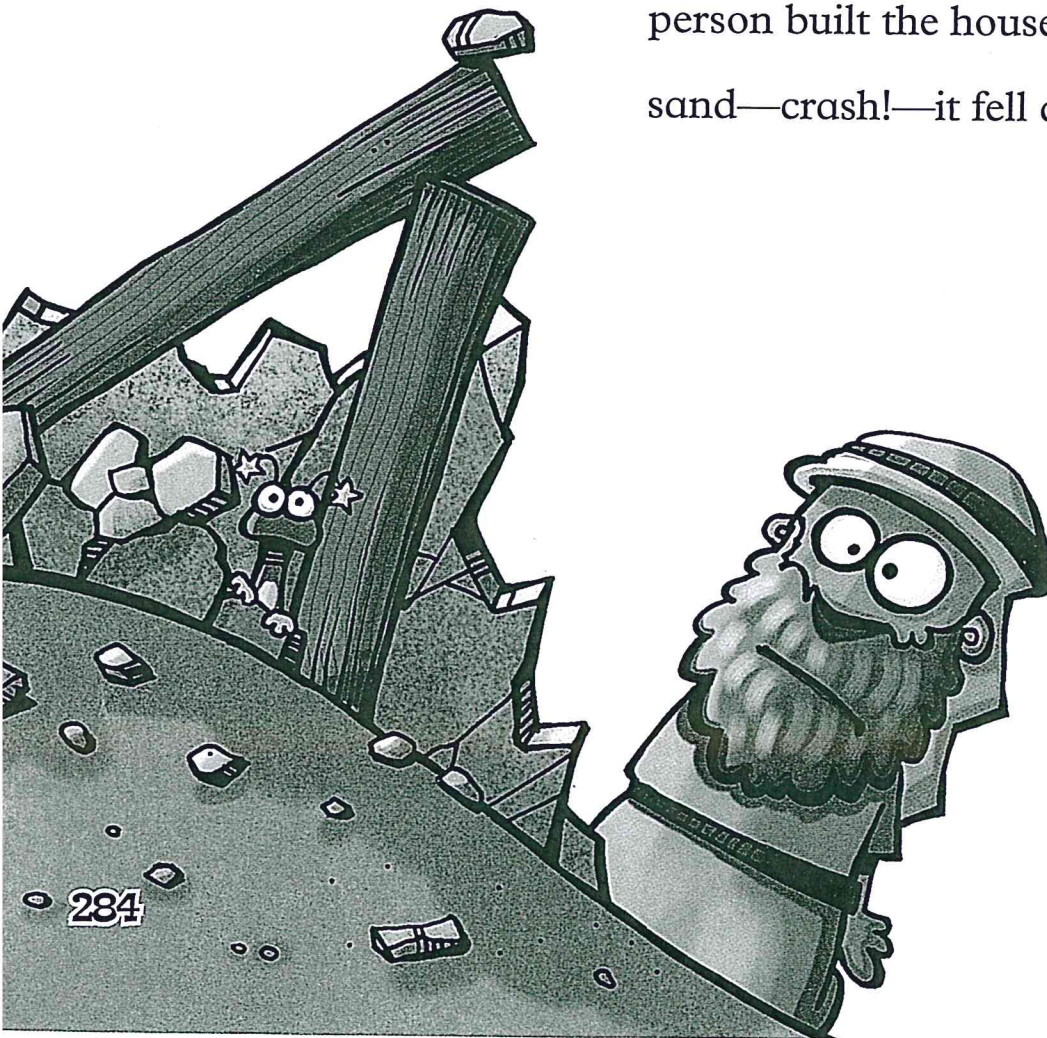
“I want to tell you about two different people. Each one wanted to build a house. One person was very smart and one was very silly! The smart person built a house on a sturdy rock. Bad weather came. ‘Boom!’ echoed the thunder and shook the little house as lightning streaked across the sky.

‘Plop-plop-plop!’ dripped the heavy raindrops that fell on the roof. ‘Woooshhh’ sighed the cold wind as it blew against the walls. The house didn’t fall down, though, because the smart person had built it on the sturdy rock!



“The silly person built a house on sand, and something very different happened! Bad weather came. ‘Boom’ echoed the thunder and shook that little house, too, as lightning streaked across the sky. ‘Plop-plop-plop!’ dripped the heavy raindrops that fell on the roof. ‘Woooshhh’ sighed the cold wind as it blew against the walls. Guess what happened this time? Because the silly

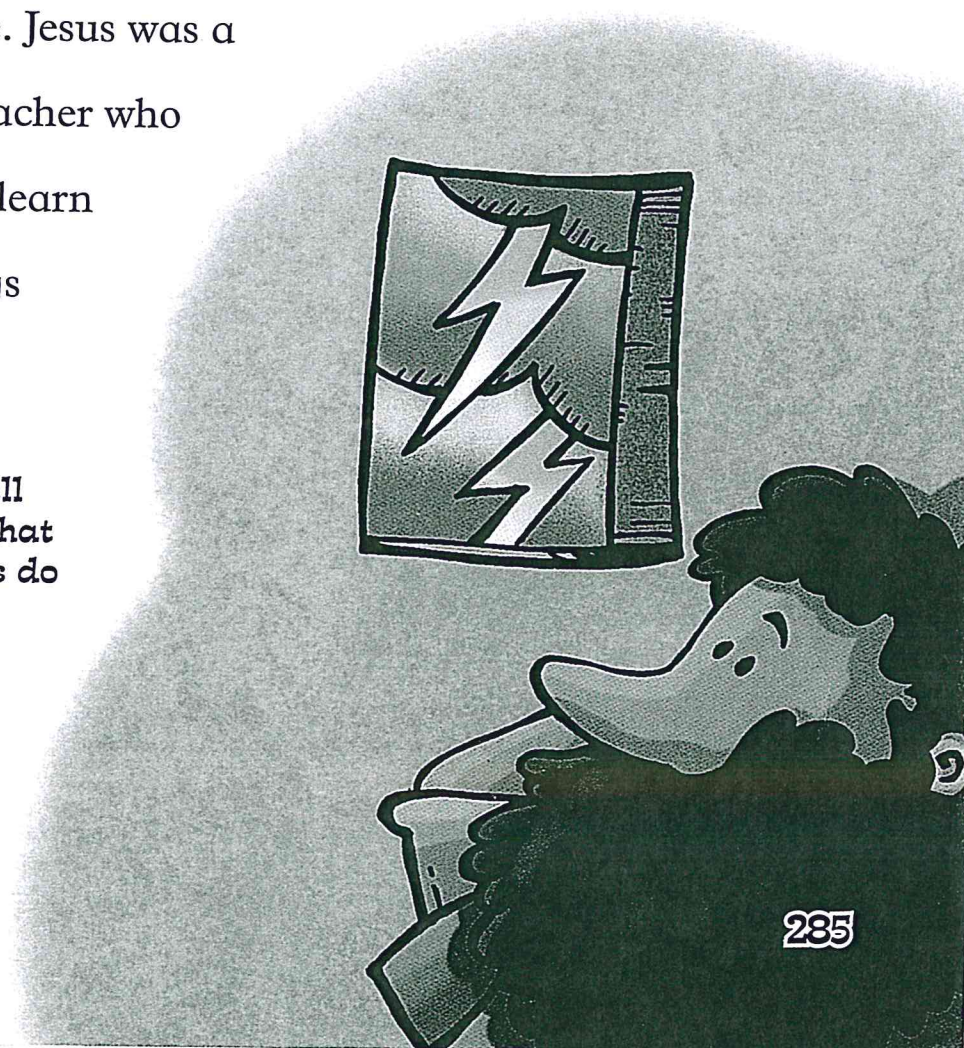
person built the house on sand—crash!—it fell down!



“If you listen to me, you are building your life on the sturdy rock of God. If you don’t listen to me, you are building your life on ideas that are like the sand that shifts and blows away.”

When Jesus finished talking, the people on the mountain were surprised by his words. They had never heard stories like that from their rabbis before. Jesus was a wonderful teacher who helped them learn how to always trust God.

★ Who likes to tell you stories? What kinds of stories do they tell you?



A Storm

Jesus and his friends, the disciples, met by a lake one day. They were going to go fishing together.

Creak, creak. The fishing boat rocked as Jesus put one leg over the side of the boat and pulled himself in. "Follow me!" Jesus said to his disciple friends.

One by one they climbed into the boat. Finally, they pushed off from shore.

Jesus' friends talked and laughed in the boat. They told stories about all the fish they caught on this lake.

"What was your best fishing trip, Jesus?" one of his friends asked. But Jesus did not answer. He was sound asleep. Zzzzzzz.

Gray clouds came into the sky and pushed out the sun. The boat rocked harder now. The first raindrops came. Plop. Plop.

