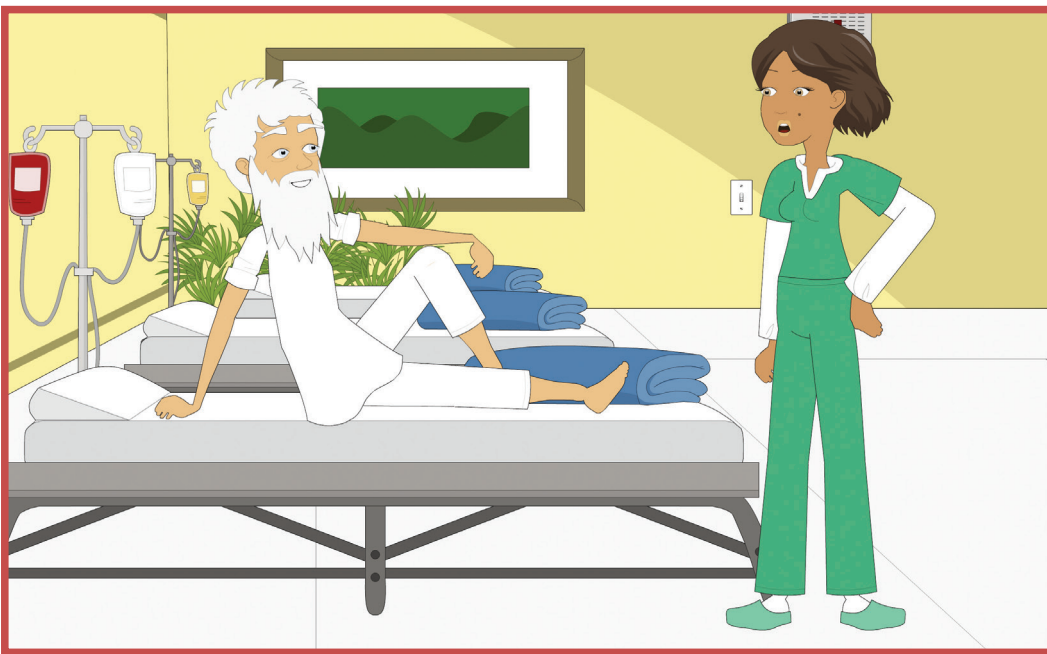


## Edifying Stories for the whole family!



The nurse went over to Simon's bed. "You've performed a miracle, everyone wants to be like you! You are always happy and smiling despite the pain you're in. It's great, thank you!" "How could I be otherwise?" replied Simon, "it's thanks to my visitor who makes me happy day after day." "Your visitor? But, Simon, no one ever comes to see you, you're on your own all day long. I've never met one member of your family or any friend, so who are you talking about?"



"Every day at midday," Simon answered bursting with enthusiasm. "He comes and stands at the foot of my bed. I can see Him, and He says to me: 'Simon ... it's Jesus!'" **Moral:** Never judge anyone by the length of his prayers!

# It's me!



# 365

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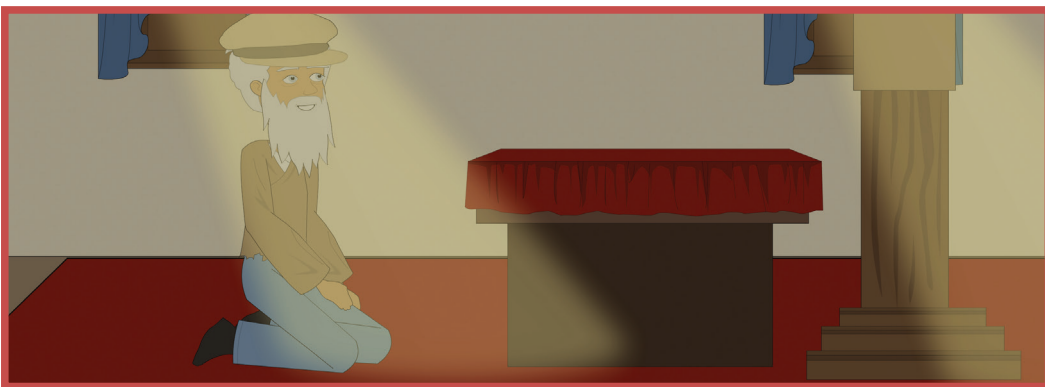
Jean-Louis Gaillard



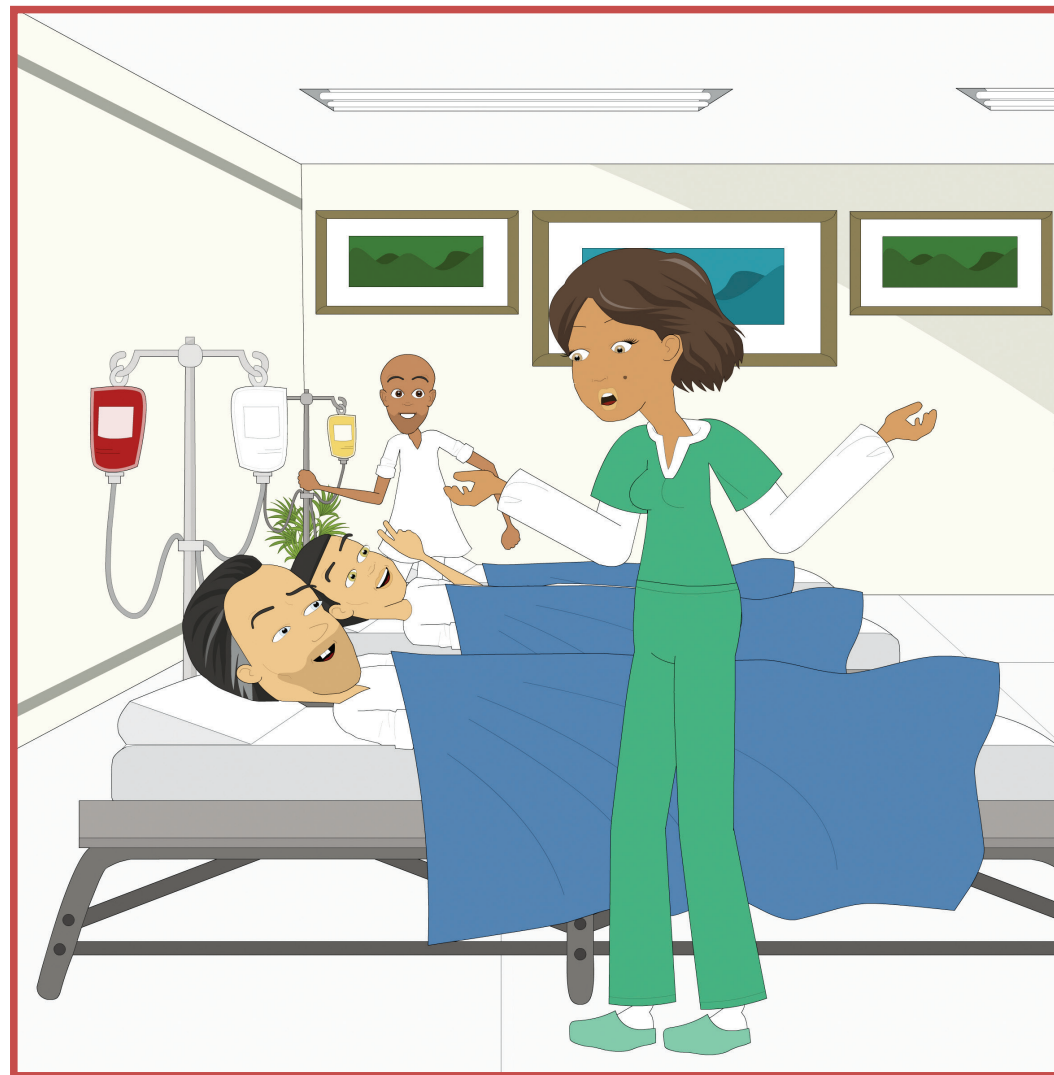
One evening, a pastor who was feeling a bit anxious, said to his church warden: "I am bothered by the fact that for weeks now, a poor, old, shabbily dressed man comes into the church every day at midday. I can see him from the presbytery window. He walks towards the choir stall, stands there for just a few minutes, and then leaves. It seems very strange and I am particularly worried that something might get stolen or damaged. Please could you speak to him?"



Over the next few days, the church warden checked and saw that this poor visitor did in fact come into the church at the stroke of noon, would stay for just a short moment and then leave in no hurry. At last he spoke to him. "Good morning. I see you come to church very regularly. Did you know that you are one of our most faithful attenders?" "I come here to pray," said the old man quietly. "Come on! You don't stay long enough for that. You only get as far as the altar and then you leave again. What do you mean?"



"True", replied the old man. "But, you see, I don't know how to make long prayers. So, every day at midday I just come in and say, 'Jesus ... it's Simon!' Then I wait for a moment before leaving. It's a short prayer, I know, but I believe He hears me."



Shortly after, poor Simon was hit by a truck and taken to hospital. Many of the patients there were grumpy and irritable, always complaining despite all the efforts made by the staff. However, one day, one of the nurses heard an outburst of laughter from one of the patients; amazed she asked: "What's going on? I've never seen you in such a good mood!" "Ah, it's thanks to old Simon! He never complains despite his suffering and pain. He's always happy, content, and patient. He talks to us about his friend, he's a good listener, and he gives us courage too."

# Colouring Page

