

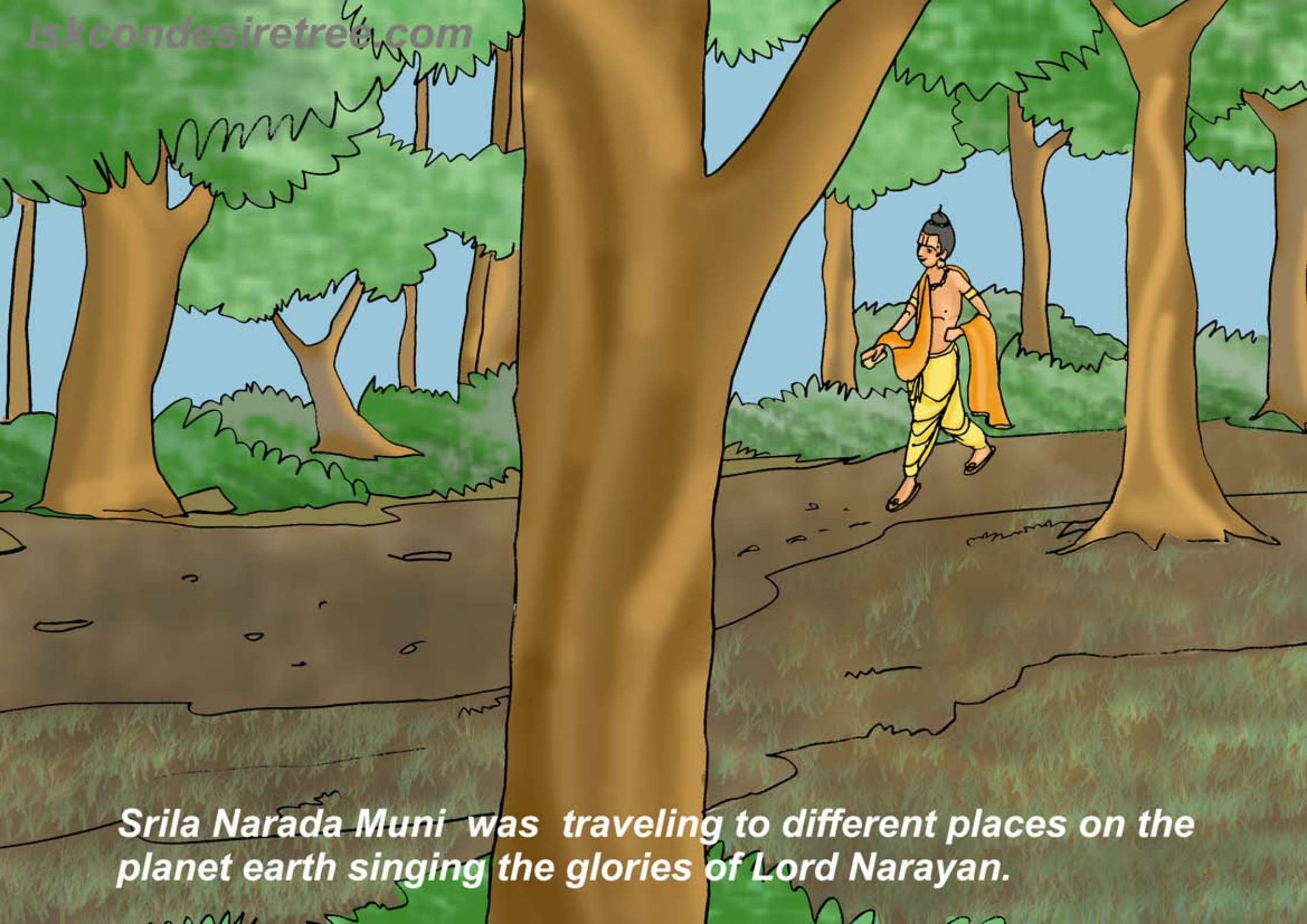
# The Brahman and the Cobbler

*Instructive Stories from teachings of  
His Divine Grace*

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***Srila Narada Muni was traveling to different places on the planet earth singing the glories of Lord Narayan.***

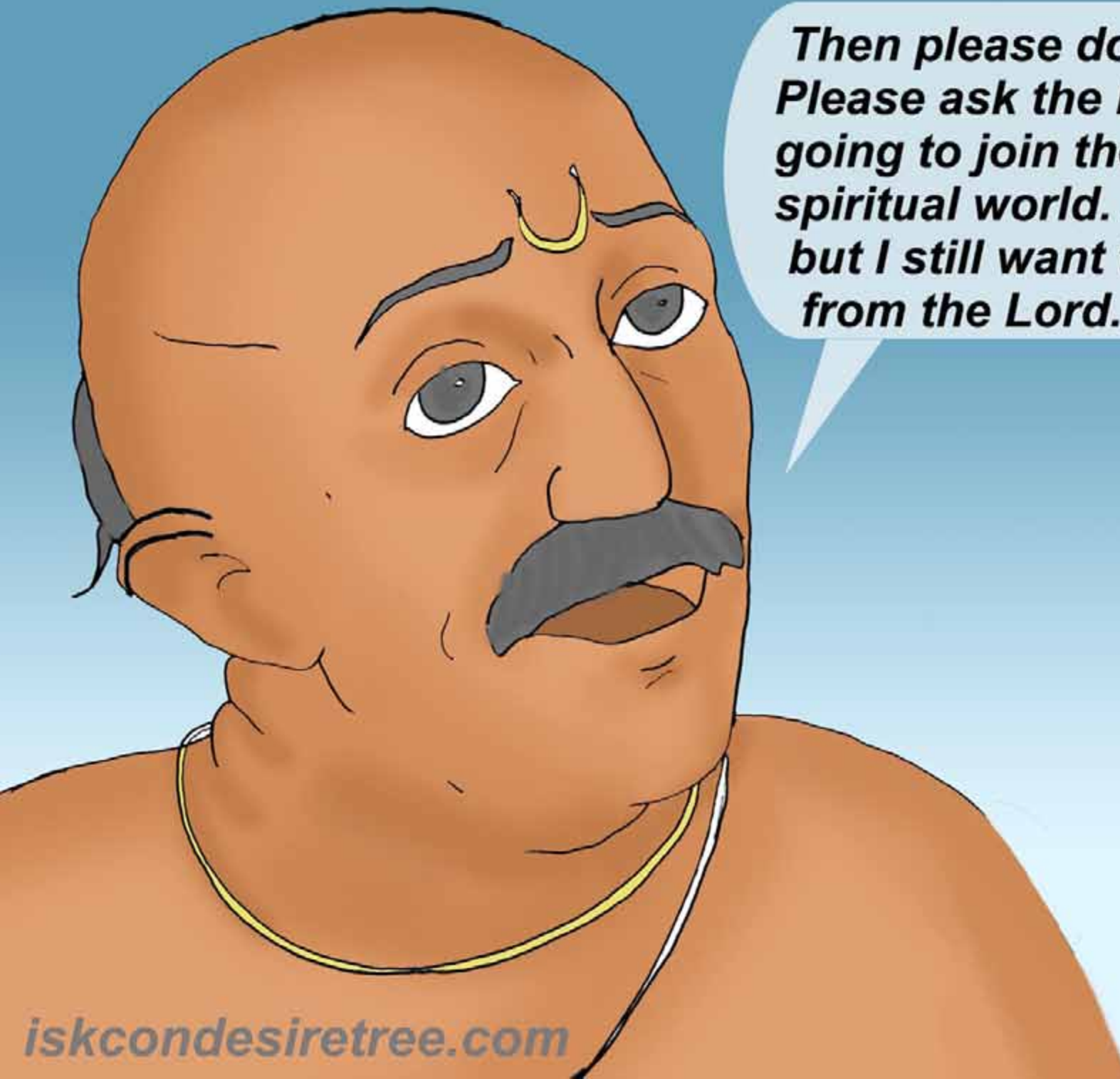
*During his travels Narada Muni saw a  
Brahman taking bath in the river.*



*Seeing Narada muni , this proud Brahman paid his respects to Him and talked to him.*

**Dear Narada Muni  
are you going to  
meet the Lord ?**

**Yes, I will be meeting  
the Lord very soon**




***Then please do me small favour.  
Please ask the Lord when I am  
going to join the Lord in the  
spiritual world. It will be very soon  
but I still want to know only  
from the Lord.***

***All right, I will  
ask the Lord***

*After some time..Narada Muni passed a humble  
cobbler repairing shoes on the roadside.*

**All Glories to Narada Muni**



**Dear Narada Muni are you going to meet the Lord**

**Yes, I will be meeting the Lord very soon**

**When you meet the Lord, please ask the Lord, after how many more lives will I go to the spiritual world as I am tired of living in this material world.**

A stylized illustration of a woman with dark hair pulled back, wearing a yellow sari. She has a yellow crescent-shaped bindi on her forehead, a yellow dot in her left ear, and large hoop earrings. She is also wearing a yellow beaded necklace. A speech bubble points to her from the left. The background is a light blue gradient.

***Yes, I will certainly  
ask the Lord***



*Narada Muni goes to the spiritual world and reaches the place of lord Narayan. The Lord receives him with honour and affection*

**How are you dear Narada?  
Is there anything I can do for you?**

**Narada told the Lord what the Brahman and the Cobbler wanted to know from the Lord.**



***The Brahman will come back to me after hundred lives and the cobbler will come back to me after finishing this life only.***

***They will ask you what I was doing. You tell them that I was threading an elephant through the eye of a needle. On seeing their reaction you will understand everything.***



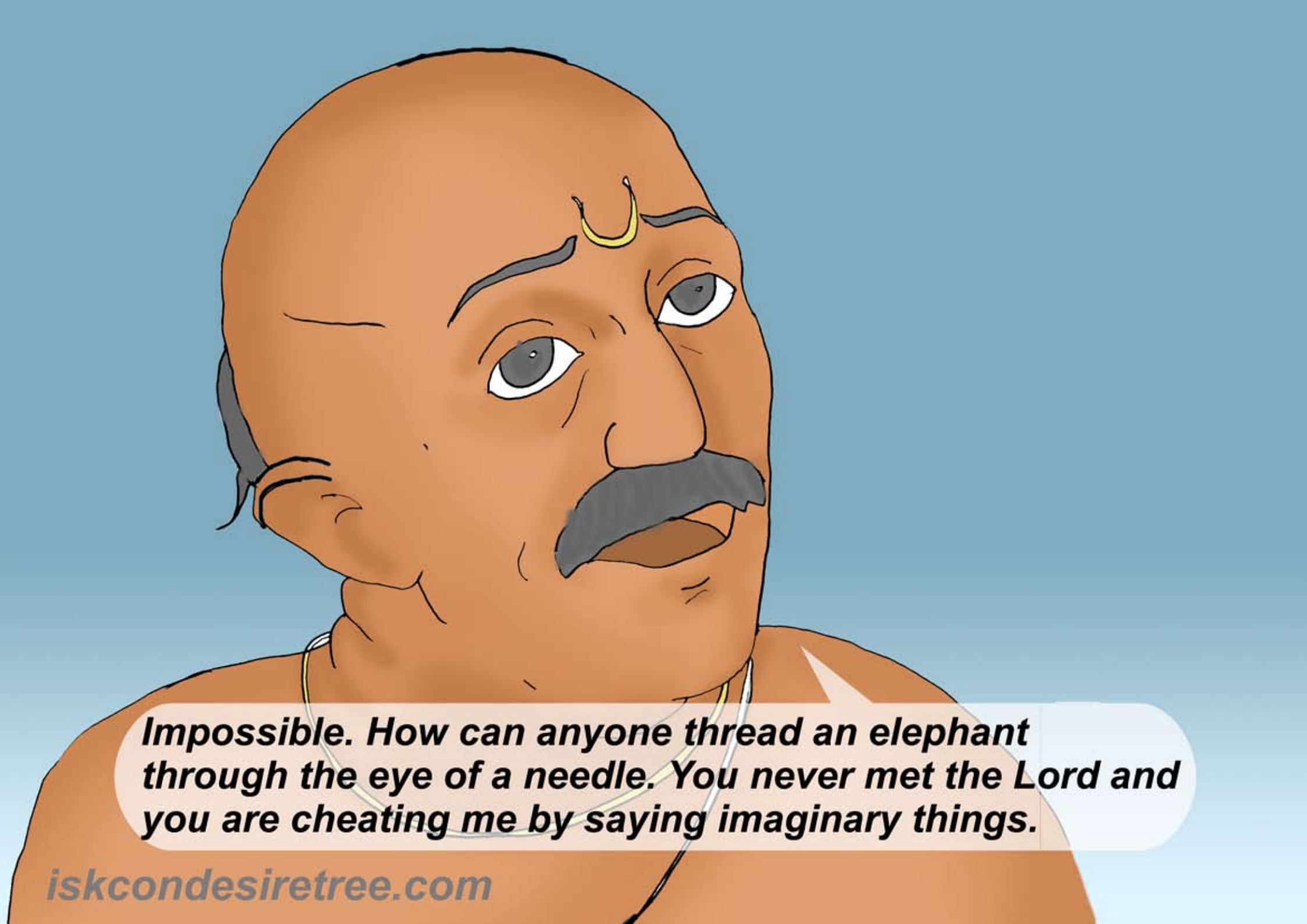
**Narada Muni comes back immediately  
and first meets the Brahman.**

**Oh ! Brahman, the  
Lord said that you  
will see him after  
hundred lives.**



**I don't believe you even saw the Lord,  
tell me what the Lord was doing.**

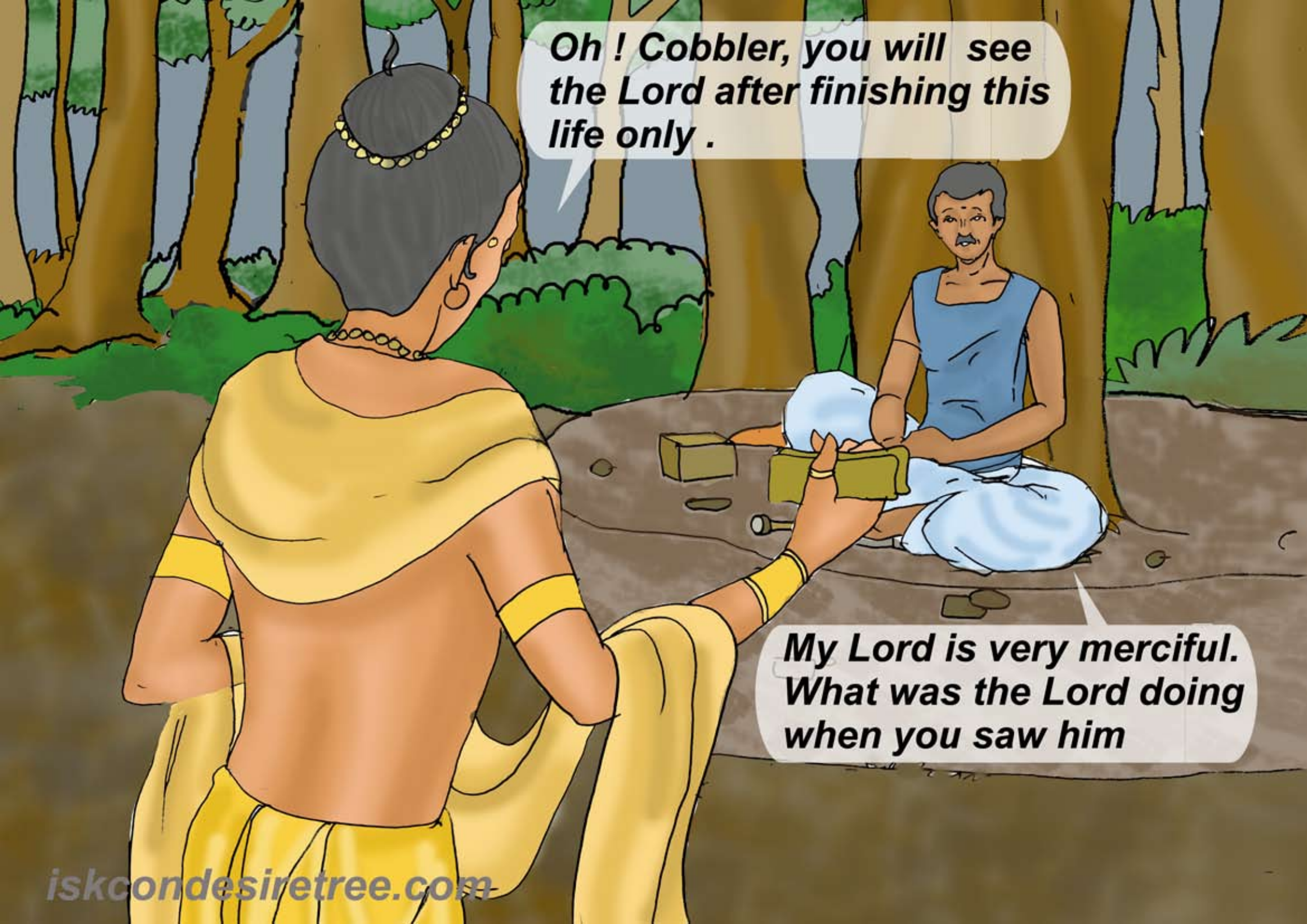
**Lord was threading an  
elephant through the  
eye of a needle.**



***Impossible. How can anyone thread an elephant through the eye of a needle. You never met the Lord and you are cheating me by saying imaginary things.***

*Narada Muni noticed his reaction  
and then went to meet the Cobbler.*




A woman in a yellow sari is standing and talking to a cobbler who is sitting on the ground in a forest. The cobbler is wearing a blue tank top and white dhoti, and is working on a shoe. There are various tools and materials around him. The woman is holding a small object in her hand, possibly a coin or a small gift. The background shows trees and a path.

**Oh ! Cobbler, you will see the Lord after finishing this life only .**

**My Lord is very merciful. What was the Lord doing when you saw him**





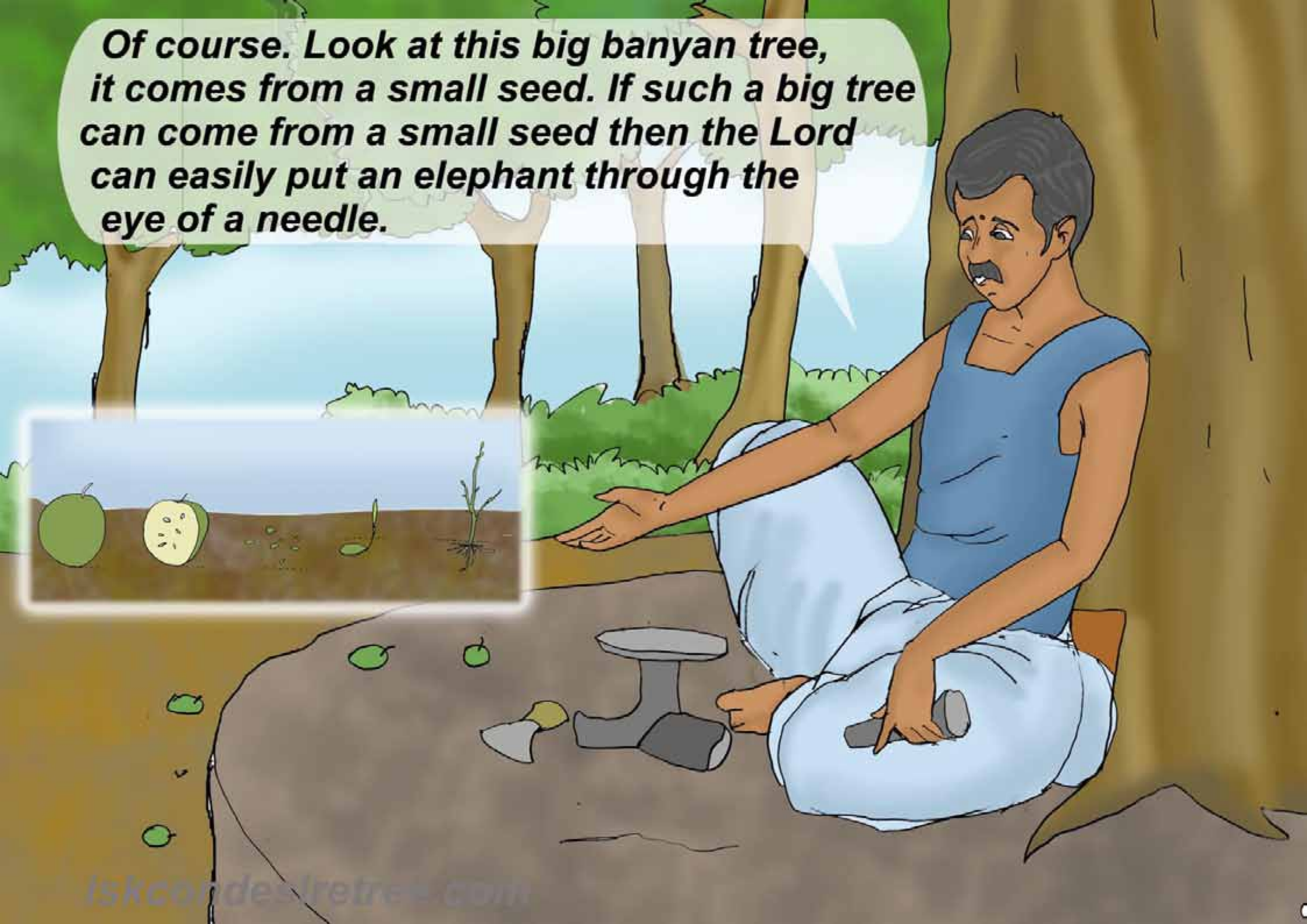
**The lord was threading  
an elephant through  
the eye of a needle.**

**Wonderful !  
Wonderful !**

**Do you actually believe that ?**



**Of course. Look at this big banyan tree, it comes from a small seed. If such a big tree can come from a small seed then the Lord can easily put an elephant through the eye of a needle.**



*Seeing the difference between the faith  
of the Brahman and the cobbler,  
Narada muni understood why they  
had to be rewarded differently*



**MORAL :**

***So this is called faith. There is reason behind the belief. If Krishna can put a large tree within so many little seeds, is it so astounding that He is keeping all the planetary systems floating in space through His energy?***

***It is simply meant for the devotees.***

***They can understand. The non devotees cannot understand they'll say, "Oh, these are all bluffs."***

***-Srla Prabhupada***