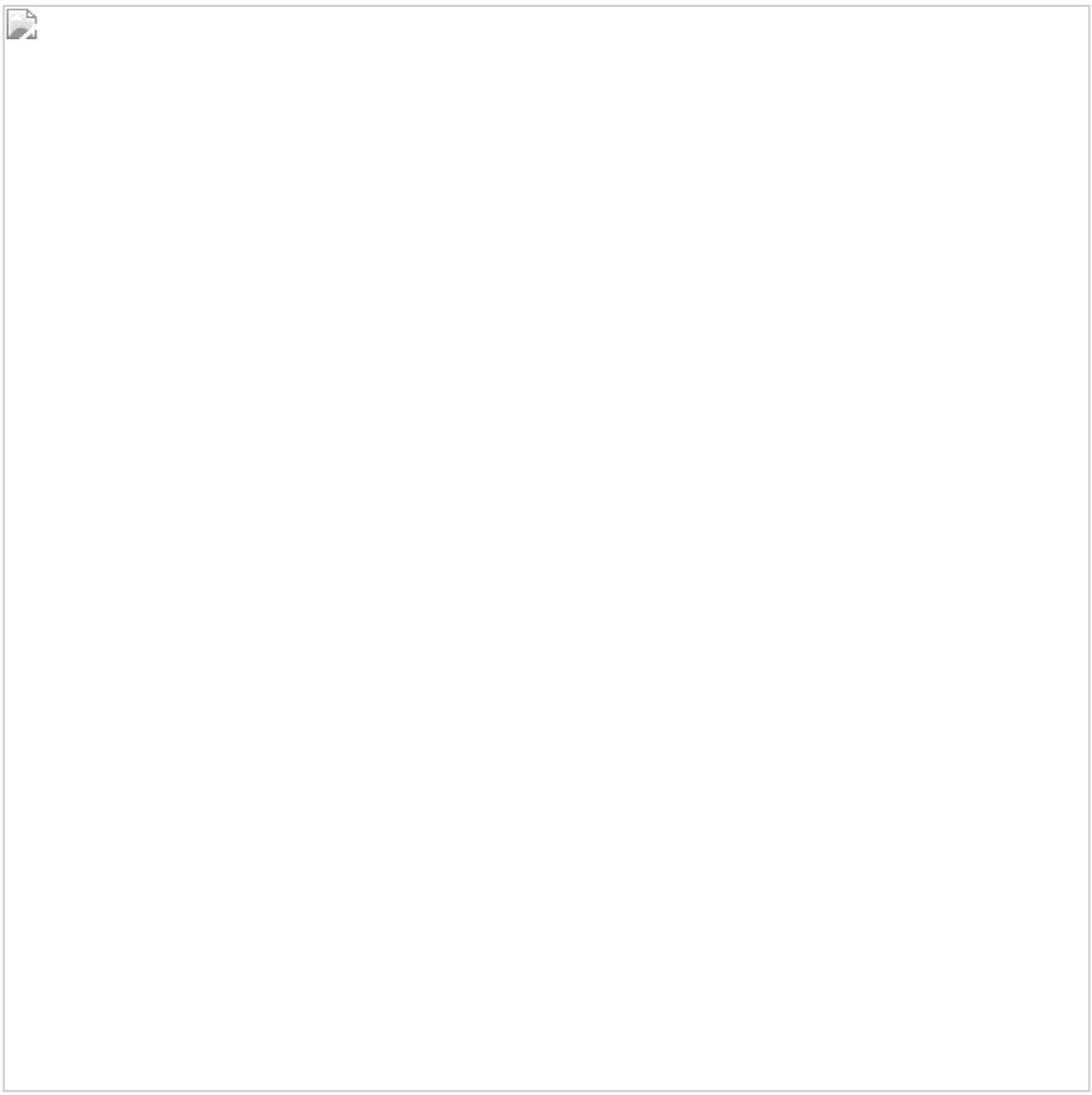
COLORING THE CLASSICS

Sir Galahad

A Hero of England



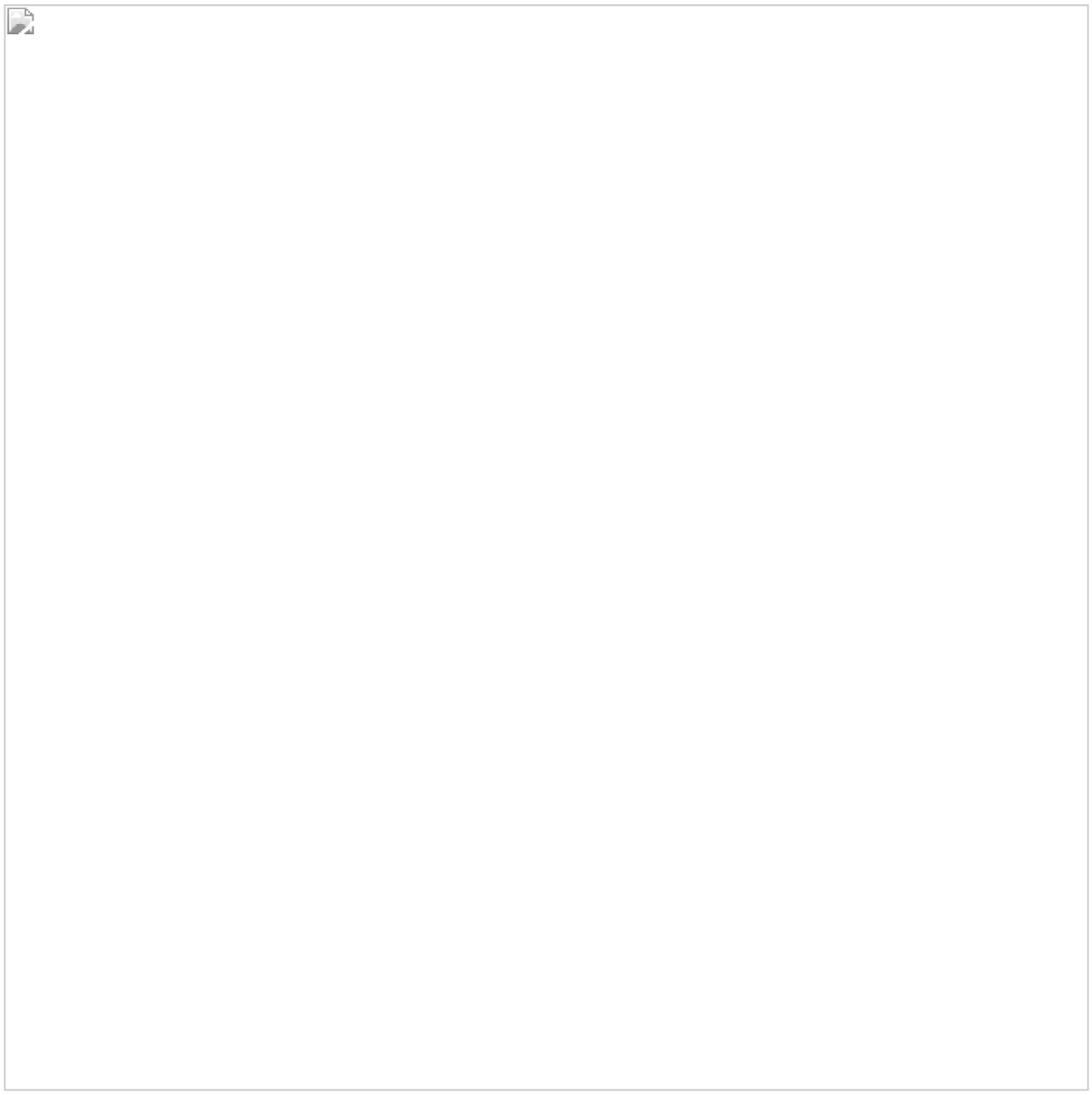
Galahad was only a boy, but Sir Lancelot had just made him a knight, and he sang so gladly that the old abbey where he had lived all his life rang with the sound. “My strength is as the strength of ten,” he sang, “Because my heart is pure.”

TALK ABOUT IT

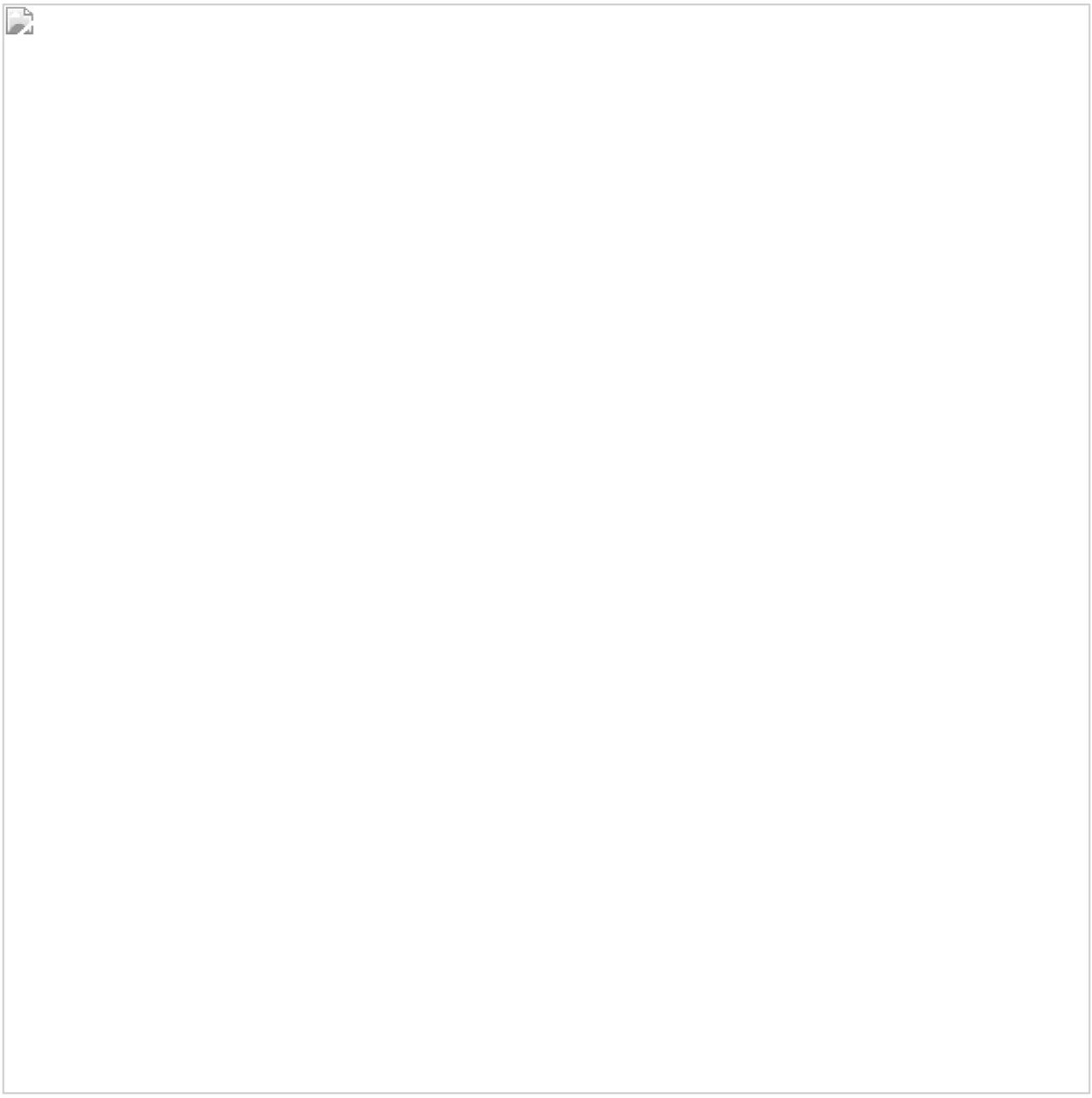
Galahad was so glad that he sang out loud. What is a song or a tune you sing when you are glad?

This book belongs to _____

Sir Galahad · another picture



The Quiet Abbey



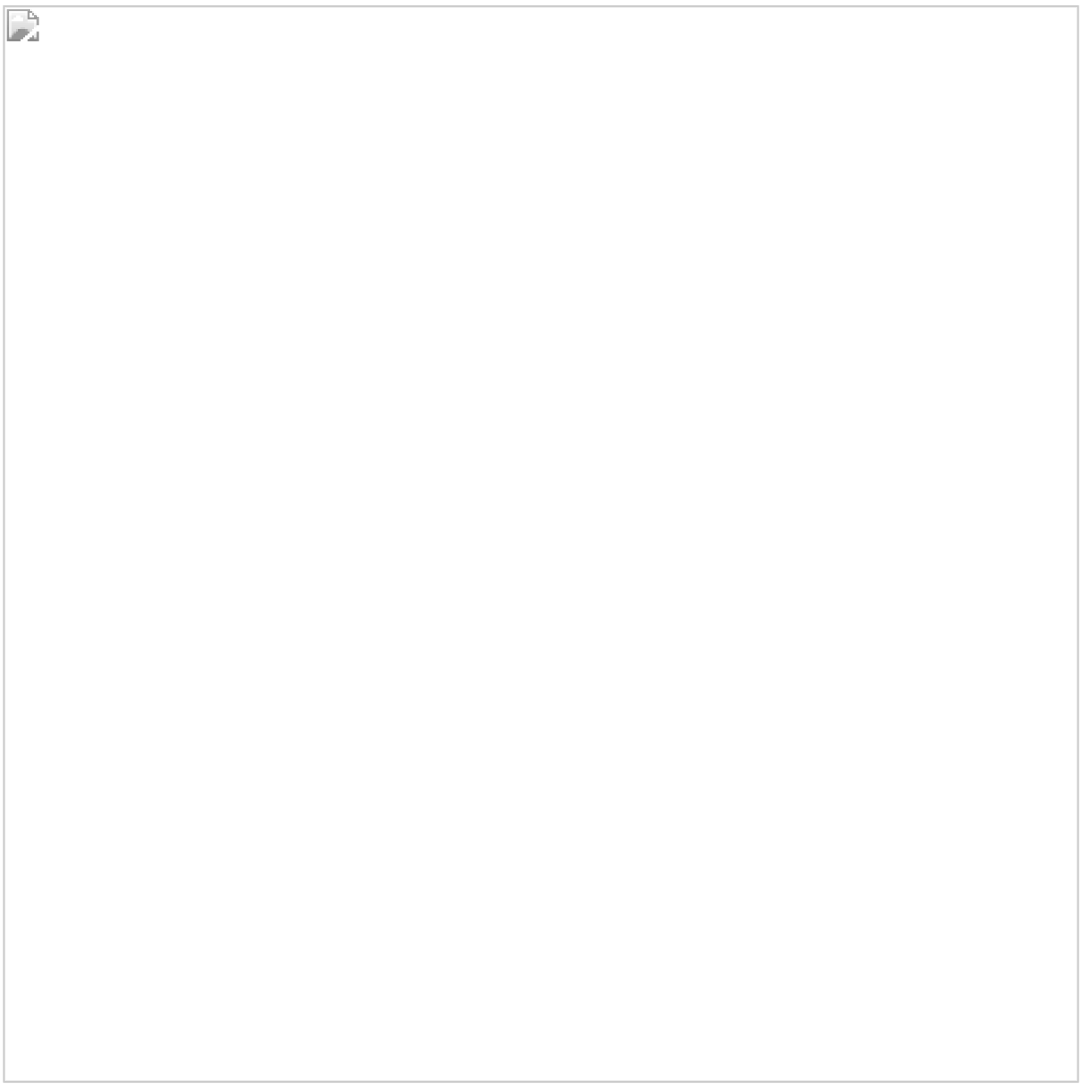
Twelve nuns lived in the abbey, and they had taught Galahad with love and care ever since he came to them as a beautiful little child.

Sir Lancelot heard the boy's clear voice and wished he could be a boy again and sing that song too.

The next day Sir Lancelot rode away to King Arthur's court. But Galahad stayed a little longer. He did not want to hurt the nuns with a hurried goodbye.

TALK ABOUT IT

Why do you think Galahad did not rush off, even though he was a knight now?

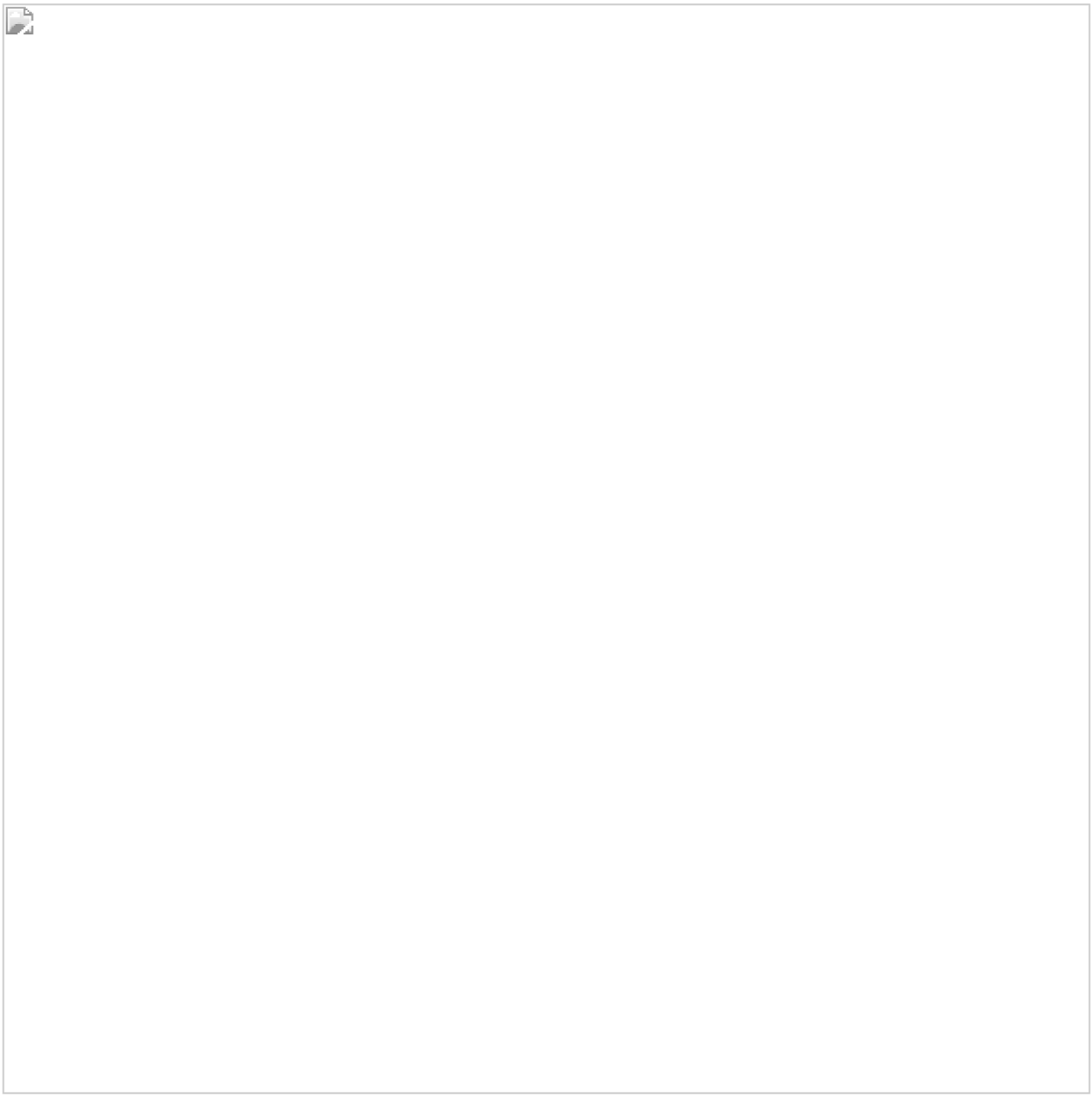


Think about it

1. Who had taught Galahad since he was little?

- ○ Twelve nuns
- ○ Twelve giants
- ○ Twelve sailors

The Seat with Golden Letters



At Camelot, King Arthur was holding a great feast. When his people came back from church, they saw something strange.

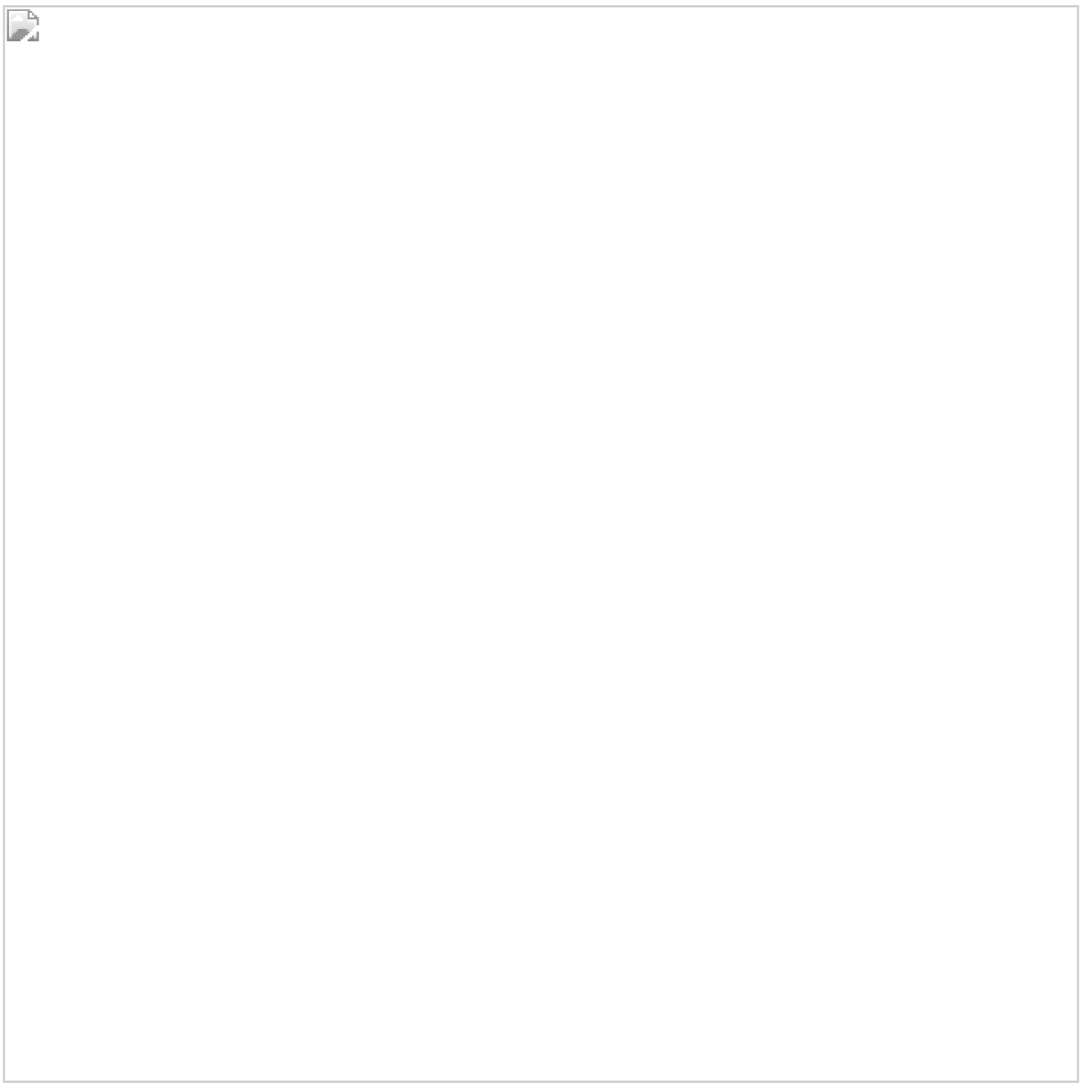
At one place at the Round Table, golden letters shone. “This is the seat of Sir Galahad, the Pure-hearted.”

Only Sir Lancelot knew who that was. He laid a piece of silk over the letters to cover them until the Knight of the Pure Heart came.

TALK ABOUT IT

What does it mean to have a pure heart, do you think?

The Seat with Golden Letters · another picture

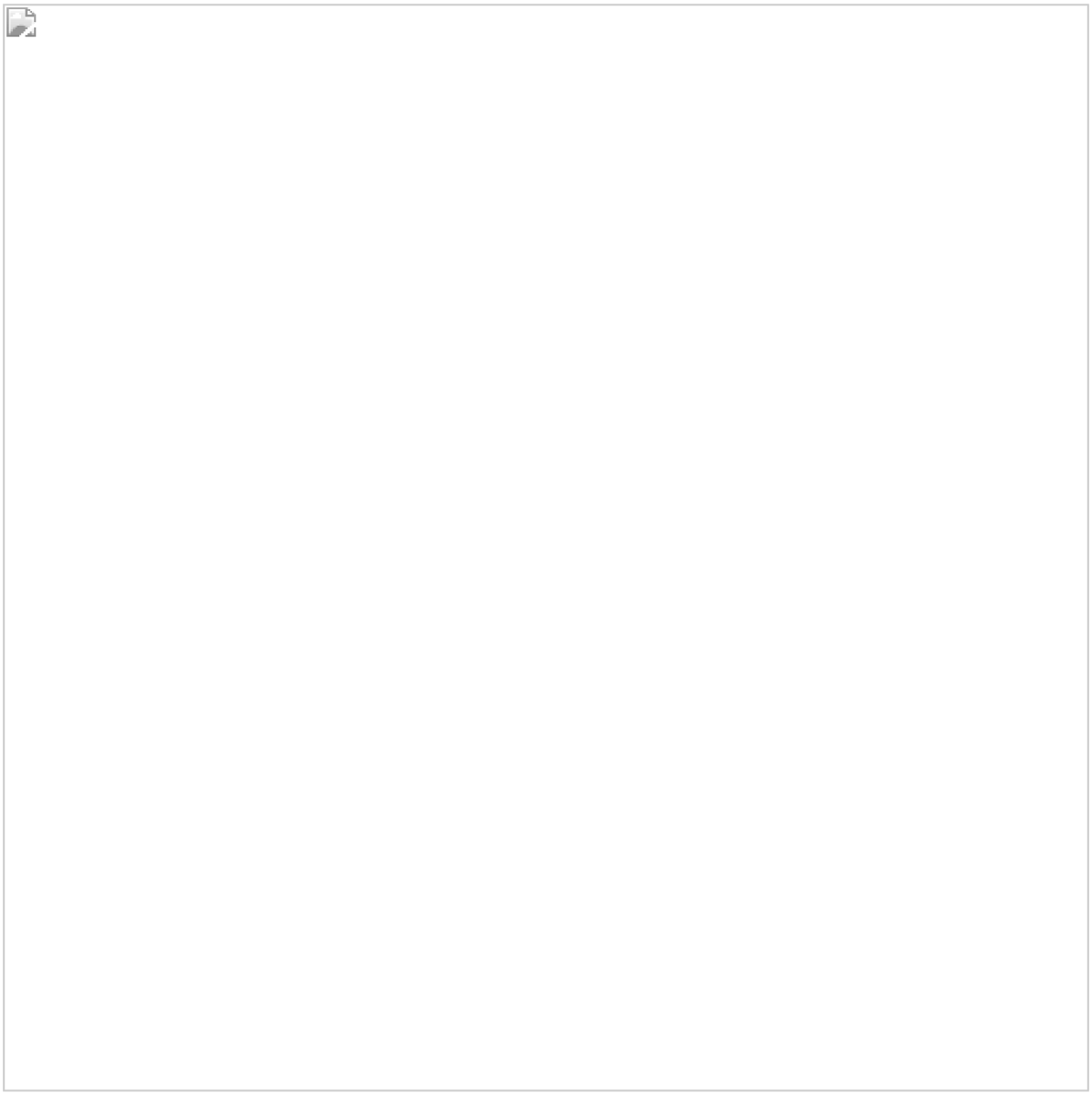


Think about it

1. What was written at the empty seat?

- ○ The name Sir Galahad
- ○ The name Sir Kay
- ○ A map

The Sword in the Stone



A squire ran in with news. A red stone was floating on the river, and a fine sword was stuck in it, its handle shining with jewels and gold letters.

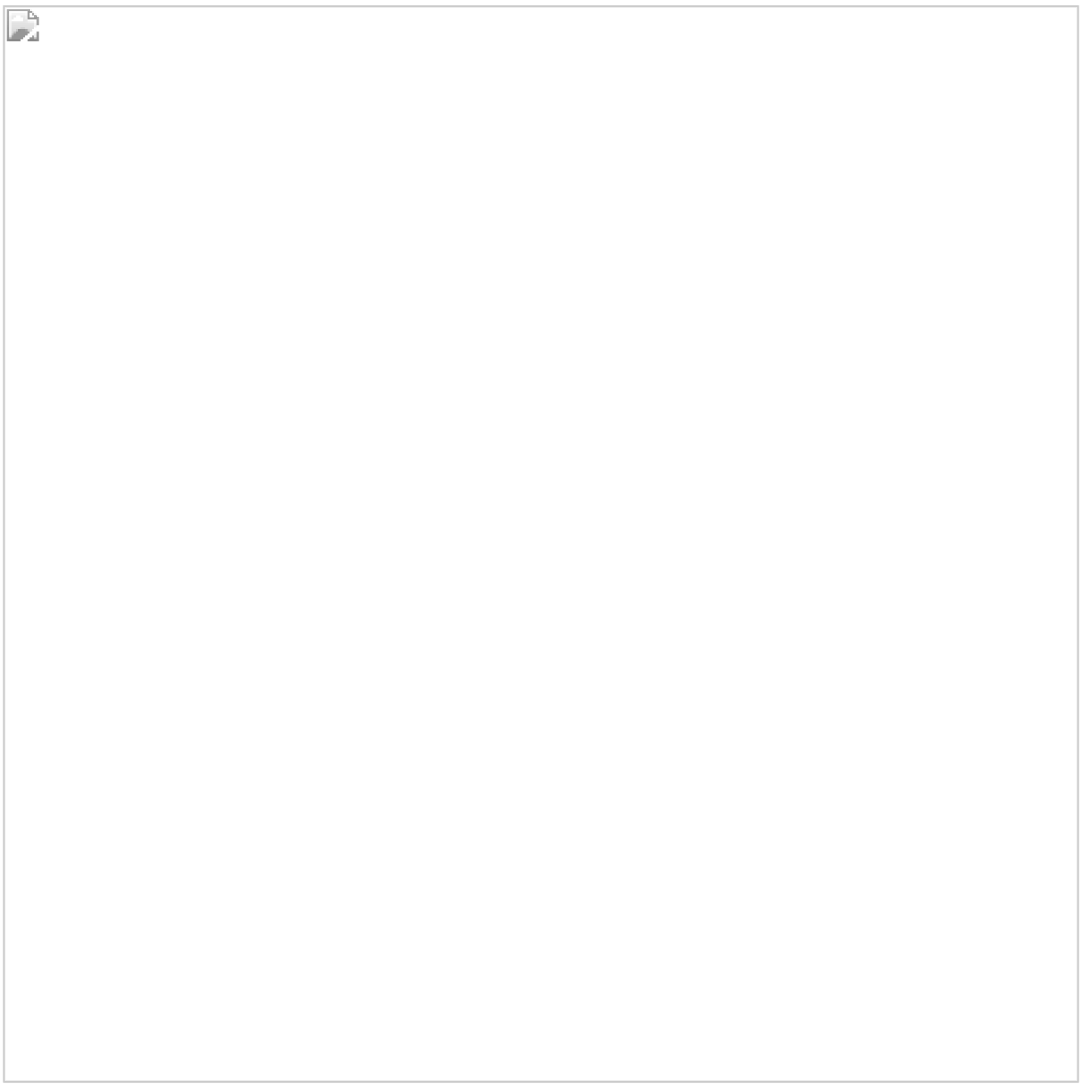
The King read the words: “No one shall take me away save him to whom I belong. I will hang only by the side of the best knight in the world.”

The King asked Sir Lancelot to try. But Sir Lancelot said, “The sword is not mine.” Sir Gawaine tried, and was hurt. Sir Percivale tried, and could not move it. After that, no one else dared.

TALK ABOUT IT

Sir Lancelot would not try, because the sword was not his. Why do you think that was hard to say out loud?

The Sword in the Stone · another picture

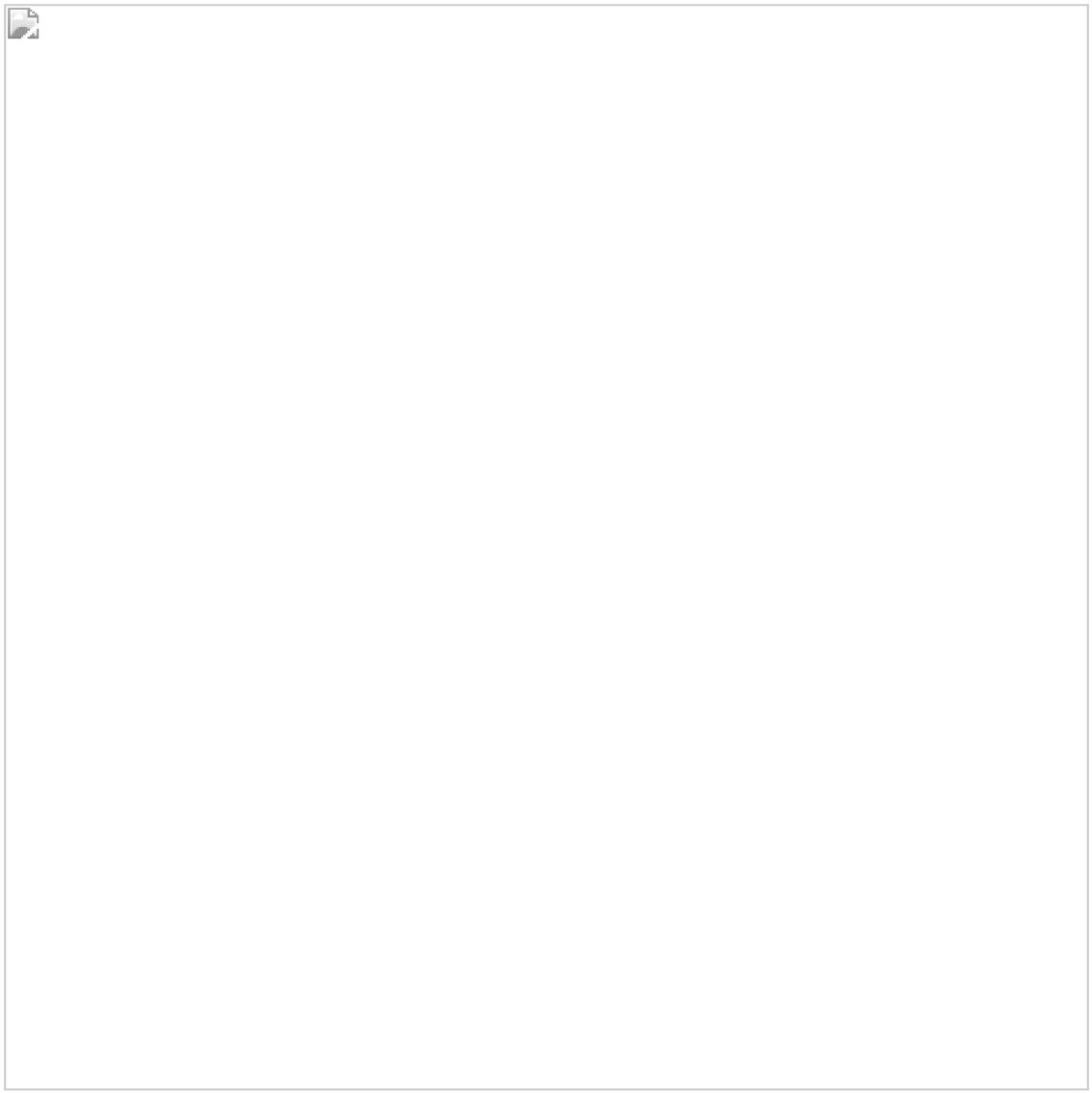


Think about it

1. Where was the sword?

- ○ In a floating red stone
- ○ In a tree
- ○ In a cave

The Old Man in White



That evening, while the knights sat at the Round Table, all the doors of the palace shut by themselves, and the windows closed softly.

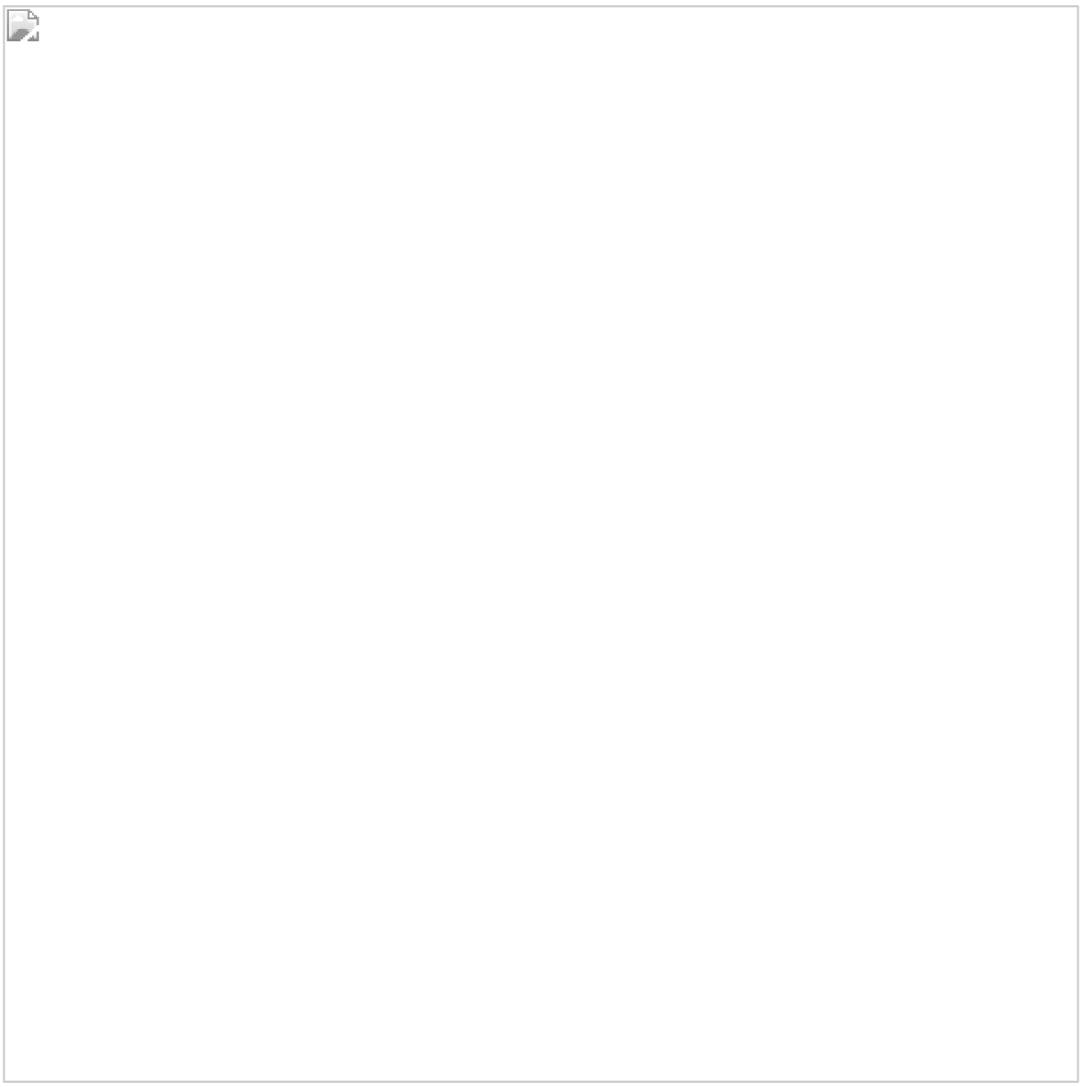
Then a very old man dressed in white came in, with a young man in red armor beside him. The young man had no sword, only an empty sheath.

“He shall see the Holy Grail,” said the old man. This was the holy cup that long ago had been used by the Lord, and it was seen only by those who were pure in heart.

He led the young man to the empty seat and lifted the silk. It was Galahad.

TALK ABOUT IT

How do you think the knights felt, hearing that Galahad would see the Grail when they had not?

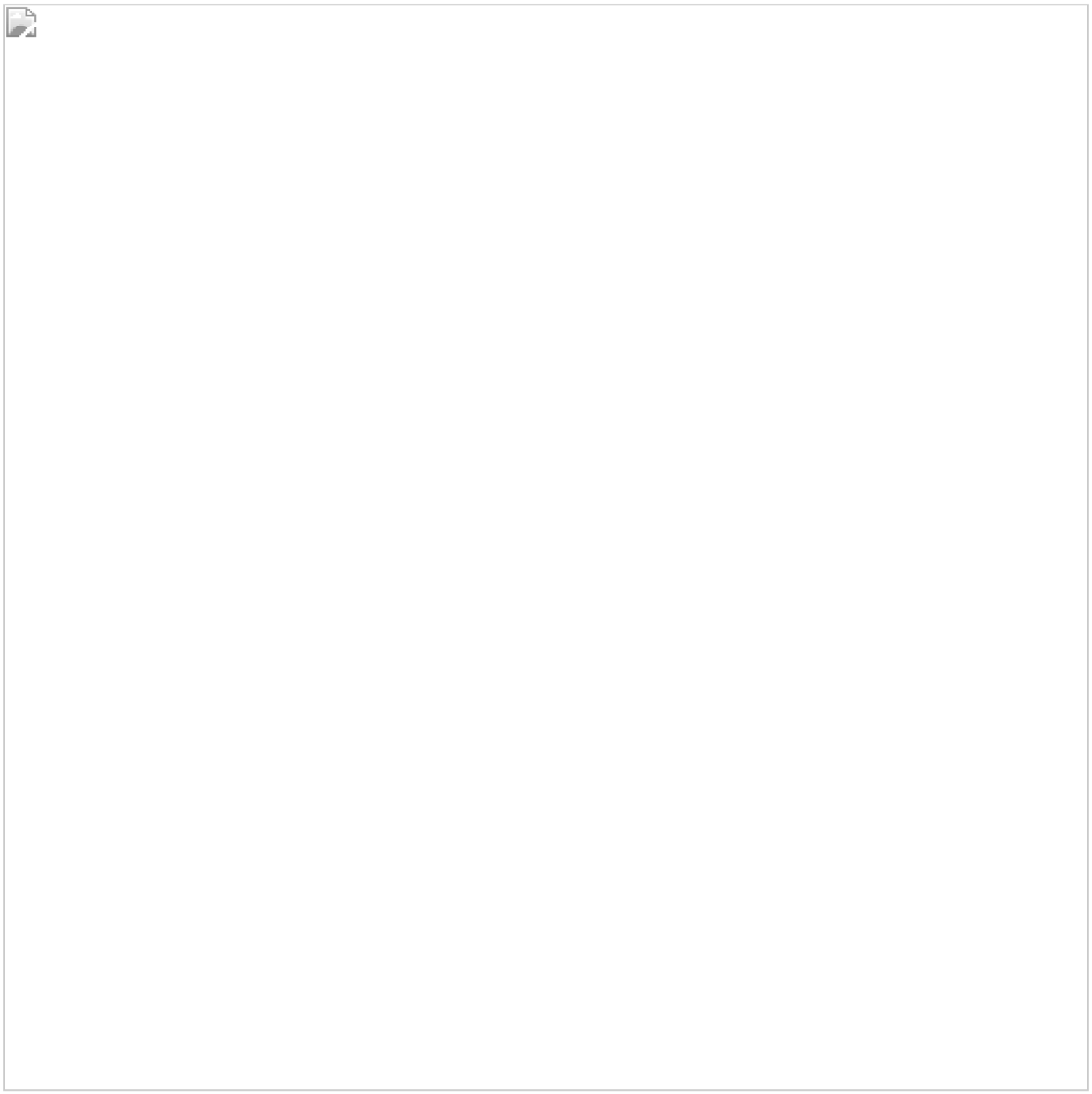


Think about it

1. What was empty on the young knight's belt?

- ○ His bag
- ○ His sheath
- ○ His boot

Galahad Draws the Sword



King Arthur welcomed Galahad to the Round Table. Then he led him down to the river to see the red stone.

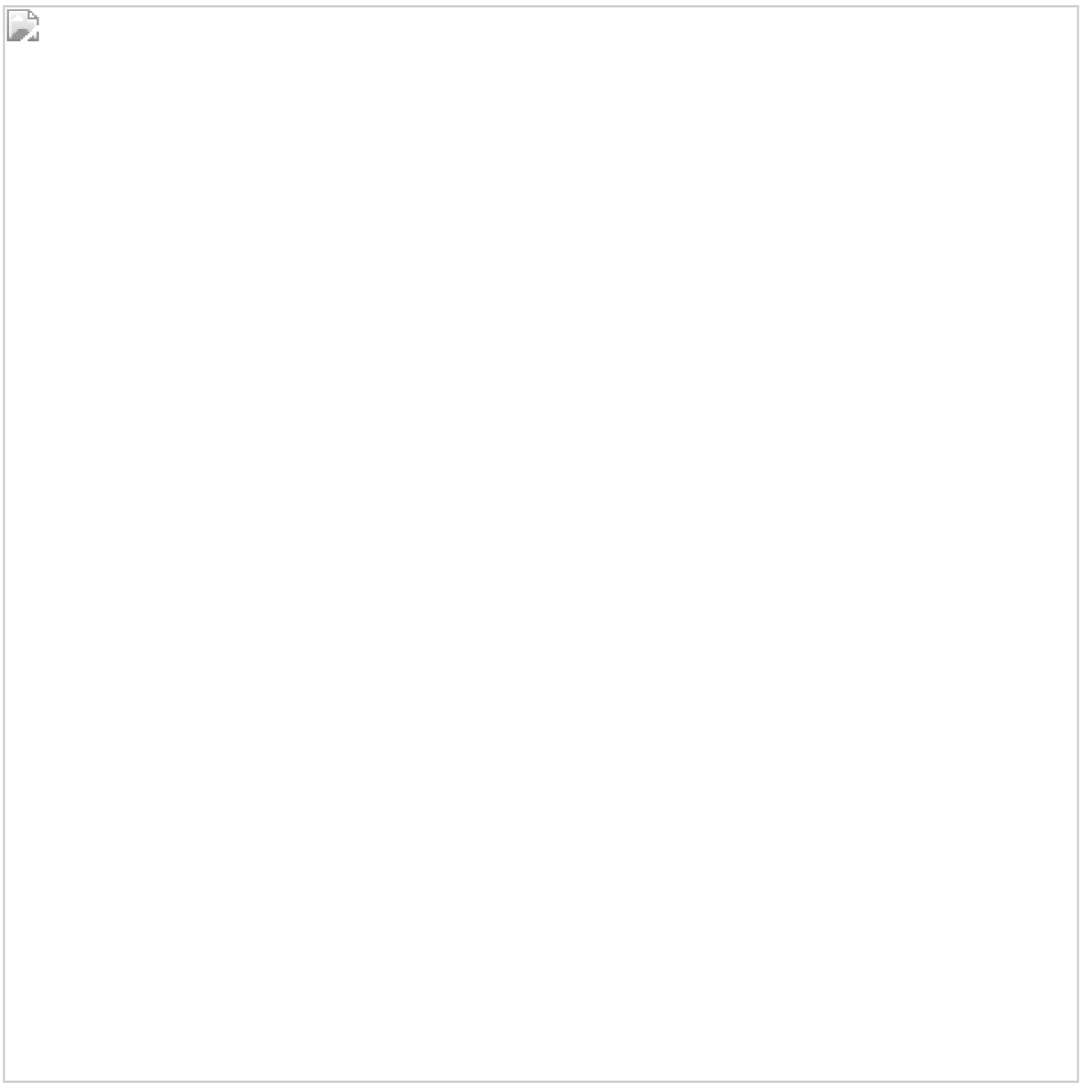
When Galahad heard that no knight had been able to pull out the sword, he knew this was his adventure. “I will try to take the sword,” he said, “and place it in my sheath, for it is empty.”

He laid his hand on it and drew it out easily. “God has sent you the sword, now He will send you a shield as well,” said King Arthur.

TALK ABOUT IT

Galahad drew the sword out easily, after the others could not. Why do you think it was easy for him?

Galahad Draws the Sword · another picture

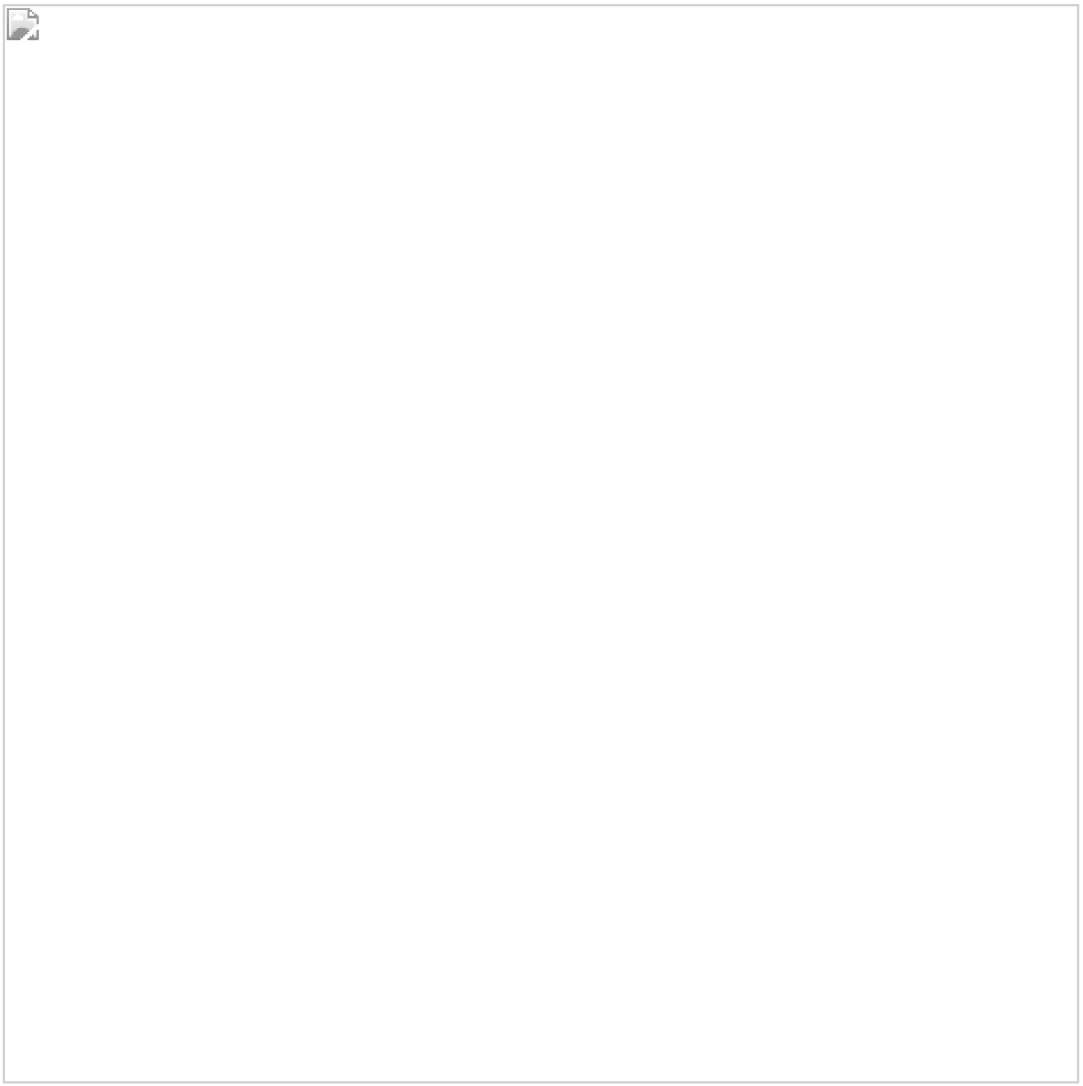


Think about it

1. What did Galahad do with the sword?

- ○ Gave it to the King
- ○ Put it in his empty sheath
- ○ Threw it in the river

The Light at the Table



The next day Galahad rode bravely in the King's tournament. Then they all sat down to supper.

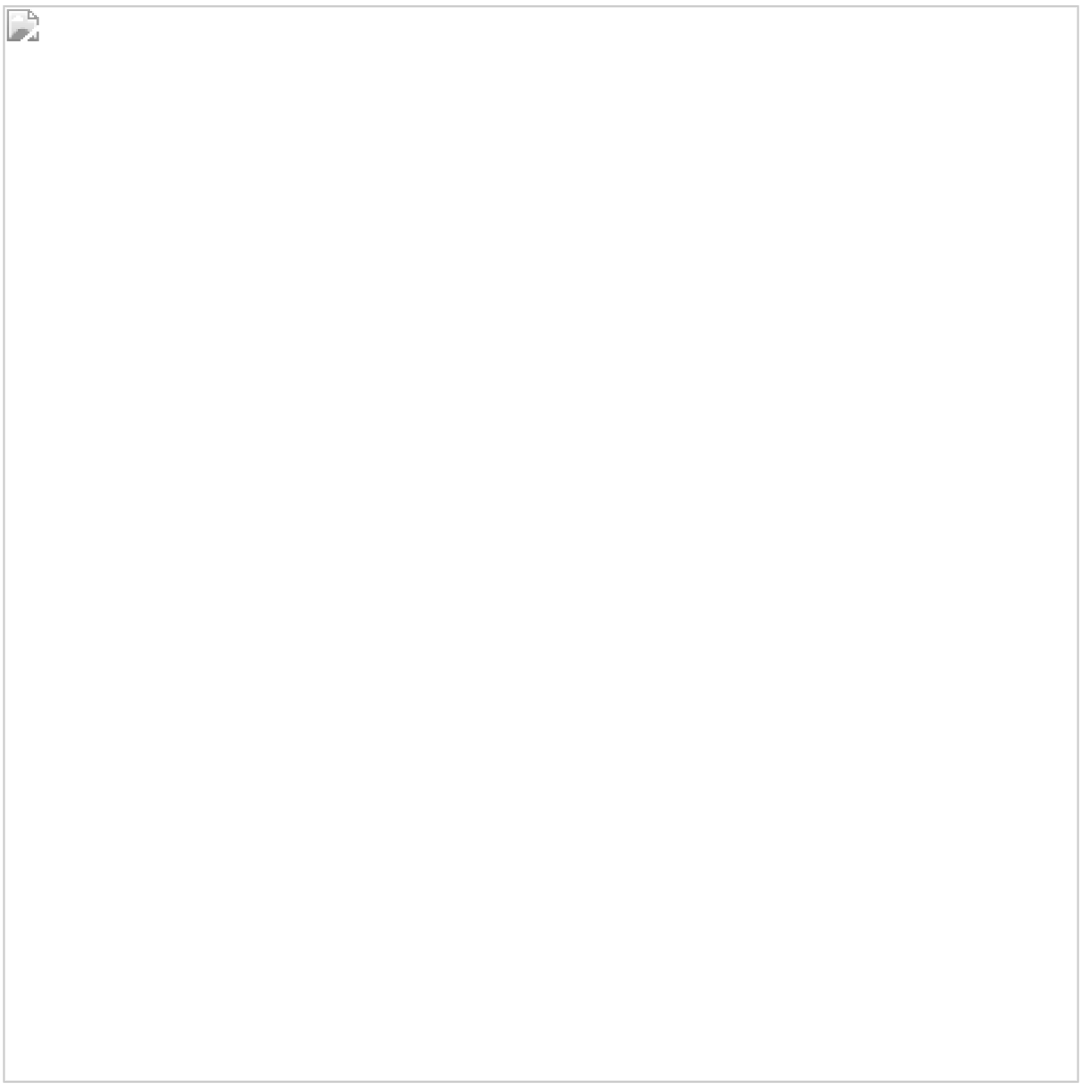
Suddenly there was a loud crash, louder than thunder, and a light stole into the room, brighter than any sunbeam. Each knight seemed to the others to have a new glory in his face.

Down the sunbeam glided the Holy Grail. But no one saw it except pure-hearted Galahad.

The knights vowed to go and search for it. King Arthur wept, for he knew there would soon be many empty chairs at his table.

TALK ABOUT IT

King Arthur was sad as his knights rode away. Who do you miss when they go away? What do you do when you miss them?

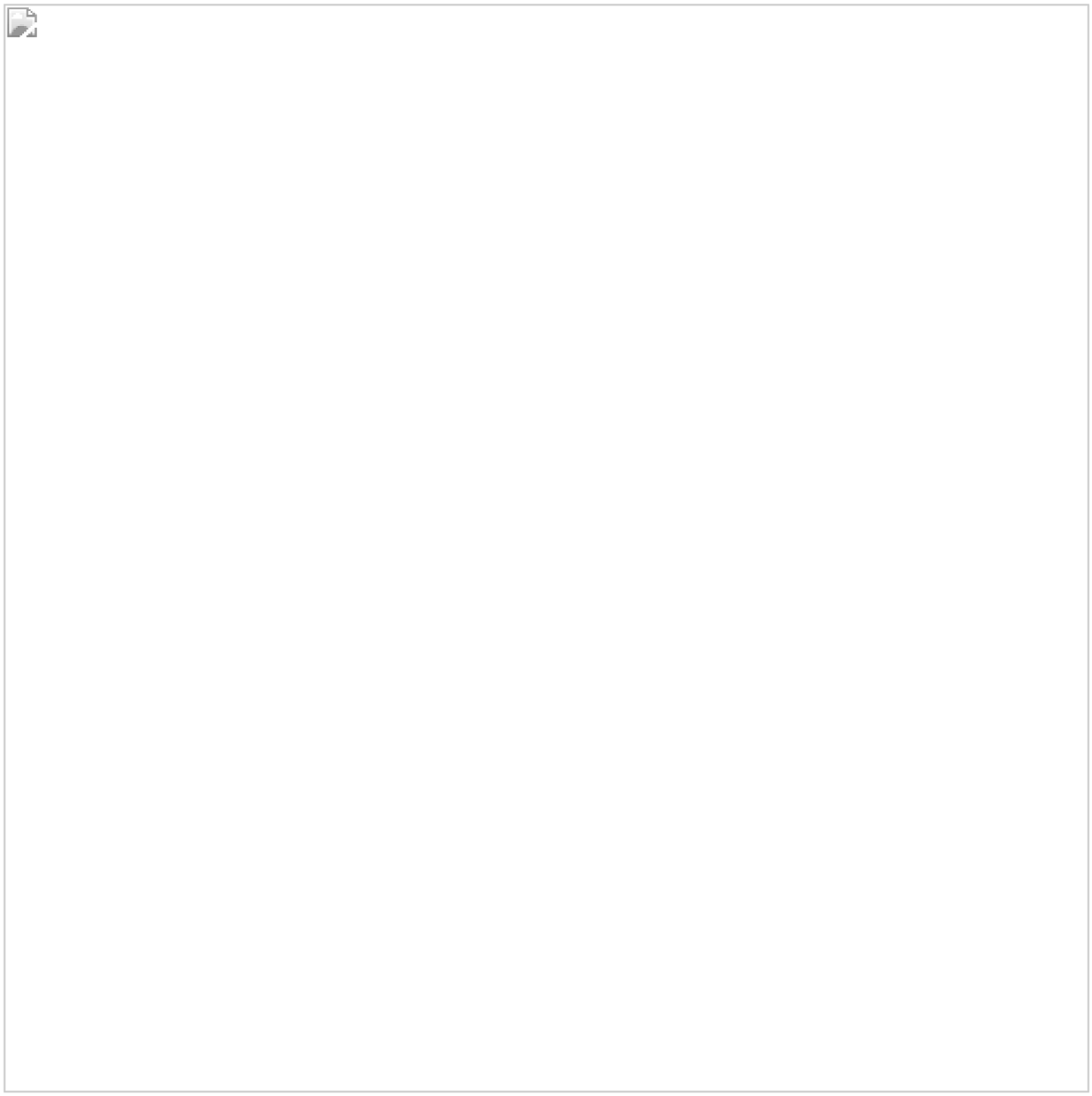


Think about it

1. What did the knights promise?

- ○ To search for the Holy Grail
- ○ To stay home forever
- ○ To build a new castle

The White Shield



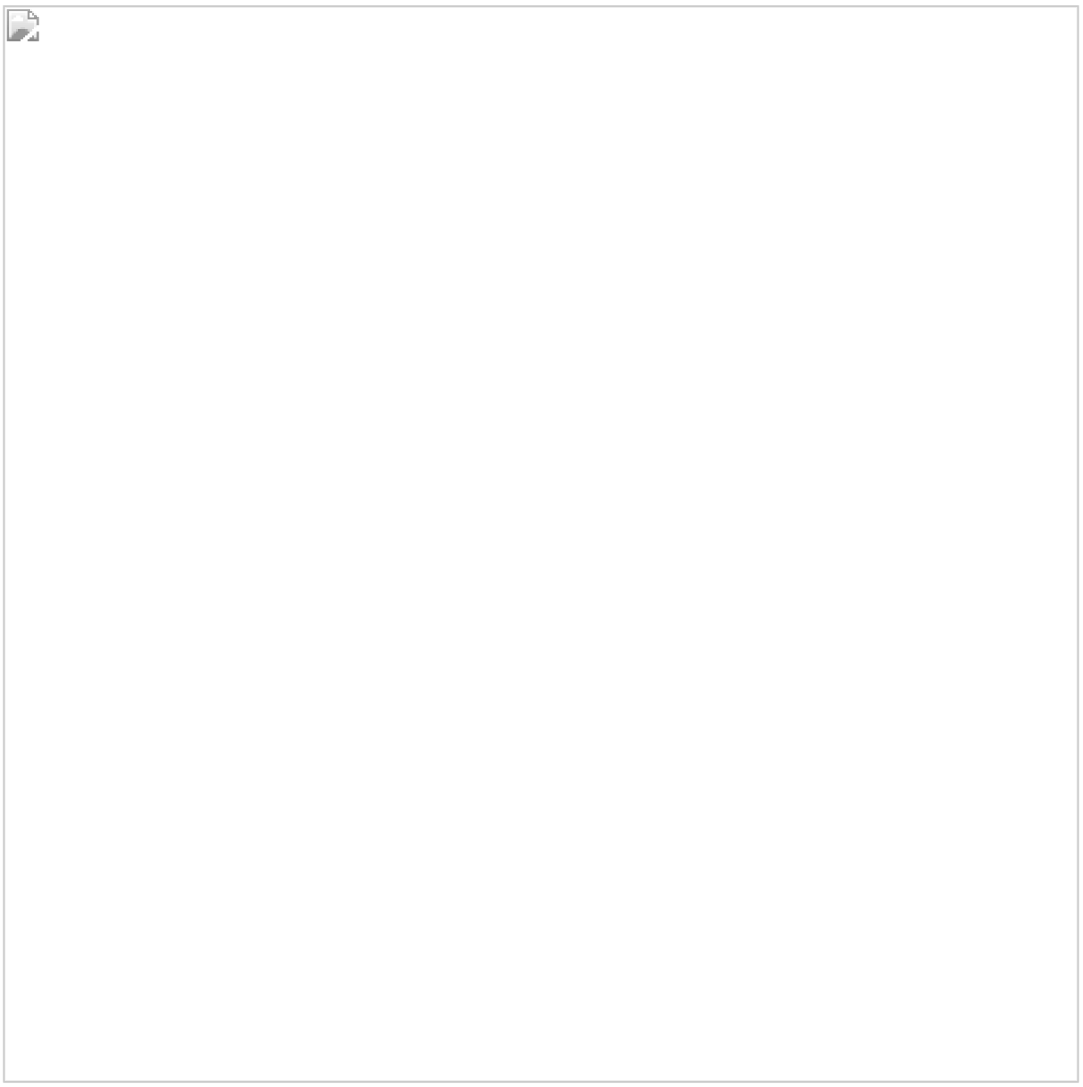
Galahad rode four days and came to a white abbey. A shield hung there, as white as snow, with a red cross in the middle.

A king who was staying at the abbey tried to carry it first. “The shield can be borne only by the worthiest knight in the world,” a monk warned him. A white knight met the king in the valley and wounded him, and told the squire to take the shield to Galahad.

Galahad hung it round his neck gladly and thanked God. All his life the white shield with the red cross was one of his great treasures.

TALK ABOUT IT

The king said, “I am no worthy knight,” and tried anyway. What do you think about that?

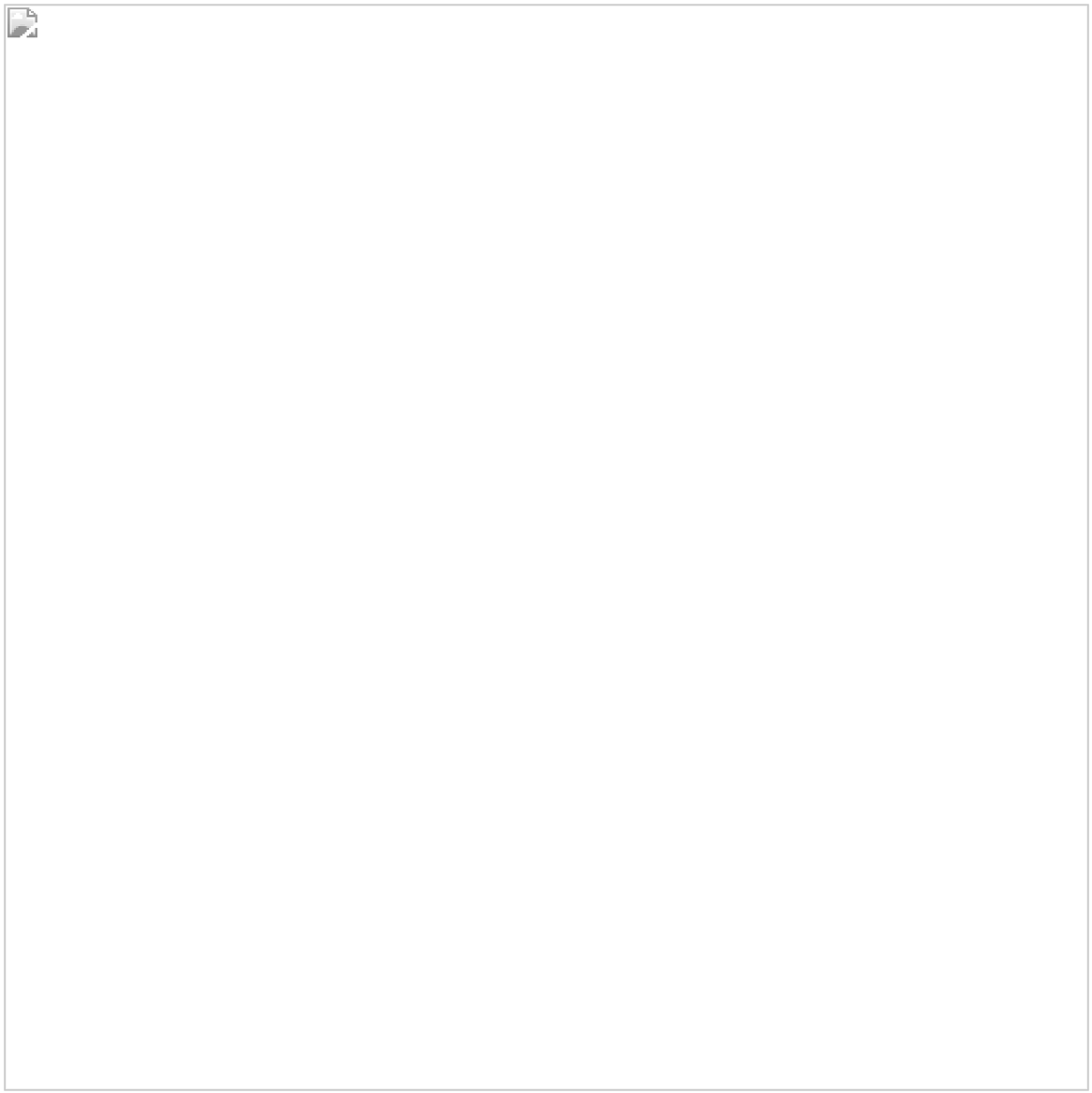


Think about it

1. What did the shield look like?

- ○ Gold with a lion
- ○ White with a red cross
- ○ Black with a star

The Castle of Maidens



Galahad rode on for many days, until he came to an old, empty chapel on a mountain. He knelt alone at the altar and asked God what to do next.

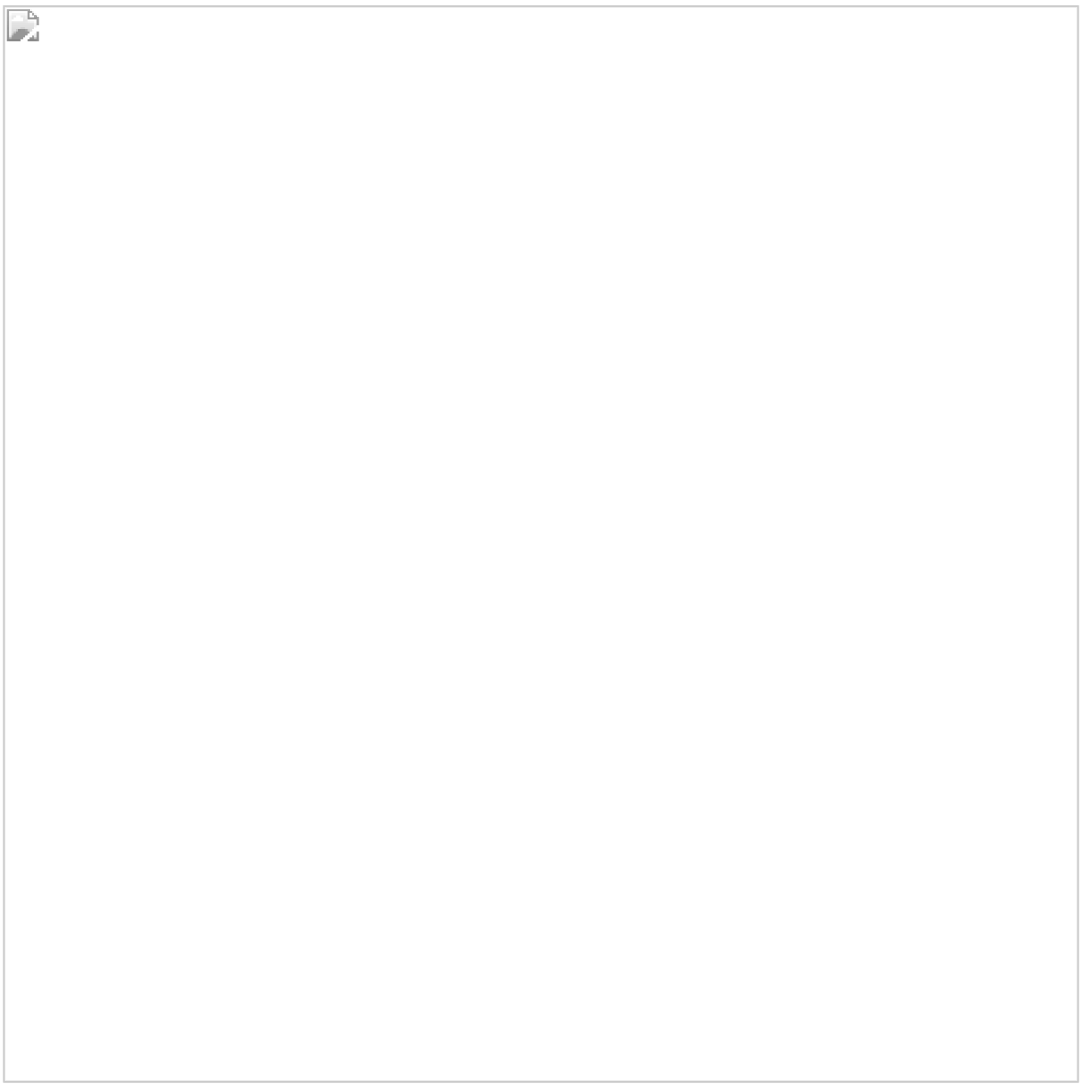
A voice said, “Thou brave knight, go to the Castle of Maidens and rescue them.”

Seven knights had long ago taken that castle from the maiden who owned it, and had shut her and many others inside. When they rushed out at Galahad, his sword flashed in the light, and they ran away.

An old man gave Galahad the keys. He opened the gates, set the prisoners free, and gave the castle back to the maiden it belonged to.

TALK ABOUT IT

Galahad asked God before he went. Who do you ask when you do not know what to do next?



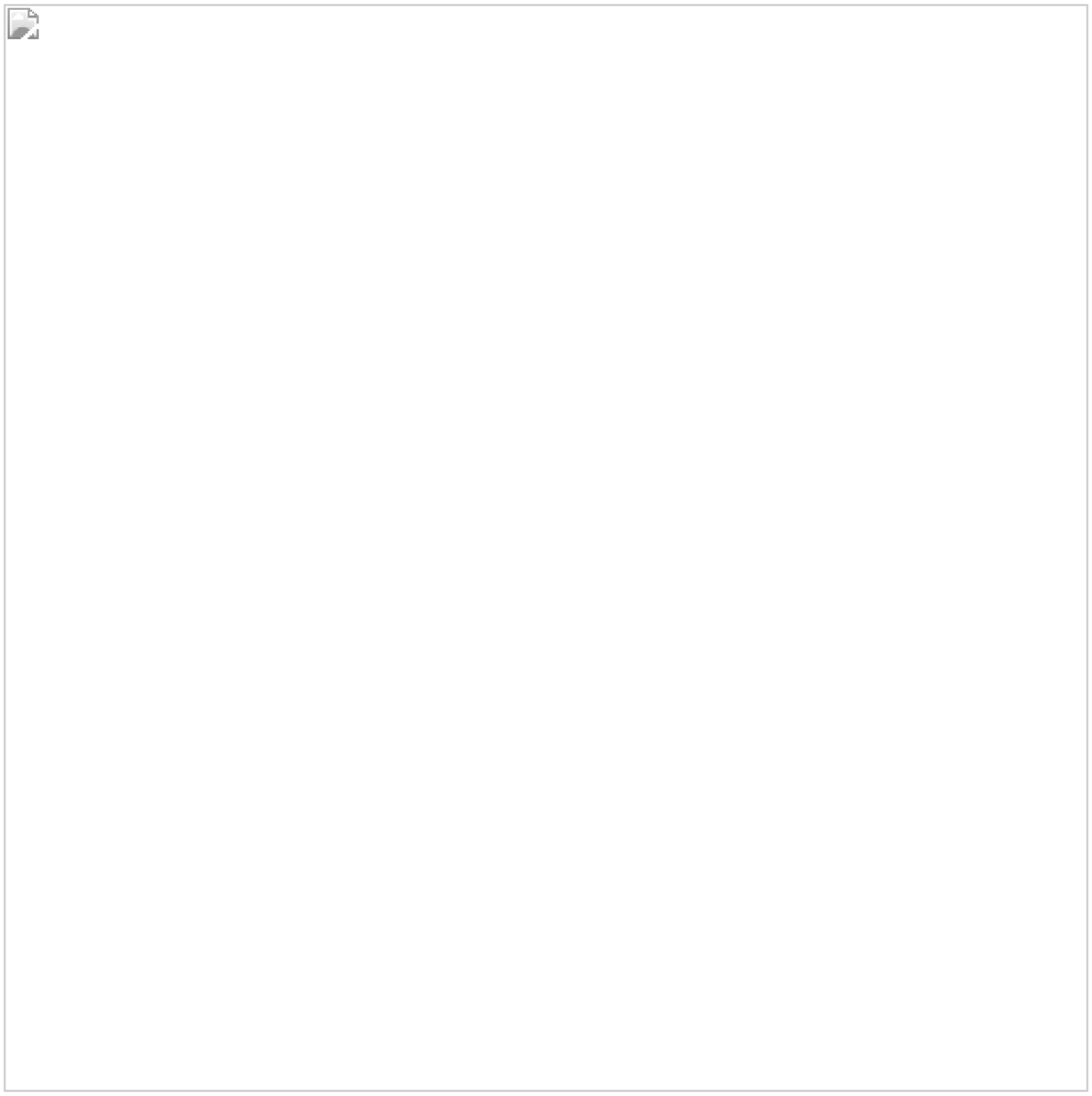
Think about it

1. What did Galahad do with the castle?

- ○ Kept it for himself
- ○ Gave it back to the maiden who owned it
- ○ Knocked it down

2. Galahad did not keep the castle. Why do you think he gave it back?

The Ship and the Lame Man



Galahad rode on and on until he reached the sea. A maiden led him to a ship, and in a smaller ship waiting for him he found a table, covered with a red cloth. The Holy Grail was on it, but still covered.

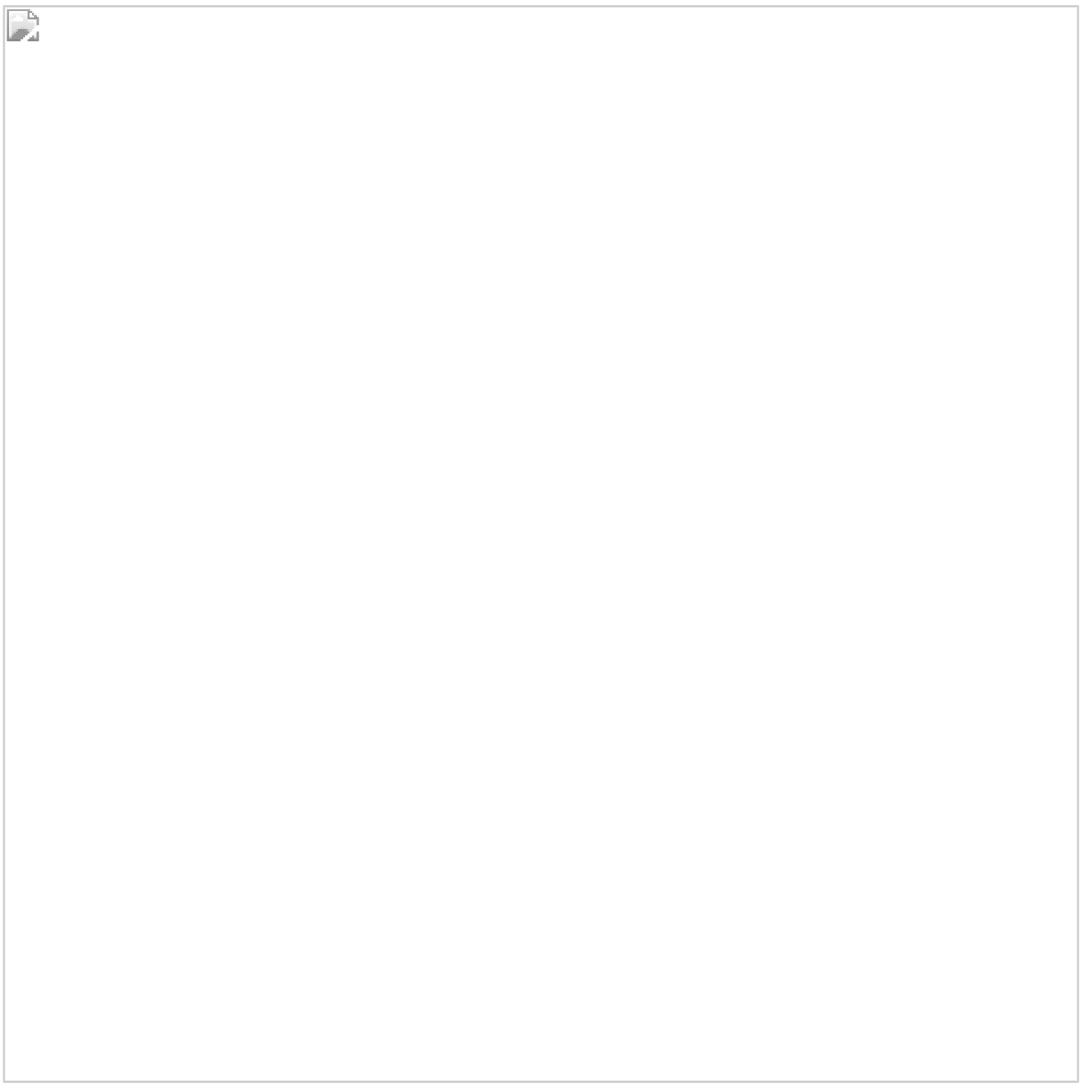
The ship came to a strange city. A man sat on the shore, who had not walked without crutches for ten years.

Galahad asked him to help lift the table off the ship. “Show that you are willing, and come to me,” he said.

The man stood up. He found that he was well, and he ran to Galahad. Together they carried the table to the shore.

TALK ABOUT IT

Galahad asked the man to help him. Why do you think that was a kindness?

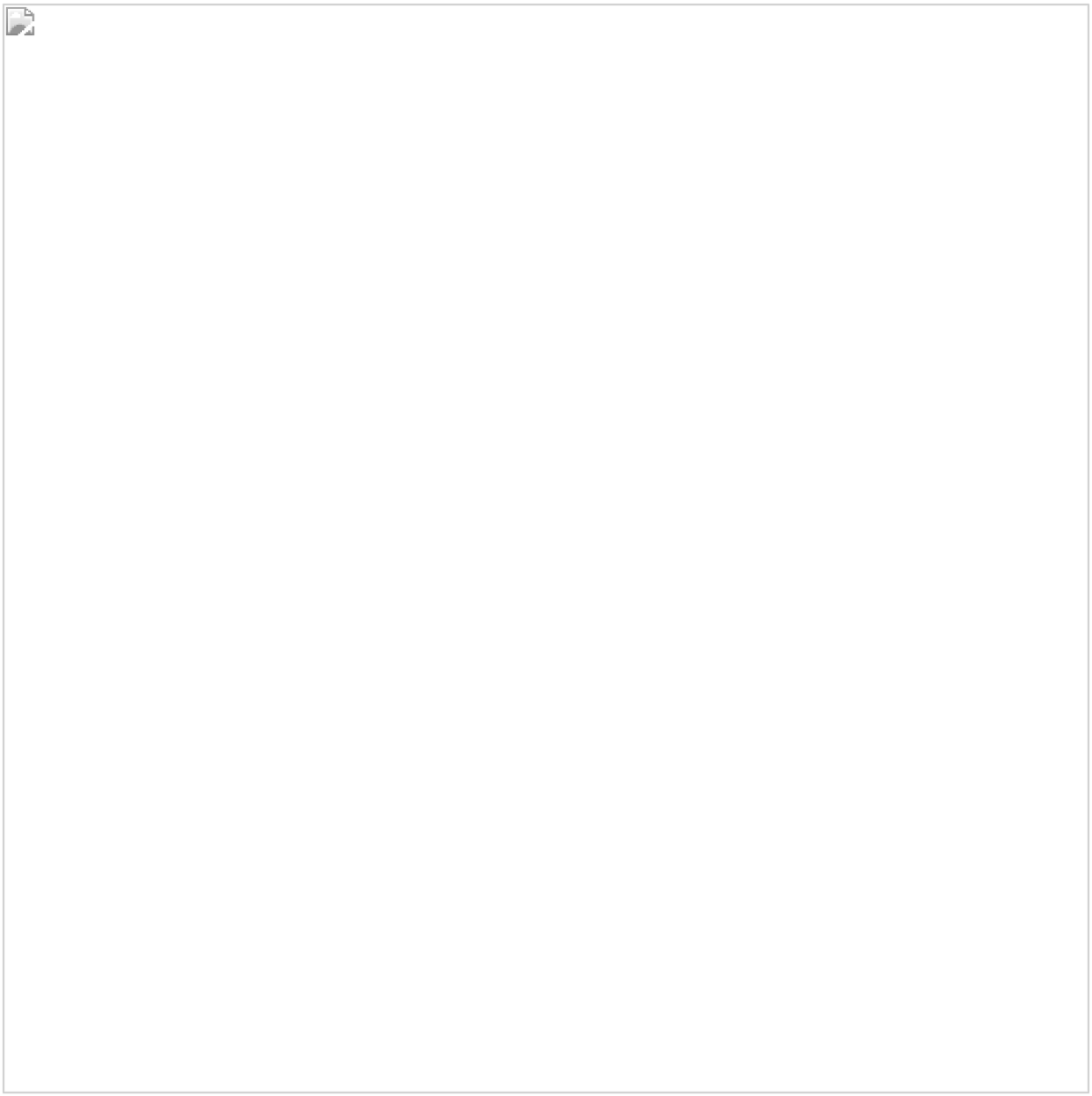


Think about it

1. How long had the man needed crutches?

- ○ Ten years
- ○ One day
- ○ Five minutes

Light in the Dark



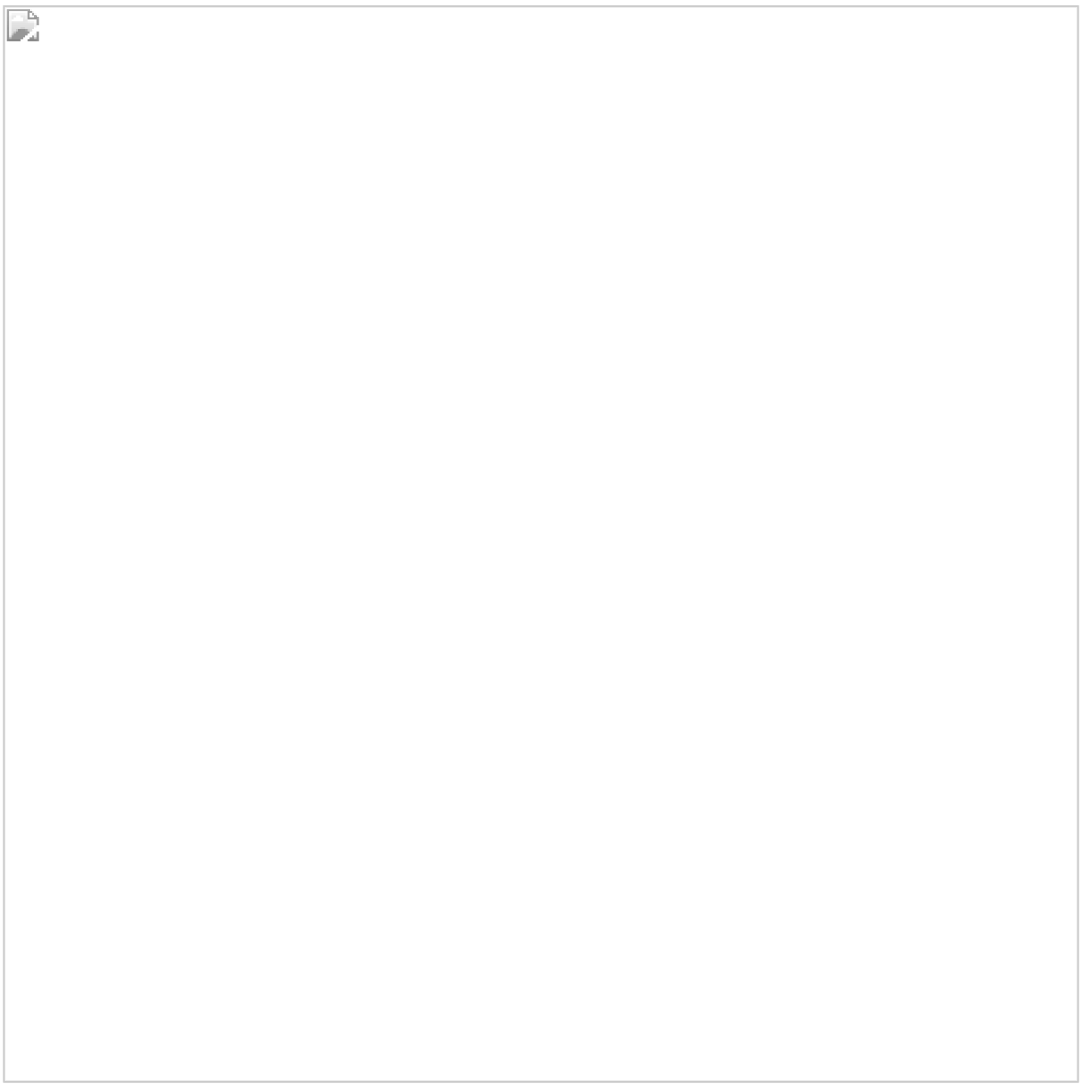
All the city talked of the marvel. But the king of that city was cruel. “The knight is not a good man,” he told his people, and he had Galahad put in prison, under the palace, where it was dark and cold.

But down into the darkness streamed the light that had made Galahad so glad at Camelot. And in the light he saw the Holy Grail.

A whole year went by.

TALK ABOUT IT

Galahad was shut in a dark prison, but he saw the light. What is something good that can shine even on a bad day?

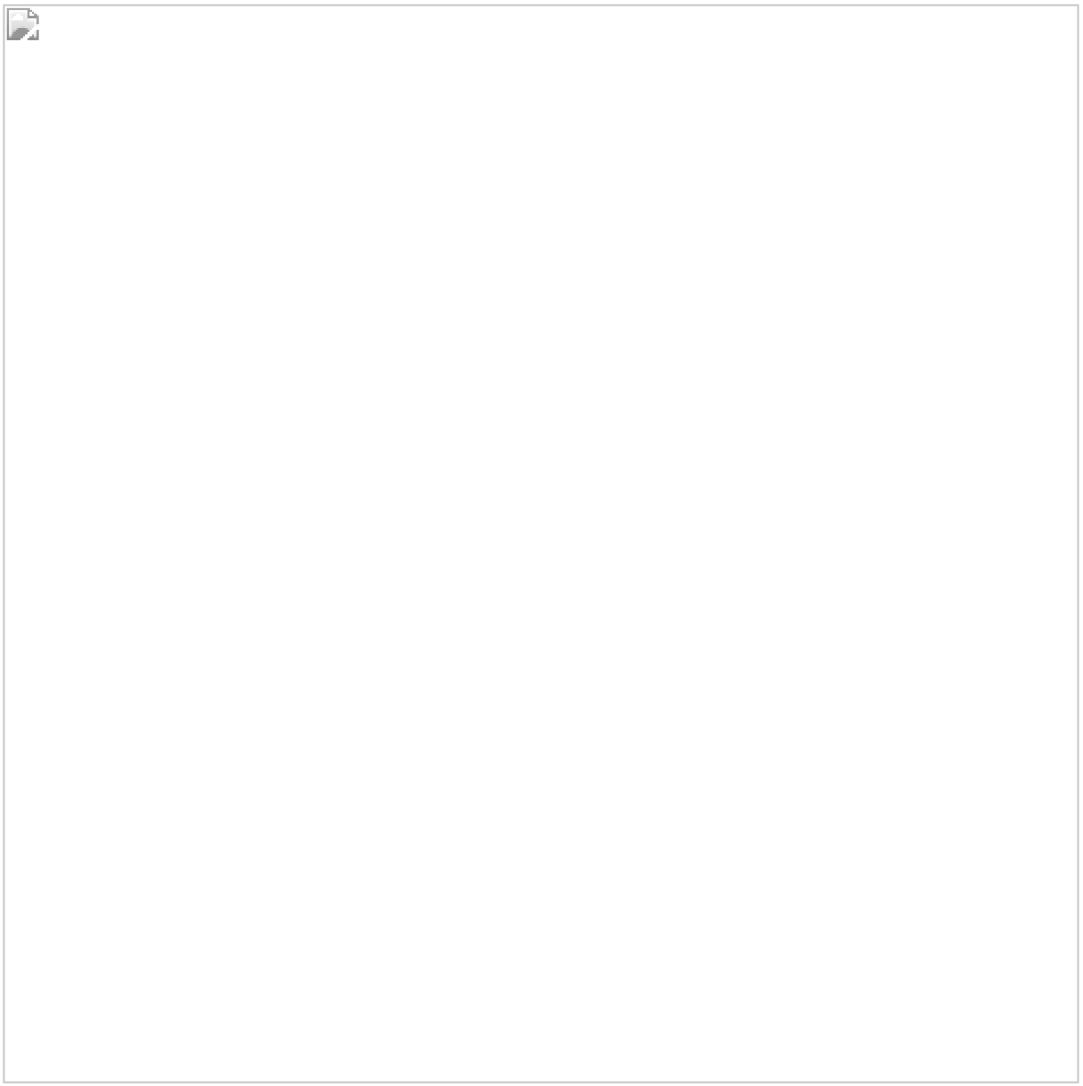


Think about it

1. What came down into the prison?

- ○ Rain
- ○ A light
- ○ A rope

Forgiving the King



After a year, the cruel king grew very ill and thought he would die. He remembered the knight in the cold prison. “I will send for him, and ask him to forgive me,” he said.

Galahad was brought up from the dark. And he forgave the king, willingly.

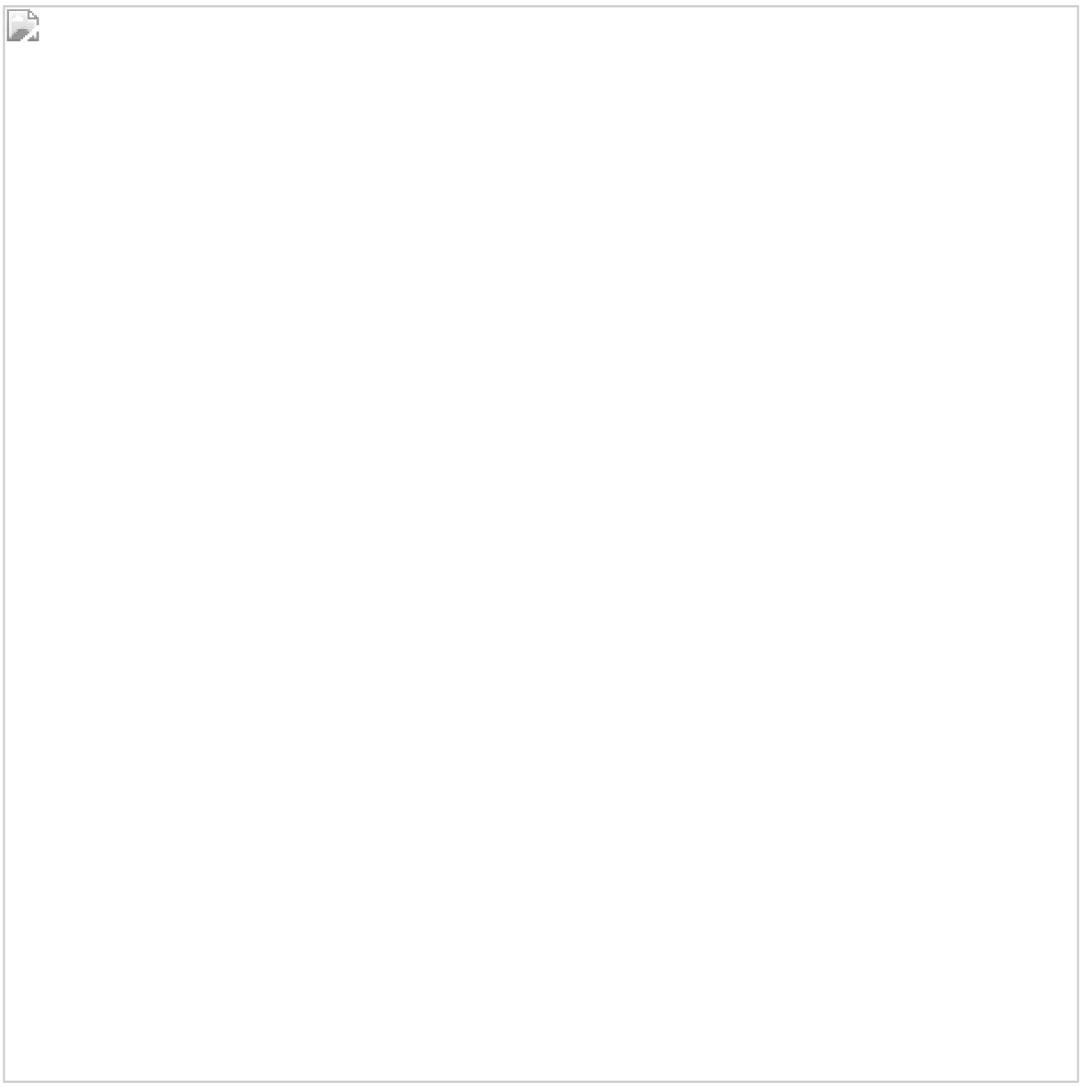
Then the king died, and the people did not know who could rule them. A voice told them to make Galahad their king, and they crowned him.

Galahad had a box of gold and jewels made for the wonderful table. Every morning he and his people came there to pray, and for a year he ruled well and wisely.

TALK ABOUT IT

The king had been unkind to Galahad for a whole year. Why do you think Galahad forgave him so willingly? Is that hard to do?

Forgiving the King · another picture

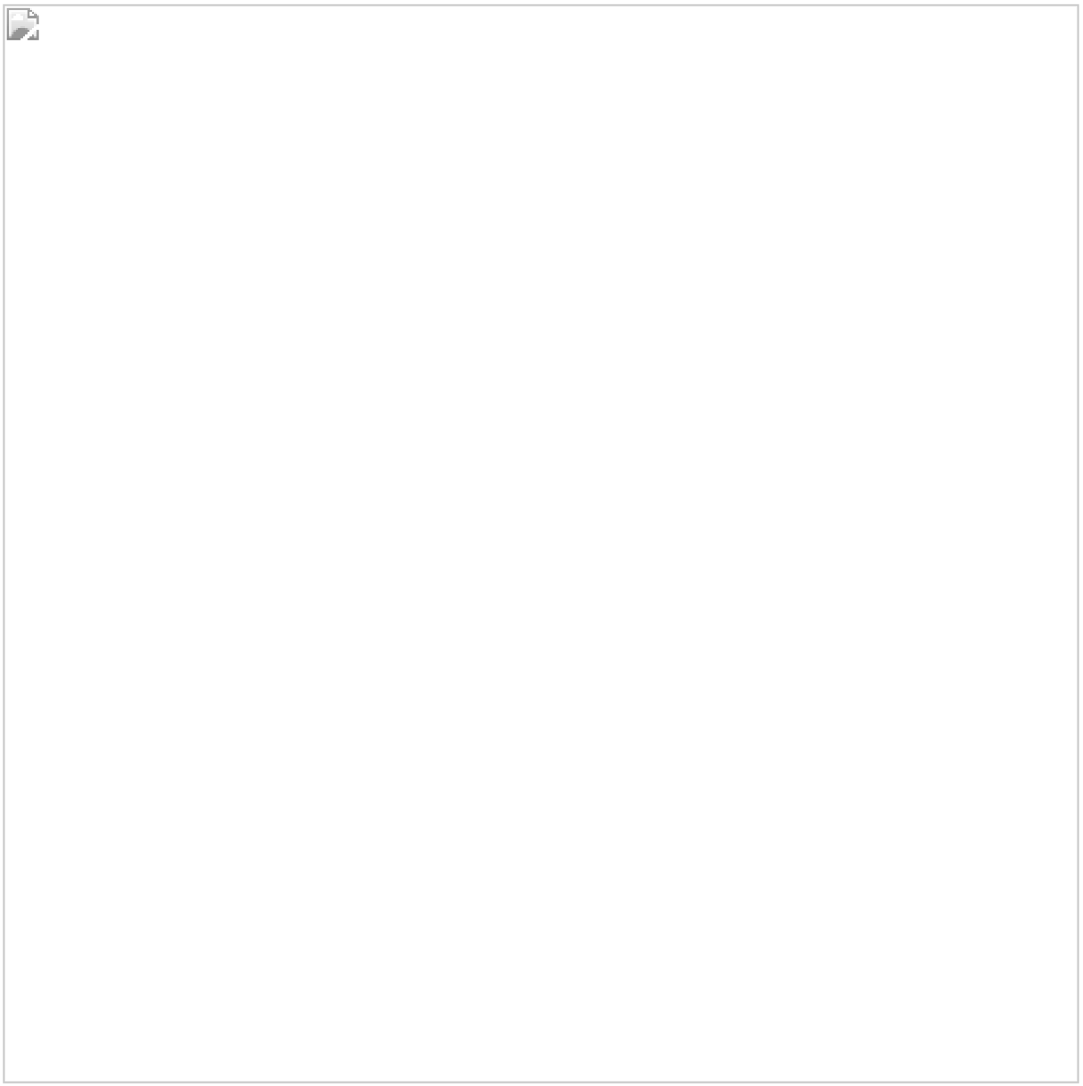


Think about it

1. What did Galahad do when the king asked for forgiveness?

- ○ He said no
- ○ He forgave him willingly
- ○ He sailed away

The Morning Galahad Saw the Grail



One morning, a year after he was crowned, Galahad rose early to go and pray at the table.

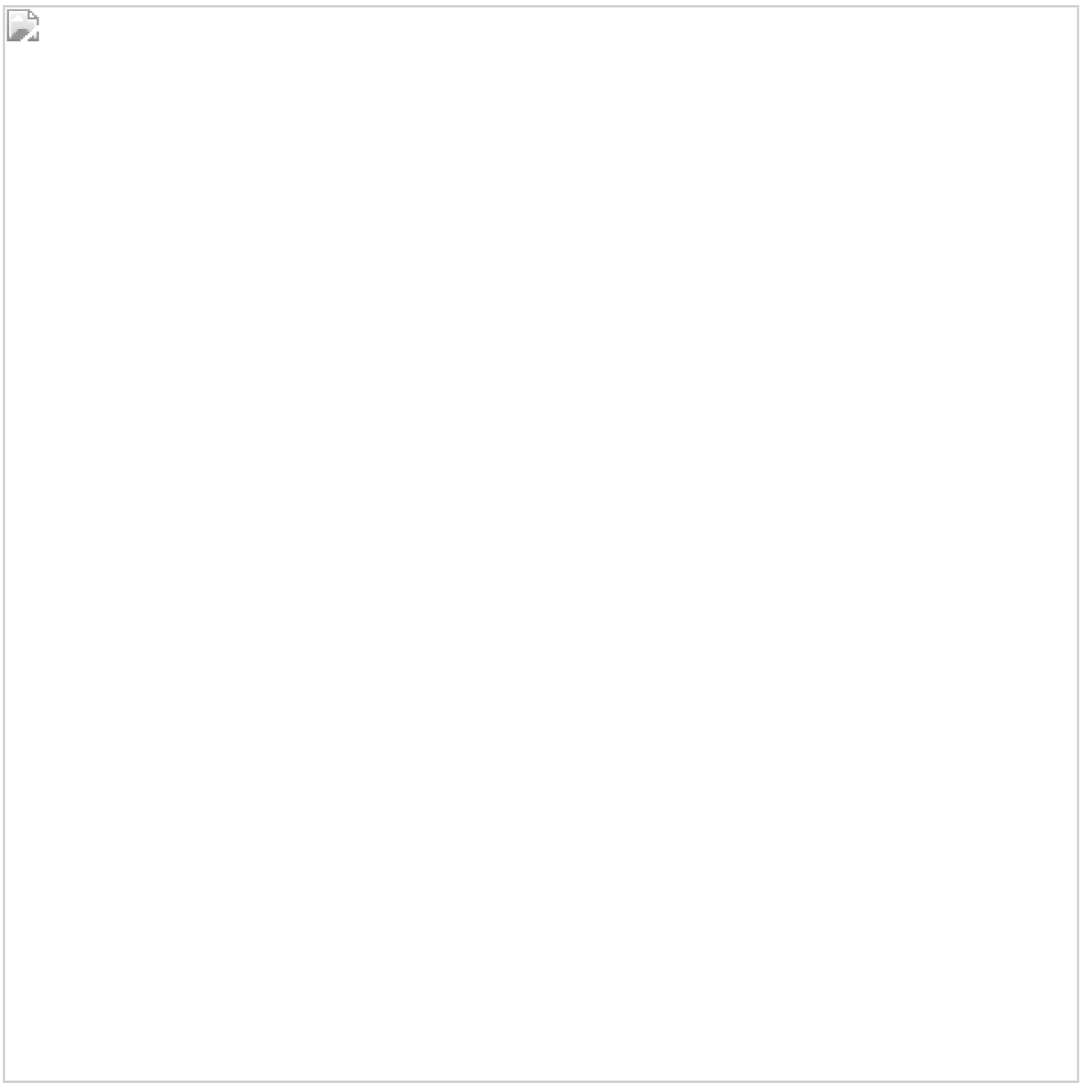
Someone was already kneeling there, before the table where the Sacred Cup stood uncovered. He looked holy as the saints look, and a circle of angels was round him.

“Come near, thou servant of Jesus Christ, and thou shalt see what thou hast so much longed to see,” he said.

With joy, Galahad saw the Holy Grail again. As he knelt before it in prayer, his soul left his body and was carried up to heaven.

TALK ABOUT IT

An old book says, “Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God” (Matthew 5:8). What do you think it means to see God?



Think about it

1. What had Galahad longed to see?

- ○ The Holy Grail
- ○ A dragon
- ○ A big treasure

2. Galahad was a knight, a prisoner and a king. What do you think mattered most to him through it all?

“There is no greater love than to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.”

— Yeshua HaMashiach

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