During one of the beatings, God encouraged me with a vision: I saw my father and brother among the great cloud of witnesses. "Get up, Emun!" Fadi shouted. "Keep running your race!" I suddenly understood that my enemies could harm my body, but they could never destroy my soul.

As the beating ended, one of the men spat on me. "Next time, I'll kill you!" he snarled. Struggling to my knees, I replied: "You can't kill me unless God allows it. Even so, you won't stop the Gospel. I will be cheering on others doing His work."

Thinking I was crazy, the man left me alone, and I continued sharing Bible stories until my release. Now, whenever I face trials, I see the cloud of witnesses who have gone before me, including my brother. Someday I will join them. Until then, I will remember Fadi's words and keep running my race.

Reading Between the Lines

Read the following excerpt from the "Along the Way" story and complete the activity below.

"Early one morning, my family boarded a bus with other Christians to attend services at a monastery. I claimed a window seat, and my older brother, Fadi, sat beside me. As the bus sped along the dusty road, I rested my head on his shoulder and drifted off to sleep."

Identify the Verbs

Underline or circle the verbs in each sentence.

1. My family boarded a bus with other Christians.
2. I claimed a window seat.
3. My older brother, Fadi, sat beside me.
4. I rested my head on his shoulder.
5. The bus sped along the dusty road.

Verb Conjugation

Complete the table.

Base Verb	Past Tense	Present Tense
board	boarded	boarding
claim	claimed	claiming
sit	sat	sitting
rest	rested	resting
speed	sped	speeding