Play readings and puppet sketches

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Changes

Number of characters: 2

Billy: I don't like things changing. I want them always to stay the same. I don't like it when my friends move away...and I don't like it when I have to move up a class when I like the teacher I've got.

Dad: But things do change Billy, and people change too. Young people grow up. One day you will find that you have changed so much that you won't be a child any longer.

Billy: I wonder if there's anything that doesn't change.

Dad: The Bible tells us that Jesus doesn't change. He's always the same...always loving and forging, always helping, always willing to make us strong and brave, always there for us. He will never leave us or stop caring about us. He's the same yesterday, today and forever.

Billy: I like that. Whatever happens, wherever I go, whatever I do, whoever I meet, I may change, but not Jesus.

Adapted from To Be Continued by Beryl Bye

"I will never leave you or forsake you." Joshua 1:5

Everyone is different

Number of characters: 3

Friend 1: Hey Billy, do you want to play ball?

Billy: Sure.

(Billy drops the ball.)

Billy: Sorry. Missed it. I wish I was good at sport like you.

Friend 1: Don't worry Billy. You don't have to be the best at sport to have a bit of

fun.

Friend 2: Hi Billy. Do you want to work on the science project with me?

Billy: I don't know ... I'm not as good as you in doing projects.

Friend 2: That's OK Billy. You've just got to try your best.

Friend 3: Hi Billy, do you want to sing a song with me at the school concert? You

play the guitar really well.

Billy: Yeah that would be cool. When can we start practicing?

Friend 3: How about tomorrow after school.

Billy: OK. Great.

Billy: (to audience) I think I've learned something today. We can't expect to be good at everything. God made us all with different abilities. All we have to do is our best. God is pleased when we try hard at everything, even if we're not good at it. We might be good at one thing, but not something else. Just like I'm not best at sport, and not best in the class at my school work, but when it comes to music I think I do really well. Isn't it good that we are all different, and we are not all good at the same things?

Thanks God for making me exactly as I am, and thank you for making me good at music.

"You created every part of me; you put me together in my mother's womb." Psalm 139:13

"Not one sparrow is forgotten by God. The hairs on your head have been counted. So do not be afraid. You are worth much more than many sparrows." Luke 12:6

Family watching TV

Number of characters: 5

1st boy:

Got 'em! Yaay!

1st girl:

Ooooh! It would be terrible to die like that!

1st boy:

Well, he deserved it. He'd done the same to others.

2nd girl:

That doesn't make it right, you know!

2nd boy:

Quiet! I want to see the end.

Brief pause

1st boy:

Excellent! That was really cool!

2nd boy:

Yeah... especially the part where all the buildings got blown up!

1st boy:

Yeah...those rockets were really neat!

1st girl:

You know, you boys amaze me. I can't see anything that great about people getting killed. It upsets me a little.

1st boy:

That's because you're a girl.

2nd girl:

So killing people are what boys are meant to like! I bet Jesus wasn't like that.

1st boy:

But this isn't real. It's only make-believe.

2nd bov:

Yeah. If it was real I wouldn't like it.

1st girl:

But you get so excited by it. You really like it.

1st boy:

But it's not real.

2nd girl:

Yes, but I think Christians should be different.

1st boy:

(Goes and changes the channel.)

1st girl:

Don't change it!

1st boy:

Why not? It's only...

2nd girl:

I like it! It's my favourite program.

2nd boy:

It's rubbish! That's what it is!

2nd girl:

It's not rubbish! What about your stupid program?!

1st boy:

It's not stupid. You can really learn a lot from it.

2nd girl:

But what's the use of that anyway. It's no good for anything!

2nd boy:

The same can be said about your stupid program.

1st boy:

(Goes to get mother.)

1st girl:

Well I'm getting Mum. Muuum!

1st boy:

(Returns with Mum)

Mum, they won't let us watch T.V.

2nd qirl:

That's not true! We were watching it first!

Dad appears.

Dad:

That T.V. has caused too many arguments around this place. No one can watch it.

Be a peace-maker

"Blessed are the peace makers for they shall be called sons of God." Matt 5:9

Fiery Furnace

Number of characters: 6 plus audience

http://www.kidssundayschool.com/Gradeschool/Skits/1skit11.php

A lesson in standing for God no matter what

Skit for six: Announcer, Talk show Host, King, Shadrach, Meshach & Abendnego.

(Rest of class acts as the audience)

Materials:

5 Chairs (4 chairs together for guests and 1 apart for the host)

Duration:

Approximately 15 minutes

Target Audience:

Grades 2-6 (Ages 7-12)

Announcer: Good Evening ladies and gentlemen and welcome to our show. Tonight our guests will be: Our king! Nebuchadnezzar, and three of his amazing, death defying subjects Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. And now, let's hear it for our host. David Numberman!

Audience: (Cheers and whistles)

(Host comes in and sits in host's chair)

Host: Hey, hey, how is everyone tonight? We have a great show for you, perhaps one of our best. So let's get started. Everyone give a hand for our king, Nebuchadnezzar!

Audience: (Cheers and whistles)

(King enters and sits on one of the chairs)

Host: Welcome O king. Thank you for joining us tonight.

King: My pleasure, what a miraculous story. That fire was...

Host: Hold on King, we'll get to the story soon, but first let's welcome our other guests. Everyone, please give a hand for Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego!

Audience: (Cheers and whistles)

(Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego enter and sit on the other chairs)

Host: Great! Let's see now, we have one, two, three, and four. Wonderful, all four guests are here. So my first question goes to our king. How did this whole amazing event get started?

King: It started about three weeks ago. I built a large image of gold. It was about 90 feet high and about nine feet wide.

Host: Hold on King. You said 90 feet tall? Wow, that's tall! Oh, sorry, go on.

King: Well, as I said, I built an image of gold. Then I made it a law that whenever the people heard the sound of horns, flutes and harps together, they must bow down and worship the image, or else be thrown into the fiery furnace.

Host: Shadrach, what happened next?

Shadrach: Well, sure enough, we heard the sound of the horns, flutes and harps, but my friends and I refused to bow down to the image.

Audience: (Boos, awes and shameful noises)

King: I know! I know! That's why I had the furnace heated up seven times hotter!

Host: Seven times hotter! You said seven? Wow, if it were that hot, you couldn't even open the furnace door without being burnt to a crisp!

Meshach: Very true. In fact, the servants who threw us into the furnace were burnt up and died.

Host: Get out of town! So what happened to the three of you?

Abendego: First we were bound up and then thrown into the fire. But even though the fire was so hot, we knew our God would be with us.

King: Then I saw an amazing thing. Instead of three people in the fire, I saw four.

Host: Four! You said Four? How could that be when only three men were thrown into the fire?

Shadrach: We were not alone. As Abendego said, we knew our God would truly be with us because of our obedience.

Host: What do you mean because of your obedience?

Shadrach: Only God is worthy of our praise and worship. It would be wrong to worship anyone or anything else. It was important for us to obey God in this matter and worship Him only, even though we all could have died.

Host: But you didn't die did you?

Meshach: Well no! How else could we be here now?

Audience: (Laughter)

Meshach: The next thing we heard was the king calling: "Shadrach, Meshach and Abendego, servants of the most high God, come out and come here." So we did.

Abendego: Not a hair on our heads was singed. We didn't even smell like smoke after we came out.

Audience: (Wows and awes)

King: It was truly amazing. So I made a new law that anyone who speaks against the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abendego would be killed, because there is no other God who can save people like that.

Host: Well, we are out of time for tonight. I truly want to thank our guests for this amazing story. So remember the number one. It is an important number because as we found out tonight, there is only one true God and we must worship only Him. Goodnight!

Audience: (Cheers and whistles)

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"Choose today day who you will serve, but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Joshua 24:15

Helping

Number of characters: 3

Dog

Look at that cat up the tree. It's too scared to come down.

Horse

We need to find someone who can climb trees to get that cat down. What about Mouse?

Along comes Mouse

Horse

Mouse, can you climb the tree and get that cat down?

Mouse

I can climb trees, but I'm too little. The cat is too heavy for me to carry down.

Horse

I know. We'll get a ladder.

Dog

But the ladder will only go half way up the tree.

Horse

I know what we can do. I will take you on my shoulders Dog, and I will climb the ladder. Then you can reach out and get the cat and we'll carry it down the ladder together. Mouse can climb up the tree first to tell the cat what we are going to do.

Mouse

That's team work. We all work together to help someone in need.

Dog

Yeah, great idea. Let's do it!

ΑII

Coming kitty!

Matthew 25:35-40

'For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

How many times should we forgive?

Number of characters: 4 (Change names ton suit boy or girl characters)

Props: something act as a drum

Tom is or practicing his drum.

Mary pulls the drum out of Tom's hands.

Tom

What did you do that for? You interrupted my practice!

Mary

I've got a problem and I want you to help me think of an answer.

Tom

OK. What's your problem?

Mary

Here is it: If someone did something bad to a good friend, what should the good friend do to them?

Tom

That's easy. I'd play my drum so loudly in their ear they'd never do something bad to me again.

Marv

No. That's not the answer.

Look, here comes Ben. Can you help me with my problem?

Ben

I'll try. What is it?

Mary

If someone did something bad to a good friend, what should the good friend do to them?

Ben

I know what I'd do. I wouldn't be friends with that person anymore.

Mary

No. I don't think that's a good answer.

Here comes Rosie. I'll ask her.

Can you help me with my problem?

Rosie

Yes, what is it?

Mary

If someone did something bad to a good friend, what should the good friend do to them?

Rosie

That's easy. He should forgive his good friend. Jesus said we should forgive others 70 times seven.

Mary

Really? That comes to let's see...490 times!

Rosie

I think Jesus means that we should never stop forgiving others.

Mary

I think I'll go and see my friend who did that bad thing to me, and see if he wants any help today.

Ephesians 4:32 "Be kind to one another, forgiving one another, just as Christ has forgiven you."

Matthew 18:22 Peter came to Jesus and said, "Lord how often should I forgive my brother when he does wrong to me? As many as seven times?" Jesus said, "Not seven times, but seventy times seven."

I can't do it

Number of characters: 2

Billy: Guess what Mum. The teacher wants me to be Joseph in the Christmas play.

Mum: That's wonderful Billy. That's a very big part.

Billy: I know. But I'm too scared to do it. I'm afraid of forgetting my lines and making a mistake. What if I trip over and everyone laughs at me? I wish someone else could do it.

Mum: Billy, I know you can do it. You can practice your lines in front of Dad and I and your brothers and sisters. And remember that God will be with you. The Christmas story is a very important story and you will be helping God by telling His story. Do you remember Moses in the Bible? He had a very big job to do for God. He told God that he thought he wasn't good enough. He asked God to find someone else to do the job. But God didn't want anyone else. He wanted Moses. God gave Him the strength to be an amazing leader, and Moses led God's people out of slavery to their own land.

Billy: I think I'll tell the teacher that I'll take the part. And I'll ask God help me to be brave.

Mum: We'll pray for you too Billy. I know you will make a great Joseph. Come and let's see if we can find a costume.

Adapted from To Be Continued by Beryl Bye

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Phil 4:13 "When I am afraid I put my trust in you." Psalm 56:3

Newcomer

Number of characters: 3

Mum: Come on everyone. Hurry up and get ready or we'll be late for church.

Billy and Betty: OK Mum.

Billy and Betty arrive at church.

Betty: Hey look Billy. I haven't seen that girl before. I wonder if she'll be in my Sunday School class. Look at her clothes. She's not exactly dressed in his best clothes like we are.

Billy: You girls worry too much about your clothes. It doesn't matter if she's not all dressed up. Maybe she hasn't got any best clothes.

Betty: You're right Billy. Come on, let's go over and say hello to her.

Betty: (to new comer) Hi, I'm Betty. It's good to have you along today. What's your name?

Newcomer: (says name)

Betty: When it's time for the Sunday School class, just come with me and I'll show you where to go. I hope you can be in my class. I'll introduce you to my friends.

Newcomer: Thanks Betty.

"Remember to welcome strangers in your homes. There were some who did that and welcomed angels without knowing it." Hebrews 13:2

Power of Forgiveness

http://www.kidssundayschool.com/Gradeschool/Skits/1skit02.php

The story of Joseph, the broken video game, and the power of forgiveness (A skit for one or two)

Materials:

1 puppet or you can tell the story using two different voices.

Duration:

Approximately 8 minutes

Target Audience:

Grades 1-5 (Ages 6-11)

Person: What's up Clarence? You look a little angry.

Clarence: Humph, I'm not very happy right now.

Person: Well, tell me what happened to make you so unhappy.

Clarence: Last night Billy came over to play with my new PlayStation game. It was brand new and he scratched it all up and now it doesn't work anymore.

Person: Well that does seem very unfortunate, but I'm sure Billy didn't mean it.

Clarence: Well he did say it was an accident and he was sorry...but I can't forgive him, it was my favorite game, Frogger!

Person: You know that reminds me of a story in the Bible.

Clarence: Frogger reminds you of a story in the Bible?

Person: No silly, the forgiving part.

Clarence: Oh!

Person: This story was about a young boy who was very special in his father's

eyes.

Clarence: Daniel was special.

Person: True, but this is a story about Joseph, one of the 12 sons of Jacob. Jacob loved his son Joseph so much that he made him a very special coat of many colors.

Clarence: I bet it was beautiful.

Person: It was and Joseph loved his coat very much. But his eleven other brothers became very jealous. They didn't get a beautiful coat.

Clarence: So, what did they do?

Person: What they did was very cruel. First they put Joseph in a deep hole to die, but then decided to sell him instead to some merchants traveling to Egypt.

Clarence: I bet Joseph was really angry.

Person: He was at first, just like you are angry now, but he also loved God.

Clarence: So what happened?

Person: Joseph made his home in Egypt and soon became an important person there. One day God told him in a dream that there would be great famine in the land. Do you know what a famine is?

Clarence: I think that is where there is nothing to eat.

Person: That's right and this famine was going to last for seven years.

Clarence: Wow! That's a long time, everyone would starve to death.

Person: Yes, but Pharaoh was no dummy. He let Joseph get ready for the famine by storing large amounts of food to eat later. Finally, the famine came and Joseph's brothers ran out of food....

Clarence: ... So they tried to get some food from Joseph?

Person: Yes they did.

Clarence: But he was still angry and wouldn't give them any. Get away he said, starve to death, go...

Person: Hold on Clarence (Hand over mouth), that's not what happened. He forgave them and shared the food because he realized that God had planned the whole thing. Because of his brothers, Joseph went to Egypt and was able to save all of them from starving to death. You see God knows what is best for us even

when we don't and when we learn to forgive others in our hearts, He can do great things for us.

Clarence: I guess Joseph did the right thing by forgiving his brothers. I better forgive Billy too. Maybe then God will help me win at Frogger.

Person: Well, that's not quite what I'm saying, but anyway, it's a good start to forgive Billy.

Clarence: Yes, he is my best friend.

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"Be kind to one another, and forgive one another, as God has forgiven you through Christ." Eph 4:32

Saturday

Number of characters: 2

Betty: It's Saturday! That means I get to do whatever I want. Well, that is, after I do jobs for Mum.

Mum: Betty, can you sweep and mop the floor for me this morning? Then you can go and play with your friends.

Betty: Sure Mum. (Mum leaves)

Betty: (to audience) I'll just give the floor a quick sweep and I'm out of here.

Betty: (calling to Mum) Finished Mum.

Mum: (walking in) Betty, this floor is still dirty. Don't forget to use the mop... and remember to use diligence.

Betty: OK Mum. (Mum leaves)

Betty: (to audience) OK, here I go again. I know what Mum means about diligence. It's all about doing a job properly. If I had have been more diligent in the first place it would have taken me far less time. I remember that Jesus told us to be faithful in the little things – the ordinary things like doing jobs, and doing school work. When we are faithful in little things then He can trust us with bigger things.

Betty: (calling to Mum) Finished Mum!

Mum: Betty, that's a wonderful job. Thanks for doing the job so diligently. It really helps me a lot. Have fun with your friends!

"Whoever is faithful in small matters will be faithful in large ones." Luke 16:10

Sing for joy

Number of characters: 2

Betty: (singing) Sing for joy! Sing for joy! That's how I'm feeling today. I love it when the sun is shining and the sky is blue and I'm able to play outside.

Friend: Hi Betty. You seem happy today.

Betty: Yes I was just thinking about all the things that make me happy...my family, my home and the beautiful things in God's creation.

Friend: Yes that's right Betty, and don't you feel happy that you can run and shout and see and hear?

Betty:... and that we have friends to keep us company? That reminds me of a song:

Singing...

Verse 1: "God is so good, God is do good, God is so good He's do good to me."

Verse 2: "God gives me friends..."

"Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say rejoice." Phil 4:4

The Party

Number of characters: 2

Betty: Mum, a girl I met in town is having a party on Saturday and she says it will be really cool. She's inviting lots of people and she invited me! Can I go Mum, please can I go?

Mum: Betty, you don't know this girl well enough and you don't know what type of party it will be.

Betty: It will be a good party Mum, really it will.

Mum: No Betty, I'm sorry. I can't let you go. And besides, we're having your aunty and uncle over for dinner on Saturday. I'll need you to help with the food.

Betty: That's not fair!

Mum: It doesn't matter whether it's fair or not Betty. God has given you to Dad and me. You are very precious to me and I know what's best for you, even if you can't understand why I make certain decision. Perhaps you could get to know this girl a little better and invite her over to our place some time.

Betty: OK Mum. Can I make a special dessert when aunty and uncle come over?

Mum: Sure Betty. That would be fantastic.

"Children, it is your Christian duty to obey your parents, for this is the right things to do. "Respect your father and mother" is the first commandment." Eph 6:1-2

When I say "I love you"

Number of characters: 2

Betty: I love you Mum. (Betty gives Mum a hug)

Mum: I love you too Betty. What do you think God means when He tells us to love one another?

Betty: Well, I love fruit, and ice-cream, and new clothes, but I think that loving people is different.

Mum: Yes, the Bible tells us that 'Love is patient and kind, and love is not wanting your own way.'

Betty: I'm not very often patient. I want things right away without waiting. And I know I'm sometimes unkind to my little sister.

(Sound of baby crying)

Mum: Oh, there's your little brother waking up. He'll be wanting his lunch...and I still have all those dishes to wash.

Betty: That's OK Mum, I'll wash the dishes, and when I'm finished I'm going to do a special drawing for my little sister.

Mum: Thanks Betty. That's really what love is all about!

Adapted from To Be Continued by Beryl Bye

"Love is patient and kind; it is not jealous or proud, bad-mannered, selfish or irritable. Love does not keep a record of wrongs; love is not happy with evil, but is happy with the truth. Love never gives up." 1 Cor 13:4-7

Who should we follow? Number of characters: 2

Billy: Hey Dad, look at those sheep over there. It looks like they're playing follow the leader.

Dad: That's what sheep do Billy. They don't seem to think very much. They follow each other everywhere...even down a steep bank or on to a road, without thinking about getting lost or running into danger. One sheep leads and the rest follow. They can't have many brains or they would think for themselves.

Billy: I know some kids at school who are like that. When someone teases a kid, then other join in. And if someone grumbles about something, then they join in grumbling too. What if someone rushes across the road and I follow them?

Dad: Well you could be in real danger Billy. We all need someone sensible to lead us. A follower needs a good leader...someone who is responsible.

Billy: What's 'responsible' Dad?

Dad: Well Billy, 'responsible' means doing the right thing. It means thinking before you act, and then acting in a sensible way. Jesus told people that He was like a shepherd who leads His sheep.

Billy: And we are the sheep.

Dad: Yes that's right Billy. When we follow Jesus we do what He would do and we act responsibly. In every situation we find ourselves we can ask ourselves, "What would Jesus do?"

Billy: ...like cleaning up after I've made a mess, and showing my little sister how to do the right thing....and not following other kids who are behaving badly.

Dad: That's right Billy. Jesus knows all about the every day kind of things we face because He once lived on earth Himself. He had to learn lessons and play with other boys and girls, and help at home...and He is God.

Billy: A pretty amazing shepherd, hey Dad.

Adapted from To Be Continued by Beryl Bye

"The sheep hear His voice as He calls His own sheep by name, and He leads them out. The sheep follow Him because they know His voice. They will not follow someone else." John 10:3-5

Who's the best? Number of characters: 2

Props: fishing line (stick and string) – can be tapes to edge of puppet theatre John is fishing with a fishing line. Along comes Dan

Dan

Hello John. Caught any fish today?

John

No.

Dan

Did you know that last Saturday I caught seven fish? And the week before I caught nine?

John

Really?

Dan

Yes. You've got to know how to exactly the right bait to use, and the right time of day. And you have to be really quiet.

John

Really?

Dan

I'm very experienced with fishing and I learned all about it from my Dad.

John

Really?

Dan

I don't think you would have much hope of getting anything. You're not experienced enough.

John

Really? Oooh! What's that on my line? Oh it's a big, big fish!

Dan

Not as big as the ones I caught last week.

John

Mum will be really pleased with this. We'll have it for dinner.

Dan

Can I come?

John

No. There won't be enough for you. See you later.

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, Philippians 2:3