



Teacher—These special Dee-Cy-Paul application stories reinforce the Bible lesson. Choose the "Bookends," or the Story, or the Puppet Script based on your time and preference.

Dee-Cy-Paul "Bookends"

Introduction (5 minutes)

Use this "hook" to introduce the lesson.

It was almost time for school to start—summer vacation was almost at an end. Dee wanted to play with her friends, but they were busy with their families. Cy was having fun teaching his little sister how to tickle, and Paul was going to Pizza-Go-Go to play video games with his brothers and sister. Dee was disappointed. With no brothers or sisters, and her mom and dad busy, whom would she play with before summer break was over?

Conclusion (5 minutes)

If you used the introduction to begin your lesson, use this to conclude.

Dee was disappointed that her friends couldn't play with her, but she had overlooked one member of her family who was always ready to play—Chip! Dee learned that Chip had been created by God, just like the rest of her family, and that God knew that Chip belonged in Dee's family. Dee and Chip spent the day playing happily, and Dee remembered to value each member in her own family. Could you remind someone in your family how special they are to you?

Just two more weeks of summer before Dee, Cy, and Paul would start first grade. Dee and her mom were putting away Dee's new school clothes.

Dee held up a new red dress. "I think I'll wear this one the first day of school."

"Woof!" Chip wagged his tail. A big drop of doggy drool landed on Dee's leg.

"Yuck! Chip!"

"I think Chip likes your dress too," Mrs. Morgan laughed.

"Silly dog! You'll get slobber all over it!" Dee exclaimed. She hung the dress in her closet—that was the last of clothes. Dee was ready to play. "Will you play with me?" she asked Mrs. Morgan.

"Not now, I have too much to do."

"Well, then can I go play with Cy and Paul?" Dee didn't want to play alone.

"Sure," Mrs. Morgan said.

Dee almost fell over Chip as she ran for the back door. He dropped his red ball at her feet.

"Not now Chip!" Dee exclaimed.

"ERRRRRROWWWWWWWW." Dee heard Chip howl as she pedaled her bike down the street towards Cy's house.

Cy was laughing as he opened his front door. "Hi Dee!"

"Hi, Cy! What's so funny?"

Cy pointed to his feet. Cy's little sister, Becky, was holding on to his big toe.

"Teekle Cy!" Becky said as she pulled on Cy's toe. "Teekle teekle!"

Dee laughed. "She's so cute! How can you call her a pain?"

"Well, she is, most of the time."

"Can you go to the park to play?" Dee asked.

Cy shook his head. "I promised Mom I'd help with Becky."

"Ahhh, we only have a few days left to play!" Dee exclaimed.

"I know." Cy shrugged. "Mom is always telling me to be thankful to God that I

have a sister. I guess I am today. We're having fun together."

Dee dragged her feet down the sidewalk as Cy and Becky waved good-bye.

Paul opened his front door. "Hey, Dee!"

"Hi, Paul. Do you want to play basketball?" Dee asked.

Paul shook his head, "We're on our way to Pizza-Go Go. I've been saving our quarters to play the new Dynamite Danny game."

"Cool," Dee exclaimed.

"Yeah," Paul said. "Dad took the day off so we could all be together as a family. He said that God blessed us with each other so we should bless each other. It's going to be great! See you later, Dee!"

"Why the sad face Dee?" Mrs. Morgan asked when Dee got home.

"Cy and Paul are too busy with their families to play." Dee sighed. "I wish we had more people in our family. Then I wouldn't have to play alone."

Chip heard Dee's voice and ran into the room. He put his head in her lap.

"Well, I know one family member who's very excited that you're home," Mrs. Morgan said.

Dee looked up expecting to see one of her cousins. "Who?"

"Chip!" Mrs. Morgan said.

"Chip's a member of our family?" Dee frowned. She had never thought of her dog that way.

"Of course he is! God created Chip, just like He created you and me and Daddy and everything else. God knew that Chip would be just the right dog for our family."

Chip dumped his slobbery red ball in Dee's lap. Dee laughed. "Silly old dog! You're right, Mom. God gave me a perfect family. I'm thankful for you, and for Daddy, and...."

Chip ran in a circle. "Woof!"

"And you, too, Chip." She picked up his ball. "Race you to the backyard!"

Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script "Forgetting Someone?"

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

The words in italics are notes for you and your puppeteers; they are not to be read aloud. You will need a ball.

INTRODUCTION

[Enter Dee and Chip. Chip is holding the ball in his mouth.]

Dee: Chip, I'm tired—and you still want to play ball?

[Chip nods his head.]

Dee: Of course—you always want to play ball.

Chip: *[Muffled.]* Woof!

Dee: Well, I need a break. And these kids want to see a show—don't you, kids?

[Allow time for audience response.]

Dee: Chip, we've got work to do. Will you help me?

Chip: *[Drops his ball.]* Woof!

Dee: I thought so. Let's get started!

SCRIPT

[Dee is onstage with Chip, who is holding the ball in his mouth.]

Dee: It's almost time to go back to school, Chip! I'm all ready. I have my school supplies. But I'm glad to have a few more days of summer vacation! Now...whom is there to play with?

Chip: *[Muffled.]* Woof!

Dee: Yeah, I know. Mom is busy around the house, and Dad is working.

Chip: *[Muffled, anxious.]* Woof! Woof!

Dee: Hmm... I'll go and see what Cy and Paul are doing. 'Bye, Chip!

[Exit Dee. Chip drops his ball, looks at the audience, whines, and exits. Cy enters from one side of the stage, but something seems to be holding him by the leg. Cy laughs. Enter Dee.]

Dee: Hi, Cy! Do you want to go to the park?

Cy: *[Giggling.]* Hi, Dee. I promised my mom I'd help with Becky today. *[Cy laughs again.]*

Dee: You could remind your mom that we only have a few days left of vacation.

Cy: That's true. But, well, most of the time I think Becky's a real pain, but we're having lots of fun. I taught her how to tickle feet. *[Cy laughs again.]* I'm really thankful God has given me a little sister.

Dee: *[Disappointed.]* Okay. I'll see you later.

Cy: 'Bye, Dee. *[Exits, laughing.]*

Dee: I wonder what Paul is doing.

[Enter Paul.]

Paul: Hey, Dee.

Dee: Hi, Paul. Do you want to play basketball?

Paul: *[Shakes his head.]* That sounds fun, but my family is going to Pizza-Go-Go this afternoon. Susan, Mike, Mark, and I have been saving our quarters. We're going to eat lunch and then play video games!

Dee: Wow—that sounds like fun.

Paul: *[Nods his head.]* Yeah. I'm thankful to have a day of vacation to spend with my family.

[Dee looks down, sad.]

Paul: What's wrong, Dee?

Dee: Well, now what? I guess I'll go home, by myself. There's nobody else to play with. *[Sighs.]* I wish that I had a bigger family, so that I didn't have to spend the day alone. You and Cy have lots of people in your families, so there's always someone for you to play with.

[Enter Chip, still holding his ball and very excited to see Dee.]

Paul: Well, I know of one member of your family who's very excited that you have time to play. He's been wanting to play with you all day!

Dee: Paul, my dad is working. Is one of my cousins visiting?

Paul: No, not a cousin—Chip!

Chip: *[Muffled.]* Woof! Woof!

Paul: Chip is a member of your family, too. He loves you very much, and he really loves to play with you! He'd rather play with you than with anyone else.

Dee: Chip's a member of my family?

Paul: Of course he is! God created Chip, just like he created you and your mom and your dad, and everything else. And God knew that Chip would be just the right dog for your family.

[Chip is still excited. Dee pats his head.]

Dee: You're right, Paul. God has given me a great family. I'm thankful for my mom and my dad and...

Chip: Woof!

Dee: And you, too, Chip. Now, Paul has things to do with his family members, and I have things to do with one of my family members. What do you say we race home and play ball in the backyard?

[Chip nods his head excitedly.]

Dee: Ready, set, go!

[Dee and Chip run offstage. Curtain.]

APPLICATION

[Enter Dee, Cy, Paul, and Chip. Chip is still holding his ball]

Dee: We had a great time playing ball that day, didn't we Chip?

[Chip nods his head.]

Cy: And we all were reminded of something important. God created all of our family members to love and care for one another.

Paul: That's right—God created every family, and every person in every family.

Dee: God created me, and my mom and dad, and Chip to be a family.

Paul: Yep, God gave us our parents and grandparents and brothers and sisters and aunts and uncles and cousins and....

Dee: And even our pets!

Cy: Hey, kids! The next time someone in your family seems a little sad, remember that God wants you to love and care for him or her!

Paul: That's why families are so special.

Dee: Well, we promised Chip we'd play ball, so we'd better go. See you later, everyone!

Cy and Paul: 'Bye! **Chip:** Woof!

[Curtain.]



Teacher—These special Dee-Cy-Paul application stories reinforce the Bible lesson. Choose the “Bookends,” or the Story, or the Puppet Script based on your time and preference.

Dee-Cy-Paul “Bookends”

Introduction (5 minutes)

Use this “hook” to introduce the lesson.

Dee, Cy, and Paul have been waiting and waiting for the day that the zoo would allow people to come and see the new polar bear mother and new cubs. Finally, the day arrived! The kids laughed as they watched the cubs play and tumble around. Soon, one of the cubs decided to take a swim—and its mother followed just behind it. Would the little cub be okay out in the water?

Conclusion (5 minutes)

If you used the introduction to begin your lesson, use this to conclude.

Dee, Cy, and Paul watched in amazement as the polar bear mother protected her cub from swimming too far. She gently nudged him back to the shore, and the three bears cuddled together as they fell asleep. Mrs. Shepherd explained how God created parents to love, protect, and teach their children—the same way God the Father loves, protects and teaches his children—us!

“I can’t see anything,” Dee grumbled, standing on her tiptoes, trying to see through the crowd of people.

“Just be patient, Dee,” said Mrs. Shepherd. “Today is a very special day at the zoo—it’s the very first day the new polar bear mother and her cubs are on display!”

“I’m sure they’re really cute,” said Cy.

“I saw them on a news show,” Paul said. “They’re really fuzzy, white, and kind of clumsy. It’s funny.”

Dee, Cy, and Paul had been waiting for the day that the zoo would allow everyone to see the new polar bear cubs. Finally the day had arrived.

“Come here, kids!” said Mrs. Shepherd. “There’s a spot right here.”

Dee, Cy, and Paul rushed over to the empty place in front of the glass. Peering through, they saw the enormous polar bear mother huddled close to her cubs. The mother was huge—she even made Mr. Petrie, Paul’s neighbor who the kids used to believe was a giant, look very small. The cubs were about the same size as Dee’s dog, Chip, but much fluffier. And Paul was right—they were clumsy. They would try and play together, but soon one or the other would lose his balance fall over. It didn’t hurt them, though—they would get right back up and begin wrestling again.

“Aaaaw,” said all three kids.

“They are sweet little things, aren’t they?” said Mrs. Shepherd.

Just then, one of the cubs decided it was time for a swim. The mother polar bear watched very carefully as her cub toddled to the edge of the large pool that the bears could swim together in. As he moved into the water and started to paddle, she was close behind.

“What’s she doing?” Paul wondered.

“Just watch,” answered Mrs. Shepherd.

The polar bear continued paddling, but suddenly the mother bear swam quickly in front of the cub and began pushing him gently back towards the shore. Soon he clambered out of the

water and shook himself off—making him look fuzzier than before!

“The mother bear was protecting the cub,” explained Mrs. Shepherd. “She knows he’s not strong enough to swim for long, so she made him turn around and swim back.”

The cub certainly looked like he’d had enough. As his mother licked the cold water from his fur, he and his brother nestled against her and fell asleep.

As they walked away from the polar bear exhibit, Mrs. Shepherd explained to the kids how in the wild, polar bear mothers protect their cubs not just from swimming too far out, but also from things that would try to hurt them, or from freezing in the cold. They also teach the cubs how to hunt and take care of themselves.

“We can learn a lot about why God created parents from watching the polar bears,” Mrs. Shepherd continued. “God wants parents to love, protect, and teach their children.”

“But how do you learn how to do that?” Cy asked.

“It’s easy,” said Mrs. Shepherd. “God is our Father who loves, protects, and teaches us. Parents just try and do what God does!”

“That sounds kind of hard,” said Paul.

“Well, we can ask for God to help us. Now, watching those bears swim in the cold water made me hungry for something cold. Who wants some ice cream?”

“Me!” said Dee, Cy, and Paul together. They walked to the ice cream stand and got—what else?—polar bear pops.

Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script “Polar Parents”

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

The words in italics are notes for you and your puppeteers; they are not to be read aloud. You will need: batting to safety pin to the Chip puppet, and a woman's hat for Dee.

INTRODUCTION

[Enter Dee, Cy, Paul, and Chip. Chip is covered with the batting.]

Cy: Chip! You look good!

Chip: Grrrrr...

Dee: [Laughs.] Don't worry, buddy. You don't have to wear it forever. [Giggles.] You do make kind of a cute polar bear, though.

[Chip buries his face in his paws and whines.]

Paul: Well, he may look cute as a polar bear cub, but I think Chip likes being a dog better. Let's get this play started, so Chip can go back to being himself again.

Chip: [Excited.] Woof! Woof!

Cy: Dee will be playing Paul's mom in our story today.

Chip: Woof, woof! Woof!

Dee: Okay, okay! Let's get started!

[Exit Dee, Cy, Paul, and Chip.]

SCRIPT

[Enter Dee, Cy, and Paul. Cy and Paul are looking into the audience, stretching and looking high as if they're straining to see something. Dee is wearing the woman's hat.]

Paul: I can't see anything!

Dee: Just be patient, Paul. Today is a very special day at the zoo—it's the very first day the new polar bear mother and her cub is on display!

Cy: I'm sure they're really cute. It feels like we've been waiting forever for the zoo to allow everyone to come and see them. Now it's finally time!

Paul: I saw the cub on a news show. It's really fuzzy, white, and kind of clumsy. It's funny.

Dee: Come here, kids! There's a spot right here.

[Dee, Cy, and Paul move to one side of the stage. Enter Chip, wearing his polar bear costume. He toddles around, acting clumsy and falling over often. He also makes a strange moaning sound.]

Dee: [In a whisper, to Chip.] Chip! Chip! I'm not sure what sound polar bear cubs make, but I'm pretty sure that's not it! [Back in character.] Isn't it cute? Oh, look, it's going back toward its mother.

[Exit Chip. Dee, Cy, and Paul continue looking in the same direction.]

Cy: The mother is huge! She even makes Mr. Petrie look very small.

Paul: And we used to think he was a giant!

Dee: The cub sure is a sweet little thing, though, isn't it?

[Chip rushes onto the stage, licks Dee, and runs offstage again.]

Dee: Chip! You're supposed to be the polar bear cub!

Cy: Hey, look! It looks like the cub is going to go for a swim!

Paul: Look how carefully the mother is watching him. Hey! She's even following him into the water! Why is she doing that, Mom?

Dee: Just watch. See? She'll know when he's gone far enough.

Cy: Hey, look! She's getting in front of him so he can't swim any further!

Paul: And now she's gently pushing him back towards the shore.

Cy: Wow—he looks tired. Guess it's time for a nap.

[Dee, Cy, and Paul look toward the audience.]

Dee: The mother bear was protecting the cub. She knows he's not strong enough to swim for long, so she made him turn around and swim back. In the wild, polar bear mothers protect their cubs from many things—from swimming too far away, and also from things that would try to hurt them, or from freezing in the cold. They also teach the cubs how to hunt and take care of themselves.

Cy: Wow!

Paul: That's amazing!

Dee: We can learn a lot about why God created parents from watching the polar bears. God wants parents to love, protect, and teach their children.

Cy: But how do you learn how to do that?

Dee: It's easy. God is our Father who loves, protects, and teaches us. Parents just try and do what God does!

Paul: That sounds kind of hard.

Dee: Well, we can ask for God to help us. Now, watching those bears swim in the cold water made me hungry for something cold. Who wants some ice cream—polar bear pops, of course!

Cy & Paul: Me!

[Curtain.]

APPLICATION

[Enter Dee, Cy, Paul, and Chip, who is no longer wearing his costume.]

Dee: Chip! You made a wonderful polar bear—but you definitely make a better dog.

Chip: Woof, woof!

Dee: You're welcome!

Cy: The polar bear cub we saw at the zoo was very cute, but the most amazing things was learning about what good care the mother polar bears take care of their cubs.

Paul: And that's nothing compared to how much your parents love, protect, and care for each of you.

Dee: And that's nothing compared to how much God loves, protects, and cares for all of us!

Cy: Hey, Chip! I've got a great idea for our next show. You get to pretend to be a cow!

[Chip begins to howl and exits.]

Paul: Maybe it's not such a great idea.

Cy: I guess not! See you later, kids!

Dee & Paul: 'Bye!

[Curtain.]



Teacher—These special Dee-Cy-Paul application stories reinforce the Bible lesson. Choose the “Bookends,” or the Story, or the Puppet Script based on your time and preference.

Dee-Cy-Paul “Bookends”

Introduction (5 minutes)

Use this “hook” to introduce the lesson.

Paul was helping his neighbor, Mrs. Brown, with some chores to get ready for the arrival of her children and grandchildren, who were coming for a visit. Paul thought she was excited to see her family because she lived alone—maybe she was lonely. But as Mrs. Brown explained, she wasn’t really lonely; she had friends and neighbors who visited her often. But now Paul wondered, why was Mrs. Brown so very excited for her children to arrive?

Conclusion (5 minutes)

If you used the introduction to begin your lesson, use this to conclude.

Mrs. Brown explained to Paul that children were the most precious gift that God gives to His people. Children help remind people of how kind and gentle God really is. Mrs. Brown also told Paul that he, too, was a precious gift—he was as precious to his mom and dad as Mrs. Brown’s children were to her. Paul ran home—he couldn’t wait to hug his mom and dad!

“Mrs. Brown,” Paul called from his neighbor’s kitchen. “Where do you keep your broom?”

“In the hall closet, dear,” Mrs. Brown replied from her living room, where she was dusting the lamp shades.

Mrs. Brown was an older lady who lived in Dee, Cy, and Paul’s neighborhood. Every once in a while, she would ask one of the kids to come and help her with chores around the house. Today, though, she was very anxious to have the chores done. That was because Mrs. Brown’s two children and five grandchildren would be arriving the following day for a visit.

Paul decided Mrs. Brown must be very excited since she lived all by herself. Her husband had died and was living in heaven with Jesus. Paul knew that she missed her husband and she didn’t see her children and grandchildren often, because they lived far away. It must be nice to have company when you were alone so much of the time. Still, he didn’t understand why she was making such a fuss over her family’s visit.

Just as Paul was finishing up sweeping the kitchen floor, Mrs. Brown came in the kitchen. “I don’t know about you, Paul,” she said, “But I’m getting thirsty. Would you like some lemonade?”

“Sure, thank you,” Paul answered. “We sure have done a lot of work today!”

“Yes, Paul, we have,” she agreed as she filled the glasses. “And I never could have gotten it all finished without your help.”

“I guess you’re really excited to have your family here.”

“I’ve missed them very much. It really hasn’t been that long since the last time they visited, but it seems like it’s been a long time,” answered Mrs. Brown.

“I guess it gets kind of lonely to live by yourself,” Paul said.

“Well, sometimes,” Mrs. Brown agreed. “But I have lots of friends—and great neighbors—to keep me company. It’s not because I’m lonely that I’m excited to have my children here.”

“Then why are you so excited to see them?” Paul wondered.

Mrs. Brown smiled. “Just because they’re my children. More than anything else I’ve ever received in my life, my children are the most special gift that God has ever given me.”

“Wow—really?” wondered Paul. He was thinking about receiving Frog Hopper II for his last birthday. He was sure that no gift—not even children—was more special than his new video game.

“Absolutely,” Mrs. Brown answered. “I remember when my children were babies, watching them sleep or play, and thinking about how kind and gentle God must be to create precious children, and give them to us to care for.”

“I guess I never thought of it like that,” said Paul. He had seen lots of babies at church. They were awfully cute, and sweet—most of the time, anyway.

“I’ve talked with your mom often about you, Paul,” she said, winking. “Trust me—your mom and dad think that you and your brothers and your sister are the most precious gift they’ve ever received, too!” She looked at the clock. “Look at the time! I told your mom you’d be home by now. Go on, scoot! I’ll take care of the rest myself!”

Paul headed for the door. Without thinking, he reached up to hug Mrs. Brown on his way out.

“Thank you, Paul. Now, save two more hugs for your mom and dad when you get home, okay?”

“I sure will!” said Paul as he ran down the driveway. He couldn’t wait to get home. He was his mom and dad’s most precious gift!

Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script “Mrs. Brown’s Gifts”

DIRECTOR’S NOTES

The words in italics are notes for you and your puppeteers; they are not to be read aloud. You will need: a pair of glasses and a watch.

INTRODUCTION

[Enter Dee, Cy, and Paul.]

Dee: Hey, everyone! It’s fun being a kid, isn’t it? *[Allow time for audience to respond.]*

Cy: I like being a kid, too. I like being on my baseball team.

Paul: I like being able to play a lot.

Dee: But I can think of sometimes that it hasn’t been so fun to be a kid. Like when I get into trouble and my mom grounds me.

Paul: I have to go to bed much earlier than my older brothers and sister.

Cy: But one day, Paul spent some time with someone who told him about just how special it is to be a kid.

Dee: That’s right—our neighbor, Mrs. Brown! She’s an older lady who lives in our neighborhood.

Paul: Sometimes she asks one of us to come and help her with some chores around her house.

Cy: Once when Paul was helping her with chores, she was very excited because her two children and five grandchildren were arriving the following day for a visit.

Paul: I thought she was excited to see her family because she lived all by herself. Her husband had died and was living in heaven with Jesus. I knew that she missed him, and she didn’t see her children and grandchildren often, because they lived far away.

Dee: Paul decided it must be nice to have company when a person was alone so much of the time. Still, he didn’t understand why she was making such a fuss over her family’s visit.

Cy: We’ll let Dee play Mrs. Brown, and she and Paul will tell you the rest of the story. *[To Paul and Dee.]* Ready?

Paul: We sure are!

[Exit Dee, Cy, and Paul.]

SCRIPT

[Enter Dee and Paul. Dee is wearing the glasses and watch.]

Dee: I don’t know about you, Paul, but I’m getting thirsty. Would you like some lemonade?

Paul: Sure, thank you. We sure have done a lot of work today!

Dee: Yes, Paul, we have. And I never could have gotten it all finished without your help.

Paul: I guess you’re really excited to have your family here.

Dee: I’ve missed them very much. It really hasn’t been that long since the last time they visited, but it seems like it’s been a long time.

Paul: I guess it gets kind of lonely to live by yourself.

Dee: *[Nodding.]* Well, sometimes. But I have lots of friends—and great neighbors—to keep me company. It’s not because I’m lonely that I’m excited to have my children here.

Paul: Then why are you so excited to see them?

Dee: Just because they’re my children. More than anything else I’ve ever received in my life, my children are the most special gift that God has ever given me.

Paul: Wow—really? I got Frog Hopper II for my last birthday. I’m not sure that any gift—not even children—is more special than my new video game. But they are?

Dee: Absolutely. I remember when my children were babies, watching them sleep or play, and thinking about how kind and gentle God must be to create precious children, and give them to us to care for.

Paul: I guess I never thought of it like that. I’ve seen lots of babies at church. They are awfully cute, and sweet—most of the time, anyway.

Dee: I’ve talked with your mom often about you, Paul. Trust me—your mom and dad think that you and your brothers and your sister are the most precious gift they’ve ever received, too! *[Looks at the watch.]* Look at the time! I told your mom you’d be home by now. Go on, scoot! I’ll take care of the rest myself!

Paul: Thanks, Mrs. Brown. *[Hugs Dee.]*

Dee: Thank you, Paul. Now, save two more hugs for your mom and dad when you get home, okay?

Paul: I sure will! I’m my mom and dad’s most precious gift!

[Exit Paul. Curtain.]

APPLICATION

[Enter Dee, Cy, and Paul.]

Dee: Wow—Mrs. Brown sure is a special lady.

Paul: She really is. And every time I start to feel like it’s not very much fun to be a kid, I remember what she told me.

Cy: She taught Paul that kids are God’s most precious gift to their families.

Dee: That means me!

Paul: And me!

Cy: And me, too!

Dee: And all of you! God made each of you especially for your family, and you are the best gift they’ve ever received.

Paul: We’ll see you next time, everyone!

Dee & Cy: ‘Bye!

[Curtain.]



Teacher—These special Dee-Cy-Paul application stories reinforce the Bible lesson. Choose the “Bookends,” or the Story, or the Puppet Script based on your time and preference.

Dee-Cy-Paul “Bookends”

Introduction (5 minutes)

Use this “hook” to introduce the lesson.

Cy has had enough of his little sister Becky. She has destroyed his puzzle, shaken his ant farm, slobbered on his baseball glove, and hidden his checkers. When Cy orders her out of his room, she screams. After Mrs. Yung takes Becky out of the room, Cy remembers that God wants brothers and sisters to live and play together peacefully. But how would Cy ever have enough patience to not get angry with his sister?

Conclusion (5 minutes)

If you used the introduction to begin your lesson, use this to conclude.

By scribbling on a piece of paper in Cy’s favorite colors, Becky says she’s sorry for not being more careful with Cy’s things. Cy apologizes for not being more patience. And after Becky shows him where she’s hidden his checkers inside one of his socks, Cy is ready to play again. He’s glad to know that by forgiving one another, he and Becky have found a way to please God.

“Cy!” Mrs. Yung yelled. “What are you doing to your little sister?”

Becky was in Cy’s room, and she was screaming. Cy looked around at his room. Becky had torn apart his huge puzzle that he had been working on for weeks. She had shaken his ant farm until the ants were so dizzy that they couldn’t walk straight. She had slobbered all over Cy’s favorite baseball glove. Then she had been playing with his checkers set, and now he only had two black pieces and four red ones left.

“That’s it.” Cy had yelled. “Becky, I don’t want to play with you anymore. Out, out, out!”

That’s when Becky began screaming.

Mrs. Yung burst into Cy’s room. “Cy, what’s going on in here? What did you do to make her scream like that?”

“What did I do?” Cy replied. “Look at my room! Becky ruins everything!”

With that, Becky began screaming even louder.

“Cy, why can’t you just play nicely with your sister?” Mrs. Yung asked. “She doesn’t completely understand how to play. You have to have more patience!” she said as she picked Becky up and headed for the door.

“But, Mom!” Cy began to argue. But before he could say, “It wasn’t my fault,” Mrs. Yung had taken Becky out of Cy’s room and closed the door.

“Ugh!” said Cy. He tried so hard to play nicely with his little sister, but he didn’t understand why she had to ruin his things!

He sighed. As he looked around at his toys that Becky had strewn around his room, he saw his Bible laying on his desk. He saw his Sunday school lesson from a few week’s ago, and sighed again. That week’s lesson had been about how it pleases God when we don’t fight with our brothers and sisters. Mr. Jason, their Sunday school teacher, had explained about how important it is to forgive our brothers and sisters when we’re angry with them.

Cy heard a small noise outside his closed bedroom door. He knew it was Becky—she was still sniffing from having cried so hard. Then he saw a small piece of paper pushed under his door.

Cy walked to the door and picked the paper up. Becky couldn’t write, so it was covered in scribbles. But all of her scribbles were in green and yellow crayon—Becky knew that green and yellow were Cy’s favorite colors.

He smiled. Even though Becky was little and couldn’t write, he knew that her note meant she was trying to say sorry. He opened his door. She was sitting waiting for him.

“Sawwy, Cy,” she said. “Becky sawwy.”

“I forgive you, Becky,” he said. “I wasn’t being very patient with you, so I’m, uh, sawwy too.”

Becky ran into Cy’s room and opened his sock drawer. She pulled out one of the socks and held it upside down. All of his missing checkers fell out.

“Hide seek!” Becky said. “Becky wins!”

Cy smiled. Becky could be a real pain, but she could also be very funny. And it made him happy to know that making up with Becky was making God smile, too.

Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script "Peace With Becky?"

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

The words in italics are notes for you and your puppeteers; they are not to be read aloud. You will need: a baby bonnet, a piece of paper that's been scribbled on with green and yellow crayon, some checkers, and a sock.

INTRODUCTION

[Enter Dee, Cy, and Paul. Dee is wearing the baby bonnet.]

Dee: Waaaaaaaaaah!

Cy: Uh, Dee, you don't need to start screaming yet.

[Paul laughs.]

Dee: Waaaaaaaaaah!

Cy: Dee, really, you don't have to scream and cry yet. I mean, you really do sound like Becky, but we haven't started the play yet.

Dee: Waaaaaaaaaah!

Paul: Maybe we should just start, Cy. I mean, Dee's doing a great job of playing Becky already.

Dee: Waaaaaaaaaah!

Cy: Yikes—you're right. Hey, everyone! Dee's going to play my little sister in our play, and Paul's going to play my dad.

Dee: [Louder.] Waaaaaaaaaah!

Paul: Wow—that's loud! Quick—let's get started!

[Exit Dee, Cy, and Paul.]

SCRIPT

[Dee and Cy are onstage. Dee is babbling in baby talk. Cy is frustrated.]

Cy: Becky! What have you done? You've torn apart my huge puzzle—I've been working on it for weeks!

Dee: Puzzle! Messy puzzle!

Cy: And look at my ant farm! The ants are all dizzy—have you been shaking them?

Dee: Shake, shake! Ants dance! Dancing ants!

Cy: My favorite baseball glove is covered with...slobber! Yuck!

Dee: Yummy glove! Yummy!

Cy: And where are the rest of my checkers? There are only two black pieces and four red ones left!

Dee: Hide seek! Checkers hide, Cy seek!

Cy: [Frustrated.] That's it. Becky, I don't want to play with you anymore. Out, out, out!

Dee: [Begins to sniff, then screams.] Waaaaaaaaaah!

[Enter Paul.]

Paul: Cy, what's going on in here? What did you do to make her scream like that?

Cy: What did I do? Look at my room! Becky ruins everything!

Dee: [Louder.] Waaaaaaaaaah!

Paul: Cy, why can't you just play nicely with your sister? She doesn't completely understand how to play. You have to have more patience! Becky, let's go.

Cy: But, Dad! [Paul and Dee exit. Cy pauses.] It wasn't my fault! Ugh. I try so hard to play nicely with my little sister, but I don't understand why she has to ruin my things! [Pauses.] My Sunday school teacher, Mr. Jason, was telling us something about brothers and sisters a few weeks ago. What was that lesson? [Thinks.] Oh, yeah—he said that it pleases God when we don't fight with our brothers and sisters. He said that it's important to forgive our brothers and sisters when we're angry with them.

[Cy hears a small shuffling sound that you make from offstage.]

Cy: What's that noise? [Cy reaches down. While his arm is hidden from the audience's view, attach the piece of paper to Cy's arm rod.] It's a note from Becky. Well, it's kind of a note—she's too little to write, so she just scribbles. But she scribbled with green and yellow crayon. Becky knows that green and yellow are my favorite colors. I guess she's trying to say she's sorry. [Sighs.] You can come in again, Becky.

[Enter Dee, the sock attached to her arm rod. The sock is full of checkers.]

Dee: Sawwy, Cy. Becky sawwy.

Cy: I forgive you, Becky. I wasn't being very patient with you, so I'm, uh, sawwy too.

Dee: [Holding up the sock.] Checkers! Hide seek! Becky wins!

Cy: You know, Becky, you can be a real pain, but you can also be very funny. And you know what? By making up, we're making God smile, too.

Dee: Smile! Yeah!

[Curtain.]

APPLICATION

[Enter Dee, Cy, and Paul.]

Cy: Wow, Dee. You were awesome as Becky!

Dee: Thanks! Oh, I mean, [in baby talk] fank you!

Paul: Kids, it's important to remember that even though it's sometimes difficult to get along with your brothers, sisters, and friends, it makes God smile when we live and play together peacefully.

Cy: Right—that means that we need to respect and take care of each other's belongings.

Dee: And be patient with one another.

Cy: Now I need to go home. Before I left, I saw Becky looking at my baseball glove, and she looked, well, kind of hungry.

Paul: Oh, we'd better go! See you later, everyone!

Dee: 'Bye!

[Curtain.]



Teacher—These special Dee-Cy-Paul application stories reinforce the Bible lesson. Choose the “Bookends,” or the Story, or the Puppet Script based on your time and preference.

Dee-Cy-Paul “Bookends”

Introduction (5 minutes)

Use this “hook” to introduce the lesson.

Dee was trying to enjoy her visit to her grandmother’s house, but she was upset because of a problem she was having at school. The day before, Dee had spent recesses alone because her friend, Laura, played with a girl named Emily. Dee would have liked to play with both girls, but Emily didn’t want Dee to play with them. Dee’s Oma wanted to help. But Oma was just like a kid—she loved to play and make messes. How would Oma help Dee solve the problem she was having with her friends?

Conclusion (5 minutes)

If you used the introduction to begin your lesson, use this to conclude.

Dee’s Oma understood the problem Dee was having with her friends. Oma had lived a long time, and had learned many things over the years. She helped Dee see that Emily was being protective of her new friendship with Laura because she was new and didn’t have many friends. Dee thanked God for her grandmother and the wisdom God had given her.

“Dee, what’s the matter?” Oma asked. “You’ve been quiet since you arrived.”

Dee sighed and looked down at her paints. She was spending the weekend with her grandma, whom she had always called Oma. Dee loved spending time at Oma’s house; Oma would always let Dee paint, or make mud pies, or bake cookies with her. Oma didn’t mind when Dee made a mess. Sometimes Oma was as messy as Dee was!

“I’m okay,” Dee answered. “I just had a hard day yesterday.”

The day before had been a very hard day for Dee. Dee usually played with her friend Laura during recess. But another girl in their class, Emily, wanted to play with Laura yesterday. Dee would have been happy to play all together, but Emily didn’t want to play with Dee. So during both recesses yesterday, Dee had been alone.

“Come on, Dee,” Oma said. “I know you’re unhappy. Maybe your old Oma can help!”

Dee wasn’t so sure. Dee loved her grandmother, but how would she be able to help solve Dee’s problem with her friends? Oma was pretty silly. Not only did she enjoy making messes as much as Dee did, but she was more like a kid than any grown-up that Dee knew. She didn’t see anything wrong with having peanut butter sandwiches and ice cream for breakfast. She could eat as many pieces of pepperoni and pickle pizza as Dee could. And she was the best pinball player that Dee had ever seen!

“I don’t know, Oma,” Dee said. “It’s kind of complicated.”

Oma smiled. “You’d be surprised how many ‘complicated’ problems I’ve heard, Dee.”

So Dee told Oma about the problems that she was having with her friends. She explained to Oma that she didn’t know why Emily didn’t want to play with her, and about how lonely she had felt during recess.

“That is complicated, Dee,” Oma agreed

once Dee had finished. “I can remember when I thought I’d lost a friend and didn’t understand why.”

Dee was surprised. “Really?” she asked. “I didn’t think you’d understand.”

Oma laughed. “You’d be amazed to know how much I understand, Dee,” Oma said. “You don’t live to be as old as I am without learning a few things. Is Emily a new student in your class?”

Dee thought. It was the beginning of the year, so everyone was new in the class. “But Emily moved here over the summer,” Dee said. “She wasn’t at our school last year.”

“So when Emily started school this year, she didn’t know anyone,” Oma said. “Did you ever try and make friends with her?”

Dee remembered that during every recess this year until yesterday, Emily had played alone. “No, I never tried to be friends with Emily—but Laura did,” she remembered. “Laura invited Emily to her birthday party next week.”

“Well, that makes sense,” Oma said. “Emily has been as lonely all year as you were yesterday. Now that she’s found a friend in Laura, she doesn’t want to lose her.”

“I never thought of it that way,” Dee said. “I should have tried to make friends with Emily when she was alone. Oma, you really do know a lot!”

Oma laughed. “God has taught me many things in my long life. But one thing I have learned is that there’s nothing like making mud pies after a good talk. What do you say?”

“That sounds good, Oma,” Dee agreed. “But there’s something I want to do first.”

“What?” wondered Oma.

Dee jumped out of her chair and hugged her grandmother. She was thankful that God had given her an Oma who knew so much.

Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script "Oma's Wisdom"

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

The words in italics are notes for you and your puppeteers; they are not to be read aloud.

SCRIPT

[Dee and Cy are onstage. Enter Dee.]

Cy: Hi, Dee!

Dee: Hi, guys!

Paul: How was your visit to your grandmother's house?

Dee: Oh, you know my Oma!

Cy: We sure do! I love it when we get to go to your grandma's—I mean, Oma's—house.

Paul: Me, too. Did you make a big mess?

Dee: Of course we did! Oma always lets me paint, or make mud pies, or bake cookies with her. She doesn't mind when I make a mess. Sometimes, I think, Oma is as messy as I am!

Cy: I think you're right.

Dee: But my visit didn't start out great. I had a hard day at school on Friday.

Paul: Really? What happened?

Dee: Oma noticed that I'd been pretty quiet since I got to her house. I'd been thinking about what had happened at school the day before. Usually, you know, I play with Laura during recess, since you guys aren't in my class this year.

Cy: Sure—Laura's great!

Dee: But another girl in my class, Emily, also wanted to play with Laura on Friday. I wanted us all to play together, but Emily didn't want to play with me. So, during both recesses, I was all by myself.

Paul: I'm sorry, Dee. That's terrible!

Dee: I was still feeling pretty sad by the time I got to Oma's house, and she could tell. She asked me what was making me unhappy. She thought maybe she could help.

Cy: So did you tell your Oma?

Dee: I wasn't so sure that Oma could help. You know, I love my grandmother very much, but how would she help me solve my problem with my friends? Oma is, you know, pretty silly.

Paul: That's true—she is silly.

Dee: Not only does she like making messes as much as I do, but she's more like a kid than any grown-up that I know! She doesn't think there's anything wrong with having peanut butter sandwiches and ice cream for breakfast.

Cy: She likes pepperoni and pickle pizza as much as I do. Yum!

Paul: And when she took us to the arcade that one time, she beat everyone at pinball!

Dee: I know! So when she wanted to help me with my problem with my friends, I told her it was kind of complicated. But she said that she's heard a lot of 'complicated' problems. So I told her about Laura and Emily. I explained to her that I didn't know why Emily didn't want to play with me. I told her how lonely I felt watching Laura and Emily play.

Cy: What did she say?

Dee: She told me she knew just how I was feeling. She said that she remembered when she thought she'd lost a friend and didn't understand why.

Paul: Really? She understood?

Dee: Yeah! I was surprised, too. But she explained that because she's lived a long time, she's learned a lot of things. So she started asking me questions. And I realized that Emily is new to our school this year—she moved to our neighborhood over the summer.

Cy: Oh, yeah. That's true. She didn't go to our school last year, so she really didn't have any friends when school started.

Dee: Right. Then Oma asked me if I had ever tried to make friends with Emily. I never have, and then I remembered that Emily has been alone every recess this whole school year.

Paul: Wow—imagine how lonely she must have been!

Dee: I know. But Laura had invited her to her birthday party.

Cy: So Laura is really Emily's only friend.

Dee: And Oma said that Emily's probably afraid of losing her new friend.

Paul: Wow, Dee. Your grandmother really does know a lot.

Dee: Yes, that's what I told her. She said that God has taught her many things in her long life.

Cy: Besides that it's okay to make a mess sometimes?

Dee: Yes—my Oma is very wise.

Cy: So is my grandma. She has been so many places. She was born in China and lived there for a long time. She knows how to speak lots of different languages.

Paul: My grandpa always knows just what to say when I'm sad or scared.

Dee: So I guess Oma was right. We should be glad that God gives us grandparents and other older people who know so much.

Cy: So we can learn from them.

Paul: Right. You know, Dee, one thing I learned from your Oma is that it's always a good time to make mud pies.

Dee: You're right, Paul. And I know just the right mud hole! Ready?

Cy: Let's go!



Teacher—These special Dee-Cy-Paul application stories reinforce the Bible lesson. Choose the “Bookends,” or the Story, or the Puppet Script based on your time and preference.

Dee-Cy-Paul “Bookends”

Introduction (5 minutes)

Use this “hook” to introduce the lesson.

Paul was confused. He had heard in Sunday school about a boy in the Bible who had heard God’s voice in the middle of the night. His brother Mark, had told Paul many times that God wanted Mark to play guitar for the church youth group. Had God spoken to Mark in the middle of the night the way He had spoken to Samuel? Would God speak to Paul in the same way?

Conclusion (5 minutes)

If you used the introduction to begin your lesson, use this to conclude.

Mark explained to Paul that God finds lots of ways to speak to his people. Mark reminded Paul of the day that Paul had asked Jesus to be his forever Friend. Even though Paul didn’t hear God’s voice the way that Samuel had, Paul knew that it was the right thing to do. God speaks to people through the Bible, through trusted adults, even through music. God uses many ways to speak to His people because He loves them so much.

Paul’s older brother, Mark, was sitting on the floor of his room practicing his guitar when he noticed his bedroom door open a crack. He saw Paul’s face peering in at him.

“Hey, Paul,” said Mark. “Come on in.”

“Hi, Mark,” Paul said, pushing the door open and coming into Mark’s room. “What are you doing?”

“Just practicing my guitar,” answered Mark. “A friend of mine invited some friends to his house tonight, and he asked me to bring my guitar and play some new Christian songs. I want to make sure that I know them well enough.” Mark could tell that Paul wanted to ask him about something. “What’s up?”

“Uh, well, I kind of have a question for you,” Paul stammered. “What does, I mean, what does God’s voice, you know, sound like?”

Mark was confused. “I don’t think I know quite what you mean, Paul.”

“It’s just that, well, in Sunday school today, we talked about a little boy who was asleep one night, and God spoke to him,” Paul explained. “You’ve told me lots of times that playing guitar is something that God wants you to do, so I figure He must have told you that. But, did God wake you up in the middle of the night, like He did Samuel?”

“No, Paul. God didn’t wake me up in the middle of the night.”

Paul signed with relief. “Oh, good,” he said. “I don’t think I would like that.”

Mark laughed. “It would be a big surprise!”

Paul nodded in agreement. “So what does God’s voice sound like? And when did He tell you that you were supposed to play the guitar?”

“It’s a little different than that,” Mark answered. “I didn’t hear God’s voice the way Samuel did. But God did make me good at playing music, and I love to play the guitar, so I thought He might want me to use my talent to let others know about Him. Then, I prayed to Him about it, and it felt like the right thing to do.”

“Oh,” said Paul. “So you didn’t hear God’s voice at all?”

“Not the way that Samuel did,” Mark answered. “Do you remember how you felt the first time you prayed to God from your heart?”

“Sure!” said Paul.

“How did you know you were supposed to do that?” Mark asked.

“I’m not really sure,” answered Paul. “I just remember Dad telling me how Jesus had died for my sins, and that He wanted to be with me forever. I thought about it, and I thought about how much Jesus must have loved me to die for me, and I just knew it was the right thing.”

“I think that was how God spoke to you,” said Mark. “Mom and Dad made sure that you knew about God’s love for you. You knew in your heart that asking Jesus to always be with you was the right thing. After I prayed about using my talent of playing the guitar to tell others about Jesus, I just knew that it was the right thing, too.”

“Cool!” said Paul. “So God can speak in lots of different ways?”

“Sure!” answered Mark. “He speaks through the Bible, through Mom and Dad, and through prayer. He finds lots of different ways to speak to us because He loves us so much. I think God speaks to people through the songs that I sing.”

“That’s neat!” said Paul. “I guess I’d better let you finish practicing then. Thanks, Mark!”

“Anytime, buddy,” Mark answered as Paul left the room.

Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script "A Voice In the Night"

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

The words in italics are notes for you and your puppeteers; they are not to be read aloud.

You will need a baseball cap.

INTRODUCTION

Cy: Hi, kids!

Paul: Wasn't that a cool story from the Bible about how God spoke to Samuel in the middle of the night?

Cy: I wonder what it would be like to hear God's voice. What do you kids think that God's voice sounds like?

[Allow time for audience to respond. Use the puppets to interact with the audience and prompt them with ideas. Some examples could include: the ocean, a lion roaring, the wind, etc.]

Paul: Those are all really good ideas. I remember one time I wondered what God's voice sounded like. Since my older brother Mark had told me that playing guitar was something God wants him to do, I thought I'd ask him.

Cy: That's the story we're going to tell today. I'm going to play Paul's older brother, Mark.

Paul: Ready, set....

Cy: Go!

[Exit Cy and Paul.]

SCRIPT

[Cy is onstage, wearing the baseball cap. Paul peeks around the corner of the stage.]

Cy: Hey, Paul. Come on in.

Paul: Hi, Mark. What are you doing?

Cy: I was just about to start practicing my guitar. A friend of mine invited some friends to his house tonight, and he asked me to bring my guitar and play some new Christian songs. I want to make sure that I know them well enough. *[Pause.]* It looks like you want to ask me about something. What's up?

Paul: Uh, well, I kind of have a question for you. What does, I mean, what does God's voice, you know, sound like?

Cy: *[Confused.]* I don't think I know quite what you mean, Paul.

Paul: It's just that, well, in Sunday school today, we talked about a little boy who was asleep one night, and God spoke to him. You've told me lots of time that playing guitar for your youth group is something God wants you to do, so I figure He must have told you that. But did God wake you up in the middle of the night, like He did Samuel?

Cy: No, Paul. God didn't wake me up in the middle of the night.

Paul: *[Relieved.]* Phew! Oh, good. I don't think I would like that.

Cy: *[Laughs.]* It would be a big surprise!

Paul: *[Nods.]* So what does God's voice sound like? And when did He tell you that you were supposed to play the guitar?

Cy: It's a little different than that. I didn't hear God's voice the way Samuel did. But God did make me good at playing music, and I love to play the guitar, so I thought He might want me to use my talent to let others know about Him. Then, I prayed to Him about it, and it felt like the right thing to do.

Paul: Oh—so you didn't hear God's voice at all?

Cy: Not the way that Samuel did. *[Pauses.]* Do you remember how you felt the first time you prayed to God from your heart?

Paul: Sure!

Cy: How did you know you were supposed to do that?

Paul: I'm not really sure. I just remember Dad telling me how Jesus had died for my sins, and that He wanted to be with me forever. I thought about it, and I thought about how much Jesus must have loved me to die for me, and I just knew it was the right thing.

Cy: I think that was how God spoke to you. Mom and Dad made sure that you knew about God's love for you. You knew in your heart that asking Jesus to always be with you was the right thing.. After I prayed about using my talent of playing the guitar to tell others about Jesus, I just knew that it was the right thing, too.

Paul: Cool! So God can speak in lots of different ways?

Cy: Sure! He speaks through the Bible,, through Mom and Dad, and through prayer. He finds lots of different ways to speak to us because He loves us so much. Sometimes I think God speaks to people through the songs that I sing.

Paul: That's neat! I guess I'd better let you start practicing then. Thanks, Mark!

Cy: Anytime, buddy.

[Exit Paul. Curtain.]

APPLICATION

[Enter Cy and Paul.]

Cy: It's really great to know that God loves us so much, he finds many ways to talk to us.

Paul: Right. God speaks to us through the Bible, and through parents and other adults who trust God, and He can even speak to us through music—and other ways, too.

Cy: Paul knew that it was time to ask Jesus forgive his sins and be with him forever because he felt like it was the right thing to do.

Paul: Remember how much Jesus loves you and wants to forgive your sins. Then, if you're ready, and you feel like it's the right thing to do, talk to your teacher or parents after class and tell them you're ready to ask Jesus to with you forever.

Cy: We'll see you next time, kids!

Paul: 'Bye!

[Curtain.]



Teacher—These special Dee-Cy-Paul application stories reinforce the Bible lesson. Choose the “Bookends,” or the Story, or the Puppet Script based on your time and preference.

Dee-Cy-Paul “Bookends”

Introduction (5 minutes)

Use this “hook” to introduce the lesson.

Dee, Cy, and Paul were spending a morning helping their church sort clothes after a huge clothing drive. There were piles and piles of clothes that needed to be sorted and washed. But then what would happen to the clothes? If they weren’t dress-up clothes, and the church wasn’t going to open a clothing store, where were those piles of clothes going?

Conclusion (5 minutes)

If you used the introduction to begin your lesson, use this to conclude.

Cy and Paul explained to Dee that the clothes were going to be sent to their friend Luis’ village in South America. The village was far away from any stores, and most of the people in the village didn’t have extra money to buy new clothes. Dee, Cy, and Paul were glad that God had blessed them with clothes that they could share with their friend and the people in his village. And they even found a fun way to sort the clothes—playing basketball by shooting the clothes into the right baskets!

“Okay, kids,” Mrs. Shepherd said as she dumped a huge bundle of children’s clothes in front of Dee, Cy, and Paul. “All you need to do is look at the tags on these clothes and find the number.” She pointed to row of laundry baskets that were labeled with numbers. “Then you put them in the baskets that match the number. Got it?”

“That sounds easy enough,” said Dee.

“It’s a matching game!” Cy agreed.

“That’s right. And when you’re finished with this pile, let me know. I have many more piles of clothes for you to sort,” she said as she walked away.

Dee, Cy, and Paul were helping Mrs. Shepherd at the church resource center. Their church had had a clothing drive over the past few weeks. Dee, Cy, and Paul had all given some of their clothes to the clothing drive. Cy had even asked his mom if he could have some of his sister Becky’s clothes. Now that all the clothes had been collected, they needed to be sorted and washed.

“Wow,” said Dee. “I can’t believe how many clothes we collected!”

“Yeah—and this is only the first pile,” agreed Paul. “We could have our own clothes store.”

“Hey, look at this!” Cy said. “It’s Becky’s pajamas that my family donated.”

“Cool! Ooh, look at this!” said Dee, holding up a pretty, frilly dress. “We could play dress-up!”

“Aww, Dee!” said Paul, “That’s a girl’s game!”

“Yeah, who wants to play—whoa! Look at this awesome soccer jersey!” Cy said, slipping it over his head.

“I guess dress-up isn’t that girly, is it, Cy?” Dee asked, laughing.

Cy smiled. “We could have a lot of fun with all of these clothes,” he agreed.

“But we’re not here to play dress-up,” Paul pointed out. “We’re here to help the church sort these clothes!”

“What for, anyway?” Dee wondered. “It

was fun to see how many clothes we could collect, but now that the clothing drive is over, what are we going to do with all of these clothes?”

“We’re sending them to South America!” Cy said. “We’re sending them to the village that Luis lives in.”

Luis was their friend who lived with his family in a small village in South America. He and his family were living with the people of the village to help them and teach them about Jesus. “Yeah—Luis’ village is very small, and it’s not near any stores where the people can go to buy clothes,” Paul pointed out.

“And most of the people who live in Luis’ village don’t have enough money to buy new clothes, so we’re sharing what we have!” Cy said. “I hope Luis gets this soccer jersey. He’ll love it!”

“That’s cool!” said Dee. “I’m so glad that we get to use these clothes to help Luis and the people in his village.”

“Yeah,” agreed Paul. “I’m thankful that God has given us extra clothes, so that we can give some to people who need them.”

“This says 2T,” Cy said, looking at the tag on Becky’s pajamas. “Where’s the 2T basket?”

“Right here,” said Dee, pointing to the basket behind her. “Hey—I know a good game we could play. Let’s play basketball!”

“Great idea, Dee!” Paul agreed, shooting a size 5 pair of pants into the basket labeled “5.”

“You made it!” Cy yelled. “My turn!” Dee, Cy, and Paul were having so much fun, they got through the huge piles of clothing in no time. It was fun to play basketball, but it was even more fun knowing that they were helping the people in Luis’ village who needed the clothes.

Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script "The Clothing Drive"

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

The words in italics are notes for you and your puppeteers; they are not to be read aloud. You will need: a pile of children's clothing, including one small pair of pajamas and one sports jersey.

INTRODUCTION

[Enter Dee, Cy, and Paul.]

Dee: Hi, kids!

Paul: How many of you like getting clothes for Christmas or birthday presents?

[Allow time for audience to respond.]

Cy: I think most kids would rather get toys than clothes as presents. But for some kids, getting clothes is very special.

Dee: That's right. Some people don't have enough clothes.

Paul: Not long ago, our church had a clothing drive. Everyone donated clothes to help people who needed them. After the clothing drive was over, Dee, Cy, and I went to help sort the clothes.

Cy: That's where our story begins today...here we go!

[Exit Dee, Cy, and Paul.]

SCRIPT

[Dee, Cy, and Paul are onstage. The pile of children's clothing is in front of them, with the pajamas and sports jersey on top.]

Cy: So, Paul, what did your mom say that we're supposed to do with all of these clothes?

Paul: She said all we need to do is look at the tags on these clothes and find the number. Then we put them in piles that all have the same number.

Dee: That sounds easy enough.

Cy: It's a matching game!

Paul: Right. And when we're finished with this pile, we're supposed to tell her. She has many more piles of clothes for us to sort.

Dee: This is going to be fun.

Cy: Yeah—the clothing drive was a

blast. I gave some of my clothes, and I even asked my mom if I could give some of Becky's clothes.

Paul: And now they're all here at the resource center. They just need sorted and washed.

Dee: Wow. I can't believe how many clothes we collected!

Paul: Yeah—and this is only the first pile. We could have our own clothes store.

Cy: *[Holds up the pajamas.]* Hey, look at this! It's Becky's pajamas that my family donated. *[Puts the pajamas down.]*

Dee: Cool! Ooh, I'll be if we looked through all these clothes, we could find lots of pretty things and we could play dress up.

Paul: Aww, Dee! That's a girl's game!

Cy: Yeah, who wants to play—whoa! *[Holds up the jersey.]* Look at this awesome soccer jersey! I want to try this on!

Dee: I guess dress-up isn't that girly, is it, Cy?

Cy: *[Puts the jersey down.]* We could have a lot of fun with all of these clothes.

Paul: But we're not here to play dress-up. We're here to help the church sort these clothes!

Dee: What for, anyway? It was fun to see how many clothes we could collect, but now that the clothing drive is over, what are we going to do with all of these clothes?

Cy: We're sending them to South America! We're sending them to the village that Luis lives in.

Paul: Remember? Luis and his family live in a small village in South America, where they're helping the villagers and teaching them about Jesus. His village is very small, and it's not near any stores where the people can go to buy clothes.

Cy: And most of the people who live in Luis' village don't have enough money to buy new clothes, so we're sharing what we have! I hope Luis gets this soccer jersey. He'll love it!

Dee: That's cool! I'm so glad that we get to use these clothes to help Luis and the people in his village.

Paul: Yeah. I'm thankful that God has given us extra clothes, so that we can give some to people who need them.

Cy: Becky's pajamas said that they're size 2T. Where should we make the 2T pile?

Dee: Let's make it right over here. Hey—I know a good game we can play. It will be like basketball. You have to shoot each piece of clothing into the right pile.

Paul: Great idea, Dee!

Cy: This will be fun—almost as much fun as knowing that we're helping the people in Luis' village who need these clothes!

[Dee, Cy, and Paul jump into the clothes pile and begin tossing them around. Curtain.]

APPLICATION

[Enter Dee, Cy, and Paul.]

Cy: Kids, raise your hands if you know what it means to be generous.

[Allow time for audience to respond.]

Dee: God is the most generous. He has given us everything we have—our families, our homes, our pets, and even our clothes.

Paul: It makes God happy when we choose to be generous with the things that we have. There are lots of ways to practice being generous. One way is to donate clothes, food, or toys to people who don't have enough.

Cy: Any time we share the things that God has given us, it makes God happy because we're being generous, just like He is!

Dee: If you have some toys or clothes that you think you would like to donate to someone who needs them, tell your parents. They'll be glad to help you!

Paul: And you can discover how much fun it is to be generous.

Cy: See you next time, everyone!

Dee & Paul: 'Bye!



Teacher—These special Dee-Cy-Paul application stories reinforce the Bible lesson. Choose the “Bookends,” or the Story, or the Puppet Script based on your time and preference.

Dee-Cy-Paul “Bookends”

Introduction (5 minutes)

Use this “hook” to introduce the lesson.

Dee, Cy, and Paul were excited to visit one of Mr. Morgan’s work sites with him. Mr. Morgan was a builder—he helped build homes for people to live in. But when they arrived at Mr. Morgan’s work site, they didn’t see anything that looked much like a house. It was just a big hole, a lot of concrete, and a bunch of boards sticking up. What would have to happen to turn this pile of sticks into a home?

Conclusion (5 minutes)

If you used the introduction to begin your lesson, use this to conclude.

Mr. Morgan explained to Dee, Cy, and Paul that the size of a house or what it’s made out of aren’t the most important thing to building a home. The most important thing to make a home was God. Inviting God to be part of your family would make any place home, no matter where you live. Together, Mr. Morgan, Dee, Cy, and Paul prayed that the family that would someday live in the house Mr. Morgan was building would invite God to live there with them.

“Mr. Morgan,” Cy said as Mr. Morgan pulled his truck to a stop in front of his work site. “I thought that you built houses.”

Mr. Morgan laughed. “That is what I do, Cy. Why—doesn’t that look like a house to you?”

Dee, Cy, and Paul peered out the window. It looked like a huge hole in the ground. Someone had filled the hole with big blocks of concrete, and there were a few boards sticking up here and there.

“Um, no,” Paul answered for Cy. “That doesn’t look like a house.”

“You know what it looks like?” Dee said. “It looks like the house that Cy tried to build in Sunday school using clay and a few toothpicks.”

“You’re right,” said Cy. “I could never make that look like a house either.”

“Well, let’s go take a closer look,” said Mr. Morgan. “You may have to use your imaginations a little, but I guarantee that that pile of concrete and boards will be a house someday.”

Dee, Cy, and Paul climbed out of the truck. Mr. Morgan explained how the concrete was a foundation. It was very strong, and the rest of the house would be supported by it. The boards that were sticking up were part of the frame, and finishing the frame was Mr. Morgan’s job. When the frame was finished, walls and a roof would be built around the boards. “The frame is sort of like the house’s skeleton,” explained Mr. Morgan.

“Ooh,” said Cy. “That makes more sense. This is where the front porch will be, right?”

“That’s right,” said Mr. Morgan.

“And that’s where the garage will go!” Paul said, pointing to a big piece of concrete.

“Yes,” said Mr. Morgan. “This will be a house a lot like yours and mine.”

“But there are other kinds of homes,” said Dee. “Like Jenny’s home. Jenny lives in an apartment with her mom.”

“Yeah—and my Uncle Jim and Aunt Trisha live in a huge house with a swimming pool,” said Paul.

“And remember the pictures we saw of Luis’ hut in South America?” asked Cy. “He has big banana leaves for a roof!”

“There are lots of different kinds of houses,” agreed Mr. Morgan. “But it doesn’t matter how big or small it is, or what shape it is. There is one thing that is more important than anything else when you’re making a home.”

“What?” wondered Dee, Cy, and Paul.

Mr. Morgan smiled. “God,” he explained. “Whether you build your house out of boards or banana leaves, if you invite God to be a part of your family, your home will be a wonderful place to live!”

“That’s true!” said Dee. “God can make any place home!”

“That’s right,” agreed Mr. Morgan. “If you have invited God to be part of your life, He is with you no matter where you live.”

“Awesome!” said Cy.

“You know what you kids can help me do?” asked Mr. Morgan. “If God is the most important part of having a home, why don’t we pray that the family who will someday live in this house will invite God to be part of their family.”

“That’s a great idea!” agreed Paul.

Mr. Morgan, Dee, Cy, and Paul bowed their heads, and prayed that the pile of concrete and sticks would someday be a home—for a family, and for God.

Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script "A House or a Home?"

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

The words in italics are notes for you and your puppeteers; they are not to be read aloud. You will need: a simple colored poster of a house being built, including a hole, concrete foundation, and some wooden framing. You will also need a man's hat or a hard hat.

INTRODUCTION

[Enter Dee, Cy, and Paul.]

Dee: Hi, everyone!

Cy: Our story today is about homes. How many of you live in a home?

[Allow time for audience to respond.]

Paul: We're trying to think of all the different kinds of homes we can. Can you help us name some?

[Allow time for audience to respond. If the audience is having trouble, use the puppets to suggest ideas. Some ideas include: house, apartment, townhouse, teepee, hut, etc.]

Cy: Dee's dad builds houses. One day he let us come along with him, and we learned some really cool things about houses.

Dee: We're going to act out that story. Paul is going to pretend to be my dad.

Paul: That's right. Let's get started!

[Exit Dee, Cy, and Paul.]

SCRIPT

[Enter Dee, Cy, and Paul. Paul is wearing the man's hat or hard hat. The poster with the house on it is pinned to the backdrop.]

Dee: Thanks for letting us come to see your work site, Dad.

Paul: I'm glad to have you come along!

Cy: *[Noticing the house.]* Mr. Morgan, I thought that you built houses.

Paul: That is what I do, Cy. Why—doesn't that look like a house to you?

Dee: It looks to me like a big hole in the ground...

Cy: And someone has filled it with big blocks of concrete...

Dee: And there's a few boards sticking up here and there.

Cy: So, no. That doesn't look like a house.

Dee: You know what it looks like, Cy? It looks like the house that you tried to build in Sunday school using clay and a few toothpicks.

Cy: You're right. I could never make that look like a house either.

Paul: Well, let's go take a closer look. You may have to use your imaginations a little, but I guarantee that that pile of concrete and boards will be a house someday.

Dee: I don't know, Dad.

Paul: Just listen. The concrete is the foundation. It is very strong, and it supports the rest of the house. These boards that are sticking up are part of the frame. Finishing the frame is my job. When the frame is finished, other builders will put walls and a roof around the boards. So the frame is soft of like the house's skeleton.

Cy: Ooh. That makes more sense. *[Points to part of the drawing.]* This is where the front porch will be, right?

Paul: That's right.

Dee: *[Pointing at another part of the drawing.]* And that's where the garage will go!

Paul: Yes. This will be a house a lot like yours and mine.

Cy: But there are other kinds of houses, like Jenny's house. Jenny lives in an apartment with her mom.

Dee: Yeah—and Paul's Uncle Jim and Aunt Trisha live in a huge house with a swimming pool.

Cy: And remember the pictures we saw of Luis' hut in South America? He has big banana leaves for a roof!

Paul: There are lots of different kinds of houses. But it doesn't matter how big or small it is, or what shape it is. There is

one thing that is more important than anything else when you're making a home.

Cy: What?

Paul: God. Whether you build your house out of boards or banana leaves, if you invite God to be a part of your family, your home will be a wonderful place to live!

Dee: That's true! God can make any place home!

Paul: That's right. If you have invited God to be part of your life, He is with you no matter where you live.

Cy: Awesome!

Paul: You know what you kids can help me do? If God is the most important part of having a home, why don't we pray that the family who will someday live in this house will invite God to be part of their family.

Dee: That's a great idea!

Cy: We'll pray that this pile of concrete and sticks will someday be a home—for a family, and for God.

[Dee, Cy, and Paul bow their heads. Curtain.]

APPLICATION

[Enter Dee, Cy, and Paul.]

Cy: It sure was fun visiting your dad's work site that day.

Dee: Yeah. Homes are pretty cool!

Paul: But inviting God to live with you, no matter what kind of home you live in, is the most important thing.

Cy: And once you've invited God to be part of your life, He will always be with you—no matter where you live or visit!

Dee: That's right. We're out of time for today, kids. See you next time!

Cy & Paul: 'Bye, everyone!

[Curtain.]



Teacher—These special Dee-Cy-Paul application stories reinforce the Bible lesson. Choose the “Bookends,” or the Story, or the Puppet Script based on your time and preference.

Dee-Cy-Paul “Bookends”

Introduction (5 minutes)

Use this “hook” to introduce the lesson.

Dee was thrilled that Thanksgiving was the next week. She was excited to play the part of Tina the Turkey in her school’s Turkey Day play. But when her dad asked her why we celebrate Thanksgiving, she wasn’t entirely sure. She knew that it had something to do with some people called pilgrims, and she was pretty sure it had something to do with turkeys. But was Thanksgiving even more special than that?

Conclusion (5 minutes)

If you used the introduction to begin your lesson, use this to conclude.

Dee’s dad explained that the pilgrims had suffered greatly during their first winter in their new home—many of them had become sick and died. But God gave the pilgrims friends who taught them how to grow food in their new home. The next year, the pilgrims celebrated a wonderful harvest by having a feast with their new friends to say “Thank You!” to God. Dee and her dad worked together with their church to deliver Thanksgiving meals to families who didn’t have enough to eat, so that they could also thank God for the food He provided.

“Dee, let’s go!” called Mr. Morgan. “We don’t want to be late!”

“Okay!” said Dee, climbing into her dad’s truck. “We’re just going to the grocery store, right?”

“Not exactly,” Mr. Morgan answered, pulling out of the driveway.

“But you said we were going grocery shopping,” Dee pointed out.

“No—I said we were going to get groceries, but the groceries aren’t for us, and we’re not going to the grocery store for them,” explained Mr. Morgan.

Dee was puzzled. “I don’t get it,” she said.

Mr. Morgan laughed. “You know that next Thursday is a holiday, right?”

Dee nodded. “Yes—Thanksgiving!” she said. “I’m Tina the Turkey in our Turkey Day play at school.”

“That’s right—Thanksgiving is almost here,” said Mr. Morgan. “Do you know why we celebrate Thanksgiving?”

“Oh, sure!” Dee answered, nodding. “A long, long time ago, there were these people, and they wore funny hats with belt buckles on them. And they had a big turkey dinner—like we’re going to have on Thanksgiving.” Dee smiled. “Yum! I love turkey!”

“Uh, well, that’s part of the story of Thanksgiving,” Mr. Morgan answered. “There are a few things you left out.”

“Like what?” Dee wondered.

“Well, the people with the funny hats were called pilgrims,” explained Mr. Morgan. “They loved God very much. They had come from another country on a long boat ride. But when they arrived, the winter was very cold, and many of them got sick and died.”

“That’s awful!” Dee said.

“But it gets better,” Mr. Morgan assured Dee. “You see, God helped the pilgrims find some friends who taught the pilgrims how to grow food in their new home. And they grew lots of food, and had a wonderful harvest!”

“It’s a good thing God brought the pilgrims their friends,” said Dee.

“Yes, and the pilgrims were very thankful that God had brought their friends to them, and for all the food that He had provided. They had a great feast—like the one we’ll have next Thursday—to say ‘Thank You!’ to God.”

“Did they have turkey?” Dee asked.

“Yes—and other things,” laughed Mr. Morgan.

“I think I get it!” Dee said. “Thanksgiving is for giving thanks to God!”

“That’s right,” said Mr. Morgan. “And we can be thankful to God for providing our family with food, but there are still people who need food.”

“There are?” wondered Dee. “How can we help?”

“That’s what we’re going to do right now,” explained Mr. Morgan. “The church has bought Thanksgiving groceries for families that need food, and we’re going to take the groceries to those families!”

“That’s cool!” said Dee. “Then they can thank God for giving them food, too!”

Dee had a great time delivering groceries to families with her dad. And now, when she told them “Happy Thanksgiving,” she was glad they could give thanks to God for the food He provided.

Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script "Special Delivery"

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

The words in italics are notes for you and your puppeteers; they are not to be read aloud. You will need: a man's hat for Cy.

INTRODUCTION

[Enter Dee, Cy, and Chip.]

Dee: Cy, what's your favorite holiday?

Cy: Hmm...good question. I think I'd say Christmas, but I also really like my birthday.

Dee: How many of you kids like Christmas and your birthday?

[Allow time for audience to respond.]

Dee: I like those holidays, too. But my favorite holiday is Thanksgiving.

Cy: Why?

Dee: Well, first, because my dog Chip does an amazing turkey impression. Chip! Show them how you can talk turkey!

Chip: [Gobbles like a turkey.]

Cy: [Stunned.] Wow. That's really, uh, cool.

Dee: Thanks. I also like Thanksgiving because I like to eat turkey. Don't you?

Cy: I like to eat everything.

Dee: Oh, yeah. But my dad taught me the reasons why I really love Thanksgiving—and that's what our story is about today. Cy, will you play my dad in our story?

Cy: Of course! Let's get started.

[Exit Dee, Cy, and Chip.]

SCRIPT

[Cy is onstage, wearing the man's hat.]

Cy: Dee, let's go! We don't want to be late!

[Enter Dee.]

Dee: Okay! We're just going to the grocery store, right?

Cy: Not exactly.

Dee: But you said we were going grocery shopping.

Cy: No—I said we were going to get groceries, but the groceries aren't for us, and we're not going to the grocery store for them.

Dee: [Puzzled.] I don't get it.

Cy: [Laughs.] You know that next Thursday is a holiday, right?

Dee: [Nods.] Yes—Thanksgiving! I'm Tina the Turkey in our Turkey Day play at school.

Cy: That's right—Thanksgiving is almost here. Do you know why we celebrate Thanksgiving?

Dee: [Nods.] Oh, sure! A long, long time ago, there were these people, and they wore funny hats with belt buckles on them. And they had a big turkey dinner—like we're going to have on Thanksgiving. Yum! I love turkey!

Cy: Uh, well, that's part of the story of Thanksgiving. There are a few things you left out.

Dee: Like what?

Cy: Well, the people with the funny hats were called pilgrims. They loved God very much. They had come from another country on a long boat ride. But when they arrived, the winter was very cold, and many of them got sick and died.

Dee: That's awful!

Cy: But it gets better. You see, God helped the pilgrims find some friends who taught the pilgrims how to grow food in their new home. And they grew lots of food, and had a wonderful harvest!

Dee: It's a good thing God brought the pilgrims their friends.

Cy: Yes, and the pilgrims were very thankful that God had brought their friends to them, and for all the food that He had provided. They had a great feast—like the one we'll have next Thursday—to say "Thank You!" to God.

Dee: Did they have turkey?

Cy: [Laughs.] Yes—and other things.

Dee: I think I get it! Thanksgiving is for giving thanks to God!

Cy: That's right. And we can be thankful to God for providing our family with food, but there are still people who need food.

Dee: There are? How can we help?

Cy: That's what we're going to do right now. The church has bought Thanksgiving groceries for families that need food, and we're going to take the groceries to those families!

Dee: That's cool! Then they can thank God for giving them food, too!

Cy: Are you ready?

Dee: Let's go!

[Exit Dee and Cy.]

APPLICATION

[Enter Dee and Cy.]

Cy: Wow—that was a really great story.

Dee: All of the families that we delivered groceries to were so thankful. And because I had learned about what Thanksgiving is really about, I was really glad that those families could give thanks to God for the food He provides.

Cy: But we don't have to wait for Thanksgiving to be thankful for the food God provides to us.

Dee: That's right—we can thank God at breakfast, lunch, and dinner for the food He's given us to eat. And we can pray that God will provide food for the families that don't have enough.

Cy: Speaking of lunch, isn't it almost time?

Dee: Cy, we just ate breakfast.

Cy: Right. Well I think it's snack time for me, then. See you later, everyone!

Dee: 'Bye!

[Curtain.]



Teacher—These special Dee-Cy-Paul application stories reinforce the Bible lesson. Choose the “Bookends,” or the Story, or the Puppet Script based on your time and preference.

Dee-Cy-Paul “Bookends”

Introduction (5 minutes)

Use this “hook” to introduce the lesson.

Dee and Paul were confused one Sunday morning when Cy was late to Sunday school. Cy was never late unless he was sick. Suddenly he ran into the classroom and explained that he was late because he had to finish cleaning his room before he left the house—even for church. Mr. Jeff, Dee, Cy, and Paul’s Sunday school teacher, said that Cy’s new chores would help them understand how to work hard for God. But Cy was confused—wasn’t he working hard for his mom?

Conclusion (5 minutes)

If you used the introduction to begin your lesson, use this to conclude.

Mr. Jeff explained that by doing his chores, Cy was honoring God in two ways. First, God wants children to obey their parents. And second, God is pleased when His people do their jobs well. After Sunday school, Cy went home and cleaned the bathroom, which was another of his chores. When he was finished, he was pleased at the good job he had done. And he was even happier when his mom hugged him and thanked him for his help!

Dee and Paul walked to their Sunday school classroom together. “I wonder where Cy is,” Dee said. “He’s never late.”

“Maybe he’s sick,” suggested Paul.

“Okay, everyone,” said Mr. Jeff, who was Dee, Cy, and Paul’s Sunday school teacher. “Today we’re learning about working hard for God.”

Suddenly Cy rushed into the classroom. “Sorry I’m late, Mr. Jeff,” he mumbled, sitting next to Dee and Paul. “Hi, guys.”

“Hi, Cy,” Dee said. “Where have you been?”

“My mom made me start doing chores this week,” Cy explained. “I can’t leave the house until my room is clean.”

“Really?” said Paul. “Even if you’re late for church?”

Cy nodded. “Yes—she says that she’s really tired because she’s going to have another baby, and she needs me to be more helpful around the house.”

“That’s interesting, Cy,” said Mr. Jeff. “That’s what today’s lesson is about!”

“I thought you said that today’s lesson would be about working hard for God,” said Dee.

“Yeah,” agreed Cy. “My mom wants me to start keeping my room clean and helping her clean the bathrooms. I think that’s working hard for my mom.”

Mr. Jeff laughed. “That does sound like hard work, Cy. But did you ever think that by working hard to help your mom with chores around the house, you could also honor God?”

“Um, no,” Cy answered. “I don’t understand.”

“God wants us to obey our parents, so by obeying your mom, that’s one way to honor God,” Mr. Jeff explained. “But God also is pleased with us when we do our jobs well. My job is being a fireman, and I do my very best because I know that it makes God happy when I do my job well.”

“Being a fireman sounds like a lot more fun than making your bed or cleaning the bathroom!” Cy pointed out.

“That’s true,” admitted Mr. Jeff. “But you can’t be a fireman right now, because you’re still a kid. But you still have a job to do—and by working hard and doing a good job at it, you’ll be pleasing God, too!”

That afternoon, Cy went home and cleaned the upstairs bathroom before his mom even asked him to. It was hard work, but when he was finished, Cy was very pleased at the good job he had done. And he was even more pleased when his mom thanked him and gave him a huge hug.

“You’re my little helper!” said Mrs. Yung. “Thank you so much!”

“No problem, Mom,” said Cy, hugging her back. “I’m just doing my job!”

Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script “Cy’s New Job”

DIRECTOR’S NOTES

The words in italics are notes for you and your puppeteers; they are not to be read aloud. You will need: a man’s hat for Paul.

INTRODUCTION

[Enter Dee, Cy, and Paul.]

Cy: Hi, everyone!

Paul: How many of you kids have to do chores at home?

[Allow time for audience to respond.]

Dee: I have chores, too. I have to set the table before dinner every night, and I also have to feed my dog every morning and night.

Paul: My brothers and sister and I take turns washing the dishes after dinner, and it’s my job to take out the trash.

Cy: I just started two new chores—cleaning up my room every day, and cleaning the bathrooms. And let me tell you, I was not too excited about cleaning the bathrooms.

Dee: That sounds like a hard job!

Cy: It is, and it’s what our story today is about.

Paul: Are you going to teach us how to clean a bathroom?

Cy: No—but hopefully we’ll learn why it’s important to do the chores that we’re given. Paul, will you play our Sunday school teacher, Mr. Jeff, in our play today?

Paul: Sure!

Dee: Let’s get started!

[Exit Dee, Cy, and Paul.]

SCRIPT

[Dee and Paul are onstage. Paul is wearing the man’s hat]

Dee: Is it time to start our Sunday school class, Mr. Jeff?

Paul: Yes, but I wonder where Cy is? He’s never late.

Dee: Maybe he’s sick.

Paul: Well, we’re going to begin. Today we’re learning about working hard for God.

[Enter Cy, rushed and panting.]

Cy: Sorry I’m late, Mr. Jeff. Hi, Dee.

Dee: Hi, Cy. Where have you been?

Cy: My mom made me start doing chores this week. I can’t leave the house until my room is clean.

Dee: Really? Even if you’re late for church?

Cy: *[Nods.]* Yes—she says that she’s really tired because she’s going to have another baby, and she needs me to be more helpful around the house.

Paul: That’s interesting, Cy. That’s what today’s lesson is about!

Dee: I thought you said that today’s lesson would be about working hard for God.

Cy: Yeah. My mom wants me to start keeping my room clean and helping her clean the bathrooms. I think that’s working hard for my mom.

Paul: *[Laughs.]* That does sound like hard work, Cy. But did you ever think that by working hard to help your mom with chores around the house, you could also honor God?

Cy: Um, no. I don’t understand.

Paul: God wants us to obey our parents, so by obeying your mom, that’s one way to honor God. But God also is pleased with us when we do our jobs well. My job is being a fireman, and I do my very best because I know that it makes God happy when I do my job well.

Cy: Being a fireman sounds like a lot more fun than making your bed or cleaning the bathroom!

Paul: That’s true. But you can’t be a fireman right now, because you’re still a kid. But you still have a job to do—and by working hard and doing a good job at it, you’ll be pleasing God, too!

Cy: Well, I definitely want to please God. Maybe I’ll even clean the bathroom today before my mom has to ask me!

Paul: Great idea, Cy. Now, let’s get on with the rest of our lesson.

[Curtain.]

APPLICATION

[Enter Dee, Cy, and Paul.]

Dee: So what happened, Cy? Did you clean the bathroom before your mom asked you to?

Cy: I sure did! I did a good job, too, which made me feel good.

Paul: What did your mom say?

Cy: She gave me a huge hug and thanked me. I told her I was just doing my job.

Dee: Hey kids, even though we’re only kids, the jobs and chores that our parents give us to do are very important.

Paul: That’s right. God commands us to obey our parents, and it makes Him glad when we do.

Dee: And God also wants us to do our very best at the jobs we’re given, and when we do that, it also pleases Him.

Cy: And it feels good to do a job well. I don’t even mind cleaning the bathrooms or making my bed anymore. I like being able to help my mom, and I like knowing that I’m making God happy.

Paul: We’re out of time for today. See you next time, everyone!

Dee & Cy: ‘Bye!

[Curtain.]



Teacher—These special Dee-Cy-Paul application stories reinforce the Bible lesson. Choose the “Bookends,” or the Story, or the Puppet Script based on your time and preference.

Dee-Cy-Paul “Bookends”

Introduction (5 minutes)

Use this “hook” to introduce the lesson.

Paul was thrilled to find a portable video game on the playground at recess—and even more when he discovered it was his favorite video game, Frog Hopper II. He and Cy spent all of recess trying to beat each other’s best scores. But when recess was over, Paul thought he might take the game home with him for a few days before giving it to the lost and found. Cy didn’t think that was such a good idea—he thought it would honor God more to turn it in right away. But did it really matter that much to God? After all, it was only a game....

Conclusion (5 minutes)

If you used the introduction to begin your lesson, use this to conclude.

Cy reminded Paul that God wants his people to be honest all the time—even when they were just playing. Paul gave the game to his teacher, Mrs. Carson, who thanked him and said that the person who had lost the game had been very sad when he lost it. Cy gave Paul a thumbs up from across the playground. Paul was glad he had done the right thing.

“Hey, Cy!” Paul called on the playground. It was recess time. Cy and Paul weren’t in the same class at school anymore, but they did have recess at the same time. “Look at what I have!”

Cy ran over to where Paul was standing. Paul held up a small device that looked like a tiny TV.

“Hey!” said Cy. “Isn’t that one of those...things?”

“Yeah!” said Paul excitedly. “It’s a portable video game, which means I can play it anywhere,” he said. “And it’s Frog Hopper III! I’ve always wanted one of these!”

“Wow—that’s really cool!” said Cy. “Where did you get it?”

“Um...I mean...you know, around,” Paul stammered. “I mean, I just found it. It was kind of buried next to the swings.”

“Oh,” said Cy. “One of the fourth graders must have left it on the playground,” said Cy. The fourth graders had recess just before Cy and Paul did.

“Yeah, maybe,” said Paul. “But this thing is really cool! Let’s take turns playing!”

“Okay,” agreed Cy. Cy and Paul spent the rest of recess trying to beat each other’s scores at Frog Hopper II. Recess seemed to be over very quickly. Suddenly, the bell rang, and it was time to go back inside.

“Maybe now we should show that to one of the teachers,” said Cy. “I’m sure whoever lost it is looking for it. You could take it to the lost and found.”

“Really?” answered Paul. “Maybe I could just, you know, borrow it for a few days. I’m sure whoever lost it won’t mind if I turn it in later this week.”

“I don’t think that’s such a good idea, Paul,” said Cy.

“Why not?” Paul asked. “You could borrow it, too.”

“Well, I’m sure whoever lost it is really worried about it,” said Cy. “I mean, if it belonged to you and you had left it on the playground, wouldn’t you want someone to turn it in right away if they found it?”

Paul looked down at the game. He hadn’t thought of it that way. “I guess so,” he said.

“And I also think that God would want you to turn it in now,” Cy continued. “I mean, I know it’s just a game, but God wants us to be honest all the time—even when we’re just playing.”

“You’re right, Cy,” Paul agreed. “I think it would make God happy if I gave this back right now.” Paul walked over to his teacher and handed her the game.

“Oh, thank you, Paul. All the teachers have been looking for this. The student who lost it was very sad,” said Mrs. Carson. “You made the right decision to be honest and turn this in. Great job, Paul!”

Paul smiled and looked for Cy, who was lining up to go inside his classroom. Cy smiled at Paul and gave him a thumbs up. Paul smiled, too. He knew he had done the right thing.

Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script "Playing Honestly"

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

The words in italics are notes for you and your puppeteers; they are not to be read aloud. You will need: a small box decorated to look like a portable electronic game player, a rubber band to attach the box to Paul's hand, and a woman's hat for Dee.

INTRODUCTION

[Enter Dee, Cy, and Paul.]

Dee: Hi, everyone!

Cy: Kids, how many of you know that it's important to honor God by obeying Him?

[Allow time for audience to respond.]

Paul: It's important to honor God by obeying Him at church...

Dee: And at home...

Cy: And even on the playground!

Paul: The playground? Really?

Cy: Oh, yes. God wants us to honor Him no matter what we're doing—even if we're just playing. That's what our story today is about!

Paul: Oh, no. It's not about the time that we were on the playground at school and I found the...

Dee: Yeah, that's the one.

Paul: Great.

Cy: It's okay, Paul. You learned a great lesson that day. Dee is going to help us by playing your teacher, Mrs. Carson.

Dee: Let's begin!

[Exit Dee, Cy, and Paul.]

SCRIPT

[Paul is onstage. The small box that's been made to look like a portable game is attached to his hand with the rubber band. He's clearly fascinated by it. Paul looks up.]

Paul: Hey, Cy! Look at what I have!

[Enter Cy. Paul holds up the game for him to see.]

Cy: Hey! Isn't that one of those...things?

Paul: *[Excited.]* Yeah! It's a portable video game, which means I can play it anywhere. And it's Frog Hopper II! I've always wanted one of these!

Cy: Wow—that's really cool! Where did you get it?

Paul: Um...I mean...you know, around. I mean, I just found it. It was kind of buried next to the swings.

Cy: Oh. One of the fourth graders must have left it on the playground.

Paul: Yeah, maybe. But this thing is really cool! Let's take turns playing!

Cy: Well, recess is almost over. It's almost time to go back inside. *[Pause.]* Maybe we should show that to one of the teachers. I'm sure whoever lost it is looking for it. You could take it to the lost and found.

Paul: Really? Maybe I could just, you know, borrow it for a few days. I'm sure whoever lost it won't mind if I turn it in later this week.

Cy: I don't think that's such a good idea, Paul.

Paul: Why not? You could borrow it, too.

Cy: Well, I'm sure whoever lost it is really worried about it. I mean, if it belonged to you and you had left it on the playground, wouldn't you want someone to turn it in right away if they found it?

Paul: *[Looks down at the game.]* I hadn't thought of it that way. I guess so I would want someone to turn it in right away.

Cy: And I also think that God would want you to turn it in now. I mean, I know it's just a game, but God wants us to be honest all the time—even when we're just playing.

Paul: You're right, Cy. I think it would make God happy if I gave this back right now. *[Calling offstage.]* Excuse me, Mrs. Carson?

[Enter Dee, wearing the woman's hat.]

Paul: *[Holds up the game.]* I found this on the playground.

Dee: Oh, thank you, Paul. All the teachers have been looking for this. The student who lost it was very sad. You made the right decision to be honest and turn this in. Great job, Paul!

Paul: Thanks, Mrs. Carson. And thanks to you, too, Cy!

Cy: What are friends for?

[Curtain.]

APPLICATION

[Enter Dee, Cy, and Paul.]

Dee: You did learn a good lesson that day, Paul. I don't think God would have been honored if you had borrowed that game without asking the person whom it belonged to.

Paul: That's true. And I also know that if I had taken it home, it would have been hard to give it back. I would have wanted to keep it, and stealing is always wrong.

Cy: You made a great decision to give it back. You honored God by doing the right thing.

Paul: Even though it was just a game, it's still important to God that we honor Him all the time—even when we're just playing.

Dee: Kids, sometimes when we're at play it's hard to honor God. But it's important to Him that we remember Him all the time.

Cy: That's all for today, everyone!

Paul: See you later.

Dee: 'Bye!

[Curtain.]



Teacher—These special Dee-Cy-Paul application stories reinforce the Bible lesson. Choose the “Bookends,” or the Story, or the Puppet Script based on your time and preference.

Dee-Cy-Paul “Bookends”

Introduction (5 minutes)

Use this “hook” to introduce the lesson.

Dee, Cy, and Paul were walking home from school when Dee complained that she had been assigned a lot of reading homework for the weekend. She explained to Cy and Paul that reading was hard for her and her teacher, Mr. Olsen, thought she needed some more practice. But why was reading really so important, anyway? Was there a good reason she should work hard at learning to read?

Conclusion (5 minutes)

If you used the introduction to begin your lesson, use this to conclude.

Cy and Paul pointed out that there were many things that a person couldn't do if she couldn't read, like drive a car or order food at a restaurant. But then Cy realized that the most important reason to learn to read was so that we can read our Bibles and learn about God. Dee knew that Cy was right. She was excited to go home and practice reading, and she was excited to be able to read more and more of the stories in her Bible!

“Ugh,” said Dee afterschool as she met Cy and Paul to walk home together. “I have so much homework this weekend!”

“You do?” said Cy. “Like what?”

“I have to read two whole books before Monday!” said Dee, holding up two books that she had checked out of the school library.

“Well, that’s no big deal,” said Paul. “I usually read two or three books in my bed at night before I go to sleep.”

“I think reading is really hard,” said Dee. “I’m not very good at it at all. And Mr. Olsen says I need to practice more. My Mom and Dad have to sign a paper that says that I read both of them all the way through by myself.”

“I didn’t know that reading was hard for you, Dee,” said Cy. “I’m sure you’ll get the hang of it.”

“Yeah—and you’re really good in music class!” Paul pointed out.

“Thanks, guys,” said Dee. “I know I’ll learn to be a better reader, I just wish it wasn’t so much work. And I don’t understand why reading is so important, anyway.”

“I can think of some reasons why reading is important,” said Cy. “If you don’t learn how to read, then you could never drive a car, because you wouldn’t be able to read the street signs.”

“That’s true,” said Dee. “But I’m not going to drive a car for a long time.”

“Well, you also need to know how to read to know what kind of pizza you want to order at Pizza-Go-Go,” Paul pointed out.

“Nah—you just need to know one letter for that: the letter P,” Cy said. “Pepperoni and pickle both start with P.”

“There has to be another reason why learning to read is so important,” Dee said.

Dee, Cy, and Paul walked together and thought silently for a moment. Suddenly Cy shouted. “I’ve got it!”

“What?” said Dee and Paul.

“The best reason ever for learning to read: God wants us to work hard and learn to read so we can read the Bible and learn all about Him!” Cy answered.

“That’s true!” said Paul. “If we couldn’t read, we couldn’t read the Bible. And think of all the great things we would miss!”

“You’re right!” said Dee. “I really want to hear what God has to say to me in the Bible. Reading is really important. I’m going to work extra hard this weekend to get better at reading.”

“I have lots of books, Dee,” said Paul. “If you want, you can come over and borrow some so you can practice.”

“Thanks, Paul,” Dee answered. “But I think after I read these two books, I’m going to practice reading the best book of all—God’s book!”

That weekend Dee read more than she ever thought she could, and the more she read, the better she got at it. And she especially loved the stories in her Bible!

Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script “Learning the Word”

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

The words in italics are notes for you and your puppeteers; they are not to be read aloud. You will need: three backpacks for Dee, Cy, and Paul. Dee's should be stuffed full of paper towels or other light material.

INTRODUCTION

[Enter Dee, Cy, and Paul.]

Dee: Hi, everyone! Hey, Paul—what's your favorite class at school?

Paul: Technology. That's when we get to learn about computers.

Cy: I like technology, too, but my favorite class is gym. I like running and playing sports.

Dee: Music is my favorite class. I love singing and learning to play new instruments. But I know what my least favorite class used to be.

Paul: What's that?

Dee: Reading.

Cy: Really? You're a great reader, Dee!

Dee: I am now, because I worked hard and practiced at it. But it wasn't always easy for me. Remember that day when we were walking home from school, and you guys helped me understand why learning to read was important?

Paul: Sure—hey, why don't we tell the story.

Cy: That's just what I was thinking, too. Let's do it!

[Exit Dee, Cy, and Paul.]

SCRIPT

[Enter Dee, Cy, and Paul, wearing the backpacks. Dee's should appear very full.]

Dee: Ugh. I have so much homework this weekend!

Cy: You do? Like what?

Dee: I have to read two whole books before Monday! I had to take two books out of the school library!

Paul: Well, that's no big deal. I usually read two or three books in my bed at night before I go to sleep.

Dee: I think reading is really hard. I'm not very good at it at all. And Mr. Olsen says I need to practice more. My Mom and Dad have to sign a paper that says that I read both of them all the way through by myself.

Cy: I didn't know that reading was hard for you, Dee. I'm sure you'll get the hang of it.

Paul: Yeah—and you're really good in music class!

Dee: Thanks, guys. I know I'll learn to be a better reader, I just wish it wasn't so much work. And I don't understand why reading is so important, anyway.

Cy: I can think of some reasons why reading is important. If you don't learn how to read, then you could never drive a car, because you wouldn't be able to read the street signs.

Dee: That's true. But I'm not going to drive a car for a long time.

Paul: Well, you also need to know how to read to know what kind of pizza you want to order at Pizza-Go-Go.

Cy: Nah—you just need to know one letter for that: the letter P. Pepperoni and pickle both start with P.

Dee: There has to be another reason why learning to read is so important.

[Dee, Cy, and Paul think silently for a moment. Have the puppets rub their chins or put their hands to their heads to look like they're thinking hard.]

Cy: *[Shouts suddenly.]* I've got it!

Dee & Paul: What?

Cy: The best reason ever for learning to read: God wants us to work hard and learn to read so we can read the Bible and learn all about Him!

Paul: That's true! If we couldn't read, we couldn't read the Bible. And think of all the great things we would miss!

Dee: You're right! I really want to hear what God has to say to me in the Bible. Reading is really important. I'm going to work extra hard this weekend to get better at reading.

Paul: I have lots of books, Dee. If you want, you can come over and borrow some so you can practice.

Dee: Thanks, Paul. But I think after I read these two books, I'm going to practice reading the best book of all—God's book!

[Curtain.]

APPLICATION

Dee: I read more that weekend than I ever thought I could. And the more I read, the better I got at it. And now I read every night—I read the stories in my Bible!

Cy: That's great, Dee! And that helps us remember why it's so important to work hard at learning. By working hard at learning while we're at school, we'll be able to learn more about God.

Paul: That's right. Learning is very important to God—it's a gift from Him!

Dee: That reminds me; last night, I read the most amazing story in my Bible, about how God helped His people cross the Jordan River. I'd love to share it with you guys. Do you want to come over to my house and I'll read it to you?

Paul: That sounds great, Dee! Let's go!

Cy: 'Bye, everyone!

[Curtain.]