



**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 and Cy were camping with Paul’s dad. As they settled down for the night inside Paul’s tent, they talked about how great it would be to live in tents all the time. Paul and Cy even imagined running away from home. Would they leave their families to live in tents, cooking over fires and washing in streams?

#### Conclusion (5 minutes)

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

After a falling branch scared them, Paul and Cy realized that there were also many downsides to tent living. There were dangerous wild animals and storms. They decided that God’s people must have helped each other and trusted God to keep them safe and healthy while they lived in tents. They were thankful that God was with them all the time, whether they lived in tents or not.

“Hey, Paul,” Cy whispered in the dark.

“Yes, Cy?” Paul whispered back.

“Thanks for asking me to go camping,” Cy said. “Today was a lot of fun. I can’t believe we both caught two fish!”

“Me neither! I’m glad Dad threw them back. I wouldn’t want to eat them!”

“Yeah, the hamburgers were much better.” Cy tried to see in the dark. Some light was coming in from the moon. “This tent is great.”

“I love it!” said Paul. “Did you ever wonder what it would be like to live in a tent all the time? I think it would be fun.”

“Do you mean, like, running away from home?” Cy asked. He sat up in his sleeping bag.

“I guess. We could travel from place to place and set up camp everywhere we went.”

“And cook over fires!”

“And wash in creeks!”

Just then, Mr. Shepherd spoke up from the other tent.

“Boys, settle down. It’s bedtime.”

Paul and Cy were quiet. They didn’t want to make Paul’s dad angry. After a while, they heard a branch snap somewhere in the trees.

“What was that?” asked Cy, whispering low again.

“Probably just a dead branch falling off a tree,” whispered Paul. He scooted deeper into his sleeping bag.

“You know, if we lived in tents, we might run into bears.”

“And mountain lions,” said Paul.

“And it might rain and get everything wet,” said Cy.

Just then a breeze made the tent rustle.

“What if the wind blew our tent away?” asked Paul.

“And we ran out of hamburgers?” Cy added. The boys were quiet for a minute.

“It might not be as fun as we think,” said Paul.

“God’s people lived in tents, way back in Bible times,” remembered Cy.

“Yeah. It must have been hard, but they relied on each other to help,” said Paul.

“Like how your dad helped us set up this tent. I don’t think we could do that by ourselves. Living in tents might not be such a good idea for us.”

Paul nodded in the dark. “God’s people helped each other and they relied on God to lead them.”

“Well,” said Cy. “That’s something we can do whether we live in tents or not.”

“It’s a good thing God is with us no matter where we are!”

Cy yawned. Just then Paul yawned, too.

“We better get some sleep,” whispered Paul. “There’s more fishing to do tomorrow.”

Cy’s only answer was a small snore. Paul thanked God for a great camping trip, for his dad in the next tent, and for his friend, Cy. Soon, Paul fell asleep, too.

## Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script "In the Tent"

### DIRECTOR'S NOTES

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

*You will need something to make the sound of a snapping branch.*

### INTRODUCTION

**Dee:** *[To audience.]* Hey, kids! Who likes to go camping?

*[Wait for audience response.]*

**Paul:** We love to go, too.

**Cy:** In fact, Paul and I went just last week! We almost ran away from home!

**Paul:** Don't exaggerate, Cy. We were just talking.

**Cy:** I was kidding! Hey, let's show the kids what happened.

**Paul:** Good idea!

**Dee:** I have a tiny part, too. So listen for me!

*[Curtain.]*

### SCRIPT

*[Paul and Cy are prone on the stage, like they are lying in sleeping bags.]*

**Cy:** *[Sits up and whispers.]* Hey, Paul.

**Paul:** *[Sits up and whispers.]* Yes, Cy?

*[Both boys gradually get louder as they speak.]*

**Cy:** Thanks for asking me to go camping. Today was a lot of fun. I can't believe we both caught two fish!

**Paul:** Me neither! I'm glad Dad threw them back. I wouldn't want to eat them!

**Cy:** Yeah, the hamburgers were much better. *[Looks around.]* This tent is great.

**Paul:** I love it! Did you ever wonder what it would be like to live in a tent all the time? I think it would be fun.

**Cy:** Do you mean, like, running away from home?

**Paul:** I guess. We could travel from place to place and set up camp everywhere we went.

**Cy:** And cook over fires!

**Paul:** And wash in creeks!

*[Dee's voice is heard offstage, lowered as a man's voice.]*

**Dee:** Boys, settle down. It's bedtime.

**Paul:** Sorry, Dad.

*[The boys are quiet for a moment. A snapping sound is heard offstage.]*

**Cy:** *[Whispers, scared.]* What was that?

**Paul:** *[Whispers.]* Probably just a dead branch falling off a tree.

**Cy:** *[Pauses.]* You know, if we lived in tents, we might run into bears.

**Paul:** And mountain lions.

**Cy:** And it might rain and get everything wet.

**Paul:** What if the wind blew our tent away?

**Cy:** And we ran out of hamburgers?

**Paul:** *[Pauses.]* It might not be as fun as we think.

**Cy:** God's people lived in tents, way back in Bible times.

**Paul:** Yeah. It must have been hard, but they relied on each other to help.

**Cy:** Like how your dad helped us set up this tent. I don't think we could do that by ourselves. Living in tents might not be such a good idea for us.

**Paul:** God's people helped each other and they relied on God to lead them.

**Cy:** Well, that's something we can do whether we live in tents or not.

**Paul:** It's a good thing God is with us no matter where we are!

*[Cy yawns and lies down. Paul yawns.]*

**Paul:** We better get some sleep. There's more fishing to do tomorrow.

*[Cy snores.]*

**Paul:** *[To himself.]* Oh, well. Thank You, God, for a great camping trip. Thank You for my dad. And thank You for my friend, Cy.

*[Curtain.]*

### APPLICATION

**Dee:** You guys sure sounded scared there for a minute.

**Cy:** We were, until we remembered God was with us.

**Paul:** Hey kids, remember God is always with you.

**Dee:** No matter where you live!

**Cy:** He'll take care of you and protect you.

**Dee:** Hey, you guys never told me about the fish you caught.

**Paul:** We'll tell you, but first, let's go ask my mom if she'll make us s'mores.

**Cy:** All right! *[To audience.]* See you later, kids!

**Paul and 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’s family took a car trip to visit her dad’s cousins. Chip was trying to eat Dee’s carrots when Dee’s dad pulled the car over. He announced that they were lost. Dee looked at the window and saw nothing but rolling hills. Would the family be lost forever? How could they find their way?

#### Conclusion (5 minutes)

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

Dee’s mom explained that they were not lost forever. Mr. Morgan suggested they pray about which way to go. After praying, the family agreed to go back the way they came and try to find a place to ask directions. Just before they left, a man in a red truck came along and told them they made the right decision. Dee was glad they could trust God to show them the way, but Chip had eaten her last carrot!

“Mom, Chip’s trying to eat my carrots!” yelled Dee. “Chip! No!”

Chip panted in Dee’s face. A big glob of dog drool landed on Dee’s napkin.

Dee’s mom turned her head from the front seat of the car. “Dee, you need to clip Chip into his car harness,” she said. “It’s not safe for him to be free.”

“But then he can’t put his head in my lap,” complained Dee from her car seat.

“But he also can’t get your carrots,” Mrs. Shepherd said. “You know Chip loves carrots.”

Just then, Mr. Morgan pulled the car over to the side of the road. Dee thought she was in trouble for yelling, but Dee’s dad just stared out the window.

“What’s wrong, honey?” asked Dee’s mom.

“I think we’re lost,” said Dee’s dad. “This road doesn’t look familiar, and we should have come to the next town by now.”

Dee looked out the window. There was nothing to see but rolling hills in all directions. They were supposed to be visiting her dad’s cousins. While the car was stopped, Dee moved Chip over and clipped the dog belt to his harness.

“Are we going to starve?” asked Dee. “Should I save my last carrot?”

“No, sweetie,” said Dee’s mom. “We won’t starve.”

“But we’re lost!” said Dee. “What happens when we run out of food?”

Dee’s dad was looking at a map. Mrs. Morgan chuckled. “We aren’t lost forever, Dee. We probably just took a wrong turn. We can always turn around and go back the way we came.”

“It’s going to be dark soon,” said Dee. “Do you think there are wolves way out here?”

Chip whined.

“No, Dee,” Dee’s mom sighed. “Maybe some cows and sheep, but no wolves.”

“Okay, family,” said Dee’s dad. “It’s time to ask our navigator what to do.”

“Who? Mom?” asked Dee. Dee had seen her mom looking at the map earlier.

“Actually, Dee, I was talking about God.”

“Oh.”

“Looking at the map, we have two choices,” said Mr. Morgan. “We can keep going on this road—it might lead to the highway. Or we can go back the way we came and find the right road.”

“Let’s pray about our choice,” suggested Dee’s mom. Dee set her last carrot on her napkin on the car’s seat. Everyone bowed their heads.

“God,” prayed Dee’s father. “We thank You for keeping us safe. We know You lead our way when we travel. Please show us the right way to go. In Jesus’ name, amen.”

“Amen,” Dee and her mom said together.

“Well,” said Dee’s dad. “Did anyone feel a nudge from God?”

Mrs. Morgan spoke. “As you prayed, I felt we should go back the way we came. Even though it might take longer, we’ll come to that little town where we can get gas for the car and ask someone for directions.”

“Me, too, Mom,” said Dee. “I don’t think we should keep going.”

“I agree,” said Mr. Morgan.

Just then, a red pickup truck driving by stopped at their car. A man with a beard and a straw hat stuck his head out.

“You folks need any help?”

“Yes sir,” said Dee’s dad. “Could you tell us if this road leads to the highway?”

“No! This road just goes on and ends at Potter’s Field. You want to turn around and head back to find the interstate.”

“Thank you, sir. And God bless you.”

The old man smiled. “Well, God bless you folks as well.”

After he left, Dee’s dad smiled at everyone. “Well, God did bless us! He showed us the way!”

“That’s great,” said Dee. “Now I can finish my last carrot. Oh no, Chip!”

Chip licked his chops with his red tongue. Dee’s napkin was empty.

## Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script "A Wrong Turn"

### 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 necktie and a lady's scarf.

### INTRODUCTION

*[Enter Dee, Cy, and Paul.]*

**Cy:** Hey, Dee. How was your trip to visit family?

**Dee:** It was great. My dad's cousins have a great farm and two horses!

**Paul:** How long did it take to get there?

**Dee:** That's a funny story, actually.

**Cy:** What do you mean?

**Dee:** Well, why don't we show the kids what happened. Paul, would you play my dad?

**Cy:** Aw, that means...

**Dee:** Yep. Cy, you'll be my mom.

**Cy:** *[Dejected.]* Okay.

*[Curtain.]*

### SCRIPT

*[Dee, Chip, Cy (wearing the scarf as Mrs. Morgan), and Paul, wearing the necktie as Mr. Morgan are onstage, arranged as if in a car. Paul pretends to hold a steering wheel.]*

**Dee:** Mom, Chip's trying to eat my carrots! *[To Chip.]* Chip! No!

*[Chip pants in Dee's face. She looks down.]*

**Dee:** Eww! Dog drool!

**Cy:** Dee, you need to clip Chip into his car harness. It's not safe for him to be free.

**Dee:** But then he can't put his head in my lap.

**Cy:** But he also can't get your carrots. You know Chip loves carrots.

*[Chip sniffs Dee's fingers. She pushes him away.]*

**Dee:** No!

*[Paul spins wheel as if pulling over. All three bob heads to indicate car stopping.]*

**Cy:** What's wrong, honey?

**Paul:** I think we're lost. This road doesn't look familiar, and we should have come to the next town by now.

**Dee:** *[Looks out window.]* There's nothing here but hills. *[Pauses.]* Are we going to starve? Should I save my last carrot?

**Cy:** No, sweetie. We won't starve.

**Dee:** But we're lost! What happens when we run out of food?

**Cy:** We aren't lost forever, Dee. We probably just took a wrong turn. We can always turn around and go back the way we came.

**Dee:** It's going to be dark soon. Do you think there are wolves way out here?

*[Chip whines.]*

**Cy:** No, Dee. Maybe some cows and sheep, but no wolves.

**Paul:** *[Pretends to look at map.]* Okay, family. It's time to ask our navigator what to do.

**Dee:** Who? Mom?

**Paul:** Actually, Dee, I was talking about God.

**Dee:** Oh.

**Paul:** Looking at the map, we have two choices. We can keep going on this road—it might lead to the highway. Or we can go back the way we came and find the right road.

**Cy:** Let's pray about our choice.

*[Everyone bows their heads.]*

**Paul:** God, we thank You for keeping us safe. We know You lead our way when we travel. Please show us the right way to go. In Jesus' name, amen.

**Dee and Cy:** Amen.

**Paul:** Well, did anyone feel a nudge from God?

**Cy:** As you prayed, I felt we should go back the way we came. Even though it might take longer, we know we'll come to that little town where we can get gas for the car and ask someone for directions.

**Dee:** Me, too, Mom. I don't think we should keep going.

**Paul:** I agree. Let's head back.

**Dee:** Oh no!

**Cy:** What's wrong, sweetie?

**Dee:** Chip ate my last carrot!

*[Chip licks his chops and wags his tail. Curtain.]*

### APPLICATION

**Dee:** Right after we decided which way to go, a man in a red pickup truck told us the road didn't lead to the highway.

**Paul:** So, you made the right choice.

**Dee:** God led us the right way.

**Cy:** Wow. It's amazing how God can lead us when we travel.

**Paul:** Kids, make sure you pray before every trip!

**Dee:** You never know when you'll need God's guidance.

**Cy:** Dee, your story made me hungry.

**Dee:** Of course.

**Cy:** Do you think your mom has any more carrots?

**Dee:** Sure, but you'll need to keep an eye on Chip!

**Paul:** *[To audience.]* 'Bye, kids!

*[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 playing in Paul’s treehouse when a storm came. Paul’s mom told them over a walkie-talkie that they should stay in the treehouse until the storm passed. It was a hail storm—it became very loud and scary as little ice-balls pounded the roof. Would the storm ever end? Would the kids be able to leave the treehouse?

#### Conclusion (5 minutes)

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

After a few minutes, the storm lessened, and the kids could hear themselves talk again. Dee said that the storm showed how powerful God could be. Paul was confused—what did the storm have to do with God? Cy reminded him that God controls the weather. The weather reminds us what God is like and that He does everything for a reason. The kids thanked God that He had kept them safe and that the storm had let them spend more time together.

“Hey guys,” said Dee. “It looks like it’s gonna rain. We’d better get inside Paul’s house.”

As Dee spoke, they could hear raindrops hit the roof of the treehouse. Cy and Paul began picking up their comic books.

“C’mon,” urged Dee. “It’s coming fast.”

“Paul?” The kids heard Paul’s mom through the walkie-talkie.

Paul pushed the button. “Yes, Mom? Over.”

“There’s a hail storm coming right now. I want you to stay in the treehouse. Over.”

“Really?” asked Paul, surprised. “Um, over.”

“Yes, I don’t want you rushing into the house,” said Mrs. Morgan through the speaker. “You might slip and fall from the treehouse, or get hurt by the hail. You’ll be safe there. There won’t be any lightning and the storm isn’t supposed to last long. I’ve called Dee and Cy’s parents, so they know what’s going on. Call me when you can’t hear the hail anymore. I love you. Over.”

“Aw, Mom.” Paul turned away from Dee and Cy and said as quietly as he could, “Love you, too. Over.”

The rain was getting louder. They began hearing a new noise—tick, tick, tick.

“Wow,” said Cy. “I’ve never been out in a storm like this before. That sound must be the hail.”

“What is hail, anyway?” asked Dee.

“It’s when rain freezes really fast up in the clouds, making little ice balls,” explained Paul.

Soon the sound came faster and harder. It sounded like static on a T.V. or radio, only louder than anything the kids had heard. Dee, Cy, and Paul huddled together in the center of the treehouse. Everyone was scared, but no one talked—they couldn’t hear each other even if they wanted to. Out the treehouse window, it looked like a waterfall was falling from the tree.

Finally, the sound grew quieter—the storm was passing. Dee, Cy, and Paul could hear each other again.

“Wow,” said Paul. “That storm was scary!”

“Yeah,” said Dee. “I’ve never heard anything like that. God sure is powerful!”

“That wasn’t God,” said Paul. “That was just the weather.”

“God controls the weather,” corrected Cy. “He uses it to remind us about Himself.”

“Sunny weather reminds us of God’s love,” said Dee. “Rain reminds us that God makes things grow. And storms...”

“...Remind us that God is powerful. I understand,” said Paul.

“Why do you think God sent the hail storm?” asked Cy.

“We’ll probably never know,” said Dee. “But God has very good reasons for what He does.”

“Maybe He wanted less leaves on the trees,” said Paul, looking out the window. “They’re everywhere on the ground!”

The kids looked out. Leaves and little white balls of ice covered the yard.

“It looks like snow!” said Dee. “How beautiful.”

“The rain’s almost stopped,” said Paul. “I’d better call my mom.”

“Okay, but I think we better stay up here until the ice all melts,” suggested Cy.

“Hey, I know another reason God might have sent the hail,” said Dee.

“What’s that?” asked Paul.

“So we could spend more time together!” said Dee.

“Thank You, God, for the storm.” said Cy.

“Yes, thanks, Lord,” said Paul.

“Amen,” said Dee.

## Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script "Hail Storm"

### 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 walkie-talkie attached to a post or stage wall and something to make sounds of rain and hail. You will also need an offstage voice for Mrs. Morgan.*

### INTRODUCTION

**Paul:** Hey guys, did you see that lightning last night?

**Cy:** It lit up my room!

**Dee:** *[To audience.]* Hey kids, what is your favorite kind of weather?

*[Wait for audience response.]*

**Cy:** We have a weather story to tell you.

**Paul:** And it happened in my treehouse.

**Dee:** Wanna see?

*[Wait for audience response.]*

**Cy:** Okay, we'll get ready!

*[Curtain.]*

### SCRIPT

*[Enter Dee, Cy, and Paul. A walkie-talkie is attached to a post or side of the stage.]*

**Dee:** *[Looks out at audience.]* Hey guys, it looks like it's gonna rain. We'd better get inside Paul's house.

*[Sound of raindrops hitting roof. Paul and Cy act like they are gathering something.]*

**Dee:** C'mon, it's coming fast.

**Mrs. Shepherd:** *[Through walkie-talkie.]* Paul?

**Paul:** *[Goes over and pushes button.]* Yes, Mom? Over.

**Mrs. Shepherd:** There's a hail storm coming right now. I want you to stay in the treehouse. Over.

**Paul:** Really? Um, over.

**Mrs. Shepherd:** Yes, I don't want you rushing into the house. You might slip and fall from the treehouse, or get hurt by the hail. You'll be safe there. There won't be any lightning and the storm isn't supposed to last long. I've called Dee and Cy's parents, so they know what's going on. Call me when you can't hear the hail anymore. I love you. Over.

**Paul:** Aw, Mom. *[Turns his back to Dee and Cy.]* Love you, too. Over.

*[Rain gets louder. Hail is heard—tick, tick, tick.]*

**Cy:** Wow! I've never been out in a storm like this before. That sound must be the hail.

**Dee:** What is hail, anyway?

**Paul:** It's when rain freezes really fast up in the clouds, making little ice balls.

*[Storm gets louder and louder. Kids huddle together in the center of the stage, shivering. After a few minutes, the sounds of the storm lessen.]*

**Paul:** Wow! That storm was scary!

**Dee:** Yeah. I've never heard anything like that. God sure is powerful!

**Paul:** That wasn't God. That was just the weather.

**Cy:** God controls the weather. He uses it to remind us about Himself.

**Dee:** Sunny weather reminds us of God's love. Rain reminds us that God makes things grow. And storms...

**Paul:** ...Remind us that God is powerful. I understand.

**Cy:** Why do you think God sent the hail storm?

**Dee:** We'll probably never know. But God has very good reasons for what He does.

**Paul:** *[Looks out at audience.]* Maybe He wanted less leaves on the trees. They're everywhere on the ground!

*[Dee and Cy come over to Paul and look out.]*

**Dee:** Look at all the white balls of ice! It looks like snow! How beautiful.

**Paul:** The rain's almost stopped. I'd better call my mom.

**Cy:** Okay, but I think we better stay up here until the ice all melts.

**Dee:** Hey, I know another reason God might have sent the hail.

**Paul:** What's that?

**Dee:** So we could spend more time together!

**Cy:** Thank You, God, for the storm.

**Paul:** Yes, thanks, Lord.

**Dee:** Amen.

### APPLICATION

**Dee:** I loved those little round ice balls!

**Cy:** Hail is so neat.

**Dee:** Too bad it melted away so fast.

**Paul:** It would have been easy for us to be upset about the weather.

**Dee:** But God uses it all for His purposes.

**Cy:** Hey kids, when the weather isn't how you wish it would be, how can you remember to be thankful to God anyway?

*[Wait for audience response.]*

**Paul:** Those are some great ideas!

**Dee:** We'll have to remember those!

**Cy:** Wanna go to my house and draw pictures of the weather?

**Paul and Dee:** Sure!

**Cy:** *[To audience.]* 'Bye, kids. See you next time!

*[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 exploring the field near his house with his older sister and brothers. He saw some little green clovers in the field and remembered what Jimmy Needham had said at school—that clovers taste like lemon. Paul put a few in his mouth and chewed them up. They were sour, but didn’t taste like lemon to him. Just then his sister yelled at him. Why were Susan, Mike, and Mark upset?

#### Conclusion (5 minutes)

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

Susan ordered Paul to spit the clovers out of his mouth. She told him that he had to be careful about what he ate. Paul thought that all plants were okay for people to eat—God had made them. His brothers explained that all plants were good, but not all were made for eating. Paul started to get a stomach ache and agreed. He knew God made every plant for people to enjoy, but sometimes enjoying plants just meant liking the way they looked or the way they smelled.

Paul picked a little, green clover from the field and put it in his mouth. He chewed it and swallowed.

“Hmm. That didn’t taste much like lemon. Maybe I should try some more.”

Paul gathered more of the tiny clover leaflets until he had a handful. He put half of them in his mouth and chewed. He thought they definitely tasted sour, but not much like lemon. After looking for any with four leaves, he tossed the rest of the clovers into his mouth. Just then he heard his sister yell.

“Paul! What are you doing?!”

Susan, Mark, and Mike—Paul’s older brothers and sisters—came running up to him. Paul chewed faster.

“What’s that in your mouth?” asked Mark. “Spit that out!”

Paul obeyed, spitting out a green, sloppy mess.

“Eww!” said Susan. “What were you eating?”

“The clovers,” explained Paul. “Jimmy Needham at school said that clovers taste like lemon.”

Mark and Mike shook their heads and chuckled. Susan shook her head, too, but she didn’t laugh.

“Paul Shepherd. You know better than that. What if those plants were poisonous?”

“They’re poisonous!?” exclaimed Paul.

“No, no, they aren’t,” said Susan. “But they aren’t for eating either.”

“But I learned that God created all the plants for people to enjoy,” said Paul, confused.

“That’s right,” said Mike. “To enjoy—not to eat. Some plants are just for animals to eat, not people.”

Mark smiled. “Sometimes you enjoy plants just by looking at how beautiful they are or by smelling their great aromas.”

“I enjoy looking for four-leaf clovers,” said Paul.

“That’s good,” said Mike. “Just stick to plants that Mom fixes for you from now on.”

“God created every plant growing in this field,” said Susan. “He gave them all a purpose.”

Paul looked at the field. Little flowers were everywhere and so many plants grew tall or wide. The field was beautiful. And Paul could smell the pine trees beyond it.

“I think you are right about clovers not being for eating,” said Paul. He held his stomach. “I think I’m getting a stomach ache.”

Mark and Mike each put an arm around Paul’s shoulders. “We’d better get you home, then.”

“So,” asked Susan. “Did the clovers taste like lemon?”

“Not really,” said Paul.

“They’re sour,” explained Mike.

“That’s why some people think they taste like lemon,” added Mark.

“How would you two know?” asked Susan.

Mark and Mike grinned. “We ate them, too, when we were Paul’s age.”

“You boys are horrible!” laughed Susan.

“Hey guys,” said Paul as they walked home. “Do you think maybe broccoli is another plant God made for us to enjoy, but not eat?”

## Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script "Clovers"

### 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 head scarf and a baseball cap.

### INTRODUCTION

**Dee:** I love working in Grandma's garden!

**Cy:** It is a lot of fun, and her fresh vegetables taste great!

**Paul:** Ugh, I don't know if I can eat for a while.

**Cy:** Does your stomach still hurt?

**Dee:** What happened?

**Paul:** I'll tell you, but I need you to play my sister, Dee.

**Dee:** Susan? Sure, I love her!

**Cy:** Let me guess. I have to play your mom.

**Paul:** Not this time. You get to be my older brother, Mike.

**Cy:** Cool.

*[Curtain.]*

### SCRIPT

*[Enter Paul, walking and looking at the ground.]*

**Paul:** *[Pretends to pick something and puts it in his mouth. Chews and swallows.]* Hmm. That didn't taste much like lemon. Maybe I should try some more. *[Gathers more imaginary clovers. Puts more in his mouth.]*

**Dee:** *[Offstage.]* Paul! What are you doing?!

*[Enter Dee, wearing a head scarf as Susan, and Cy, wearing a baseball cap as Mike.]*

**Cy:** What's that in your mouth? Spit that out!

*[Paul obeys.]*

**Dee:** Eww! What were you eating?

*[All three walk offstage.]*

**Paul:** I was eating clovers, Susan. Jimmy Needham at school said that clovers taste like lemon.

*[Cy shakes his head and laughs.]*

**Dee:** *[Shakes head.]* Paul Shepherd. You know better than that. What if those plants were poisonous?

**Paul:** *[Spits.]* They're poisonous!?

**Dee:** No, no, they aren't. But they aren't for eating either.

**Paul:** But I learned that God created all the plants for people to enjoy.

**Cy:** That's right, Paul. To *enjoy*—not to *eat*. Some plants are just for animals to eat, not people.

**Susan:** Sometimes you enjoy plants just by looking at how beautiful they are or by smelling their great aromas.

**Paul:** I enjoy looking for four-leaf clovers.

**Cy:** That's good. Just stick to plants that Mom fixes for you from now on.

**Susan:** *[Looks out over audience.]* God created every plant growing in this field. He gave them all a purpose. Just look at those beautiful flowers. *[Breathes in.]* And smell those pine trees over there.

**Paul:** I think you are right about clovers not being for eating, Mike. I think I'm getting a stomach ache.

**Cy:** *[Puts arm around Paul.]* We'd better get you home, then.

**Dee:** So, did the clovers taste like lemon?

**Paul:** Not really.

**Cy:** They're sour. That's why some people think they taste like lemon.

**Dee:** How would you know?

**Cy:** *[Grins.]* Mark and I ate them, too, when we were Paul's age.

**Dee:** You boys are horrible!

**Paul:** *[Offstage.]* Hey guys. Do you think maybe broccoli is another plant God made for us to enjoy, but not eat?

### APPLICATION

**Paul:** I think my stomach is finally feeling better.

**Cy:** I still can't believe you ate clovers!

**Dee:** What if there had been dirt on them?

**Cy:** Or bugs?

**Paul:** Okay, that's enough! Do you want me to get sick again?

**Dee:** Paul learned that God provides all the plants we enjoy.

**Cy:** Flowers are beautiful and smell great.

**Paul:** Trees give us shade and protect us.

**Dee:** And vegetables make us grow strong.

**Paul:** *[To audience.]* I have to ask. Who likes broccoli?

*[Wait for audience response.]*

**Paul:** Me, too. I was just kidding.

**Dee and Cy:** Sure you were! *[To audience.]* Bye kids!

*[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’s dog, Chip, had hurt his leg running down the stairs. Dee was very upset. She was afraid Chip’s leg might be broken. She and her dad took Chip to the animal doctor’s office. The doctor, called a veterinarian, looked at Chip and felt his leg. Would Chip’s leg be broken? How would they care for him if he couldn’t walk?

#### Conclusion (5 minutes)

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

The doctor said that Chip’s leg was not broken, much to Dee’s relief. He did say that Chip had strained his leg muscle, and that Dee’s whole family would have to help Chip to make sure he got better. Dee’s dad told Dee that God had watched over Chip. God loves animals, and because He loves people, He especially cares for the animals that people love. Dee decided that Chip was one blessed puppy!

Chip whimpered in Mr. Morgan’s arms. Dee sniffled and patted his head. They sat in the waiting room of an animal doctor’s office.

“Do you think Chip’s leg is broken, Dad?” she asked.

“I hope not, Dee, but I don’t know. Chip wouldn’t put any weight on his back leg. The doctor—the veterinarian—will be able to tell us soon.”

Chip had come down the stairs for supper. Normally he jumped the last stair as he ran down. This time, he had jumped down the last three stairs, but he fell and yelped. Dee and her dad had gone right to the doctor.

“Chip Morgan?” called a nurse. “The doctor is ready to see him now.”

Dee and her dad, carrying Chip, went in to the doctor’s office. Dee had finally stopped crying, but she still felt horrible. The doctor came in. He was tall and dark-skinned.

“Hello. I’m Dr. Kelso. Is this Chip? What a sweet boy he is.” Dr. Kelso held out his hand. Chip sniffed it and then licked it. Dr. Kelso laughed.

“He’s a great dog.” Dr. Kelso turned to Dee. “Do you mind if I examine your puppy, young lady?”

“My name is Dee,” said Dee. “You can examine Chip, Dr. Kelso. Do you think you can help him?”

“We’ll see,” said Dr. Kelso, smiling. “We’ll see. Now, I’m going to touch Chip’s leg. It may hurt him a little, but I need to do it to see if his leg is broken.”

Dr. Kelso held Chip’s leg, turning it and squeezing it in a few places. Chip whined a little, but he did not yelp. The veterinarian rubbed Chip’s head behind his ears.

“Good boy! Well, Dee. I’d like to make an x-ray of Chip’s leg, but I don’t think it is broken. I think he has a strained muscle. It will take a few days to heal, but he should be fine. But you’re whole family will have to help Chip to make sure he gets better.”

“We will! Oh, thank you, doctor,” said Dee, relieved.

“The nurse will take Chip to the x-ray room. It won’t take long, and he’ll be back right away.”

After the nurse had taken Chip, Dee looked at her dad.

“I’m so glad Chip is okay! Thanks, Dad.”

“Don’t thank me,” said Mr. Morgan. “God was watching over Chip. We should thank Him.”

“It’s hard to believe God cares so much for Chip,” said Dee.

“God created all the animals,” said Dee’s dad. “He makes sure the sparrows have seeds to eat and the fish have water to swim in. And God loves us. Because Chip is important to you, he is also important to God.”

“God is so good!” Dee smiled. “I’m glad Chip will get better. I love him so much.”

“Your mom and I love Chip, too,” said Mr. Morgan. “We’ll take good care of him until he feels better.”

The nurse brought Chip back. He wagged his tail very fast when he saw Dee. The nurse told them what things they should do to help Chip heal. She also told them the x-ray showed no broken bones.

“You’re dog is very lucky, little girl,” said the nurse.

“No ma’am,” said Dee. “Chip is very blessed!”

## Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script “Chip’s Doctor Visit”

### 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, a white coat, and an offstage voice for the nurse.*

### INTRODUCTION

**Dee:** Chip was acting crazy this morning!

**Paul:** He was? What did he do?

**Dee:** He saw a fly in the dining room and started chasing it and barking at it.

**Cy:** *[Laughs.]* Chip is one goofy dog.

**Dee:** But I love him!

**Paul:** Hey, remember the time...

**Dee:** I remember. Should we tell the kids about it?

**Cy:** Good idea. Can I play your dad?

**Dee:** Sure. And Paul, you can play the animal doctor—the veterinarian—Mr. Kelso.

**Paul:** Sounds good. *[To audience.]* See you soon!

*[Curtain.]*

### SCRIPT

*[Enter Dee and Cy, wearing a baseball cap as Dee’s dad. Cy is holding Chip in his arms.]*

*[Chip whimpers.]*

**Dee:** *[Sniffles.]* Do you think Chip’s leg is broken, Dad?

**Cy:** I hope not, Dee, but I don’t know. Chip wouldn’t put any weight on his back leg. The doctor—the veterinarian—will be able to tell us soon.

**Dee:** I’ve never seen Chip jump the last three stairs before. Usually he only jumps the one.

**Cy:** He must have been extra excited for dinner.

**Nurse:** *[Offstage.]* Chip Morgan? The doctor is ready to see him now.

*[Cy and Dee walk to the other side of the stage. Enter Paul, wearing a white coat as Dr. Kelso.]*

**Paul:** Hello. I’m Dr. Kelso. Is this Chip? What a sweet boy he is. *[Holds out his hand.]*

*[Chip sniffs Paul’s hand, then licks it.]*

**Paul:** *[Laughs.]* He’s a great dog. *[Turns to Dee.]* Do you mind if I examine your puppy, young lady?

**Dee:** My name is Dee. You can examine Chip, Dr. Kelso. Do you think you can help him?

**Paul:** We’ll see. We’ll see. Now, I’m going to touch Chip’s leg. It may hurt him a little, but I need to do it to see if his leg is broken.

*[Paul turns Chip’s leg. Chip whines a little. Paul rubs Chip’s head.]*

**Paul:** Good boy! Well, Dee. I don’t think it is broken. Chip has a strained muscle. It will take a few days to heal, but he should be fine. But you’re whole family will have to help Chip to make sure he gets better.

**Dee:** We will! Oh, thank you, doctor.

**Paul:** The nurse will come in and give you instructions. I’ll be back, too.

*[Exit Paul.]*

**Dee:** I’m so glad Chip is okay! Thanks, Dad.

**Cy:** Don’t thank me. God was watching over Chip. We should thank Him.

**Dee:** It’s hard to believe God cares so much for Chip.

**Cy:** God created all the animals. He makes sure the sparrows have seeds to eat and the fish have water to swim in. And God loves us. Because Chip is important to you, he is also important to God.

**Dee:** God is so good! I’m glad Chip will get better. I love him so much.

**Cy:** Your mom and I love Chip, too. We’ll take good care of him until he feels better.

**Dee:** Chip is one blessed puppy!

*[Curtain.]*

### APPLICATION

**Dee:** So the nurse showed us how to carry Chip up and down the stairs so he could heal.

**Paul:** That’s great.

**Dee:** Dad also learned how to massage Chip’s leg. He loved that!

**Cy:** I’m so glad that God was watching out for Chip.

**Paul:** God created all the animals for people to care for and enjoy.

**Dee:** And I enjoy caring for Chip!

**Cy:** *[To audience.]* Hey kids, what’s your favorite animal?

*[Wait for audience response.]*

**Paul:** Remember to thank God for your favorites!

**Dee:** And take good care of any pets you have.

**Cy:** Let’s go see Chip chase that fly.

**Dee and Paul:** *[To audience.]* ‘Bye kids!

*[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 went to play at the park. A mosquito bit Cy on the arm. Cy became very upset and started trying to swat all the mosquitoes he could see. They weren’t bothering Dee or Paul—they had both put bug repellent on. Dee told Cy that she didn’t think he was honoring God. Cy was confused. What did trying to kill a few bugs have to do with honoring God?

#### Conclusion (5 minutes)

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

Paul explained that even mosquitoes are God’s creatures—His special creations. When Cy said that he hated them, and then tried to kill the ones that weren’t bothering him, he was dishonoring God. Cy understood, remembering that God had used even tiny gnats to help free God’s people. Cy decided to ask God to forgive his attitude. From now on he would value all God’s creatures.

Slap!

“Aggh!” yelled Cy. “A mosquito bit me! On the arm!”

Dee and Paul looked around. They had ridden their bikes to the park.

“I don’t see any mosquitoes,” said Paul.

“Me neither,” said Dee.

“There’s another one!” exclaimed Cy. He clapped his hands together in the air. “Missed!”

“What are you doing?” asked Paul.

“Trying to kill these mosquitoes,” explained Cy. “They’re everywhere!”

Dee and Paul looked at each other. Cy saw their look.

“You don’t see them?” asked Cy.

Dee looked into the air. “I see some mosquitoes, but they aren’t bothering me. Mom put mosquito repellent on me before we came to the park.”

“Same with me,” said Paul. “Plus, I don’t think their bites are too bad.”

“I hate mosquitoes!” said Cy. He clapped the air again. “Gotcha! I hate their bites, too. They hurt when they bite, and the bite itches after.”

“Cy, I hate to say it,” said Dee. “But I don’t think you are honoring God.”

“What do you mean? I’m only trying to kill a few bugs.”

“Actually, Cy,” said Paul. “You are trying to kill God’s creatures. Plus you said you hate them. That’s like saying you hate God’s sunsets or mountains or other creations.”

“God created mosquitoes?” asked Cy. “I thought maybe the devil did.”

“That’s not funny, Cy,” scolded Dee. “You know God created everything—and you know the devil can’t create anything.”

“You’re right,” said Cy. “But I don’t see why God made mosquitoes. Don’t they spread diseases?”

“Lots of animals carry germs, but they are all part of God’s plan,” said Paul.

“Dad told me that mosquitoes are food for other insects, birds, and even bats,” added Dee.

“Insects are an important part of life, and they are important to God,” said Paul. “Remember Moses and the ten plagues?”

“Oh yeah,” said Cy. “Even tiny little gnats helped free God’s people.”

“Now you see,” said Dee. “You don’t have to like mosquito bites—why do you think I’m wearing repellent? But we should value all God’s creatures, even the ones that bother us sometimes.”

“I’m going to ask God to forgive my attitude when I get home,” said Cy.

“I’m proud of you, Cy,” said Dee.

“Hey, Cy,” said Paul.

“Yes?”

“How many mosquitoes have bit you since that first one?” he asked.

“Huh. None. I guess I was all upset up over nothing.”

“Well,” said Dee. “The sun is getting low. And mosquitoes do get worse in the evening. Maybe it’s time to head home.”

“Good idea,” said Paul. “I don’t want to find out how many mosquito bites I can stand.”

“Me neither!” agreed Cy. “Let’s go!”

## Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script "Mosquitoes!"

### DIRECTOR'S NOTES

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

### INTRODUCTION

**Paul:** That praying mantis the teacher showed us was awesome!

**Dee:** He was neat, but he scared me!

**Cy:** Dee, you might not want to talk that way about one of God's creatures.

**Paul:** You should talk, Cy.

**Cy:** What do you mean? Oh, I remember.

**Dee:** Let's tell the kids what happened.

**Cy:** Do we have to? It's kind of embarrassing.

**Paul:** But you learned an important lesson.

**Cy:** Okay. Let's go.

*[Curtain.]*

### SCRIPT

*[Enter Dee, Cy, and Paul.]*

**Cy:** *[Slaps his arm and yells.]* Aggh! A mosquito bit me! On the arm!

*[Dee and Paul look around.]*

**Paul:** I don't see any mosquitoes.

**Dee:** Me neither.

**Cy:** *[Dodges.]* There's another one! *[Claps his hands.]* Missed!

**Paul:** What are you doing?

**Cy:** Trying to kill these mosquitoes. They're everywhere!

*[Dee and Paul look at each other.]*

**Cy:** You don't see them?

**Dee:** *[Looks into the air.]* I see some mosquitoes, but they aren't bothering me. Mom put mosquito repellent on me before we came to the park.

**Paul:** Same with me. Plus, I don't think their bites are too bad.

**Cy:** I hate mosquitoes! *[Claps again.]* Gotcha! I hate their bites, too. They hurt when they bite, and the bite itches after.

**Dee:** Cy, I hate to say it. But I don't think you are honoring God.

**Cy:** What do you mean? I'm only trying to kill a few bugs. *[Claps again.]*

**Paul:** Actually, Cy, you are trying to kill God's creatures. Plus you said you hate them. That's like saying you hate God's sunsets or mountains or other creations.

**Cy:** God created mosquitoes? I thought maybe the devil did.

**Dee:** That's not funny, Cy. You know God created everything—and you know the devil can't create anything.

**Cy:** You're right. But I don't see why God made mosquitoes. Don't they spread diseases?

**Paul:** Lots of animals carry germs, but they are all part of God's plan.

**Dee:** Dad told me that mosquitoes are food for other insects, birds, and even bats.

**Paul:** Insects are an important part of life, and they are important to God. Remember Moses and the ten plagues?

**Cy:** Oh yeah. Even tiny little gnats helped free God's people.

**Dee:** Now you see. You don't have to like mosquito bites—why do think I'm wearing repellent? But we should value all God's creatures, even the ones that bother us sometimes.

**Cy:** I'm going to ask God to forgive my attitude when I get home.

**Dee:** I'm proud of you, Cy.

**Paul:** Hey, Cy.

**Cy:** Yes?

**Paul:** How many mosquitoes have bit you since that first one?

**Cy:** Huh. None. I guess I was all upset up over nothing.

**Dee:** Well, the sun is getting low. And mosquitoes do get worse in the evening. Maybe it's time to head home.

**Paul:** Good idea. I don't want to find out how many mosquito bites I can stand.

**Cy:** Me neither! Let's go!

*[Curtain.]*

### APPLICATION

**Dee:** You know, the mosquitoes really haven't been that bad.

**Cy:** And I've been making sure to wear lots of bug repellent.

**Paul:** *[To audience.]* Isn't it amazing that God designed all those insects?

**Cy:** And birds?

**Dee:** And animals?

**Paul:** And fish?

**Cy:** God is so great!

**Dee:** Don't forget God made every creature for a special purpose!

**Paul:** Hey, let's go make up some crazy insects and draw them.

**Dee and Cy:** Okay. *[To audience.]* 'Bye, kids!

*[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’s mom took Dee, Cy, and Paul on their first trip to the local mall. Their parents had given each of them ten dollars to spend on their special trip. Dee bought a new Chloe doll, Cy bought a Frog Hopper hat, and Paul bought picks for his guitar. When they took a lunch break, the kids counted the money they had left. No one had much money left, but they all still had things they needed to buy. What would they do? Would Mrs. Morgan bail them out?

#### Conclusion (5 minutes)

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

Dee’s mom scolded the children for buying things they wanted before buying what they needed. She explained that because all their money really came from God, they should be more careful about how they spend it. They should use money in ways that honor God. Dee, Cy, and Paul decided to combine the money they had left—it came to about seven dollars. Because Paul needed to buy a birthday present for his babysitter, they decided to let him use the money. Mrs. Morgan was proud that they had found a way to use their remaining money to honor God.

“I can’t believe we’re at the mall!” exclaimed Dee.

“Look at all the stores,” said Cy.

“And all the people shopping,” said Paul.

Dee turned to her mom. “Thanks for bringing us, Mom. Our first trip to the mall.”

Mrs. Morgan smiled. “You’re welcome, Dee. Now remember, guys, we all need to stay together.”

The kids all nodded, excited. Their parents had given them each ten dollars to spend on this special trip. They began to walk down the mall, popping in and out of stores. Dee talked with her mom while Cy and Paul visited the video game store. Paul and Cy waited patiently while Dee and her mom shopped in a clothing store.

After a while, the kids had visited the shops in half the mall. They decided to take a break, and Mrs. Morgan bought them all sandwiches at the food court. Dee, Cy, and Paul each held shopping bags.

“I love my new Chloe doll,” said Dee.

“I can’t wait to wear my Frog Hopper cap,” said Cy.

“My brothers are gonna be jealous of my guitar picks,” said Paul.

“Let’s see how much money we have left,” suggested Dee.

Dee’s mom helped the kids count their dollars and coins.

“\$2.79?!” cried Dee.

“Wow. I only have \$1.83,” complained Cy.

“I have \$3.04,” noted Paul. “That won’t buy much.”

“Mom? Could I have some more money?” asked Dee. “I need new hair bands.”

“And I was going to buy oil for my baseball glove,” said Cy.

“I need to buy a gift—it’s my babysitter’s birthday,” said Paul.

Mrs. Morgan took a deep breath, “Well kids, did any of you think about what you *needed* before you spent your money on what you *wanted*?”

Dee, Cy, and Paul looked at the table. Dee’s mom continued.

“God provides for our needs. He gave your moms and dads the jobs that pay them the money that they give to you. The way you use money shows how you think about God’s generosity.”

“And we were just thinking about ourselves,” said Dee.

“In Bible-times,” explained Dee’s mom. “People went to the marketplace to trade for what they needed. If a person traded for silk cloth or gold jewelry, he or she couldn’t bring home food or clothing.”

“We should be more careful about how we spend our money,” said Paul.

“I agree,” said Cy. “But what should we do now? We don’t have enough!”

“I know!” said Dee. “Let’s put our money together and buy one thing we need.”

“But which thing should we buy?” asked Paul.

The kids sat thinking for a minute.

“Well,” said Cy. “I think God would want us to let Paul use the money. He can use it to help his babysitter have a good birthday.”

“I agree,” said Dee. “Does that honor God, Mom?”

Mrs. Morgan smiled. “It sure does, Dee. I’m proud of you all. Together you have \$7.66. What do you want to buy your babysitter, Paul?”

Paul shrugged his shoulders. “I don’t know. Could you guys help me decide?”

“What are friends for?” asked Dee.

## Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script "The Mall"

### 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 lady's hat.

### INTRODUCTION

**Paul:** Guys! You need to come see the new guitar picks I bought. They are so cool!

**Dee:** Okay. How many did you buy?

**Paul:** Five!

**Cy:** Wow. How many picks do you need to play?

**Paul:** Well, I guess you really only need one, but these have holographic designs on them.

**Dee:** So what you're saying, is you bought what you wanted, not what you needed.

**Cy:** Like that time we went shopping, remember Dee?

**Dee:** How could I forget?

**Cy:** Let's tell the kids about it. Paul, because you weren't there, you can play Dee's mom.

**Paul:** *[In a woman's voice.]* Okay, dear.

**Dee:** Be right back!

*[Curtain.]*

### SCRIPT

*[Enter Dee, Cy, and Paul, wearing the lady's hat as Mrs. Morgan.]*

**Dee:** *[Looks around.]* I can't believe we're at the mall!

**Cy:** Look at all the stores.

**Dee:** *[Turns to Paul.]* Thanks for bringing us, Mom. Our first trip to the mall.

**Paul:** You're welcome, Dee. Now remember, guys, we all need to stay together.

*[Dee and Cy nod.]*

**Cy:** *[Points.]* Can we go in that video

game store?

**Dee:** And I want to shop for clothes.

**Paul:** *[Laughs.]* Okay, okay. Remember, there are a lot of shops to visit. Let's start over here.

*[Exit Dee, Cy, and Paul. Brief curtain.]*

*[Dee, Cy, and Paul are gathered around like they are sitting at a table.]*

**Dee:** Thanks for buying us sandwiches, Mom.

**Cy:** Yes, thank you.

**Paul:** You're welcome.

**Dee:** I love the new Chloe doll I bought.

**Cy:** I can't wait to wear my Frog Hopper cap.

**Dee:** Let's see how much money we have left. Mom, would you help us?

*[Dee, Cy, and Paul pretend to count money.]*

**Dee:** *[Upset.]* \$2.79?!

**Cy:** I have \$3.04. That won't buy much.

**Dee:** Mom? Could I have some more money? I need new hair bands.

**Cy:** I still need to buy a gift—it's my babysitter's birthday.

**Paul:** *[Shakes head.]* Well kids, did either of you think about what you *needed* before you spent your money on what you *wanted*?

*[Dee and Cy stare at their feet.]*

**Paul:** God provides for our needs. He gave your moms and dads the jobs that pay them the money that they give to you. The way you use money shows how you think about God's generosity.

**Dee:** And we were just thinking about ourselves.

**Paul:** In Bible-times, people went to the marketplace to trade for what they needed. If a person traded for silk cloth or gold jewelry, he or she couldn't bring home food or clothing.

**Dee:** We should be more careful about how we spend our money.

**Cy:** I agree. But what should we do now? We don't have enough to buy anything else!

**Dee:** I know! Let's put our money together and buy one thing we need.

**Cy:** But which thing should we buy?.

*[The kids think for a minute.]*

**Dee:** Well, I think God would want us to let you use the money, Cy. You can use it to help your babysitter have a good birthday.

**Paul:** Good thinking, Dee.

**Dee:** Does that honor God, Mom?

**Paul:** It sure does, Dee. I'm proud of you all. Together you have \$5.83. What do you want to buy your babysitter, Cy?

**Cy:** *[Shrugs shoulders.]* I don't know. Could you guys help me decide?

**Dee:** What are friends for?

### INTRODUCTION

**Paul:** So what did you buy your babysitter, Cy.

**Cy:** We got her a pretty glass dolphin. She loved it!

**Dee:** It felt good to spend our money on someone else.

**Paul:** *[To audience.]* Hey kids, did you know God provides everything you need?

**Dee:** That's right!

**Cy:** What are some things you are thankful for?

*[Wait for audience response.]*

**Dee:** God gives us so much!

**Cy:** I still want to see your guitar picks.

**Paul:** Okay, but after hearing your story, I think I might give some to my brothers.

**Dee:** Good idea. We'll help you "pick" the right ones!

*[Cy and Paul groan.]*

**Dee, Cy, and Paul:** *[To audience.]* See you next time!

*[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 was worried about his four-year old sister, Becky. She was sick. He thought she looked like a Martian, with white skin and red dots all over her. When his mom asked Cy to come near Becky, he refused. He didn’t want to get sick, too. Mrs. Yung told Cy not to worry. Why didn’t Cy need to worry about getting sick?

#### Conclusion (5 minutes)

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

Cy’s mom explained that because he had the chickenpox when he was little, he couldn’t get it again from Becky—he was immune. When Cy realized that sometimes kids had to get sick in order to stay healthy later in life, he was impressed by God’s plan. Mrs. Yung even mentioned an article she’d read explaining how God’s commands in the Bible had kept His people healthy back when people knew little about health and healing. Cy silently thanked God for being the Healer, and asked Him to heal his sister.

Cy thought his little sister, Becky, looked like a Martian. Her skin was white and she had red dots all over. Cy looked at her from across the room, where their mom was feeding her chicken soup.

“Is Becky going to be okay, Mom?” he asked.

“She’ll be fine in a few days,” said Mrs. Yung. “Why don’t you come closer and say hello?”

“I don’t want to get sick,” Cy complained.

“You won’t get sick,” said Cy’s mom. “Becky has chickenpox. You had it when you were five-years old, so now you’re immune.”

“Immune?”

“That means you can’t get sick from the chickenpox virus.”

“Oh.” Cy came over to the couch Becky sat on. Her red spots looked painful. “Hi, Becky. Does it hurt?”

“No,” said four-year old Becky through a mouthful of soup. “But it itches!”

“I know,” said their mom. “But you can’t scratch.”

“I’m not scratching,” protested Becky. “I’m a good girl.”

Mrs. Yung, who was also a nurse, laughed. “You sure are. If you are finished with your soup, I’m going to take the rest back to the kitchen. Cy, would you come help me?”

Cy followed his mom to the kitchen and put away the crackers while she washed Becky’s soup bowl. Cy thought about what his mom had said.

“Mom?”

“Yes, Cy?”

“Is it really true that because I got sick once, I can’t get sick again?” asked Cy.

“It’s true for chickenpox,” said his mom. “You can still get sick from other diseases. But as a rule, kids who get illnesses like the cold and flu when they are little are healthier when they get older. Just like exercise makes your muscles stronger, fighting diseases makes your body stronger.”

“Wow,” said Cy.

“We still have to be careful not to spread too many germs,” said Mrs. Yung. “And vaccinations help protect you from more serious diseases, like measles.”

“I’m glad we know so much about health and healing.”

“That reminds me,” remembered Cy’s mom. “I was reading an article and thought of you. Did you know that many of God’s commands in the Bible actually helped prevent diseases from spreading?”

“Really?”

“Yes! According to the Bible, God asked the Jewish people to bathe, wash their hands, and not eat raw meat or blood. All these things kept them healthy when people in other countries were getting sick.”

Cy wasn’t too surprised. He knew God was the real healer. He prayed a quick prayer, asking God to heal Becky as soon as possible.

“Mom? Can I do anything to help Becky get better?”

“Actually, you can,” said Mrs. Yung. “Do you remember the sock puppet show you created a few months ago?”

“The ‘Gus and Gus Show’? Sure!”

“Would you perform it for Becky, to distract her while I put lotion on her bumps?”

Cy nodded his head and headed for his bedroom. “I’ll go get the two Gus’s!”

## Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script "Chickenpox!"

### 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 lady's scarf and red construction paper cut into dots.*

### INTRODUCTION

**Dee:** How's your little sister, Cy?

**Cy:** Oh, she's much better, thanks.

**Paul:** What was wrong with her?

**Cy:** She had the chickenpox.

**Paul:** Ugh. I had that. I remember I was so itchy!

**Cy:** I learned a lot while Becky was sick. Should we tell the kids about it?

**Dee:** Sure! Can I play Becky?

**Paul:** I'll play your mom, Cy. I'm not that good at little girl voices.

**Cy:** Sounds fine to me. *[To audience.]* Give us a few minutes to get Dee ready.

**Dee:** What do you mean?

**Cy:** You'll see.

*[Curtain.]*

### SCRIPT

*[Dee and Paul are on one side of the stage. Dee is covered in red construction paper dots as Becky. Paul is wearing the lady's scarf as Mrs. Yung. Enter Cy on the other side of the stage.]*

**Cy:** *[To audience.]* Gosh. Becky looks like a Martian! Her skin's all white and she has red dots all over. *[To Paul.]* Is Becky going to be okay, Mom?

**Paul:** She'll be fine in a few days. Why don't you come closer and say hello?

**Cy:** *[Takes a step backward.]* I don't want to get sick.

**Paul:** You won't get sick. Becky has chickenpox. You had it when you were five-years old, so now you're immune.

**Cy:** *[Takes a step forward.]* Immune?

**Paul:** That means you can't get sick from the chickenpox virus.

**Cy:** Oh. *[Comes over to Paul and Dee.]* Hi, Becky. Does it hurt?

**Dee:** *[In little girl voice.]* No. But it itches! *[Lifts her hand.]*

**Paul:** I know, but you can't scratch.

**Dee:** *[Puts hand down.]* I'm not scratching. I'm a good girl.

**Paul:** *[Laughs.]* You sure are. *[Continues to silently care for Dee.]*

**Cy:** *[Watches for a minute.]* Mom?

**Paul:** Yes, Cy?

**Cy:** Is it really true that because I got sick once, I can't get sick again?

**Paul:** It's true for chickenpox. You can still get sick from other diseases. But as a rule, kids who get illnesses like the cold and flu when they are little are healthier when they get older. Just like exercise makes your muscles stronger, fighting diseases makes your body stronger.

**Cy:** Wow.

**Paul:** We still have to be careful not to spread too many germs. And vaccinations help protect you from more serious diseases, like measles.

**Cy:** I'm glad we know so much about health and healing.

**Paul:** That reminds me. I was reading an article and thought of you. Did you know that many of God's commands in the Bible actually helped prevent diseases from spreading?

**Cy:** Really?

**Paul:** Yes! According to the Bible, God asked the Jewish people to bathe, wash their hands, and not eat raw meat or blood. All these things kept them healthy when people in other countries were getting sick.

**Cy:** *[To audience.]* I'm not too surprised. God is the real healer. I'm going to pray and ask God to heal Becky as soon as possible. *[To Paul.]* Mom? Can I do anything to help Becky get better?

**Paul:** Actually, you can. Do you remember the sock puppet show you created a few months ago?

**Cy:** The "Gus and Gus Show"? Sure!

**Paul:** Would you perform it for Becky, to distract her while I put lotion on her bumps?

**Cy:** *[Nods his head and exits.]* I'll go get the two Gus's!

*[Curtain.]*

### APPLICATION

**Paul:** I'm glad God is our healer.

**Dee:** He gives us doctors.

**Cy:** And He helps our bodies fight diseases.

**Paul:** And when we are sick, God is there to comfort us.

**Dee:** You know, when I was playing Becky, I think I actually started to itch!

**Cy:** That's some imagination you have.

**Paul:** Speaking of imaginations, Cy, what's the "Gus and Gus Show"?

**Cy:** Oh, it's just a silly sock puppet story I made to make Becky laugh.\*

**Dee:** I want to see it!

**Paul:** Me, too!

**Cy:** Okay, then. Let's go to my house.

**Dee and Paul:** *[To audience.]* 'Bye, kids!

*[Curtain.]*

*\*Find the "Gus and Gus Show" at the end of this document.*



**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 Cy were excited to see Paul after his trip to the big city. He had photographs to show them and told them all about the skyscrapers, museums, and other great things he saw. Dee and Cy thought the city must be the best place in the world to live, but Paul didn’t think so. Why didn’t Paul want to live in the city? Had something bad happened to him?

#### Conclusion (5 minutes)

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

Paul explained that while the city had many great things about it, he’d also seen lots of trash and heard how some people lived in tiny apartments or had no homes at all! Dee remembered that cities could also be dangerous with crime. Cy said that no matter where people lived, they all needed God’s protection. All three kids agreed that what was really important was knowing that God was with them.

Paul was making sure his photographs were in the right order when he heard Dee and Cy climbing the rope ladder to the treehouse.

“So,” asked Cy. “How was your trip?! Did you go to the top of any skyscrapers?”

“Yeah,” said Dee. “Tell us all about it!”

Paul smiled. “It was amazing,” he said. “You can’t imagine how tall the buildings were—sometimes I couldn’t even see the top of them! And the hotel we stayed at was so nice. The lobby was bigger than the sanctuary at church!”

“No way!” said Cy.

“Yep,” said Paul. “My dad had a great conference and met lots of other pastors. My mom and I went to a museum and to a toy store that had three floors.” Paul showed Dee and Cy his pictures, explaining where each one was taken. Dee and Cy got more and more excited.

“I bet you wished you’d never left,” said Cy. “Wouldn’t you just love to live in a city like that?”

Paul stopped smiling. “I don’t know...”

“Why not?” asked Dee. “It looks so wonderful.”

“Well,” said Paul. “There were some not-so-wonderful things, too. It seemed like there was trash everywhere on the streets and sidewalks. The subway we took smelled funny.”

“Oh my,” said Dee.

“Most people live in really small apartments in boxy buildings,” Paul continued. “And Mom told me there are more people who are homeless there than all the people who live in our town.”

“No way,” repeated Cy.

“I’ve heard cities can have a lot of crime,” said Dee.

“In some places, people won’t even leave their homes after dark,” said Paul.

“I guess no matter where you live, you’re never really safe without God,” noted Cy.

“Good point,” said Dee. “People in cities need God’s protection just like they do everywhere else.”

Paul looked down at his pictures again. “When we first got there, I couldn’t believe how big everything was. It almost made me forget that God is so much bigger.”

“I’m thankful God is bigger than anything people could make,” said Dee.

“Me, too,” said Cy. “Say, what was your dad’s conference for?”

“Dad said it was about praying for the global Church,” said Paul. “They prayed for protection from the Church’s enemies.”

“Really?” asked Dee.

“Really,” said Paul. “The conference was called Our Shield and Strength.”

“How neat,” said Cy.

“How appropriate,” said Dee. “Can I see those pictures again?”

“Sure!” The kids enjoyed hearing more about Paul’s visit to the city.

## Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script "City Boy?"

### DIRECTOR'S NOTES

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

### INTRODUCTION

**Paul:** I have more photographs from my trip to the city.

**Cy:** That's great! I can't wait to see them.

*[Dee asks audience a question about cities, appropriate to their geographical location.]*

**Paul:** My visit to the city was very...educational.

**Dee:** It was fun, too.

**Paul:** That's true.

**Cy:** Why don't we show the kids what we learned in your treehouse?

**Paul:** Good idea.

**Dee:** Be right back!

*[Curtain.]*

### SCRIPT

*[Paul is onstage, pretending to sort photographs. Enter Dee and Cy, grunting and "climbing" onto the stage.]*

**Paul:** Welcome to the treehouse.

**Cy:** So, how was your trip?! Did you go to the top of any skyscrapers?

**Dee:** Yeah. Tell us all about it!

**Paul:** It was amazing. You can't imagine how tall the buildings were—sometimes I couldn't even see the top of them! And the hotel we stayed at was so nice. The lobby was bigger than the sanctuary at church!

**Cy:** No way!

**Paul:** Yep. My dad had a great conference and met lots of other pastors. My mom and I went to a museum and to a toy store that had three floors. Wanna see my pictures?

*[All three kids pretend to look at pictures. Dee and Cy make "Oohs" and "Ahs."]*

**Cy:** I bet you wished you'd never left. Wouldn't you just love to live in a city like that?

**Paul:** *[Doubtful.]* I don't know...

**Dee:** Why not? It looks so wonderful.

**Paul:** Well, there were some not-so-wonderful things, too. It seemed like there was trash everywhere on the streets and sidewalks. The subway we took smelled funny.

**Dee:** Oh my.

**Paul:** Most people live in really small apartments in boxy buildings. And Mom told me there are more people who are homeless there than all the people who live in our town.

**Cy:** No way.

**Dee:** I've heard cities can have a lot of crime.

**Paul:** In some places, people won't even leave their homes after dark.

**Cy:** I guess no matter where you live, you're never really safe without God.

**Dee:** Good point. People in cities need God's protection just like they do everywhere else.

**Paul:** *[Looks down.]* When we first got there, I couldn't believe how big everything was. It almost made me forget that God is so much bigger.

**Dee:** I'm thankful God is bigger than anything people could make.

**Cy:** Me, too. Say, what was your dad's conference for?

**Paul:** Dad said it was about praying for the global Church. They prayed for protection from the Church's enemies.

**Dee:** Really?

**Paul:** Really. The conference was called Our Shield and Strength.

**Cy:** How neat.

**Dee:** How appropriate. Can I see those pictures again?

**Paul:** Sure!

*[Curtain.]*

### APPLICATION

**Paul:** I really did enjoy my trip to the city—I just know that living there is not for me.

**Cy:** Some people love living in the city.

**Dee:** And some love living in the country.

**Paul:** And people enjoy living in all places in between.

**Dee:** The important thing to remember is that God is with us no matter where we live.

**Cy:** And He protects us, like a shield protected Bible-times soldiers.

**Paul:** *[To audience.]* What's your favorite thing about where you live?

*[Wait for audience response.]*

**Dee:** *[To audience.]* Maybe we should move to where you live!

**Cy:** I still want to see your pictures, Paul.

**Paul:** Oh, yeah! Well, let's go to my house.

**Dee and Cy:** *[To audience.]* See you next time!

*[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 at their town square for the hundred-year celebration of the town’s founding. As Cy was complaining about the mayor’s boring speech, the mayor himself came up to the kids! He talked to all three of them, complimenting them on how polite they were. When Paul explained that God wanted them to respect their leaders, the mayor became nervous and left. Why had the mayor left? What had Paul said that upset him?

**Conclusion** (5 minutes)

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

Dee had heard that the mayor was not a Christian. He was uncomfortable when Paul talked about God. Cy thought he was “off the hook” for saying mean things about the mayor’s speech, but Dee reminded him that God commands His people to respect and honor all people in authority. By honoring our leaders, we also honor God. Cy realized he needed to ask God for forgiveness and he suggested they pray for their mayor. Dee and Paul thought that was a great idea.

“I love cotton candy!” exclaimed Cy. He tore off another mouthful with his teeth. Paul and Dee nodded their heads in agreement. All around them, people were enjoying the sunny day in the town square.

“I can’t believe our town is one-hundred-years old,” said Dee.

“It’s a great day to celebrate,” said Paul. “I thought the band was awesome.”

“They were,” agreed Cy. “But I thought the mayor’s speech was a little boring.”

“Uh, Cy,” started Dee.

“I mean, did he have to go on and on about those people we’ve never heard of?” Cy asked. He opened and closed the fingers of his right hand. “Blah, blah, blah, blah.”

“Cy!” said Paul. He pointed behind him. Cy turned and saw the mayor smiling down at him. He wore a dark grey suit and smelled like aftershave lotion.

“Mr. Mayor!” said Cy. He held out his hand. “It’s an honor to meet you, sir.”

The mayor bent down and shook Cy’s hand. “Raymond Martinez. And who might you be, young man?”

“Um, I’m Cy Yung. These are my friends, Dee and Paul.”

The mayor shook their hands and said hello. “Isn’t it a lovely day to honor our town?” he asked.

“Yes, sir,” said Dee, Cy, and Paul together. The mayor laughed.

“You don’t have to be so formal, kids. I’m just a regular guy.”

“We’re just trying to be polite, sir,” said Paul. “We learned that God wants us to respect our leaders. Isn’t that right, Cy?”

Cy hung his head, looking at his feet.

“Uh, God, huh?” said the mayor. “Well, that’s great! I need to go speak with my council members, but it was good to meet you. And Cy, it’s okay if you thought my speech was boring. It was a little boring to me, too.”

Cy turned bright red. The mayor walked away.

Paul asked, “Why did the mayor act so funny when I mentioned God?”

“I heard my dad say that the mayor isn’t a Christian,” explained Dee.

“Phew,” said Cy. “I thought I was going to have to ask God to forgive me for making fun of him.”

“Cy Yung,” said Dee. “You still have to honor and respect our mayor, even if he isn’t a Christian.”

“I do?”

“You do,” explained Paul. “God is still in charge of our leaders, even if they don’t believe what we believe. By honoring them, we also honor God.”

“Oh,” said Cy. “I never thought of it that way. We should pray for him, shouldn’t we?”

Dee took a bite of cotton candy. “You bet. We should pray that he makes good decisions for our town. The mayor’s a great leader, but he’d be even better if he knew Jesus.”

“Let’s find a quiet spot to pray,” said Paul.

“Then we can get some kettle corn,” added Cy. “I still have two dollars left to spend.”

Dee laughed. “I guess if you were our leader, Cy, we’d never go hungry!”

## Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script "Meeting the Mayor"

### 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 necktie and cotton balls on sticks to represent cotton candy.

### INTRODUCTION

[Enter Dee, Cy, and Paul, laughing and breathing heavy.]

**Dee:** That was a great game of "Follow the Leader."

**Paul:** It was! Cy, you're the best leader.

**Cy:** Thanks.

**Dee:** You always do the most fun and crazy stuff.

**Cy:** Do you think I'd make a good leader for real?

**Paul:** Sure, if you could be serious more often.

**Dee:** I think you'd be a great leader, Cy.

**Cy:** I'd have to learn to tease people less.

**Dee:** Like the time you made fun of...

**Cy:** Don't say it! I'm still so embarrassed.

**Paul:** Oh, this I gotta see.

**Dee:** You can, if you want to play the mayor of our town.

**Cy:** Are we really gonna do this?

**Dee:** You bet!

[Curtain.]

### SCRIPT

[Enter Cy and Dee, holding "cotton candy."]

**Cy:** I love cotton candy! [Pretends to eat a bite.]

**Dee:** [Looks around.] Look at all the people in the square. I can't believe our town is one-hundred-years old.

**Cy:** It's a great day to celebrate.

**Dee:** I thought the band was awesome.

**Cy:** They were, but I thought the mayor's speech was a little boring.

[Enter Paul, wearing the necktie as the mayor. He comes up behind Cy, but Cy does not see him.]

**Dee:** Uh, Cy...

**Cy:** I mean, did he have to go on and on about those people we've never heard of? [Holds up hand and waves it.] Blah, blah, blah, blah.

**Dee:** [Points.] Cy!

**Cy:** [Turns around and starts.] Mr. Mayor! [Holds out his hand.] It's an honor to meet you, sir.

**Paul:** [Shakes Cy's hand.] Raymond Martinez. And who might you be, young man?

**Cy:** Um, I'm Cy Yung. This is my friend, Dee Morgan.

[Paul and Dee shake hands.]

**Paul:** [Looks up and around.] Isn't it a lovely day to honor our town?

**Dee and Cy:** Yes, sir.

**Paul:** You don't have to be so formal, kids. I'm just a regular guy.

**Dee:** We're just trying to be polite, sir. We learned that God wants us to respect our leaders. Isn't that right, Cy?"

[Cy hangs his head.]

**Paul:** [Nervous.] Uh, God, huh? Well, that's great! I need to go speak with my council members, but it was good to meet you. [Leans toward Cy.] And Cy, it's okay if you thought my speech was boring. It was a little boring to me, too.

[Cy turns away, embarrassed. Exit Paul.]

**Cy:** Why did the mayor act so funny when you mentioned God?

**Dee:** I heard my dad say that the mayor isn't a Christian.

**Cy:** Phew! I thought I was going to have to ask God to forgive me for making fun of him.

**Dee:** Cy Yung! You still have to honor and respect our mayor, even if he isn't a Christian.

**Cy:** I do?

**Dee:** You do. God is still in charge of our leaders, even if they don't believe what we believe. By honoring them, we also honor God.

**Cy:** Oh. I never thought of it that way. We should pray for him, shouldn't we?

**Dee:** You bet. We should pray that he makes good decisions for our town. The mayor's a great leader, but he'd be even better if he knew Jesus. Let's find a quiet spot to pray.

**Cy:** Then we can get some kettle corn. I still have two dollars left to spend.

**Dee:** [Laughs.] I guess if you were our leader, Cy, we'd never go hungry!

[Curtain.]

### APPLICATION

**Paul:** My dad said that even though the mayor isn't a Christian, he has always helped the churches.

**Dee:** Like I said, he's a great leader.

**Cy:** I just wish he knew Jesus.

**Dee:** That's why we pray for our leaders.

**Paul:** [To audience.] Do you know any leaders you can pray for?

[Wait for audience response.]

**Cy:** That's quite a list!

**Dee:** God puts leaders in charge of us.

**Paul:** We need to respect and honor them.

**Cy:** Want to play more "Follow the Leader"?

**Dee and Paul:** Yes!

**Cy:** [To audience.] 'Bye, kids!

[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’s Aunt Tracy was getting married at her church, and Dee was her flower girl. Paul’s dad was performing the wedding. Dee was scared she would trip on her long dress and mess the wedding up. Pastor Shepherd told the kids that Tracy’s name would change and that she and her new husband would give each other rings. The kids wondered why a wedding had so many traditions. What made a wedding so special? And would Dee make it down the aisle without falling?

#### Conclusion (5 minutes)

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

Paul’s dad explained that a wedding had many traditions, including the giving of rings, because weddings were very special and important to God. When a bride and groom marry, they make promises to each other and to God to stay together their whole lives. They become a team and serve God together. The kids were all very impressed at how special a wedding really was. Dee’s aunt looked beautiful, and the wedding was very special. Dee didn’t trip over her dress—not even once!

“I’m so nervous! I’m afraid I’m going to trip and mess everything up,” said Dee, as she stumbled over her long dress. “See!”

“Don’t worry, Dee,” said Paul. “You’ll be a great flower girl.”

“Yeah! You’ll be terrific!” agreed Cy.

Dee was glad her friends were there. Today was a very special day. Dee’s aunt, Tracy, was getting married! Paul’s dad was performing the wedding at their church.

“Now don’t forget, kids. After today, Miss Tracy Morgan will be *Mrs. Tracy Wade*,” Mr. Shepherd explained. Dee looked around. The guests were beginning to arrive for the wedding.

“Why, Dad?” wondered Paul.

“Because today is her wedding day!” answered his dad. “People will call her *Mrs. Wade* now—so that everyone will know she has a husband.” Mr. Shepherd smiled. “Many special things happen on wedding days.”

“Really? What else happens?” wondered Cy.

“Well, there are many wedding traditions,” said Paul’s dad. “Today, when Dee’s aunt comes into the church, she’ll walk beside her father.”

“That’s my grandpa!” said Dee.

“That’s right,” said Mr. Shepherd. “It’s a tradition. Not every bride walks into the church with her father on her wedding day, but many do.”

“Did Mom come into the church with Grandpa at your wedding?” wondered Paul.

His dad nodded. “Yes, she did.”

“What are some other traditions?” asked Cy.

“Well, during a wedding, the bride and the groom give each other rings,” answered Mr. Shepherd.

“I love presents!” exclaimed Dee. “When I get married, I’m going to ask my husband for a bracelet—I like bracelets

better than rings.”

Paul’s dad laughed. “The tradition is not just giving each other gifts, Dee. It’s giving each other rings.” Mr. Shepherd showed the kids his wedding ring. “People give each other rings to remind them of the promise they make when they get married.”

Cy was confused. “You have to make a promise to get married?”

Mr. Shepherd nodded. “Yes. When a man and a woman marry, they make a promise to each other, called a vow. And they promise God that they will live together their whole lives. Marriage is very important to God. He wants a husband and wife to love each other and be a team, serving Him together.”

“Wow,” said Paul. “Marriage is very, very special.”

“That’s why we’re here today!” his dad explained. “Dee’s aunt and her new husband will be part of something that is very special and very important to God. A wedding is a special celebration unlike any other.”

“That’s awesome!” said Cy. “I can’t wait until it starts.”

“Me, too,” agreed Dee. “But now I’m even more afraid that I’ll trip over my dress and mess everything up!”

“Don’t worry, Dee,” said Mr. Shepherd. “Stand up straight and tall all the time and you’ll be just fine.”

When Dee’s Aunt Tracy appeared in the doorway, she looked beautiful. Dee walked down the aisle, spreading flower petals. Tracy’s father, Dee’s grandfather, walked her down the aisle. After she and her husband made their promises and gave each other rings, Paul’s dad introduced them as Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Wade. Dee, Cy, and Paul were happy to be part of such an important celebration. And Dee didn’t trip over her dress—not even once!

## Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script "A Special Celebration"

### 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 dress, flowers, and two bow ties.

### INTRODUCTION

[Enter Dee, Cy, and Paul, humming the "Wedding March."]

**Cy:** Hi, everybody! Who knows where we hear that song?

[Wait for audience response.]

**Paul:** That's right! We hear that song when we go to a wedding.

**Dee:** Raise your hand if you've ever been to a wedding.

**Cy:** All three of us just went to a wedding for Dee's Aunt Tracy.

**Paul:** And Dee was a very special part of the wedding—she was the flower girl!

**Dee:** Let's show the kids what we learned.

**Paul:** I'll play my dad.

**Cy:** Let's put on our "costumes." Be right back!

[Curtain.]

### SCRIPT

[Cy and Paul, as his dad, are onstage. Both are wearing bow ties. Enter Dee, slowly. She is carrying flowers.]

**Dee:** I'm so nervous! I'm afraid I'm going to trip and mess everything up! [Stumbles.] See!

**Paul:** Don't worry, Dee. You'll be a great flower girl.

**Dee:** Do you really think so, Mr. Shepherd?

**Paul:** I sure do!

**Cy:** You'll be terrific!

**Dee:** I just don't want to mess up. Today is such a special day. It's my Aunt Tracy's wedding day!

**Paul:** Now don't forget, kids. After today, Miss Tracy Morgan will be Mrs. Tracy Wade.

**Cy:** Why, Mr. Shepherd?

**Paul:** Because today is her wedding day! People will call her Mrs. Wade now—so that everyone will know she has a husband.

**Dee:** Really? What else happens?

**Paul:** Well, there are many wedding traditions. Today, when Dee's aunt comes into the church, she'll walk beside her father.

**Dee:** That's my grandpa!

**Paul:** That's right. It's a tradition. Not every bride walks into the church with her father on her wedding day, but many do.

**Cy:** Did Mrs. Shepherd come into the church with her father at your wedding?

**Paul:** [Nods.] Yes, she did.

**Dee:** What are some other traditions?

**Paul:** Well, during a wedding, the bride and the groom give each other rings.

**Dee:** I love presents! When I get married, I'm going to ask my husband for a bracelet—I like bracelets better than rings.

**Paul:** [Laughs.] The tradition is not just giving each other gifts, Dee. It's giving each other rings. See mine? [Holds up his hand for them to see his ring.] People give each other rings to remind them of the promise they make when they get married.

**Cy:** [Confused.] You have to make a promise to get married?

**Paul:** [Nods.] Yes. When a man and a woman marry, they make a promise to each other, called a vow. And they promise God that they will live together their whole lives. Marriage is very important to God. He wants a husband and wife to love each other and be a team, serving Him together.

**Dee:** Marriage is very, very special.

**Paul:** That's why we're here today! Dee's aunt and her new husband will be part of something that is very special and very important to God. A wedding is a special celebration unlike any other.

**Cy:** That's awesome! I can't wait until it starts.

**Dee:** Me, too. But now I'm even more afraid that I'll trip over my dress and mess everything up! [Stumbles.] See? I did it again!

**Paul:** [Laughs.] Don't worry, Dee. Stand up straight and tall all the time and you'll be just fine.

**Dee:** If you say so. What an exciting day!

[Curtain.]

### APPLICATION

**Dee:** Wasn't Aunt Tracy—I mean Mrs. Patrick Wade's—wedding cool?

**Cy:** Yeah! She looked beautiful.

**Paul:** Her father, Dee's grandfather, walked her down the aisle.

**Cy:** She and her husband made their promises and gave each other rings.

**Dee:** And I didn't trip over my dress—not even once!

**Paul:** It's so exciting that God created something as special as marriage.

**Cy:** Maybe we'll get to go to another wedding soon.

**Paul:** Who knows? [To audience.] Maybe some of you will get to share in the excitement of a wedding soon, too!

**Dee:** We've got to go watch my Aunt Tracy and Uncle Patrick open wedding presents.

**Cy and Paul:** See you next time!

[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 was nervous. His mom had gone to the hospital because it was time to have her baby. Cy was in the waiting room with his little sister, Becky. Dee, Paul, and Mrs. Shepherd were also there. Finally, a nurse came and told Cy that his mom had had the baby and that everyone was fine. Cy’s dad would be out soon to take him and Becky to see his new sister. Cy was relieved, but he wondered aloud why having a baby seemed like such a big deal.

**Conclusion** (5 minutes)

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

Mrs. Shepherd explained to Cy that having a baby *was* a big deal! A brand new life—that God had created—had come into the world. Dee agreed, reminding Cy that birth and death were part of God’s plan. Paul’s mom said that life was even more precious to those who believe in Jesus. Becky agreed with that. When Cy went in and saw his new baby sister for the first time, he realized how right they all were. His mom introduced him to her new daughter—Cy’s new sister. Her name was Diane.

Cy paced up and down the hospital waiting room. His little sister, Becky, followed him.

“What’s taking so long?”

Mrs. Shepherd touched Cy’s arm to make him stop pacing. “It’s okay, Cy. Sometimes it can take a while.”

“I’m so excited!” exclaimed Dee. “Your mom’s finally having her baby, Cy!”

“A baby! A baby!” said Becky. She was obviously excited, too

Cy was more nervous than excited. When it had been time to go to the hospital because the baby was coming, his mom had looked hurt. Cy knew having a baby was painful for his mom. He prayed that God would keep her safe.

Just then a nurse came in.

“Are you with the Yung family? Mrs. Yung just delivered a beautiful baby girl. Everybody’s doing great.”

Dee, Paul, and Mrs. Shepherd crowded around Cy and made excited comments. Becky jumped up and down, clapping. The nurse looked at Cy and leaned down to him.

“Your dad will be out later, okay? Then you can meet your new sister!”

“New sister! New sister!” shouted Becky.

Cy breathed a sigh of relief. Now he was happy and excited, just like everyone else. He thought about everything that had happened so far.

“Boy, having a baby is a much bigger deal than I thought.”

“It *is* a big deal,” said Mrs. Shepherd. “God created a new life and has brought it into the world. Your new sister will bless you and your family in ways you can’t imagine.”

“New sister! New sister!” yelled Becky again.

“Birth and death are all part of God’s plan, aren’t they, Mom?” said Paul.

“That’s right!” agreed Paul’s mom. “People who believe in Jesus know how precious each new life is to God. And they also know that death is not ‘the end.’”

“I believe in Jesus!” shouted Becky.

“That’s wonderful, honey!”

It seemed like a long wait until Cy’s dad finally came out. He brought Cy and Becky into the room where their mom was lying in a bed. In her arms was a tiny person wrapped in a blanket. Becky squealed in delight.

“I can’t believe how small she is!” said Cy.

“She’ll grow fast,” said his dad.

“I know. I thought having one sister was hard. Having two might be impossible!”

Mr. Yung clapped a hand on Cy’s shoulder. “You’ll rise to the challenge, son.”

Becky crawled onto her mom’s lap. When Becky touched the baby’s forehead, the baby opened her eyes and looked at Becky.

“Hi, sister!” Becky said.

Cy stood near the hospital bed and looked at his new baby sister. She was so tiny, but had everything a person needed—fingers, toes, eyes, ears, mouth, and nose. Cy was amazed at how God put together a new human being. He realized that everything Mrs. Shepherd had said was true. He prayed that he’d be a good brother, and like Becky, he could teach his new sister to love Jesus.

Cy’s mom lifted her arms so he could better see the baby. She smiled at him.

“Cy, meet your new baby sister, Diane.”

## Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script "Birth Day"

### 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 lady's hat, a robe, a man's necktie, a baby doll, and something to wrap the baby in.

### INTRODUCTION

**Dee:** We're all so happy for your family, Cy.

**Cy:** Thanks.

**Paul:** How's everybody doing?

**Cy:** We're good, but nobody gets much sleep.

**Dee:** We should probably tell the kids what we're talking about.

**Cy:** Better yet, let's show them!

**Paul:** *[To audience.]* Okay kids, pay attention! Today's story has two parts. In the first, I play my mom. In the second, I play Cy's dad.

**Dee:** In the first part, I play Cy's sister, Becky. In the second, I play Cy's mom.

**Cy:** Got it?

*[Wait for audience response.]*

**Dee:** Let's go get ready!

*[Curtain.]*

### SCRIPT

*[Cy, Dee, and Paul, wearing a lady's hat as Mrs. Shepherd are onstage. Cy is pacing, and Dee is following him.]*

**Cy:** What's taking so long?

**Paul:** *[Puts a hand out to stop Cy.]* It's okay, Cy. Sometimes it can take a while.

**Dee:** *[In a little girl's voice.]* I'm so excited! *[Tugs at Cy.]* Mom's having her baby!

**Cy:** *[To audience.]* I'm more nervous than excited. When it was time to go to the hospital because the baby was coming, my mom had looked hurt. I know having a baby is painful for Mom, but I hope she's okay.

**Paul:** I just talked to the nurse. Your mom delivered a beautiful baby girl. Everybody's doing great.

*[Dee jumps up and down and claps. Cy takes a deep breath.]*

**Paul:** She also said your dad will be out later. Then you can meet your new sister!

**Dee:** New sister! New sister!

**Cy:** *[Sighs.]* That's a relief. *[Pauses.]* Boy, having a baby is a much bigger deal than I thought.

**Paul:** It is a big deal. God had brought a new life into the world. Your new sister will bless you and your family in ways you can't imagine.

**Dee:** New sister! New sister!

**Cy:** I remember in Sunday school when learned that birth and death are all part of God's plan.

**Paul:** That's right! People who believe in Jesus know how precious each new life is to God. And they also know that death is not "the end."

**Dee:** I believe in Jesus!

**Paul:** That's wonderful, honey! Oh look, here comes your father!

*[Brief curtain. Dee, Cy, and Paul are onstage. Dee is wearing a robe as Mrs. Yung and holding the swaddled baby doll. Paul is wearing the necktie as Mr. Yung.]*

**Cy:** I can't believe how small she is!

**Paul:** She'll grow fast.

**Cy:** I know. *[Shakes head.]* I thought having one sister was hard. Having two might be impossible!

**Paul:** You'll rise to the challenge, son.

*[Cy and Paul move closer to Dee.]*

**Cy:** Good job, Mom.

**Dee:** Thank you, Cy. Meet your new baby sister, Diane.

*[Curtain.]*

### APPLICATION

**Dee:** Becky was so cute, touching the baby's forehead and saying "Hi, sister!"

**Cy:** She sure was.

**Paul:** What was it like to see her for the first time?

**Cy:** Well, I couldn't believe it. She was so tiny, but had everything a person needed—fingers, toes, eyes, ears, mouth, and nose.

**Dee:** God sure knows what He's doing when He puts together a new human being.

**Cy:** You said it. I just pray that I can be a good brother and teach her to love Jesus.

**Paul:** Becky loves Jesus. I think you have a good shot.

**Dee:** *[To audience.]* Hey kids, don't forget that birth and death are part of God's plan!

**Cy:** Knowing Jesus makes birth extra special.

**Paul:** Knowing Jesus makes everything extra special!

**Dee:** Let's go see baby Diane.

**Cy:** Okay. *[To audience.]* 'Bye, kids!

**Dee and Paul:** 'Bye!

*[Curtain.]*

## Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script "The Gus and Gus Show"

### DIRECTOR'S NOTES

*This puppet script is a bonus from lesson 1D8 ("Chickenpox!"). The words in italics are notes for you and your puppeteers; they are not to be read aloud.*

*You will need two identical sock puppets.*

### SCRIPT

*[Walk Gus and Gus to each other from opposite sides.]*

**Gus 1:** *[To Gus.]* Hi there, my name's Gus. What's your name?

**Gus 2:** *[In exact same voice.]* My name's Gus.

**Gus 1:** You're Gus, too?

**Gus 2:** I can be Gus Two, if you want to be Gus One.

**Gus 1:** That's not what I meant. Never mind.

**Gus 2:** So what do like to do, Gus?

**Gus 1:** I like to fish.

**Gus 2:** No way! Me, too!

**Gus 1:** You're kidding. I suppose you like to fish at...

**Gus 2:** Horsetooth Lake!

**Gus 1:** This is just weird. What's your favorite color?

**Gus 2:** Blue.

**Gus 1:** Me, too! What's your favorite food?

**Gus 2:** Pepperoni...

**Gus 1:** ...and pickle pizza!

**Gus 2:** And your favorite sport?

**Gus 1:** Tetherball!

**Gus 2:** I knew it. I love tetherball, too!

**Gus 1:** We should be best friends!

**Gus 2:** I don't think so.

**Gus 1:** Why not?

**Gus 2:** I don't like your personality.

**Gus 1:** But you're just like me!

**Gus 2:** I know, just kidding!

**Gus 1:** Ha, ha.

**Gus 2:** I need to go—it's dinnertime.

**Gus 1:** This is a surprise—it's my dinner-time, too.

**Gus 2:** Well, it was nice to meet you.

**Gus 1:** Likewise.

*[Walk both puppets right into each other so they hit each other's foreheads. Back them off.]*

**Gus 1:** Ow!

**Gus 2:** We *are* too much alike!

**Gus 1:** Okay. This time, I'll go right, you go left.

*[Walk both puppets into each other as before, veering to one direction.]*

**Gus 1:** I said, "you go left."

**Gus 2:** I did go left!

**Gus 1:** No you didn't! That's your right!

**Gus 2:** No it isn't!

**Gus 1:** Whatever. Let's try it the opposite way. I'll go left, you go right.

**Gus 2:** Okay.

*[Walk both puppets into each other, veering the other direction. This time, leave them touching.]*

**Gus 1:** Hey, what's this?

**Gus 2:** I think it's glass.

**Gus 1:** Why would there be a wall of glass here?

**Gus 2:** Hmm. Let's put are heads together to figure this out.

**Gus 1:** Our heads *are* together!

**Gus 2:** Oh, yeah.

**Gus 1:** I know what it is.

**Gus 2:** You do?

**Gus 1:** We need to go the other way.

**Gus 2:** We do, why?

**Gus 1:** Well, after *reflecting* on it, I know what is between us.

**Gus 2:** What is it?

**Gus 1:** A mirror!