



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 started humming a car commercial jingle, because it was on her mind. Cy knew the jingle, too, but he did not want to hear it over and over again. Even after Dee and Cy decided to find Paul, Dee kept humming the tune. It started bothering Cy. Dee wants to stop humming it, but the jingle keeps going through her mind. What can she do to make it stop?

Conclusion (5 minutes)

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

Paul was making a newsletter for the neighborhood. He was almost finished with it when Dee and Cy found him. Paul convinced them to help him finish it. Suddenly, instead of singing the car commercial jingle, Dee began saying memory verses. She realized that what she hears enters her mind. She knew that only God can re-program her mind. Just as she expected, God’s Word got the jingle out of her mind and focused it on what is important. Then she easily helped Paul finish the neighborhood newsletter. Dee, Cy, and Paul agreed that God’s Word is the best thing to have running through their minds.

Dee joined Cy on the swings. Dee started humming.

“What are you humming?” he asked.

“I’m not sure.” She hummed some more.

“I know what it is. It’s from that car commercial on TV,” he said.

“You’re right.” She started singing the words, and Cy joined in, “Sleek, fast, down the road. Drive the car that sets you free!”

Cy laughed. “Now it’s in my mind, too.”

“I’m sorry. I can’t get it out of mine. It just keeps playing in my head,” Dee said.

Cy nodded. “It’s hard to get things out of your mind once they’re inside.”

“Let’s go over Paul’s house. Maybe he can figure out what we should do,” said Dee.

“Okay, but stop humming that song,” said Cy.

“I’ll try,” said Dee.

Once they reached Paul’s house, they found him working on the computer.

“What are you doing?” asked Dee.

“I’m trying out a new program. It’s supposed to make it easier to put together a newsletter. I’m doing one for our neighborhood. See? It’s almost done. I’ve added a picture of Chip. All I need are words to go under it.”

“How about writing ‘Chip the magnificent’?” said Cy.

“Okay.” Paul started typing and then stopped. “Does anyone know how to spell ‘magnificent’?”

“That word’s not on the second grade spelling list,” said Dee.

“Let me try,” said Cy. Paul moved over and Cy typed, “M-a-g-n-e-f-f-e-s-e-n-t.”

“That’s not right,” said Paul. “There’s a red line under it.”

“I’ll use spell check to fix it,” said Cy.

“Good idea,” said Dee. “M-a-g-n-i-f-i-c-e-n-t. Magnificent.”

Cy fixed it, and then Paul sat back down. “I’m sure glad the person who wrote this program knew how to spell.” Dee started humming.

“There’s that song again,” complained Cy.

Dee winced. “I’m sorry. I’ll have to put something else into my mind so that song doesn’t keep coming back to me.”

“What should I write about Chip?” asked Paul.

Cy began, “Chip is a great friend to all the kids in the neighborhood. Every . . .”

“—good and perfect gift comes from God,” said Dee.

The boys stopped and looked at her. She shrugged.

Paul continued. “Every day . . .”

“Day? ‘This is the day the Lord has made. I will rejoice and be glad in it,’” recited Dee. The boys stopped and looked at her again.

“What are you doing?” asked Paul.

“I’m trying to think of our Sunday school memory verses, so I can fill my mind with God’s Word instead of that silly car commercial.”

“Good idea,” said Cy. “God places His Word into our minds when we read the Bible.”

“Do you want to try?” said Dee. “Think of a verse that includes the word ‘grass.’”

“I know,” said Cy. “‘The grass withers and the flower fades, but the Word of the Lord endures forever.’ Hey, this is fun. You try one, Paul. How about ‘mind’?”

Paul tapped his head. “‘Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.’”

Dee sat down at the computer. “My turn to type. Let’s see. Where were we? Oh yeah. ‘Chip greets the children with a happy bark. He’s happy because he listens to Dee read God’s Word every day, and God’s Word is the best thing to have running through your mind.’”

“I like that!” said Paul. “Thanks to you, my newsletter is finished.”

Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script "What's On Your Mind?"

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

The words in italics are notes for you and your puppeteers; they are not to be read aloud. You will need a small laptop computer or a box that is painted like a computer.

INTRODUCTION

Dee: Have you ever had a song you couldn't get out of your head?

[Wait for audience response.]

Cy: Some songs are so hard to forget.

Paul: And some commercials, too.

Dee: We need to be careful about what we see.

Paul: And listen to.

Cy: Because what we see and hear sticks with us.

Dee: Like that car commercial jingle, remember?

Cy: How could I forget? It all started one afternoon when Dee and I didn't know what to do.

[Paul exits.]

SCRIPT

Dee: What do you want to do?

Cy: I don't know. What do you want to do?

Dee: I don't know. *[Starts humming.]*

Cy: What are you humming?

Dee: I'm not sure. *[Hums some more.]*

Cy: Oh, I know what it is. It's the song from that car commercial on TV.

Dee: You're right. *[Sings.]* "Sleek, fast, down the road."

Dee and Cy: *[Sings.]* "Drive the car that sets you free!"

Dee: I can't get that song out of my mind. It just keeps playing over and over in my brain. Hey, let's go over Paul's house. Maybe he can figure out what we should do.

Cy: Okay, but stop humming that song.

Dee: I'll try.

[Dee and Cy exit. A laptop computer is on-stage. Paul stands next to the computer.]

Dee and Cy re-enter.]

Dee: Hi, Paul. What are you doing?

Paul: Hi, Dee! Hi Cy. I'm trying out a new program. It's supposed to make it easier to put together a newsletter.

Cy: Cool program!

Paul: Thanks. I'm using it to make a newsletter for our neighborhood. Want to help?

Dee: I like the design of your newsletter. When will we get to read it?

Paul: It's almost done. I've added a picture of Chip. All I need are words to go under it.

Cy: How about writing, "Chip the magnificent"?

Paul: Do you know how to spell "magnificent"?

Dee: That word's not on the second grade spelling list. *[Starts humming again.]*

Cy: There's that song again.

Dee: I'm sorry. It won't leave me alone.

Cy: Can't you put something else in your mind instead of that song?

Dee: That's a good idea. If I put something else into my mind, maybe it won't keep coming back to me.

Paul: What should I write about Chip?

Cy: Chip is a great friend to all the kids in the neighborhood. Every . . .

Dee: —good and perfect gift comes from God.

[The boys look at her.]

Paul: Cy, that sounded good. You were saying that every day . . .

Dee: Day? "This is the day the Lord has made. I will rejoice and be glad in it."

[The boys look at her again.]

Paul: What are you doing?

Dee: I'm trying to think of our Sunday school memory verses, so I can fill my mind with God's Word instead of a silly song from that car commercial.

Cy: Good idea, Dee. God programs His Word into our minds when we read the Bible.

Dee: Do you want to try?

Paul & Cy: Sure!

Dee: Think of a verse that includes the word "grass."

Cy: I know. "The grass withers and the flower fades, but the Word of the Lord endures forever." Hey, this is fun. You try one, Paul. How about "mind"?

Paul: "Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things."

Cy: That's a good one.

Dee: I know what you can put under Chip's picture: Chip greets the children with a happy bark. He's happy because he listens to Dee read God's Word every day, and God's Word is the best thing to have running through your mind.

Paul: I like that. I'll type it in.

[Curtain.]

APPLICATION

[Enter Dee, Cy, and Paul.]

Dee: So you see, Scripture is much better for filling your mind . . .

Paul: And your ears . . .

Cy: And your eyes . . .

Dee: And your heart. It's better than TV . . .

Cy: Or video games . . .

Paul: Or commercials . . .

Dee: Or popular music.

Cy: God programs our minds when we read the Bible.

Paul: Verses come to our minds to remind us about what we know about God.

Dee: And how He wants us to live. So wouldn't you rather have God's Word in your mind instead of a car commercial?

[Wait for audience response.]

Dee, Cy, and Paul: Us too! '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.

Cy and Paul were excited about building a castle in the sandbox, but they couldn't get the sand to stick together. Finally, they realized that to mold the sand, they had to add a little water. Before they were able to make the windows, drawbridge, and moat, Paul's mother called them in for lunch. Although they wanted to go eat, they also wanted to finish the main part of the castle, so it would be drying as they ate. Paul's mother called them again. Should they finish their plan or go in for lunch?

Conclusion (5 minutes)

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

Not until Mrs. Shepherd told the boys that Mike and Mark, Paul's brothers, were eating all of the sprinkle cookies did Cy and Paul hurry toward the house. They love those cookies. Mrs. Shepherd stopped them at the door. As they brushed off the sand, she wanted to know why the cookies made them obey her. Cy and Paul realized they should have obeyed her the first time, because that is what God would have wanted them to do. Mrs. Shepherd agreed. She was glad that God's Word is molding their hearts in the same way that they were molding castles out of the sand. Finally, the boys were sand-free, and they hurried inside to eat their lunch and their cookies.

Paul and Cy sat in the sandbox in Paul's backyard. They were planning to make the most amazing sand castle ever.

“Let's put a window here,” said Cy.

“And we can make a drawbridge over there,” said Paul.

“Yeah, with a ditch around the whole castle.”

“A moat! That's a good idea. Every good sand castle should have a moat,” said Paul.

They started gathering sand into a pile to form the castle, but the sand kept falling down again.

Paul sighed. “This isn't working very well.”

“I know what we need,” said Cy. “Water!”

“That's right,” said Paul. He got the hose and wet the sand just a little bit.

Cy tried to form the sand into a tower. “Look, it works!”

Before they could start digging, Paul's mother called, “Cy. Paul. Come in for lunch.” Cy and Paul looked toward the house.

“Okay,” Paul yelled back. “Maybe we should finish the main part of the castle first and then go inside. It will only take us a minute.”

“That's a good idea. Then it can be drying while we eat,” said Cy. “Afterwards, we can add the towers, the drawbridge, and the moat.”

Paul agreed. “And we'll use the hose to fill the moat.”

“Boys!” Paul's mother called from the house again. “Come in for lunch.”

“Okay, Mom,” Paul called back. “We'll be in, in a minute.”

“When we get the moat done,” said Cy, “we can make a large hole in front of it, like a lake.”

“Great idea!” said Paul. “Maybe we can even go swimming in it.”

“That would be so cool,” said Cy. “Then we can ask Dee if she wants to go

swimming, too.”

“Kids, come now!” yelled Mrs. Shepherd from the doorway. “If you take much longer, Mark and Mike will eat all of the cookies with sprinkles on them.”

“Cookies?” asked Cy.

“Those are my favorite,” exclaimed Paul.

The boys jumped up from what they were doing and ran to Mrs. Shepherd. “Stay right there,” said Mrs. Shepherd. “Jump around to get all the sand off of you. I don't want the sandbox in my house.” The boys started jumping.

“Do I look okay now?” asked Paul. “I really want a cookie.”

“I saved you each one,” said his mother, “but first I want you to tell me why you came when you did.”

“Cookies!” said the boys together.

“Knowing I had cookies with sprinkles on them changed your hearts,” said Mrs. Shepherd. “But why didn't you think it was important to obey me before you knew about the cookies?”

“We were excited about our sand castle. I'm sorry, Mom, I should have obeyed you and come the first time you called.”

“I'm sorry, too,” said Cy. “The Bible tells us to love one another. It wasn't very loving to make you wait for us.”

“I'm glad to see that the Bible is molding your hearts,” said Mrs. Shepherd.

“Hey, that's like the sand,” said Paul. “We're molding sand and water into a castle.”

“And God's Word is molding us into better kids,” said Cy.

Paul agreed. “That's right. When we read the Bible and do what God says, he shapes our hearts and helps us do what He wants us to do.”

“So next time . . .” said Cy.

“We'll come when we're called,” said Paul.

“Great,” said Mrs. Shepherd. “Let's go eat.”

Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script "Castles and Cookies"

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

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

INTRODUCTION

Dee: Your sandbox is the best ever, Paul.

Cy: Do you like our sand castle?

Dee: I can't believe you made it all by yourselves.

Paul: Do you want to know how we made it?

Cy: And the lesson we learned?

Dee: I do. Do you want to know, kids?

[Let the audience respond.]

Paul: Okay, then we'll show you.

Cy: But, Dee, you'll have to play Mrs. Shepherd.

Paul: You can put on an apron to show that you're my mom.

Dee: Okay. I'll get ready.

[All three puppets run offstage.]

SCRIPT

[Enter Cy and Paul.]

Paul: This is going to be the most amazing sand castle ever.

Cy: Let's put a window here.

Paul: And we can make that whole area into a drawbridge.

Cy: Yeah, with a ditch around the whole castle.

Paul: A moat! That's a good idea. Every good sand castle should have a moat.

Cy: First, we have to solve a problem. Every time we put the sand together into a pile, it falls apart. We'll never be able to build anything with it.

Paul: I know we can figure it out.

Cy: What can we do? *[Stops to think.]* What if we used water?

Paul: Good idea. If we wet the sand just a little bit, it should work.

Cy: Look, the sand in the corner is wet. Let's use that.

Dee: *[Offstage.]* Cy. Paul. Come in for lunch.

[Cy and Paul look offstage.]

Paul: *[Yells.]* Okay! *[To Cy.]* Maybe we should finish the main part of the castle first and then go inside. It will only take us a minute.

Cy: That's a good idea. Then it can be drying while we eat. Then afterwards, we can add the towers, the drawbridge, and the moat.

Paul: And we'll use the hose to fill the moat.

Cy: Cool.

Dee: *[Offstage.]* Boys! Come in for lunch.

Paul: *[Yells.]* Okay, Mom. We'll be in, in a minute.

Cy: When we get the moat done, we can make a large hole, in front of it, like a lake.

Paul: It would hold a lot of water. Maybe we can even go swimming in it.

Cy: That would be so cool. Then we can ask Dee if she wants to go swimming, too.

[Dee enters wearing an apron to play Mrs. Shepherd.]

Dee: Kids, come now! If you take much longer, Mark and Mike will eat all of the cookies with sprinkles on them.

Cy: Cookies?

Paul: Those are my favorite.

[The boys run to the other side of the stage where Dee is.]

Dee: Stay right there. Jump around to get all the sand off of you. I don't want the sandbox in my house.

[The boys start jumping.]

Paul: Do I look okay now? I really want a cookie.

Dee: I saved you each one, but first I want you to tell me why you came when you did.

Cy and Paul: Cookies!

Dee: Knowing I had cookies with sprinkles on them changed your hearts. Why didn't you think it was important to obey me before you knew about the cookies?

Paul: We were excited about our sand castle. I'm sorry, Mom, I should have obeyed you and come the first time you called.

Cy: I'm sorry, too. The Bible tells us to love one another. It wasn't very loving to make you wait for us.

Dee: I'm glad to see that the Bible is molding your hearts.

Paul: Hey, that's like the sand. We're molding sand and water into a castle.

Cy: And God's Word is molding us into better kids.

Paul: That's right. When we read the Bible and do what God says, he shapes our hearts and helps us do what He wants us to do.

Cy: So next time . . .

Paul: We'll come when we're called.

Dee: Great. Let's go eat.

[Curtain]

APPLICATION

[Enter Dee, Cy, and Paul.]

Cy: And that's how we made our castle.

Dee: You did a great job of molding this sand.

Cy: Not as good as God does when He molds our hearts, but we did okay.

Dee: You know, I have a sandbox, too, and the sprinklers came on this morning.

Paul: Which means your sand is probably still wet.

Cy: What are we waiting for? It's time to mold some sand.

Dee: But if my mother calls for lunch.

Paul: We'll stop and do what she says.

Cy: Because we've been reading the Bible, and God is molding our hearts.

Dee: Then let's go!

[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, Dee, and Cy were upset because their grouchy neighbor, Mrs. Potter, yelled at them every time they walked in front of her house, even when they hadn’t done anything wrong. She yelled at Paul for stepping on her plants, which were growing over the sidewalk. She yelled at Dee for walking Chip past the house, because it made Mrs. Potter’s dog bark. She yelled at Cy and his sister for making too much noise and having fun. When Mrs. Potter yells at them, the kids feel like being mean back to her, but that doesn’t seem right. What should they do?

Conclusion (5 minutes)

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

Paul remembered that the Bible said to treat neighbors the same way that they would like to be treated. The next day, Paul weeded her garden. Cy and his sister brought her flowers from their garden and then talked to her for an hour. Dee volunteered to take Mrs. Potter’s dog for a walk when she was walking Chip. Almost over night, Mrs. Potter transformed from a grouchy neighbor to a friend. Dee, Cy, and Paul agree that the Bible changes their lives when they obey God’s Word. Now, they don’t have to rush by Mrs. Potter’s house and have her yell at them. Instead, they wave hello and sometimes she has cookies ready for them to eat.

Paul hopped over the sidewalk cracks as he headed for Dee’s house. As he passed Mrs. Potter’s house, though, he stopped hopping and walked carefully past it. He didn’t want Mrs. Potter yelling at him for stepping on her plants again. The way they grew out onto the sidewalk, though, it was hard not to step on them.

The screen door slammed. “I told you kids to stay off my plants,” yelled Mrs. Potter. Paul hurried past the house.

When he got to Dee’s house, she was sitting on the front steps.

“Hi, Dee,” said Paul. “I sure hate having to pass Mrs. Potter’s house to get to yours,” said Paul.

Dee looked up. “Did she yell at you again?”

“Yeah, even though I was careful about her plants,” said Paul.

“She got angry with me for walking Chip in front of her house, because it made her little dog bark.” Dee put her head down.

“What makes her so grouchy?” asked Paul.

Just then Cy came up the walk. “Ooh, I’m so angry,” he said.

“Did Mrs. Potter yell at you, too?” Paul asked.

“Yes, she said that my sister and I were making too much noise. We were just playing and talking. We didn’t do anything wrong,” Cy said.

“No matter what we do, she yells at us,” said Paul.

Cy sat down with the others. “Maybe she doesn’t like kids,” he said. “Sometimes when she’s mean to me, I want to be mean right back to her.”

“I know,” said Dee. “I do, too.”

Paul agreed. “It’s hard to be nice to someone who’s mean and grumpy.”

Dee sat up straighter. “My grandmother gets grouchy when her cancer is bothering her.”

“Maybe Mrs. Potter is mean because she’s not feeling well,” Cy said. “My mom

saw her at the hospital last week.”

“That could be it,” said Paul. “But even if she isn’t sick, we still need to be nice to her. The Bible says that we should love our neighbors as ourselves.”

Cy nodded. “I remember that. We learned it in Sunday school.”

Dee stood up and walked into the back yard. The others followed. “So we need to think about what it’s like to be Mrs. Potter.”

“She’s alone a lot,” said Paul.

Cy climbed on Dee’s slide and then slid down. “Maybe it’s hard for her to see us having fun when she doesn’t have any.”

Paul and Dee swung back and forth on the swings. “Maybe she needs help with her gardening,” said Paul.

Dee added, “Mrs. Potter doesn’t move very fast. Her little dog, Princess, almost never gets to go for a walk.”

The next day, Paul timidly went to Mrs. Potter’s front door and offered to weed her garden.

“Okay,” she said, “but don’t pull up any of my plants.”

Later, Cy and his sister brought her flowers from their garden. Her eyes misted with tears, and she talked to them for an hour. While they were talking, Dee came and volunteered to take Princess on a walk with Chip.

The following week as the children walked past the front of Mrs. Potter’s house, she invited them in for cookies.

Later that day, Cy said, “You know, it really works.”

“What?” asked Dee.

“Doing what the Bible says,” said Cy.

Paul agreed. “It sure changed Mrs. Potter.”

“And us. I like her now,” said Dee.

“Instead of having a grumpy neighbor, we have a friend,” said Cy.

“The Bible definitely changes our lives when we obey what it says,” said Paul.

Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script "Neighbors"

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

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

INTRODUCTION

Paul: Hey kids, did you know that the Bible can change your life?

[Wait for response.]

Dee: When we obey what the Bible says, it changes us.

Cy: We know. God's Word helped change our neighborhood.

Dee: Let's not tell them. Let's show them.

Cy: Okay. See you in a minute, kids.

[Exit Dee and Cy.]

SCRIPT

[Paul goes across the stage, hopping every now and then.]

Paul: Here's another crack. *[Hops.]* And another one. *[Hops.]* Uh-oh. I'm almost to Mrs. Potter's house. *[Moves slowly as if walking carefully.]*

Paul: I have to be very careful. I don't want to walk on Mrs. Potter's plants, or she'll yell at me.

Voice of Mrs. Potter: *[Offstage.]* I told you kids to stay off my plants!

[Exit Paul. Dee enters and sits down. Paul enters at a run.]

Paul: Hi, Dee. I sure hate passing Mrs. Potter's house on the way here.

Dee: Did she yell at you?

Paul: Yeah, even though I was careful about her plants.

Dee: She got angry with me for walking Chip in front of her house. It made her little dog, Princess, bark.

Paul: I wonder what makes her so grouchy.

[Enter Cy.]

Cy: Ooh, I'm so angry.

Paul: Did Mrs. Potter yell at you, too?

Cy: Yes, she said that my sister and I were making too much noise. We were

just playing and talking. We didn't do anything wrong.

Paul: What makes her so grouchy? No matter what we do, she yells at us.

Cy: Maybe she just doesn't like kids. Sometimes, I feel like being mean right back to her.

Dee: I know. I felt that way, too.

Paul: Me, too. It's hard to be nice to someone who's mean and grumpy.

Dee: My grandmother gets grouchy when her cancer is bothering her.

Cy: Maybe Mrs. Potter is mean because she's not feeling well. My mom saw her at the hospital last week.

Paul: That could be it. But even if she isn't sick, we still need to be nice. The Bible says that we should love our neighbors as ourselves.

Cy: I remember that. We learned it in Sunday school.

Dee: Let's think about what it might be like to be Mrs. Potter.

Cy: That's a great idea.

Paul: She's alone a lot.

Cy: Maybe it's hard for her to see us having fun when she doesn't have any.

Paul: Her plants are all over the sidewalk. Maybe she needs help with her gardening.

Dee: Mrs. Potter doesn't move very fast. Her little dog, Princess, almost never gets to go for a walk.

Cy: I guess we should be better neighbors to Mrs. Potter.

Paul: I'll ask her if I can weed her garden.

Cy: My sister and I can go visit her so she won't be lonely. We'll bring her some flowers from our garden.

Dee: I'll take her dog, Princess, for a walk with Chip.

Paul: We'll do what the Bible says, even if she yells at us, okay?

Dee and Cy: Okay!

[They all exit. After a few seconds, they re-enter, waving.]

Dee, Cy, and Paul: Goodbye, Mrs. Potter. Thank you!

Paul: Mrs. Potter sure makes good cookies.

Dee: Yeah, she's really a nice person.

Cy: It really works—doing what the Bible says.

Paul: That's right. It sure made things better with Mrs. Potter.

Dee: And it has changed our lives, too. We used to have to rush past her house.

Paul: And now she invites us in for cookies.

Cy: Instead of having a grumpy neighbor, we have a new friend.

Paul: From now on, I'm going to do what the Bible says.

Cy and Dee: Me, too.

Paul: The Bible changes our lives and makes them better when we obey what it says.

Dee: That's true.

[Curtain.]

APPLICATION

Paul: We found out that obeying the Bible changes things.

Cy: It makes everything better.

Dee: It changes our lives and the lives of those around us.

Cy: From now on, we're going to do what the Bible says.

Paul: Even if it means being nice to someone who's grumpy.

Dee: How about you, kids? Are you going to do what the Bible says?

[Wait for the audience to respond.]

Cy: Great! Just like us, you'll be glad you did. See you next time!

Dee & Paul: 'Bye, neighbors!

[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 turned a box into a pretend rocket ship and blasted off. They wanted to see the moon. On their way, they saw a comet, avoided a black hole, and outraced a meteor shower. Soon they arrived on the moon. After putting on their gravity suits, they went out to explore. The rock formations were interesting. One looked like Dee's swing set. When Paul grew chilly, they knew they needed to get back to the ship, but no one knew where the ship was. They looked around. They did not know what to do.

Conclusion (5 minutes)

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

Fortunately, Dee remembered that her suit came equipped with a homing device that could guide them back to the ship. Cy mentioned that the homing device worked for them in the same way that the Bible works for us. God's Word guides our future. It is a light, a hiding place, and a shield. It can keep us safe no matter what problems we face. It helps us serve God when we choose His way. The homing device took the kids back to the rocket, and the rocket took them home. In the end, the children piled out of the cardboard box, knowing that God's Word would guide them no matter where they went or what they had to do.

"Isn't this box great?" asked Dee. "My mother got a new stove in it."

"If we can all fit inside, let's pretend we're in a spaceship," said Paul.

"No, a rocket ship," said Cy.

"Even better," said Paul. "Hurry. Our rocket ship is about to launch for a trip to the moon." Dee and Cy climbed into the box and sat down.

"Don't forget to put on your seatbelts," said Dee.

"Roger," said Cy.

"Roger," said Paul. "Now we're ready for liftoff."

They all counted together. "Ten, nine, eight, seven, six, five, four, three, two, one, blast off!"

As the boys made rocket sounds, Dee looked out of a pretend spaceship window. "Doesn't the earth look tiny from way up here?"

"It sure does," said Paul. "It's blue."

"Look. I can float," said Cy.

"Me, too," said Paul.

"I've always wondered what it would feel like to be a bird," said Dee.

Cy pointed out of the window. "Look, a comet." They all pushed their faces against the glass to see it.

"Wow!" they said.

"What's that?" asked Paul pointing in another direction. "Oh no! It's a black hole."

"Steer away from that," said Cy. "We don't want to be pulled in."

Cy made a sound as if they were picking up speed. "This has been a really long trip, but we should be arriving at the moon anytime now."

"Get ready for landing," said Paul, making more rocket sounds. "There. We've landed." The children put on their imaginary spacesuits and went outside of the box.

"This is an interesting rock formation," said Cy, looking at the swing set.

"And look up at the stars here!" said Dee.

Paul said, "When we get back to earth, we can tell everyone about how awesome God is."

"He created a wonderful universe," added Dee. "It's awfully cold here, though. I think it's time to head back."

"Uh oh," said Cy. "Do either of you know how to get back to the rocket ship?"

Dee and Paul looked around. "No," they said together. "We should have tied a string to the ship to guide us back," said Paul.

"Wait, I forgot," said Dee. "There's a homing device in my spacesuit. There. I've turned it on." She made a beeping sound.

"We're saved," said Paul. "The homing device will guide us safely back to the rocket ship."

"And the instruments on the ship will guide us safely home," added Dee. They started walking toward the ship.

"That homing device is like the Bible," said Cy.

"What do you mean?" asked Paul and Dee together.

"Remember? Our Sunday school teacher said that the Bible guides our future."

"That's right," said Dee. "God's Word can keep us safe."

"And it helps us serve God when we choose His way," added Paul.

"Look! There it is," said Dee. "Our rocket ship is waiting to take us home."

"Hurray!" cried the boys as they all piled into the cardboard rocket ship. "Ten, nine, eight, seven, six, five, four, three, two, one, blast off!" they shouted together.

The boys made rocket sounds while Dee looked out the ship. The earth got larger and larger. Finally, they could see Dee's back yard. Whoosh. They landed safely.

"We're home," said Dee.

"It's good to be back," said Paul.

"That was a great trip," said Cy.

Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script "Rocket Power"

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 large cardboard box with the front cut out of it.

INTRODUCTION

Dee: Isn't this box great?

Paul: Yeah. It's huge.

Cy: Where did it come from?

Dee: My mother got a new stove in it.

Paul: It could be a mountain.

Cy: Or a building.

Dee: What does it look like to you, kids?

[Let the audience respond.]

Paul: I'll bet we can all fit inside of it.

Cy: I know what we can do. Let's pretend it's a rocket ship.

Paul: Okay.

Dee: Let's go to the moon.

[Dee, Cy, and Paul disappear beneath the stage.]

SCRIPT

[Dee, Cy, and Paul reappear inside of the cardboard box.]

Paul: Our rocket ship is about to launch for our trip to the moon.

Dee: Don't forget your seatbelts.

Cy: Roger.

Paul: Roger that. Now we're ready for liftoff. Let's begin the countdown.

Dee, Cy, and Paul: Ten, nine, eight, seven, six, five four, three, two one, blast-off!

[Cy and Paul make rocket sounds. Dee looks out of the window that faces the audience.]

Dee: Doesn't the earth look tiny from way up here?

Paul: It sure does, and it looks blue.

Cy: I feel so light that I'll bet I could float if I didn't have my gravity suit on.

[Dee, Cy, and Paul bob as if they could float, but their suits hold them down.]

Paul: Me, too.

Dee: This must be how a bird feels.

Cy: Look a comet.

[Dee, Cy, and Paul all look out the window into the audience.]

Dee, Cy, and Paul: Wow!

Paul: Look a black hole.

Cy: Steer away from that! We don't want to be pulled in! We should be arriving at the moon anytime now.

Paul: Get ready for the landing. Okay, easy now. *[Makes rocket sounds.]* There. We've landed.

Dee: Let's go outside and explore the moon.

[The children duck under the box and re-surface onstage.]

Cy: Look. Over there. That's an interesting rock formation. It almost looks like Dee's swing set on earth.

Dee: Forget the rocks. Look at the stars!

Paul: When we get back to earth, we can tell everyone how awesome God is.

Dee: He sure created an amazing universe.

Paul: Is anyone else getting cold? Let's get back to the ship and warm up.

Cy: Uh oh. Do either of you know how to get back to the rocket ship?

[Dee and Paul look around.]

Dee and Paul: Um, no.

Cy: We should have tied a string to the ship so that it would guide us back.

Dee: Wait. I forgot. There's a homing device on my spacesuit. There. I've turned it on. *[Makes beeping sounds.]*

Paul: We're saved. The homing device will guide us safely back to the rocket ship.

Cy: Great!

Dee: Once we're back in the ship, its instruments will guide us safely home.

[Dee, Cy, and Paul walk toward the ship.]

Paul: Look! There it is, ready to take us home.

Cy: Hurray! Let's get inside.

[Dee, Cy, and Paul get back inside of the rocket ship.]

Paul: Our rocket ship is about to launch for our trip back to earth.

Dee: Don't forget your seatbelts.

Cy: Roger.

Paul: Roger. We're ready for liftoff. Begin countdown.

Dee, Cy, and Paul: Ten, nine, eight, seven, six, five four, three, two one, blast-off!

[Cy and Paul make rocket sounds. Dee looks out of the window that faces the audience.]

Dee: The earth gets bigger and bigger the closer we get. Look, there's my back yard.

Paul: Get ready for the landing. Okay, easy now. *[Makes rocket sounds.]* There. We've landed.

Dee: Open the hatch.

[Curtain.]

APPLICATION

Dee: We're home!

Paul: It's good to be back.

Cy: I don't know what we would have done without those homing devices. They were important. They are a lot like the Bible.

Dee: What do you mean?

Cy: Remember? Our Sunday school teacher said that the Bible guides our future.

Paul: That's right. God's Word can keep us safe no matter where we go.

Paul: And it helps us serve God when we choose His way.

Dee: Let's go on another adventure. But this time, that box can be a pirate ship.

Cy and Paul: Okay!

[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 closed the curtains and locked his bedroom door. He didn’t want anyone to know what he was practicing. Cy knew that good actors learned how to control their facial expressions and actions. So, Cy watched himself in the mirror as he pretended to be Joshua, and then Peter. Before he could do more, his acting practice was interrupted by a visit from Paul and Dee. Cy wasn’t sure if they had heard him pretending to be other people. His friends were used to seeing him play sports. Would they laugh at him because he liked acting, too?

Conclusion (5 minutes)

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

Paul told Cy that his dad, Mr. Shepherd, wanted the second grade Sunday school class to put on a play at the town carnival. Mr. Shepherd thought it would be a great way to tell others about Jesus and His love for them. Dee thought acting would be fun, but Paul didn’t. Mr. Shepherd was having trouble finding boys to act in the play. The news sounded exciting to Cy, but to be a part of the play, Cy finally had to admit to his friends that he liked acting. Paul and Dee didn’t laugh at Cy. They thought it was great. Because Cy can teach him what to do, even Paul was now excited about telling his friends about Jesus through Mr. Shepherd’s play. Cy was glad that God has given him the ability to act in front of others. He can use his talent to let God touch his friends’ hearts.

Cy closed the curtains in his room and made sure his door was locked. Then he stood in front of the mirror. He turned one way and then the other. He tried different poses. “First, I’ll be Joshua.” He held out one arm. “Choose today whom you will serve! As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”

“Okay, now I’ll be Peter after he denied Jesus three times. The Bible says that he ran away and cried like crazy, because he was so upset.” Cy pretended to cry very hard. “Hmm. I guess that was pretty good.”

There was a knock on the bedroom door. “Hey, Cy, can we come in?” asked Paul.

“Sure, come on in.” Cy unlocked the door but hoped Paul hadn’t heard him practicing. Paul and Dee entered the room. They looked around.

“Why are your curtains closed?” asked Dee. “It’s a nice day outside.”

“I . . . I just wanted some time alone,” said Cy.

“We can come back later,” said Paul.

“No, that’s okay.” Cy opened the curtains.

“We came over to tell you the news,” said Dee. “Paul’s dad wants the second grade Sunday school to put on a play at the town carnival.”

“A play? About what?” asked Cy.

“About Jesus and His love for us,” said Dee. “Lots of people in our town need to hear about Jesus’ love and forgiveness.”

“Dad says that the only problem is that we don’t have many kids who like to act. Most of the kids like to play sports, like us,” said Paul.

“I think acting would be fun,” said Dee.

“So far, mostly girls want to be in the play,” said Paul. “I told Dad that if he put in a basketball scene, you and I could do it.” He laughed. Cy didn’t say anything.

“What’s the matter, Cy?” asked Dee.

“Your dad really needs boys to act?” Cy asked.

“Yeah, he especially needs someone to be Jesus. He’s trying to get me to do it, but I don’t know anything about acting,” said Paul.

Cy let out a big sigh and said quietly, “I could teach you.”

“What did you say?” asked Paul.

“I could teach you about acting,” said Cy. “I’ve been practicing.”

“You’re kidding! Why didn’t you tell us?” asked Dee.

“I thought you’d laugh at me,” said Cy.

“Laugh at you? Are you kidding? Our problem is solved!” said Paul. “You could be Jesus, and I’ll be a disciple.”

“That’s great,” said Dee. “Your acting could touch everyone with the most important thing in the world—the Gospel.”

“You would be sharing the Good News in a brand new way,” said Paul.

“If I act in this play, I guess I won’t have to practice with the curtains closed anymore,” said Cy. “It would be great if my acting would help my friends hear God’s Word.”

“Remember when I told you about Jesus?” asked Paul.

“Yeah,” said Cy. “God touched my heart when you told me about how much Jesus loves me.”

“I think your acting will let God touch the heart of your friends in the same way,” said Paul.

“Then what are we waiting for?” asked Cy. “Let’s go ask your Dad if I can have a part.”

Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script "Secret Talent"

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

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

INTRODUCTION

Dee: Some kids have secret talents.

Paul: They're good at something but are afraid to let other people know about it.

Dee: Like singing.

Cy: Or drawing.

Dee: Or acting.

Cy: Acting! Now that reminds me of a story.

Paul: I'm not surprised.

Cy: It's a good story.

Paul: It's a great story.

Cy: Maybe the kids would like to hear it.

Dee: Would you like to hear about Cy's secret talent, kids?

[Wait for audience response.]

Cy: Okay, here we go.

[Paul and Dee run offstage.]

SCRIPT

Cy: Now I've got the door locked and the curtains closed. I don't want anyone to see me while I practice my acting.

[Cy looks at the audience as if they are his mirror. He turns one way and then the other, trying out different poses.]

Cy: This mirror shows everything. Okay, who should I be first? I know. I'll be Joshua talking to the people of Israel before they entered the Promised Land.

[He holds out one arm.] "Choose today whom you will serve! As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." That was convincing enough. Now I'll be Peter after he denied Jesus three times. Let's see. The Bible says that he ran away and cried, because he was so upset. *[Cries.]*

Cy: Good. Now who should I be?

[A knock is heard offstage.]

Paul: Cy, can we come in?

Cy: *[Quietly.]* Oh no, it's Paul! I hope he didn't hear me practicing. *[Louder.]* Sure, come on in, Paul.

[Enter Paul and Dee.]

Dee: Hey, why are the curtains closed? It's a nice day outside.

Cy: I . . . I just wanted some time alone.

Paul: We didn't mean to bother you. We can come back later.

Cy: No, that's okay.

Dee: Guess what? Paul's dad wants the second grade Sunday school to put on a play at the town carnival.

Cy: Our class? A play? About what?

Dee: About Jesus and His love for us. Lots of people in our town need to hear about Jesus' love and forgiveness.

Paul: Dad says that the only problem is that we don't have many kids who like to act. Most of the kids like to play sports, like us.

Dee: I think acting would be fun.

Paul: So far, it's mostly girls who want to be in the play. I told Dad that if he put in a basketball scene, you and I could do it. *[Laughs.]*

Dee: What's the matter, Cy?

Cy: Your dad really needs boys to act?

Paul: Yeah, he especially needs someone to be Jesus. He's trying to get me to do it, but I don't know anything about acting.

Cy: I could teach you.

Paul: You?

Cy: I could teach you about acting. I've been practicing.

Dee: You're kidding! Why didn't you tell us?

Cy: I thought you'd laugh at me.

Paul: Laugh at you? Are you kidding? Our problem is solved! You could be Jesus, and I'll be a disciple.

Dee: That's great. Your acting could touch everyone with the most important thing in the world—the Gospel.

Paul: You would be sharing the Good News with your friends in a brand new way.

Cy: If I act in this play, I guess I won't have to practice with the curtains closed anymore.

Dee: That's why they were closed.

Cy: It would be great if my acting could help my friends hear God's Word.

Dee: And God wants us to tell them about Him.

Paul: Remember when I told you about Jesus?

Cy: Yeah. God touched my heart when you told me about how much Jesus loved me.

Paul: I think your acting will let God touch the hearts of your friends in the same way.

Cy: Then what are we waiting for? Let's go ask your Dad if I can have a part.

[Curtain.]

APPLICATION

Cy: So you see, kids, I didn't have to hide my acting talent. God gave it to me.

Paul: Cy can use that talent to help his friends learn about Jesus.

Cy: You can use the talents that God has given you, too.

Paul: No matter what they are.

Dee: God touches our friends' hearts when we share God's Word.

Paul: And there are many ways to tell your friends about Jesus.

Dee: Like singing songs about Him.

Paul: Or talking about Him.

Cy: Or acting in a play. Oh, look at the time! We have to get to play practice.

Dee: See you later, 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 couldn't find her dog, Chip, anywhere. She looked up the street. She didn't see Chip. She looked down the street. She didn't see Chip. She looked across the street. Still, she did not see Chip. Cy and Paul helped Dee look for Chip. They split up the neighborhood and searched, but they could not find him. Dee is afraid that Chip got out of an open gate and chased an ice cream truck. That means that he could be neighborhoods away. Dee and the boys keep looking.

Conclusion (5 minutes)

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

Dee, Cy, and Paul found no clues to tell them where Chip went. Chip is such a happy dog that he goes out into all the world and meets as many people as he can. Paul compared Chip's behavior to God's Word. God's Word calls to everyone and His message goes all around the world. The children hurried to the backyard to search the swing set, picnic table, and trashcans. Chip was not there. Then Cy got a great idea. He looked under the porch and found Chip curled up in a small ball, fast asleep. That made Dee happy. She knows that there is only one thing that Chip likes more than going out into all the world and barking to everyone. He likes coming home for a good, long nap.

"Chip! Chip! Where are you?" called Dee. She looked up the street. She didn't see Chip. She looked down the street. She didn't see Chip. She looked across the street. Still, she did not see Chip. She did see Cy and Paul, though, throwing a ball back and forth.

"Cy! Paul!" she yelled. "Can you help me find Chip?"

Cy and Paul came running over to Dee. "Chip is missing?" Cy asked.

"What happened?" asked Paul.

"I must have left the gate open," she said, "and an ice cream truck drove by."

"Oh no. I can imagine what happened," said Paul.

"Chip does love running after ice cream trucks," said Cy.

"Now he's gone. I can't find Chip anywhere. He probably ran down the street. You know how he does," said Dee.

Paul laughed. "You mean that he called out to everyone with his happy bark."

"And he ran from person to person all over the neighborhood," added Cy.

"That's right," said Dee. "He loves people."

"He loves everyone and everything." Paul threw his hands in the air.

"Will you help me find him?" asked Dee.

"Of course, we will," said Paul. "I think you've told us everything we need to know."

"Let's split up," said Cy.

"I'll go look over near my house," said Paul.

"I'll check over there by the fire hydrant," said Dee.

"And I'll go in the other direction," said Cy.

"Chip! Chip!" they called. They looked everywhere for him, but they could not find him.

"Chip could be neighborhoods away by now," said Paul after the children came back together without a single clue.

"He's never gone that far from home without my parents and me," said Dee, "but he does like going out into all the world. He likes everything about everyone and wants to sniff everything he can."

"If you think about it, Chip is kind of like God's Word," said Paul.

"How?" asked Cy.

"God's Word calls to everyone and His message goes all around the world."

"Oh, I see," said Cy. "Chip barks to everyone and goes all around the neighborhood."

"That's my Chip," said Dee. "He gets into everything, even places that I don't think he can fit."

"I just can't figure out where he could be," said Cy. "Maybe he came back and you didn't notice?"

"I hadn't thought of that," said Dee. "We've looked everywhere but my back yard."

"Let's look there," said Paul. The three children hurried in back and looked around. They looked around the swings, under the picnic table, and between the trash cans. Still, they could not find Chip.

"Wait a minute," said Cy. "Didn't you say that he likes to hide in small places?"

"Yes, he does," said Dee.

"Well, there's one small, tight place where we haven't looked yet." Cy went to the house and then squatted down. "Look, here he is."

Under the porch, they found Chip curled up and fast asleep.

"It looks like he came home on his own," said Paul.

"I should have known," said Dee.

"Known what?" asked Cy.

"There's only one thing that Chip likes more than going out into all the world and barking out to everyone," said Dee, "and that's coming home for a good, long nap." The children laughed.

Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script "Into All the World"

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 box that looks like a computer and the sound of clicking computer keys.

INTRODUCTION

Dee: *[Yells offstage.]* Chip!

Cy: Dee, did you lose Chip again?

Paul: I don't see him.

Dee: No, my dog, Chip, is safe in my yard. I was telling my mom I wanted chocolate chip cookies, not peanut butter.

Paul: Whew! I thought your dog was missing again.

Cy: Kids, have you heard the story about when Chip was missing?

[Let the audience respond.]

Paul: Would you like to hear about it?

[Let the audience respond.]

Dee: Great. Here it is.

[Exit Cy and Paul.]

SCRIPT

Dee: Chip! Chip! Where are you? *[Looks all over the stage.]*

Dee: Where could Chip be? I don't see him anywhere. Do you kids see my dog?

[Let the audience respond.]

Dee: I don't see him down the street. *[Looks.]* I don't see him up the street. *[Looks.]* I don't see him across the street. *[Looks.]* I don't see him anywhere. All I see are Cy and Paul playing catch. Cy! Paul! Can you help me find Chip?

[Enter Cy and Paul.]

Cy: Is Chip missing?

Paul: What happened?

Dee: I must have left the gate open. An ice cream truck drove by.

Cy: Chip does love running after ice cream trucks.

Dee: Now he's gone. I can't find him anywhere. He probably ran down the street. You know how he does.

Paul: You mean that he called out to everyone with his happy bark.

Cy: And he ran from person to person all over the neighborhood.

Dee: That's right. Will you help me find him?

Paul: Of course. You've told us everything we need to know.

Cy: Let's split up.

Paul: I'll look near my house.

Dee: I'll check by the fire hydrant.

Cy: And I'll go in the other direction.

[Dee, Cy, and Paul move in different directions.]

Dee: Chip!

Cy: Chip!

Paul: Chip!

Dee, Cy, and Paul: Chip!

[The children come back together.]

Dee: I don't see him anywhere.

Cy and Paul: Me neither.

Paul: Chip could be neighborhoods away by now.

Dee: He does like going out into all the world. He likes everything about everyone and wants to sniff everything he can.

Paul: If you think about it, Chip is kind of like God's Word. God's Word calls to everyone, and His message goes all around the world.

Cy: Oh, I see. Chip barks to everyone and goes all around the neighborhood.

Dee: That's my Chip. He gets into everything, even places that I don't think he can fit.

Cy: I just can't figure out where he could be. Could he have come back, and you just didn't notice?

Dee: I hadn't thought of that. We've looked everywhere but my back yard.

Paul: Let's look there.

[The children move to the other side of the stage, and then they spread out.]

Paul: He's not by the swings.

Dee: He's not anywhere!

Cy: Didn't you say that Chip likes to hide in small places?

Dee: Yes.

Cy: Well, there's one small, tight place where we haven't looked yet. *[Moves to the other side of the stage and bends over, looking offstage.]* Look, there he is.

[Paul and Dee go to where Cy is and look offstage.]

Paul: He's under the porch.

Dee: Isn't he cute? He's all curled up and fast asleep.

Paul: It looks like he came home on his own.

Dee: I should have known. There's only one thing that Chip likes more than going out into all the world, and that's coming home for a good long nap.

[Curtain.]

APPLICATION

[Enter Dee, Cy, Paul, and Chip. Chip hurries from one end of the stage to the other barking all the time. Chip can wave and bark at each of the children.]

Dee: I'm so glad that Chip didn't run away.

Paul: Look, he wants to say a special hello to you. *[Points to one of the children. Chip gives a bark to that child.]*

Cy: And to you. *[Points to another child. Chip gives a bark to that child.]*

Dee: Chip wants to give a great big hello to all of you, because he loves each and every one of you.

Paul: God loves you, too. He sends His Word out into all the world so that everyone will know that He loves them.

[Chip scampers offstage.]

Cy: Where's he going now?

Dee: I don't know, but I'd better find out.

Cy and Paul: We'll help you. '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.

Paul was hungry. Waiting for their carry-out order at the Chinese restaurant took too long, in Paul’s opinion. Paul’s dad suggested that they play a game of I Spy while they waited. “I spy someone from another country,” Mr. Shepherd said. “Which country is it?” Paul and his sister Susan tried to guess. Paul saw someone eating with chopsticks and guessed China. Mr. Shepherd shook his head no. Susan knew the man eating with chopsticks was from India. She guessed India. She was wrong also. When they asked their dad for a clue, he told them that the person he saw was from Asia. Paul did not know any other countries in Asia. How could he guess?

Conclusion (5 minutes)

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

Susan listed countries in Asia like China, India, Russia, parts of Turkey, Japan, the Philippines, and Afghanistan. She said that some of the people in Asia worship idols and do not believe in the true, living God. Finally, Paul noticed Mr. Cohen from their church. Mr. Cohen came from Israel. Paul guessed Israel. He was right, and their food was ready to be picked up. The game made the time go fast. Although they had their food, Paul, Susan, and Mr. Shepherd continued talking about Asia. Since some people in Asia worship idols and do not believe in the one true God, they decided to pray for the Asian people on the way home.

Paul leaned back in his chair. “The food will never get here.”

“Someone’s hungry,” said his father.

“I’m starving,” said Paul. “When will it come?”

“Instead of complaining,” said Mr. Shepherd, “let’s play a game while we wait for our take-out food.”

“Can I play?” asked Susan, Paul’s sister.

“You both can play,” said Mr. Shepherd. “I spy someone from another country. Which country is it?”

“That’s easy,” said Paul. “China. That man is eating his Chinese food with chopsticks. He’s Chinese.”

His father shook his head no. “Many people who are not Chinese eat with chopsticks. Your mother and I know how to use them.”

Susan turned to look at the person Paul had mentioned. “Mr. Rohene isn’t Chinese. His daughter is in my class. They’re from India.” The man looked up and waved. Susan waved back. She turned to her father. “Is India the country?”

“No,” said her father.

Paul looked around the room. “Will you give us a hint?”

“Someone here is from another Asian country,” said his father. “Asia is a continent on the other side of the world.”

“Like China?” asked Paul. “I’ve heard people talk about digging all the way through the earth to China.”

“Digging that far would be impossible, but China is on the other side of the world,” said Mr. Shepherd.

“China is a country in Asia,” said Susan. “But you’ve already guessed China. It has to be another country in Asia.”

“I don’t even know the names of the countries in Asia,” said Paul.

“Well, there’s India,” said Susan, “and Russia, Thailand, Japan, the Philippines, Afghanistan, and many other countries.”

“How do you know all those names?” asked Paul.

“We studied Asia in Sunday school,” said Susan. “A lot of people worship idols there, so we prayed for them.”

“Idols?” Paul asked. “Like that statue of a man with the fat stomach by the door?”

“Exactly. Many people in Asia do worship idols,” his dad said, “because they do not know about the true, living God.”

“Then we should tell them about Jesus,” cried Paul.

“That’s right, but just telling is not enough,” said Mr. Shepherd. “We also need to show the people of Asia the love of Christ.”

“I remember. Love changes things, and God’s love makes life and people better,” said Paul.

“When people know we care, they are more willing to listen to what we have to say,” said his dad. “Now, who can guess the country?”

Paul and Susan looked around the room and saw several people of different cultures.

“Number 247,” said a voice from behind the counter.

“That’s ours,” said his father.

“I know,” said Paul. “Israel.”

“You got it,” said Mr. Shepherd. He thanked the man for their food, turned, and waved to Mr. Cohen from their church.

“What a great game,” said Paul. “The time went by fast.”

“We can also make time go fast while waiting when we pray for the people around us,” said Mr. Shepherd. He opened the restaurant door.

“We can pray during the ride home,” said Paul. “For the people here and in Asia.”

“Great idea!” said Susan.

“We’ll all pray,” said his dad, “just as soon as we get in the car.”

Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script "I Spy Chopsticks"

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 tie for Cy to be Paul's dad and a bow for Dee to be his sister Susan.

INTRODUCTION

Paul: Have you ever tried eating with chopsticks?

[Wait for audience response.]

Dee: I tried it once, but I couldn't get the hang of it.

Cy: Me either, but kids in China use them every day.

Dee: It's not just people in China who use them, remember Paul?

Paul: I sure do. And I spy a story coming on.

Cy: So do I. I'll have to play your dad, Paul.

Dee: And I'll play your sister Susan.

Paul: Okay.

Cy: We'll be right back, kids.

[Exit Dee, Cy, and Paul.]

SCRIPT

[Enter Dee, Cy, and Paul. Dee wears a bow. Cy wears a tie.]

Dee: I'm glad we're getting Chinese food tonight.

Paul: Yeah, but it seems like the food will never get here.

Cy: Someone's hungry.

Paul: *[Paces.]* I'm starving, Dad. When will it come?

Cy: Instead of complaining, let's play a game while we wait.

Dee: Can I play?

Cy: Yes, Susan, you both can play. Okay, I spy someone from another country. Which country is it?

[Paul and Susan search the audience. Paul points at one of the children.]

Paul: That's easy. It's China. That man is eating his Chinese food with chopsticks. So that means he's Chinese.

Cy: No it doesn't. Many people who are not Chinese eat with chopsticks. Your mother and I use them occasionally.

Dee: *[Looks at the person Paul pointed out.]* Mr. Rohene isn't Chinese. His daughter is in my class. They're from India. See? He's waving. *[Waves and then turns back to Cy.]* Dad, is India the country?"

Cy: No.

[Paul and Susan walk around the stage and keep searching the audience.]

Paul: Will you give us a hint?

Cy: Okay. Someone here is from another Asian country. Asia is a continent on the other side of the world.

Paul: Like China? I've heard people talk about digging all the way through the earth to China.

Cy: Digging that far would be impossible, but China is on the other side of the world.

Dee: China is a country in Asia. But you've already guessed China. It has to be another Asian country.

Paul: I don't know the names of the countries in Asia.

Dee: Well, there's India and Russia, Thailand, Japan, the Philippines, Afghanistan, and many other countries.

Paul: How do you know all those names?

Dee: We studied Asia in Sunday school. Many people worship idols there, so we prayed for them.

Paul: Idols? You mean like that statue of a man with the fat stomach by the door of this place?

Cy: Exactly. Many people in Asia worship idols because they don't know about the true, living God.

Paul: Then we should tell them about Jesus.

Cy: That's right, but just telling is not enough. We also need to show the people of Asia the love of Christ.

Paul: I remember. Love changes things. God's love makes things and people

better. Oh, look! They're putting our food in bags. It won't be long now.

Cy: When people know we care, they are more willing to listen to what we have to say. Now, who can guess the country?

[Dee and Paul continue scanning the audience.]

Voice offstage: Number 247

Cy: That's ours.

Paul: *[Looks into the audience and points.]* I know. The country is Israel. There's Mr. Cohen from church.

Cy: You got it. *[Turns and waves.]* Hello, Mr. Cohen!

Paul: What a great game. The time went by fast.

Cy: Did you know that you can also make time go by fast when you have to wait by praying for the people around you?

Paul: Let's pray during the ride home. We can pray for the people here and in Asia.

Susan: Great idea!

Cy: We'll all pray just as soon as we pick up our food and get in the car.

[Curtain.]

APPLICATION

[Enter Dee, Cy, and Paul as themselves.]

Cy: So you see, lots of different kinds of people live in Asia.

Dee: And a lot of them need to hear the Gospel.

Paul: God transforms people in Asia when Christians show Jesus' love to them.

Cy: And you can show Jesus' love for the people of Asia by praying for them.

Paul: Will you remember to do that, kids?

[Wait for audience response.]

Dee: That's great! We'll see you later, kids. Paul's dad promised to teach us how to use chopsticks.

[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.

When Cy and Paul lost their foam ball in an antique vase, they learned that the vase came to Cy’s house from Europe, which is a continent with countries like Spain, Germany, Italy, and France. Although Europe is far away from where Cy and Paul live, the boys learned that many people from Europe came to America and helped start our country. Some of them were missionaries who brought the Good News of Jesus’ death and resurrection to America. Cy and Paul found out that a lot of people in Europe no longer believe in God. They wished they could do something to tell people in Europe about Jesus.

Conclusion (5 minutes)

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

Cy and Paul felt bad that a lot of people in Europe don’t know Jesus. They decided that since Europe sent missionaries to America to help start the country, America should send missionaries back to Europe to help tell the people about God. Only then did Cy and Paul know what they needed to do. Before they continued playing with their foam ball, they stopped and prayed for the Europeans. They also prayed for the missionaries that God wants to send to Europe to tell the people about Jesus. Prayer is one thing that everyone can do to help the people in Europe find Jesus.

Cy and Paul ran around Cy’s living room. “I got you,” said Cy throwing a foam ball at Paul. He hurried away.

“I got you,” said Paul, throwing the ball at Cy.

“Back at you,” said Cy with a laugh. He ran around a table that had a vase on it.

Paul lofted the ball high into the air. It fell into the vase.

“Oh no,” said Cy.

“I’ll get it,” said Paul. “I’m sure my hand can fit inside.”

“No, don’t. We’re not allowed to touch that vase,” said Cy. “I’ll get my mom.” He hurried out of the room and returned with his mother.

“What’s so special about the vase?” asked Paul.

“It’s from Europe,” said Cy.

“Well, if it breaks, we could go buy a new one,” suggested Paul.

“That would be hard,” said Cy’s mother. “Europe isn’t a store. It’s a continent.” Mrs. Yung carefully picked up the vase and turned it over. The foam ball did not fall out. It was stuck inside. “The European continent has countries like Spain, Germany, Italy, and France, where this vase was made. A good friend gave this to me. It has been in her family for one hundred years.”

“That’s a long time,” said Cy. “Couldn’t we just go to Europe and get another one?”

“It’s too far away for that,” said Cy’s mother. She carefully reached into the vase and pulled out their foam ball. “And the people who made this are no longer alive.”

“No one lives in Europe anymore?” asked Paul.

“It’s filled with people, just like where we live,” said Cy’s mother. “Why don’t you boys take this ball and play outside instead of in the living room?”

“Okay,” they said and hurried outside where Paul’s older sister, Susan, was walking Chip for Dee.

“Hey, Susan,” said Paul. “Do you know anything about a place called Europe?”

“Yeah. It’s across the ocean,” said Susan.

“How long does it take to get there?” asked Cy.

“You’d have to drive to the airport and then spend all night in the airplane to get there,” she said. “Why do you want to know about Europe?”

“Cy’s mom has a vase from Europe,” said Paul.

“Is it old?” asked Susan. The boys nodded, and Susan continued, “Many people came from Europe to start our country.”

“Really?” asked Cy.

Susan nodded. “There were Pilgrims, explorers, people who wanted to start a new life, and missionaries from Europe.”

“It was nice of them to help us start our country,” said Paul. “Do people in Europe believe in Jesus?”

“I read that they do have many godly people there,” began Susan, “but a lot of people in Europe don’t believe in God anymore.”

“Maybe we should send some missionaries back to them,” said Cy. “We owe them.”

“We should pray for them, too,” added Paul.

“Some missionaries have gone to Europe, but more would be good,” said Susan. “I’d better get Chip back to Dee’s house. ‘Bye.’” The boys waved as she walked away.

“We do owe Europe for helping us. Let’s pray right now,” said Paul. Cy bowed his head, and Paul prayed, “Dear God, help the people in Europe find You, because You love them and want them all to know You. We know that they are even more precious to You than Cy’s mom’s porcelain vase is to her. Amen.”

“Amen,” said Cy and threw the ball at Paul. “I got you.”

Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script "European Porcelain"

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 vase sitting on one side of the stage, an apron, and a bow.

INTRODUCTION

Dee: Chip is the most important thing I own. He's the best dog in the whole world.

Paul: The world is a really big place.

Cy: It's made up of seven continents, and Europe is one of them.

Dee: What's special about Europe?

Cy: That's what I asked last week.

Cy: My mom and Paul's sister, Susan, helped give us the answer.

Dee: What's the answer?

Paul: Let's show Dee what we learned.

Cy: Okay, but Dee, you'll have to play my mom.

Paul: And my sister.

Dee: Okay.

Cy: You can wear an apron when you're my mom.

Paul: And a bow when you're Susan.

Dee: Okay. I can't wait to hear about Europe.

[Dee, Cy, and Paul exit.]

SCRIPT

[Enter Cy and Paul. Paul touches Cy.]

Paul: You're it. *[Runs from Cy, and Cy chases and touches him.]*

Cy: Now you're it. *[Runs from Paul. Paul chases and almost touches him.]*

Paul: Stop!

Cy: *[Freezes at the edge of the stage next to a vase.]* What's the matter?

Paul: You were about to run into that vase.

Cy: I wouldn't want to do that. That's mom's special vase.

Paul: Can we move it out of our way?

Cy: I don't know. I'll ask mom. *[Yells.]*

Mom?

[Enter Dee as Mrs. Yung in an apron.]

Dee: Yes, Cy?

Cy: Can we move the vase? We don't want to run into it.

Paul: What's so special out it?

Cy: It's from Europe.

Dee: Europe has many countries in it like Spain, Germany, Italy, and France, where this vase was made. A good friend gave it to me. It has been in her family for one hundred years.

Cy: That's a long time. Couldn't we just go to Europe and get another one if we need to?

Dee: It's too far away for that, and the people who made this vase are no longer alive.

Paul: Don't people still live in Europe?

Dee: Yes. Europe's filled with people.

Cy: May we move the vase to play?

Dee: No, leave the vase there, and go outside to play. You shouldn't be running in the living room anyway.

Cy and Paul: Okay.

[Dee, Cy, and Paul exit. The vase is removed. Enter Cy and Paul.]

Cy: What do you want to play out here? Oh, look. There's your sister.

[Enter Dee with a bow on as Susan.]

Paul: Hi, Susan. Have you ever heard about a place called Europe?

Dee: Yes. It's a continent across the ocean.

Paul: How long does it take to get there?

Dee: You'd have to drive to the airport and then spend all night in the airplane to get there. Why do you want to know about Europe?

Paul: Cy's mom has a vase from there, and I wondered about the people.

Dee: We studied Europe in school last year. Many people came from Europe to start our country.

Cy: Really?

Dee: Yes. There were pilgrims, explorers, people who wanted to start a new life, and missionaries.

Paul: It was nice of them to help us start our country. Do people in Europe believe in Jesus?

Dee: Europe has many godly people, but a lot of people there don't believe in God anymore.

Cy: Maybe we should send some missionaries back to them. We owe them.

Paul: We should pray for them, too.

Dee: Some missionaries have gone to Europe already, but more are needed. I'd better get home. 'Bye.

[Exit Dee.]

Cy and Paul: 'Bye.

Cy: We owe Europe for helping us.

Paul: You're right. Let's pray for them. *[Cy and Paul bow their heads.]* Dear God, help the people in Europe find You, because You love them and want them all to know You. We know that they are even more precious to You than Mrs. Yung's porcelain vase is to her. Amen.

[Curtain.]

APPLICATION

Cy: And that's what we know about Europe.

Dee: You know a lot.

Paul: Many people in Europe need our prayers.

Dee: Kids, will you remember to pray for the people in Europe?

[Let the audience respond.]

Paul: Great! As we pray for the Europeans, God will work through our prayers and bring them closer to Him. Hey, Dee.

Dee: What?

Paul: *[Touches Dee.]* You're it.

[Cy and Paul run away from Dee and go offstage.]

Dee: I'll catch you!

[Dee runs offstage after them.]



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 excited about zoo day. His little sister Becky wanted to go with him to pet the animals, especially the giraffes. Cy tried to explain that people can’t pet wild animals—especially dangerous ones like lions, hyenas, hippos, and rhinos. Cy tried to shift her attention from the giraffes to the continent of Africa, where the giraffes came from. By the time Paul arrived to walk to school with Cy, Becky thought that no people, only dangerous animals, lived in Africa. She didn’t think people would want to live there since they wouldn’t want to be eaten. How can Cy and Paul help Becky understand about the people in Africa—and about real zoos, where people are not allowed to pet the giraffes?

Conclusion (5 minutes)

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

Paul and Cy told Becky that lots of people lived in Africa. Paul even met a missionary from Africa. The missionary had told Paul that many Africans knew Jesus, but many more did not. Some of them even worshiped their dead relatives. This upset Becky. She was glad that missionaries went to tell the Africans about Jesus, because He is alive and He’s God, not a dead ancestor. The boys explained that when Christians show God’s love to the people of Africa, the people are transformed, which means changed. Becky understood about Jesus changing people, but she probably won’t understand about giraffes in the zoo until she’s older.

Cy woke up, stretched his arms, and yawned. He was about to turn over and go back to sleep when he remembered what day it was.

“It’s zoo day!” he said hopping out of bed. He got dressed and went to the kitchen. Becky was sitting at the table finishing breakfast.

“I wish I could go with you to the zoo today,” she said. “I want to see the giraffes.”

“I can take a picture of the giraffes for you,” said Cy.

“Thanks, Cy,” said Becky. “Cy, how big are giraffes? Are they as tall as the sky?”

“No, they aren’t that tall. Maybe as big as that medium-sized tree in the back yard,” he said.

“Will they let you pet them? Maybe if you climb a tree you can reach the tops of their heads.”

“The zookeepers won’t allow us close to the animals. It isn’t safe.” Cy looked out the window. “I wonder when Paul will get here.”

“I got to pet the animals when I went to the zoo,” said Becky.

“Your class went to a petting zoo where the animals are tame. I’m going to a zoo where wild animals live. Dangerous animals like lions and hyenas and hippos and rhinos from Africa live there.”

“What’s Africa?” asked Becky.

“It’s a place far, far away from here with deserts and jungles and lots of wild animals. Oh, here comes Paul now.”

Paul came in through the back door. “Hi, Becky. Hey, Cy, are you ready for zoo day?”

“I sure am,” said Cy. “I was just telling Becky about all the wild animals from Africa that we’re going to see.”

“Yeah,” said Becky. “Especially giraffes. They’re really tall. Africa has lots of dangerous animals. I guess no people live there, because they’re afraid to get eaten.”

“No, Becky, lots of people live in Africa,”

said Paul. “I met a missionary from Africa just last week.”

“Why did a missionary go there?” asked Becky.

“To teach about Jesus,” said Paul. “Are you almost ready, Cy?” asked Paul.

“Yeah,” said Cy. He put on his back pack.

“Don’t the people in Africa know about Jesus?” asked Becky.

“Many Africans believe in Jesus, but many others don’t know about Him,” said Cy.

“Some of them even worship their ancestors instead of God,” said Paul.

“Their aunt’s sisters?” asked Becky.

“No,” said Cy. “Ancestors. Those are the grandparents, great grandparents, and great, great grandparents that have already died.

“They worship dead people?” asked Becky.

“Some do,” said Paul.

“I’m glad a missionary went there. Someone needs to go tell them about Jesus,” said Becky.

“More than one missionary has gone there,” said Cy.

“Good, because Jesus is alive and He’s God. He’s not a dead ancestor,” said Becky.

“That’s right,” said Paul. “When Christians show Jesus’ love to the people of Africa, then those who don’t know Jesus will be transformed.”

“What’s transformed?” asked Becky.

“Changed,” said Cy. “Knowing Jesus changes people and makes them better.”

“They’re so lucky.” Becky walked over to the window. “Once the people in Africa accept Jesus, I’ll bet they get to pet the giraffes.”

“Not again,” said Cy, putting his hand on his forehead.

“I’m just kidding, Cy,” said Becky. “Have fun at the zoo!”

Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script "Zoo 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 bow for Dee.

INTRODUCTION

Cy: Hey, kids, what's your favorite animal at the zoo?

[Let the audience respond.]

Dee: I like the snow leopards. They're so pretty.

Paul: My favorites are the monkeys and giraffes.

Cy: Don't mention giraffes.

Paul: Why not?

Cy: Becky is still talking about them.

Paul: Oh yeah. That's a good story.

Dee: I'm sure the kids would like to hear about it.

Cy: We can show the kids, if you'll be my little sister, Dee.

Dee: Okay, just call me Becky. We'll be right back, kids.

[All three puppets exit.]

SCRIPT

[Enter Cy and Dee, wearing a bow as Becky.]

Cy: Hurray, it's zoo day! Hooray!

Dee: I wish I could go to the zoo with you. I want to see the giraffes.

Cy: You can't go with my class, but I can take a picture of the giraffes for you.

Dee: Thanks, Cy. *[Sings.]* I want to pet a giraffe. I want to pet a giraffe. *[Speaks.]* Cy, how big are the giraffes at the zoo? Are they as tall as the sky?

Cy: No, they aren't that tall. Maybe as big as that medium-sized tree in the backyard.

Dee: How will you pet them? Maybe if you climb a tree you can reach the tops of their heads.

Cy: The zookeepers won't allow us to be

that close to the animals. It isn't safe. I wonder when Paul will get here.

Dee: I'm sure they'll let you pet a giraffe. I got to pet the animals when I went to the zoo.

Cy: Your class went to a different zoo. It was a petting zoo. The animals are tame there. I'm going to a zoo where wild animals live, dangerous animals like lions and hyenas and hippos and rhinos from Africa.

Dee: What's Africa?

Cy: It's a place far, far away from here with deserts and jungles and lots of wild animals. *[Looks offstage.]* Here comes Paul now.

[Enter Paul.]

Paul: Hi, Becky. Hey, Cy, are you ready for zoo day?

Cy: I sure am. I was just telling Becky about all the wild animals from Africa that we're going to see.

Dee: Yeah. Africa has lots of dangerous animals. I guess no people live there, because they're afraid to get eaten.

Paul: No, Becky, lots of people live in Africa. I met a missionary from Africa just last week.

Dee: Why did a missionary go there?

Paul: To teach about Jesus. Are you almost ready, Cy?

Cy: Yeah. I just need to get my backpack on the way out.

Dee: Don't the people in Africa know about Jesus?

Cy: Many Africans believe in Jesus, but lots of others don't know about Him.

Paul: Some of them even worship their ancestors instead of God.

Dee: Their aunt's sisters?

Cy: No. Ancestors. Those are the great grandparents and great, great grandparents that have already died.

Dee: They worship dead people?

Paul: Some of the African people do.

Dee: I'm glad a missionary went there. Someone needs to go tell them about Jesus.

Cy: More than one missionary has gone there.

Dee: Good, because Jesus is alive and He's God. He's not a dead ancestor.

Paul: That's right. When Christians in Africa and other parts of the world show Jesus' love to the people of Africa, then those who don't know Jesus will be transformed.

Dee: What's transformed?

Cy: Changed. Knowing Jesus changes people and makes them better.

Dee: They're so lucky. Once the people in Africa accept Jesus, I'll bet they get to pet the giraffes.

Cy: *[Slaps his forehead.]* Not again!

Dee: Just kidding, Cy. Have fun at the zoo!

[Curtain.]

APPLICATION

Cy: The class field trip to the zoo was great.

Paul: Yes, it was fun. When we saw the giraffes, I couldn't help but imagine Dee climbing a ladder to pet one. I laughed out loud.

Dee: And we learned a lot about Africa.

Paul: We need to pray for God to send missionaries to those in Africa who don't believe.

Cy: And we should pray for all the people of Africa to know Jesus. Will you do that, kids?

[Let the audience respond.]

Cy: That's great.

Paul: I wonder just how high a ladder it would take to reach a giraffe's head.

Cy: Oh no, not you, too!

Dee: See you next time, 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.

As Paul and his father played catch, they heard a scream from their neighbor’s house. Immediately, they ran to her and found that she had lost her diamond ring. She had put her wedding ring on the sill of an open window. Then she turned on the garbage disposal and heard something being ground up. She was so afraid that she had lost her precious ring forever. Paul really wanted to help Mrs. Long, but there didn’t seem to be anything that he could do. He let his father talk to her about Jesus as he looked out the window.

Conclusion (5 minutes)

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

While Mr. Shepherd talked to Mrs. Long about Jesus, Paul saw something shiny in a nest in the tree in Mrs. Long’s back yard. Paul hurried outside, climbed the tree, and retrieved Mrs. Long’s diamond ring. He realized that a bird must have stolen the shiny ring from the open window. When he gave the ring to Mrs. Long, she cried. Later as Paul and his father walked home, Paul realized that Mrs. Long was crying not because she was sad but because she was happy. Finding the ring helped her to see that God loved her. Mrs. Long was ready to accept Jesus as her Savior. Only then does Paul realize that God performed a miracle where he lived in North America. He transformed the heart of Mrs. Long when his father told her about Jesus.

Paul was playing catch with his father in the back yard. “I liked church a lot today.”

“Because I wasn’t preaching?” teased his father.

“No,” said Paul with a laugh. “I liked the story about how all those people wanted to know Jesus.”

“Dr. Stevenson has been a missionary for several years. He does have some amazing stories. He has helped many people learn to love Jesus,” said Mr. Shepherd.

“I wish stuff like that happened around here,” said Paul. “But I guess you have to go to another country to see it.”

“That’s not true,” said his father.

From their neighbor’s house, they heard a scream. Mr. Shepherd and Paul quickly ran next door to help. When they got there, they found Mrs. Long crying.

“What’s the matter? Are you hurt?” asked Mr. Shepherd.

“No,” she sobbed. She led them back to her kitchen and pointed to the open window above her sink. “I set my diamond ring down right there, or at least I thought I did. But when I turned on the garbage disposal, I heard something being crunched. I know I’ve destroyed my wedding ring. How can I tell my husband that it’s gone?”

Paul watched his dad lead Mrs. Long to a chair to sit down. “I think he’ll understand,” Mr. Shepherd said.

“You told me that God loves me,” said Mrs. Long. “And now this happens.”

Just then, Paul saw something glinting in the tree between their yards. Something shiny sparkled in a nest. As Mrs. Long talked to his father, Paul hurried back outside and climbed the tree. In it, he found a ring.

He hurried back inside just in time to hear his dad say, “God does love you, Mrs. Long, so much that He sent his Son, Jesus, to die for you—and that’s worth even more than a wedding ring.”

Paul set the ring down on the table next to Mrs. Long. “I think a bird stole your ring from the windowsill,” he said. “I found it in a bird’s nest.”

“My ring!” said Mrs. Long. But instead of smiling she broke out into more tears. That didn’t make sense at all to Paul. “Now I believe that God really loves me,” she said. “And I know that everything you’ve been telling me about Him is true.”

“Would you like me to help you ask Jesus into your heart?” asked Mr. Shepherd.

“No,” said Mrs. Long. “I prefer to talk with Jesus all by myself.”

Mr. Shepherd and Paul left.

On their way back to their own house, Paul said, “I didn’t think Mrs. Long was a Christian.”

“She wasn’t until today,” said his father. “It took a ring, a bird, and a boy to let her see that God really loves her.”

“You mean she just accepted Jesus?” asked Paul.

“I believe she’s doing that right now,” said his father.

Paul looked around the neighborhood. “And it all happened here, where we live.”

Mr. Shepherd laughed. “Yes, God even works in North America. We can be missionaries to our own continent by telling our neighbors about Him.”

“Wow,” said Paul. “This was a great day, and God gave us a great story to tell.”

“More important,” said his father. “God was able to welcome Mrs. Long into his family. I think the angels are throwing a party for her right now.”

Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script "Mrs. Long's Ring"

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 footstool that could be used like a table, a ring, bow, and tie.

INTRODUCTION

Cy: Look. That bird's a robin.

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

Dee: Look over there. That one's a blue-bird.

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

Paul: Wow. There are so many great birds in North America.

Cy: Kids, in case you didn't know, you live in North America.

Dee: We might have a lot of birds, but nothing much ever happens in North America.

Paul: A lot of things happen. Something happened to me the other day that was so exciting that the angels threw a party.

Cy: Really?

Paul: Really, and I'll show you what happened if you'll play my dad and Dee will play my neighbor Mrs. Long.

Dee and Cy: Okay.

Paul: We'll be right back, kids.

[All three puppets run offstage.]

SCRIPT

[Enter Cy, and Paul. Cy has a tie on as Mr. Shepherd.]

Paul: I liked church a lot today.

Cy: Because I wasn't preaching?

Paul: No. I liked the story about how all those people wanted to know Jesus.

Cy: Dr. Stevenson has been a missionary for several years. He does have some amazing stories. He has helped many people learn to love Jesus.

Paul: I wish stuff like that happened around here, but I guess you have to go to another country to see people come to know Jesus.

Cy: That's not true.

[A woman's scream is heard offstage. Cy and Paul run offstage. A footstool is set by the edge of the stage. Dee enters crying, with a bow as Mrs. Long.]

Dee: Why me? Why me?

[Enter Cy and Paul at a run.]

Cy: What's the matter? Are you hurt?

Dee: No. I set my diamond ring down right there in the open window, or at least I thought I did. But when I turned on the garbage disposal, I heard something being crunched. I know I've destroyed my wedding ring. How can I tell my husband that it's gone?

Cy: I think he'll understand.

Dee: You told me that God loves me, but then this happened.

[Paul looks offstage and then exits.]

Cy: God does love you, Mrs. Long.

Dee: If He loves me so much, then why is my ring gone?

Cy: Mrs. Long, whether you believe it or not, God loves you so much that He sent his Son, Jesus, to die for you—and that's worth even more than a wedding ring, no matter how precious it was to you.

[The ring should be tossed from offstage onto the footstool-table. Paul enters.]

Paul: A bird stole your ring from the windowsill. I saw it glinting in the bird's next, so I climbed up and got it for you.

Dee: My ring! *[Starts crying.]*

Paul: Why is Mrs. Long so sad? I thought she'd be happy that I found her ring.

Cy: Don't be upset, Paul. Those are tears of joy.

Dee: I believe that God really does love me, and now I know that everything you've been telling me about Him is true.

Cy: Would you like me to help you ask Jesus into your heart?

Dee: No. I prefer to talk with Jesus all by myself.

[Exit Cy and Paul. Dee exits and the table is removed. Enter Cy and Paul.]

Paul: I didn't think Mrs. Long was a Christian.

Cy: She wasn't until today. It took a ring, a bird, and a boy to let her see that God really loves her.

Paul: You mean she just accepted Jesus?

Cy: I believe she's doing that right now.

Paul: And it all happened here, where we live.

Cy: Yes, God even works in North America. We can be missionaries to our own continent by telling our neighbors about Him.

Paul: Wow. This was a great day, and God gave us a great story to tell.

Cy: More importantly, God was able to welcome Mrs. Long into his family. I think the angels are throwing a party for her right now.

[Curtain.]

APPLICATION

[Enter Dee, Cy, and Paul.]

Dee: That was a great story.

Cy: And you were right. The angels were having a party. The Bible says that heaven rejoices when a sinner is saved.

Paul: Kids, why don't you repeat what I say: When I show Jesus' love.

[Let the audience repeat.]

Paul: God transforms people.

[Let the audience repeat.]

Paul: Even in North America.

[Let the audience repeat.]

Dee: Great job, kids! We have to go tell more neighbors about Jesus. We'll see you next time.

[Dee, Cy, and Paul wave and exit.]



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

Dee-Cy-Paul “Bookends”

Introduction (5 minutes)

Use this “hook” to introduce the lesson.

Dee, Cy, and Paul were excited about their class trip to a farm. On the bus, they began to talk about what they hoped to see. Paul wanted to see the pigs and hear them grunt. Cy wanted to chase the ducks and geese to watch them waddle. Dee preferred the horses, because they ran gracefully. When the bus stopped and the children got off, something was wrong. They were not at a regular farm. The only animals they saw were tall, funny white ones in a pen. Dee looked closer at the white furry animals with the big eyes. What could they be?

Conclusion (5 minutes)

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

Dee realized that the animals were llamas like the kind that lived in South America. The children wondered if the farm had other South American animals like guinea pigs, anteaters, or agoutis. Dee told the others that South America had a huge rain forest, deserts, high mountains, and the longest country in the world, called Chili. Paul said that many people in South America needed to know Jesus. The children decided to pray for the people of South America on the way home on the bus. Then they hurried toward their teacher and away from the llama, just in case it decided to spit.

Dee, Cy, and Paul got on the bus with the other students in their class. Today was the day for the farm field trip. Cy and Paul sat together. Dee sat across from them.

“What animal do you want to see, Paul?” she asked.

“Oh, I guess the pigs,” he said. “They look funny all covered with mud, and I like the way they grunt.” Paul started making grunting noises at her.

Dee ignored Paul’s grunts and asked, “Which one do you want to see, Cy?”

“I can’t wait to see the ducks and geese,” said Cy. “The way they walk is really funny.” Cy started honking like a goose and then quacking like a duck.

Dee laughed until the boys stopped grunting, honking, and quacking.

“I know why you like those birds. You like to chase them and make them squawk,” said Paul.

“It’s the best,” said Cy.

“I like the horses,” said Dee. “They’re so pretty when their manes and tails fly in the wind as they run.” Both boys began to make neighing sounds, with a few grunts and quacks until they reached the farm.

Once there, the children climbed out of the bus. Everyone was excited. But something was wrong.

“This doesn’t look like a regular farm,” said Paul.

“No,” said Cy. “Where are the ducks and pigs and horses and cows?”

“What are those animals over there?” Dee pointed to the white animals with long, woolly necks and big eyes. She walked up to one. It was chewing something with big sideways bites.

Dee got closer. “It’s a llama!” she said. “Remember the picture our teacher showed us yesterday? Llamas are from South America.”

“Oh I remember,” said Cy. “The people in the mountains there use them for carrying heavy things.”

“And they use the wool for clothes,” said Dee. “Sometimes they dye them bright colors.”

“Did you know that guinea pigs come from South America?” asked Paul. “My brothers had a guinea pig when I was little.”

“I wonder if this farm has any agoutis or anteaters. Those are from South America, too,” said Dee.

“How did you know that?” asked Paul.

“After the teacher talked about South America yesterday, I looked it up. South America has so many interesting places with lots of different animals. They have a huge rain forest called the Amazon, high mountains, and deserts. They also have the longest country in the world, called Chile.”

“Wow, I didn’t know all that,” said Cy.

“Neither did I,” said Paul. “I did hear my dad talk about South America the other night, though. He said we needed to pray for them. There are some Christians there, but a lot of people need Jesus.”

“When we get back on the bus, let’s pray for the people of South America,” said Cy.

“I agree,” said Dee. “Look, there’s our teacher. Let’s go ask her to tell us more about llamas.”

“I think it’s good for us to move away from this llama. I’d hate to be hit by whatever it’s chewing if it decides to spit,” said Paul.

“If you were a pig you wouldn’t mind.” Cy started to grunt.

“Yuck,” said Dee.

As they walked toward their teacher, Paul began to make honking and quacking noises. Dee, who didn’t want to be left out, began to neigh like a horse.

Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script "A Funny Farm"

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

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

INTRODUCTION

Dee: Hey kids, can you guess what animals we are?

Paul: What am I? *[Grunts like a pig.]*

[Let the audience respond.]

Paul: You guessed it. I'm a pig. *[Grunts again.]*

Cy: Okay, my turn. What am I? *[Quacks and waddles across the stage.]*

Dee: Hey, why don't we show the kids what happened when our class went to the farm?

Paul: Great idea!

[Dee, Cy, and Paul stand in a row, bobbing slightly as if they are on a bus.]

SCRIPT

Cy: Are we almost there? This bus is taking forever.

Dee: We should be there soon. I'm really excited about this field trip to the farm today. What animal do you want to see, Paul?

Paul: Oh, I guess the pigs. They look funny all covered with mud, and I like the way they grunt.

[Paul makes grunting noises.]

Dee: *[Ignores Paul.]* Which one do you want to see, Cy?

Cy: I can't wait to see the ducks and geese. The way they walk is really funny. *[Starts honking like a goose and then quacking like a duck as Paul continues grunting. Dee laughs until they stop.]*

Paul: I know why you like the ducks and geese, Cy. You like to chase them and make them squawk.

Cy: It's the best.

Dee: I like the horses. They're so pretty when their manes and tails fly in the wind as they run.

[Both boys make neighing sounds and then make other animals sounds. Then

the bus movement stops.]

Cy: We're here! Let's get off this bus.

[The children move in line offstage. After a moment, they return onstage.]

Dee: Something is wrong.

Paul: This doesn't look like a regular farm.

Cy: No. Where are the ducks and pigs and horses and cows?

Dee: *[Points into the audience.]* What are those animals over there? They have long, woolly necks and big eyes.

Paul: Look, it's chewing something with big sideways bites.

Dee: It's a llama! Remember the picture our teacher showed us yesterday? Llamas are from South America.

Cy: Oh I remember. The people in the mountains use them for carrying heavy things.

Dee: And they use the wool for clothes. Sometimes they dye them bright colors.

Paul: Did you know that guinea pigs come from South America? My brothers had a guinea pig when I was little.

Dee: I wonder if this farm has any agoutis or anteaters. Those are from South America, too.

Paul: How did you know that?

Dee: After the teacher talked about South America yesterday, I looked it up. South America has so many interesting places with lots of different animals. They have a huge rain forest called the Amazon, high mountains, and deserts. They also have the longest country in the world, called Chile.

Cy: Wow, I didn't know all that.

Paul: Neither did I. I did hear my dad talk about South America the other night. He said we needed to pray for them. There are some Christians there, but a lot of people need to know about Jesus.

Cy: When we get back on the bus, let's pray for the people of South America.

Dee: I agree. Look, there's our teacher.

Let's go ask her to tell us more about llamas.

Paul: I think it's good for us to move away from this llama. I'd hate to be hit by whatever it's chewing if it decides to spit.

[They start to move across the stage.]

Cy: If you were a pig you'd want to eat it whatever it spit.

[Paul starts grunting.]

Dee: Yuck. Let's not talk about what pigs eat.

[As they exit, Paul grunts, Cy makes honking and quacking sounds, and Dee neighs like a horse.]

APPLICATION

Cy: *[Grunts.]* I make a good pig, don't I?

Paul: I'm better. *[Grunts.]*

Dee: You're both good. Did you like that story, kids?

[Let the audience respond.]

Dee: South America is a really interesting continent.

Cy: It has so many different kinds of places.

Paul: And so many unusual animals, especially in the rain forest, like monkeys and jaguars and parrots and snakes. *[Hisses.]*

Cy: You forgot crocodiles.

Dee: The people of South America are interesting, too.

Cy: Many of them need to know Jesus.

Paul: Will you remember to pray for the people of South America, kids?

[Let the audience respond.]

Dee: That's great.

Paul: Hey, Cy, don't I make a great duck? *[Quacks.]*

Cy: Remember, I chase ducks.

[Paul honks and quacks as he runs off the stage.]

Dee: See you next time, 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.

Paul had a secret. When he tried to get Cy to guess it, Cy could not get his mind off of basketball. Fortunately, Dee and Chip came along. With Dee’s help, Chip was able to guess that the good news was about Paul’s brothers, Mike and Mark. Chip was also able to guess, with Paul’s help, that the two boys were going to go tell others about Jesus. The big question is where they are going to do that. Although Cy thought they were going to go downtown, Paul says that it’s a lot farther away. Dee wonders where.

Conclusion (5 minutes)

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

To help figure out where Mike and Mark are going to tell others about Jesus, Dee set out a map for Chip to use. Chip sniffed North America, Europe, and Asia before licking something sticky off of Africa. Chip was no help at all. Only after Paul gave his friends a hint that kangaroos lived there did they both guess Australia. The mission trip sounds exciting to Dee, Cy, and Paul. They know that when people tell others about Jesus, lives are transformed. They can’t wait to go on a mission trip. They hope that when they’re old enough, they can all go to Australia, too.

Paul leaned back on the grass to watch the clouds in the sky. “Guess what?”

“What?” asked Cy.

“Something great happened, and you have to guess what it is,” said Paul.

“You made 100 baskets in a row?” asked Cy.

“No. This is even better,” said Paul.

“You made 200 baskets in a row?”

Paul started laughing. “No. I’ll give you a hint. It’s about someone else.”

“Dee made 200 baskets in a row?”

Paul laughed again.

Dee walked Chip over to the boys. “What are you doing?”

“I’m trying to guess who made 200 baskets in a row,” said Cy.

“No, he’s trying to guess the good news that I just found out,” said Paul.

“Can Chip and I guess, too?” asked Dee.

“Can Chip guess?” wondered Cy.

“He can try,” said Paul. “First guess who the good news is about.”

“You?” asked Cy.

“No,” said Paul.

“Ruff. Ruff. Ruff,” said Chip. He ran over to Paul’s brothers, Mike and Mark, who were talking on the back porch.

“Chip got it,” said Paul. “The good news is about Mike and Mark.”

“He’s good,” said Cy.

“Now guess what they are going to do,” said Paul.

“Sing?” asked Dee.

“No,” said Paul. “It’s something even better.”

Chip came running back to the group. He pushed his nose toward Cy’s face and said, “Ruff. Ruff. Ruff.” Then he went up to Dee’s face and said, “Ruff, ruff, ruff.” Then he went up to Paul’s face and barked until finally Paul held up his hands.

“Okay, Chip, you get this one, too.” Paul laughed. “Mike and Mark are going to go and tell people about Jesus.”

“Good dog,” said Dee.

“Now you have to guess where,” said Paul.

“Downtown?” asked Cy.

“No, it’s a lot farther away than that,” said Paul.

“Is it out of the country?” asked Dee.

“Yes,” said Paul.

“Okay, then maybe Chip can tell us.” She ran home and then came back with a map of the world. After opening it up on the ground, she said, “Okay, Chip, where are they going?”

Chip sniffed the map of North America. Then he sniffed Europe and Asia before stopping on Africa to lick off sticky fingerprints.

“Is it Africa?” asked Dee.

“Nope,” said Paul. “Okay, I’ll give you another hint. It’s a place with animals that like to hop like this.” Paul hopped with both feet across the lawn.

“Do these animals carry their babies in a pouch?” asked Dee. Paul nodded.

“Oh I know,” said Dee.

“So do I,” said Cy.

“Australia,” Cy and Dee said together. Chip ran around them wagging his tail.

“Wow,” said Cy. “Australia’s on the other side of the world.”

“If you look at a map or globe of the world, it’s on the bottom side,” said Paul. “That’s why it’s called the ‘Land Down Under.’”

“How are they going to get there?” asked Dee looking at the map. “Australia has ocean all around it. They can’t walk or drive a car to get there.”

“They are going to fly there with the youth group,” said Paul.

“Maybe when we’re their age, we can go there with our youth group,” said Cy.

“Let’s plan on it,” said Dee.

Dee-Cy-Paul Puppet Script "Guessing Game"

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 map of the world hung up on a back curtain.

INTRODUCTION

Dee: Hi, kids. Today, we're going to start with a guessing game. I'm thinking of a color. Raise your hand if you want to guess which color it is.

[Dee chooses children to guess colors. After each guess, she can say, "Good guess, but I'm thinking of another color." When someone guesses the color yellow, then the play continues.]

Dee: You got it. I was thinking of yellow. You guys are really good guessers.

Paul: Dee and Cy are good guessers, too. I had a secret the other day, and I wanted them to guess what it was....

Cy: Wait, Paul. Instead of telling the kids about it, let's show them.

Paul: Okay. You're going to like this one, kids.

[Dee waves and exits.]

SCRIPT

Paul: Guess what?

Cy: What?

Paul: Something great happened, and you have to guess what it is.

Cy: You made 100 baskets in a row?

Paul: No. This is even better.

Cy: You made 200 baskets in a row?

Paul: No. I'll give you a hint. The secret is about someone else.

Cy: Dee made 200 baskets in a row?

[Enter Dee and Chip.]

Dee: What are you two doing?

Cy: I'm trying to guess who made 200 baskets in a row.

Paul: No, he's trying to guess the good news that I just found out.

Dee: I love guessing games! Can Chip and I play, too?

Cy: Can Chip guess?

Paul: He can try. First guess who the good news is about.

Cy: You?

Paul: No.

Chip: Ruff. Ruff. Ruff.

[Chip runs offstage, still barking.]

Dee: Chip, come back here. Leave Paul's brothers alone.

Paul: Chip got it. The good news is about Mike and Mark.

Cy: He's good.

Paul: Now guess what they are going to do.

Dee: Sing a song?

Paul: No. It's something better than that.

[Chip runs back onstage. He pushes his nose into Cy's face and barks. Then he pushes his nose into Dee's face and barks. Finally, he pushes his face into Paul's face and barks.]

Paul: Okay, Chip, you get this one, too. Mike and Mark are going to go and tell people about Jesus.

Dee: Good dog.

Paul: Now you have to guess where.

Cy: Downtown?

Paul: No, it's a lot farther away than that.

Dee: Is it outside of the country?

Paul: Yes.

Dee: Okay, then maybe Chip can tell us. Chip, go over to the map and show us where Mike and Mark are going."

[Chip goes to the map hanging on the back curtain. He sniffs North America, Europe, and Asia. Then he licks something on Africa.]

Dee: Is it Africa?

Paul: Nope. I'll give you another hint. It's a place with animals that like to hop

like this. *[Hops.]*

Dee: Do these animals carry their babies in a pouch?

Paul: Yes.

Dee: Oh I know.

Cy: So do I.

Dee and Cy: Australia.

Cy: Wow. Australia's on the other side of the world.

Paul: On a map or globe, it's on the bottom half. That's why it's called the "Land Down Under."

Dee: How are Mike and Mark going to get there? Australia has ocean all the way around it. They can't walk or drive a car to get there.

Paul: They are going to fly to Australia with the youth group.

Cy: Maybe when we're their age, we can go there with our youth group.

Dee: Let's plan on it.

[Curtain.]

APPLICATION

Cy: I can't wait to be old enough to go on a mission trip with my youth group.

Paul: Me, too.

Dee: How did your brothers like their trip?

Paul: They had a great time. They got to tell a lot of people about Jesus.

Cy: Really?

Paul: Yeah, and some of them accepted Jesus.

Dee: That makes sense. When people tell others about Jesus, lives change.

Cy: That's true for here where we live . . .

Dee: And in Australia. Let's go look at the pictures they brought back with them.

Cy: Okay. 'Bye, kids. See you next time.

[Curtain.]