

Puppet Role Play Script

Print one copy for your use during class and to rehearse the role play. You may want to recruit another person to help you with one of the puppets. Use two puppets—preferably the same puppets all year so the children will begin to look forward to seeing them again on Review Sunday. Allow the children to get involved if appropriate. Refer to the Lesson Flip Chart pages when appropriate.

Teacher: *Bring the puppets out.* Look! Our friends are here again! Remember [Puppet One] and [Puppet Two]?! (*Tell the children the names of your puppets.*)

Puppet One: It's so good to be here again! Whenever we come, we learn so much about God. I love it!

Teacher: We love having you. And we love learning things from God's Word, too!

Puppet Two: So, come on! Tell us! What have you been learning!?

Teacher: Well, these lessons were a bit sad in a way.

Puppet One: Sad? What do you mean?

Teacher: Well, we learned that God's special people—the Israelites—often turned their backs on God. They sinned against Him.

Puppet Two: Wow! What did they do?

Teacher: Like I said, they turned their backs on God. They were worshipping false gods—not the one true God!

Puppet One: Like idols and stuff?

Puppet Two: Yeah! They built statues. And didn't they build "high places" and altars to their false gods?

Teacher: Yes. That is exactly what happened. And God sent men to speak for Him.

Puppet Two: Oh, yeah! Those men were called prophets, right?

Teacher: Absolutely. We heard about some different prophets, like Amos. He was a simple man—a shepherd. God sent him to the Israelites to tell them they must turn away from their sins!

Puppet One: Well, did they do it?

Teacher: No. They didn't! God hates sin, and He wants His people to love and honor and praise only Him! So Amos had to tell them that God's punishment would come on them.

Puppet Two: Wow! That's horrible!

Teacher: Yes, it is! But remember, God was very patient. He waited a long time. But the people kept sinning. In fact, God sent another prophet, Hosea, to show the people that He **WOULD** forgive them, if they would just come back to Him.

Puppet One: Hosea? Was that like a love story in the Bible? Was his wife named Gomer?

Teacher: Yes! Very good. His wife was Gomer. And she left Hosea. But God told Hosea to forgive her and take her back. He did. And he took care of her again.

Puppet Two: So, was God trying to teach the people something?

Teacher: Yes! God wanted the people to know that just like Hosea forgave his wife, Gomer—God would forgive His people if they would stop sinning and come back to Him.

Puppet One: But they wouldn't do it?

Teacher: No. So God had to send the Assyrians to punish them.

Puppet Two: The Assyrians? Weren't they enemies of Israel? And very mean?

Teacher: Yes! And they took the people away from their homes to another land.

Puppet One: It sounds terrible!

Teacher: Well, it might sound terrible. But God is just. And because He is just, He can't allow sin to continue. Remember, He warned the people for many years. But they just wouldn't listen. So, He finally had to punish them. God wants us to worship Him alone!

Puppet Two: Yeah. And God wanted the people to know He loved them and would forgive them. That's why He sent Hosea. That's why Hosea took his wife Gomer back and forgave her.

Puppet One: But wait a minute. Don't people still sin? Doesn't the Bible say that everyone sins and falls short of God's glory?

Teacher: Yes. All people are sinners. And that is very bad news. Because we see in the Bible that God must punish sin. But God also provided a way that we could be saved from His punishment!

Puppet Two: Hmmm . . . a way to be saved?

Puppet One: Do you mean Jesus, God's Son?

Teacher: Very good! Yes. God loved the world so much that He sent His son Jesus to die on the Cross. Jesus was perfect—Jesus was God! There was no sin in Him at all. The Bible tells us that whoever would believe in Him and turn away from their sin would have eternal life with God!

Puppet Two: And didn't Jesus say that He was the way, the truth, and the life?

Teacher: Yes! And He said that no one could ever get to God or to heaven unless they believed in Him! God is just, and He must punish sin. But God is also merciful and loving. And He made a way that all sinners could be saved—through Jesus Christ!

Puppet One: There is just so much to learn in the Bible!

Teacher: Yes, there is! And we never get tired of it. We can read it every day for all of our lives and still be learning new things about God . . . and ourselves. It is really a great book!

Puppet Two: It sure is! Thanks for having us again! The Bible is amazing!

Puppet One: Yeah! Thanks for sharing with us! It sure is fun learning about God and His Word! See you next time!

Teacher and students: Bye!

If time allows, sing the songs from the lesson again and have your snack.