

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.* Well, guess who is here with me today! Some friends of mine. They are [Puppet 1] and [Puppet 2]! *(Tell the children the names of your puppets.)*

Puppet One: Hi, everyone! It's good to be here. So you're reviewing your lessons today, right?

Teacher or Students: Yes, we are!

Puppet Two: Wow! Every week you get to come and hear about God and what He has done! That's great. So, what have you been talking about?

Teacher: We talked about some men God used to lead the Jews home to Jerusalem.

Puppet One: Really? Who were they?

Teacher: Ezra and Nehemiah.

Puppet Two: I've heard of them! Ezra was a priest.

Teacher: That's right. When Ezra came back to Jerusalem, the people there were not obeying God. Ezra was so upset by it that he wept and prayed for forgiveness.

Puppet One: Wow! What did the people do?

Puppet Two: They started crying, too! They knew they were being disobedient to God.

Puppet One: But didn't Ezra teach the people something? What was that?

Teacher: Yes! Ezra taught the people God's Law. You see, the people turned back to God and they wanted to hear God's Law. They asked Ezra to read it to them.

Puppet One: What did the people do when Ezra read God's Law?

Puppet Two: Were they happy to hear God's Word?

Teacher: Oh, yes! The people stood up and listened to every word Ezra read.

Puppet One: That's really neat! God's Word is special.

Puppet Two: Who was the other guy? Nehemiah? What did he do?

Teacher: Good question. God sent Nehemiah back to Jerusalem to rebuild the walls and gates.

Puppet One: What happened to the walls and gates?

Teacher: Well, they had been destroyed long before by enemies who took over the city.

Puppet One: Was everything broken? Wasn't it a lot of work?

Teacher: Oh, it was. But God helped them. And all the people worked hard to rebuild!

Puppet Two: So God used Nehemiah and Ezra. That is neat! Did you learn about anybody else?

Teacher: Yes! We learned about a prophet named Malachi.

Puppet One: Hey! Isn't that the name of the last book in the Old Testament?

Puppet Two: It is! And I wonder if Malachi wrote it?

Teacher: Yes, it is the last book of the Old Testament, and yes, Malachi did write it.

Puppet One: What did Malachi tell the people?

Puppet Two: Wasn't it something about the sacrifices and the animals they were using?

Teacher: That's right. God commanded the priests to offer perfect animals.

Puppet One: Oh, yes. And the priests wanted to bring God the animals that were sick and weak, right?

Teacher: That's right. And God was not happy. God wanted the best from them. God deserves the very best!

Puppet Two: But how can a person give his very best? He can't go and buy a gift from the store for God.

Teacher: No, he can't. God doesn't need anything from us. But He does want us to love Him with all our heart, and soul, and strength!

Puppet One: So, God wants you to love Him and know Him. How can we know God?

Teacher: That is a great question! Let's ask the class that question. *(To class)* How can we know God?

Students: From the Bible.

Puppet Two: That's right! The Bible is God's Word, and it tells all about God.

Teacher: Yes. And the Bible tells us about Jesus! The Bible says we should believe and trust in Jesus—that is what God wants from us.

Teacher: And God used Malachi to tell the people that Jesus would one day come!

Puppet Two: And didn't God use John the Baptist to tell the people that Jesus was coming soon?

Teacher: That's right! John told the people to prepare the way for the Lord.

Puppet One: And then Jesus came!

Puppet Two: Yes! John said, "Behold the Lamb of God!"

Puppet One: "Who takes away the sin of the world!"

Teacher: Yes. And that was wonderful news. Jesus had come. And He came so that whoever would believe in Him could have eternal life with Him forever!

Puppet One: What great news! What a great God!

Puppet Two: The Bible is so exciting! Thanks for sharing with us.

Puppet One: May we come back again and hear more sometime?

Teacher: Of course you may.

Puppets: Good-bye!

Teacher and children: Bye!

Put puppets away.

If time allows, sing the songs from the lesson. Have your snack.