

**Jonah Repents Puppet Show**

(read the story of Jonah in the Book of Jonah, first)

*(Jesus is very, very gentle and patient with Jonah. Jonah is comically childish.)*

<b>Jesus</b>	Come on, Jonah. I can see you.
<b>Jonah</b>	<i>(hands over his eyes)</i> No you can't.
<b>Jesus</b>	Uh, yes, I can.
<b>Jonah</b>	<i>(peeks out, hides again)</i> Okay, then what am I doing now? <i>(hops)</i>
<b>Jesus</b>	You're hopping.
<b>Jonah</b>	Oh. How about now? <i>(wiggles)</i>
<b>Jesus</b>	Wiggling.
<b>Jonah</b>	How about NOW? <i>(shakes)</i>
<b>Jesus</b>	Okay, this is getting silly, Jonah.
<b>Jonah</b>	<i>(uncovers his eyes, points to Jesus)</i> Gotcha!
<b>Jesus</b>	Jonah. I saw you shaking. I'm just tired of playing this game. Can we talk?
<b>Jonah</b>	<i>(sulky)</i> About what?
<b>Jesus</b>	I think you know.
<b>Jonah</b>	What?
<b>Jesus</b>	You ran away from me when I called you.
<b>Jonah</b>	Well... I... MEANT to come to you and do what you wanted, but I... needed to go the store and buy you a present, first! Yeah, THAT's it! I wanted to buy you a present!
<b>Jesus</b>	Okay. So where is it?
<b>Jonah</b>	Where is what?
<b>Jesus</b>	The present. You said you bought me a present.
<b>Jonah</b>	Oh. I... Hmmmm. Oh, yeah, my dog ate it, man. Sorry.
<b>Jesus</b>	Really. Jonah, I know you didn't buy me a present.
<b>Jonah</b>	Oh yeah? Well... I.... WOULD have bought you a present, but I was too BUSY.
<b>Jesus</b>	Doing what?

<b>Jonah</b>	Hey, I thought you could see everything! Hahahaha! Okay, for your information, I was stuck inside the belly of a WHALE. No kidding. It was so weird, dude. Three days. In there with a bunch of fish and some trash, man.
<b>Jesus</b>	I know all about the whale, Jonah. He's a friend of mine. I sent him to get you.
<b>Jonah</b>	Yeah, right.
<b>Jesus</b>	And after you'd had some time to think about your sin, about the way you turned away from Me, I had him bring you to the beach and spit you out.
<b>Jonah</b>	Man, he spit me right out on somebody's beach blanket! That was so embarrassing, man. I landed right on a lady who hit me with her sunscreen bottle, right on my head. ( <i>rubs his head</i> ) It still hurts, man.
<b>Jesus</b>	Let's get to the point, Jonah. You obviously didn't want to go to Ninevah.
<b>Jonah</b>	( <i>whining</i> ) The Ninevites don't like me. I'm an Israelite.
<b>Jesus</b>	But I like you. And I asked you to go.
<b>Jonah</b>	But they'll be mean to me, Lord!
<b>Jesus</b>	I'll protect you.
<b>Jonah</b>	Oh, yeah, sure. I've heard how the Ninevites treat the people of God and it isn't pretty, my friend.
<b>Jesus</b>	Trust Me, Jonah. I saved you from drowning, right?
<b>Jonah</b>	I guess.
<b>Jesus</b>	That whale came and scooped you right up. You saw those sharks circling around you, didn't you?
<b>Jonah</b>	Yeah. That was really scary. Thanks for sending the whale, Lord.
<b>Jesus</b>	Alrighty then. Let's get on with the task at hand.
<b>Jonah</b>	( <i>whining</i> ) The Ninevites?
<b>Jesus</b>	Yep. It's time to let those sorry slackers know I'm coming to town and I'm really, really mad.
<b>Jonah</b>	Cool. I get to tell them they're all going to be CRUSHED. Hahahahah!
<b>Jesus</b>	That is, unless they repent.
<b>Jonah</b>	They WHAT?
<b>Jesus</b>	Repent. You know, tell me they're sorry. Try to do better.
<b>Jonah</b>	They won't. They're really bad. Crush 'em. That's what you GOTTA do.

<b>Jesus</b>	Well, we'll see. You know I always forgive people when they're sorry.
<b>Jonah</b>	Oh, man. ( <i>shuffles</i> ) Um, Lord?
<b>Jesus</b>	Yeah, buddy. What is it?
<b>Jonah</b>	Um, do you forgive me?
<b>Jesus</b>	Are you sorry?
<b>Jonah</b>	Yeah.
<b>Jesus</b>	Are you ever going to hide from me again?
<b>Jonah</b>	No. 'Cause now I know you can find me anywhere.
<b>Jesus</b>	Are you going to do what I ask you to do?
<b>Jonah</b>	Yeah, I am. You're my Lord. I love you, man.
<b>Jesus</b>	Okay, champ. I love you, too. Get a move, on, okay?
<b>Jonah</b>	So, we're totally cool?
<b>Jesus</b>	We're totally cool.
<b>Jonah</b>	Cool. Okay, you slacker sons of a he-goat! Here I come! A prophet of the Lord! And you better not hit me with any sunscreen bottles, dudes, or you're gonna be in BIG TROUBLE! Hahahahahahahah! Yeah. Big trouble. Hi ho, hi ho, it's off to Ninevah I go. Oh, yeah. Big trouble.
<b>Jesus</b>	That's my buddy. Go get 'em, Tiger.

The End

Mommy	Let me ask you something. Is it hard to sleep with a bright light on in your room?
Sally	Yes! I already told you that, Mommy! I was awake and awake and awake and if I don't get to sleep pretty soon my eyeballs will fall right out!
Mommy	So that tiny little night light was important, wasn't it?
Sally	Yes! That little light is very important to ME!!!!
Mommy	...and the big, bright light could not do the same job. Right?
Sally	Right ... The big light can't do the job of the little light!
Mommy	So the little jobs are just as important as the big ones.
Sally	Oh!!! ( <i>hopping up and down</i> ) I see what you mean! My little jobs are just as important as the big jobs!! Setting the table is very important! It's my little light! How could we eat without forks and napkins and plates?
Mommy	That's right! We'd have to eat with our fingers and toes!
Sally	( <i>laughs</i> ) That would be fun but it would be so messy and gooey and sticky and Grandma wouldn't like it at all! She'd think we were living in a zoo or something!
Mommy	Now you've got it! Every little thing you do to help out is important and God is pleased when you do it! When you help out, even in small ways, your light is shining!!! How about you, boys and girls? Maybe you can't hang lights outside, yet, or cook the meal or buy the presents, but you can help out in small ways that are just as important!
Sally	Let's all help out for Christmas! Because little jobs are just as important as big ones!!! Let's get going and help our families have the best Christmas ever!!! Let's light up Jesus's birthday!
Mommy	I'm so proud of you! Your light is shining brighter than ever!
Sally	You mean it? You're proud of me? Wahoooo!
Mommy	I sure am. You're the best little daughter ever.
Sally	Merry Christmas, Mommy.
Mommy	Merry Christmas, Sally.
Sally	This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine...

The End