

Saint Peter Puppet Show*(this show follows the show on Sister Thea)**2 Cor:12:9 “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.”*

Billy	<i>(sitting around looking glum)</i>
Susie	Hey, Billy. What’s the matter?
Billy	Nothing.
Susie	It doesn’t look like nothing.
Billy	<i>(grumpily)</i> It feels like nothing.
Susie	What do you mean?
Billy	<i>(very upset)</i> I’m nothing like the saints. I’m scared of the dark, I forget my manners, I have a hard time making my bed... How can I be a superhero for the Kingdom of God when I make so many mistakes?!
Susie	One of our greatest saints made many mistakes and had to be forgiven by Jesus for being a coward and a liar!
Billy	A coward and a liar?
Susie	Yes. Our first pope, a great saint with so much courage he died for preaching the truth of our Faith in Jesus Christ.
Billy	If he had so much courage and preached the truth, how could he be a coward and a liar?
Susie	Well, let’s just say he made lots of mistakes, but he learned from every single one. Like Sister Thea said, “A saint is a sinner who just keeps on trying.”
Billy	Cool. What was this guy’s name?
Susie	Saint Peter.
Billy	You mean Simon Peter the fisherman?
Susie	You bet.
Billy	You mean Simon Peter the really BIG STRONG GUY???
Susie	Um, yes!
Billy	Wahooooooooey! Finally a really big strong guy saint! Yahooooooo!!!!
Susie	<i>(giggles)</i> I’m glad you’re happy.
Billy	Can we go back in time and see him?
Susie	Absolutely!
Billy	Let’s go! <i>(grabs her hand)</i>

Susie	I see you're over your fear of holding hands!
Billy	<i>(annoyed)</i> Just say the words , Susie! Let's go see Saint Peter!
Susie	Dear Saint Peter, let us see... how Christ taught you, so you could teach me!
Billy	Whoaaaa! <i>(they fly backwards and disappear as Jesus and the Apostles appear)</i>
	<i>[In this section, two or more puppets play the "Guys" and take turns talking]</i>
Jesus	Okay, guys. I need a little time to pray. I'll meet you on the other side of the lake.
Peter	Okee dokee Jesus. We'll sail across in this boat and catch you later! <i>(Peter and disciples jump into a "boat" and sail off as Jesus exits – mime getting in and keep puppets held tightly together)</i> Alrighty then. Well guys, here we are, sailing along. Isn't it great being disciples of Jesus? He is so cool, isn't He?
Guys	Yeah. He's got the message and He is the MAN.
Peter	Yeah. Gee it's getting awfully windy out here, isn't it?
Guys	Yeah. The waves are getting really big, too.
Peter	I'm scared.
Guys	We are, too. <i>(high squeaky voice)</i>
Peter	I wish Jesus was here. <i>(Jesus appears)</i>
Guys	Hey, what the... I can't believe my EYES!!!! Look!!! <i>(pointing at Jesus)</i>
Peter	Whoa! This is really freaky, guys. Stay behind me.
Guys	Yeah. It looks like a ghost walking on the water! <i>(trembling and hiding)</i>
Jesus	Hey, guys! It's me! It's Jesus!
Guys	<i>(they look at each other uncertainly, look back at Jesus)</i> Oh yeah? Prove it.
Jesus	Okay. Like how?
Peter	<i>(they all turn to Peter)</i> Like... let me walk across the water, like you're doing, which would be SO COOL... and if I could do THAT, then I'd believe it was really Jesus out there and not just some weird dude on water skis or something.
Jesus	Alright. Come on out of the boat, Simon. Come walk on water! It's fun!
Peter	<i>(hesitating)</i> Are you sure I can just step out of the boat?
Jesus	Yes! Jump in. Trust me. <i>(holding out his hands)</i>

Guys	<i>(chanting)</i> Simon! Simon! Walk on water! Simon! Simon! Walk! On! Water!
Peter	Okee dokee. <i>(gingerly stepping out – sees that the water holds him)</i> Oh COOL! This is totally awesome! Hey guys! Look at me! <i>(dances a little)</i> I am walking on water! In the middle of the lake! <i>(he looks down at his feet)</i> On very deep, cold water... <i>(getting scared, starting to shake)</i> with really big waves... and... AAAAHHHHH! <i>(starts to sink)</i> Jesus! Save me! I'm sinking!
Guys	<i>(Jesus lifts him up – the other disciples start cracking up and making fun of him)</i> Man, you looked so funny! You were like, "Aaah! Save me! Save me!"
Peter	<i>(clutching Jesus' head)</i> Oh, yeah. You guys come on out here and try it. It's not as easy as it looks.
Jesus	<i>(slightly muffled)</i> Simon. Let go of my face. You're going to be okay.
Peter	Sorry Jesus. <i>(uncovers Jesus' face)</i>
Guy	Hahahaha! Look at him! He's scared like a big BABY!!! Hahahahaha!
Jesus	Alright, cut it out, guys. Simon did a really brave thing and I didn't see any of YOU trying it. <i>(he notes their silence)</i> Okay, then. Come on Simon. Here you go. Back in the boat. Now, what have we learned here, today? Anybody?
Guys	Uhhh... <i>(shuffling, avoiding answering)</i>
Peter	Well, I guess I should have trusted you more, Lord.
Jesus	I am <i>so</i> proud of you, Simon. You answered correctly. Next time you'll do better. <i>(pats him on the back)</i>
Peter	Next time!? Wow. Thanks, Jesus. You always make me feel a lot better when I goof up.
Jesus	It's okay, buddy. Okay, we've finally reached land. Everybody off the boat! That's it. Now, let me ask you all something. Some people are saying that because I do miracles and go around teaching about God, that perhaps I'm John the Baptist come back from the dead. Others are saying I'm one of the old prophets. Who do you say that I am?
Peter	You are the Christ! The Messiah! The Son of the Living God!
Jesus	Bingo!!
Guys	<i>(all together, overlapping)</i> You're "Bingo?" Wow, that's weird. No, he doesn't mean HE's bingo, He means He likes to PLAY bingo! Hey, great idea! It's fun, it's challenging, it's a great way to win money!!!
Jesus	No, no, no. Not THAT kind of bingo! What I meant to say is that Simon got it RIGHT! He is correct. And nobody on this earth gave him the right answer. It was my Father in heaven who showed him that I am the Messiah, the Son of God.

Guys	Is that right, Simon? God showed you?
Peter	I just <i>knew</i> it. It was in my heart.
Guys	Wow.
Peter	Jesus, I have a question for you.
Jesus	Yes, Simon?
Peter	The guys were really making fun of me, before. It hurt my feelings.
Jesus	Yes?
Peter	How many times should I forgive people that hurt me? Once? Twice?
Jesus	You should forgive them as many times as they are sorry. Well? What do you say, boys?
Guys	We're sorry, Simon. Yeah, sorry about the mean cracks we made.
Peter	I forgive you.
Guys	Gee thanks! Yeah, that was really nice of you, Simon. Yeah, cool.
Jesus	Good job, Simon. And by the way, I have a new name for you.
Guys	Bingo! Bingo! Bingo!
Jesus	No. Gee wiz, guys. Would you FORGET about bingo? I wish I had never said that word.
Guys	Sorry, Jesus. We really thought we had the answer right THAT time.
Jesus	Simon Son of John, fisherman, friend and apostle, I hereby rename you Peter, which means "rock," and on this rock I will build my Church.
Peter	<i>(Peter looks around, the disciples all look at each other, Peter looks at Jesus)</i> Are you, like, giving me a really important job?
Jesus	Yes, Peter, I am. And it's a tough job. I'm going to expect a lot of you. After I am arrested and killed, you will be the head man.
Peter	Wait a minute! Wait just a dog-gone minute! I will <i>not</i> allow you to be killed! I will fight for you! I will hit 'em with the left! <i>(throws an air-punch)</i> Hit 'em with the right! <i>(punch)</i> I'll bonk them right on the head, I'll pulverize 'em, I'll murderize 'em, I'll... <i>(jumps around doing martial-arts moves, funny noises...)</i> Hyaaaahhh!!!
Jesus	Peter! Knock it off. You are WAY off base. Don't <i>ever</i> do that again!!!
Peter	What, Master? What did I do?
Jesus	Don't <i>ever</i> try to go against my Father's plan. <i>(Peter is silent and droops his head)</i>
Peter	Oopsie.

Jesus	Listen up, everybody. I am going to die before I rise in glory. It's part of what I came here to do. <i>(the disciples all shake their heads in confusion, including Peter)</i> Come on. Let's go eat our Passover Meal. Who's hungry?
Guys	Me! Me! Me! Yeah, let's go! Let's eat! I'm starving! <i>(general hubbub as they all exit and Billy and Susie re-appear)</i>
Billy	Wow. I see what you mean. Peter did make a lot of mistakes, but he was pretty cool, too.
Susie	There's so much more. Peter made a much bigger one right after dinner.
Billy	Uh oh.
Susie	Yeah, uh oh. After Jesus taught the disciples how to say Mass, blessing the bread and wine and turning it into His Body and Blood, He took them to the garden on Mount Olivat.
Billy	Wasn't it night time? They had just eaten dinner, right?
Susie	Correct. It was night time, but Jesus needed to pray, because He knew He was going to die, soon. He told the apostles that when He was arrested, they would all run away.
Billy	Even Peter?
Susie	Yes, even Peter. But it gets much worse.
Billy	Oh, wow. How much worse could it get?
Susie	Jesus told Peter that before the rooster crowed the next day, Peter would pretend he didn't even know Jesus. He would lie. He would deny Jesus three times and then run away, too scared to stay with him.
Billy	Woa. And is that what happened?
Susie	Yep. Anything Jesus says is true. You can always believe Him.
Billy	So, let me ask you something.
Susie	Shoot.
Billy	Why did Jesus make Peter the first pope? I mean, he made so many mistakes and he even ran like a chicken when Jesus was in trouble!
Susie	Jesus uses weak people to show that His power is enough for us.
Billy	Wow. Did Peter have to say "sorry" to Jesus?
Susie	Kind of. After Jesus died and rose again, He made Peter say, "I love you" to Him three times.
Billy	That's the same number of times that he denied Jesus.
Susie	That's right. And then he told Peter to take care of the new Church and all the people in it.

Billy	And did Peter take care of the Church?
Susie	Yes, he did. He worked many miracles. One day he walked into the temple, which was the Jewish church, and a poor crippled beggar asked him for money. He said, "I don't have any money, but I'll give you what I DO have." And with that, he cured him. What do you think Peter had to give the crippled man?
Billy	Oh, I know! I know! Pick me! Pick me!
Susie	Billy. You're the only kid here.
Billy	Oh. Yeah. Well, I think Peter had the powerful, saving love of Jesus Christ.
Susie	Right on, brother. You really have been paying attention.
Billy	What did Peter do after that?
Susie	He spent his life teaching people about Jesus and he was killed for bravely telling the Truth to people who did not want to hear it.
Billy	A true hero after all! I wish I could have heard Saint Peter teaching. He sounds pretty amazing.
Susie	Would you like to go back and hear him?
Billy	Yes! Yes! Let's go!
Susie	Dear Saint Peter, let us see... what you taught others, so they could teach me! <i>(they fall backward and disappear as Saint Peter appears, speaking to the children in the audience)</i>
Peter	<p>Hey, kids! Are you ready to learn about Jesus? Let me hear you say, Jesus! Louder! Jesus! Louder! Jesus! Louder! Great! That's the way I like it!</p> <p>Now who here knows how to fight evil? <i>(ask some kids, chat with them, improvise)</i> Okay, some interesting ideas out here... Good...</p> <p>If any of you are thinking that you can all fight evil with Jesus' WAY OF LOVE, you are CORRECT! When you follow the way of love you have God's power in your life. The power of Almighty God. That is the best way to fight evil and don't you forget it. When God gives you His power it helps you to be good. And being good fights evil better than anything else.</p> <p>Did you know that Jesus took me and James and John up on a mountain top and showed us His glory? Glory halleluiah! His face started shining with light, like the noonday sun it was blazing bright! It was AMAZING. It was BLAZING. It was oh-my-goodness-out-of-control CRAZING. I was so happy I wanted to stay on that mountain just praising God and worshipping Him, dancing in His glorious light! But do you know what He said to me? He said, "No, Peter. You have made another little mistake. You are not supposed to just hang around. You are supposed to take that glory in your</p>

	<p>heart and GO BACK DOWN THE MOUNTAIN!” Do you know why? (<i>get kids to answer</i>)</p> <p>Well, I’ll tell you why. Because we all have to go out and teach Jesus’ WAY of LOVE. (<i>chant like James Brown, very funky</i>) We’ve got to, got to, got to try a little tenderness!</p> <p>Put your hands together, my brothers and my sisters! I’ve got a little song for you. Feel free to clap along! (<i>get them started clapping, sing to the tune of “He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands”</i>)</p>
	<p>We’ve got the Word of God, shining bright! We’ve got to pay attention, to the light! Shining in the darkness, what a sight! We’ve got the Word of God, shining bright!</p> <p>And if you love Jesus, you will see! The day-of-love will come, to you and me! The morning star will rise up, from the sea! If you love Jesus, you will see! (<i>2 Peter 1:17-21</i>)</p>
	<p>Terrific. You kids are just great. Now I want to tell you something. I’ve made a lot of mistakes in my life, but I learned from every one. I made big mistakes and small mistakes and really off-the-wall mistakes. But you know what I learned that carries me through, and I hope it will do the same for you? It is this: Jesus died for us. He washed away our sins with His precious blood. By His wounds we have been healed. (<i>1 Peter 2:24</i>) Repeat that after me, now. I want you to remember it always and forever.</p> <p>By His wounds I have been healed! Say it again, brothers and sisters!</p> <p>By His wounds I have been healed! By His wounds I have been healed!</p> <p>That’s it. (<i>quietly</i>) Now take that and put it in your heart and don’t you ever forget it. And don’t worry! Do the best you can and give all your cares to God. He loves you so much. (<i>1 Peter 5:7</i>)</p> <p>Do something with me. Close your eyes. Close them tight, now. No peeking. I want you to think about a worry. Just imagine it right in front of you. It could be at home, it could be a worry about a friend or about school or your neighborhood. Something you’re scared of. Could be somebody that doesn’t like you very much. Now, open your eyes and cup your hands like this (<i>holds both hands out, touching each other</i>). That’s right. Now hold all your worries in your hands and just THROW them right up to God (<i>mimes throwing straight up – looks up at heaven</i>). Yup. God just caught all our worries. (<i>looks at children</i>) And now, let’s ask Him to turn them into</p>

	<p>something beautiful with His power, because God truly can do anything.</p> <p>Bow your heads, sweet children. Lord, take all our worries today and make them into something beautiful. Help us to trust in your love. No matter how many mistakes we make, we know You still love us. We know You died for us. We know You always forgive us when we are sorry. Thank You Jesus for loving us all with Your perfect love. Amen! Glory halleluiah! Good-bye, kids! Thanks for singing and praying with me! Go out and show the world Jesus' way of love! Bye! <i>(disappears as Billy and Susie re-appear)</i></p>
Billy	Wow! Saint Peter is so cool. Even after all those mistakes he became a great saint.
Susie	Yes, and our first pope. At first the Apostles thought that only the Jews could be baptized and become Christians, but Saint Peter taught them that God wanted all people of ALL kinds to become Christians. He got them to loosen up and love everybody.
Billy	Wow. Every type of person is welcome in the Catholic church because Saint Peter listened to God and obeyed Him. He's my hero. I wish St. Peter was here, right now.
Susie	Well, you know you can pray to him any time you want to.
Billy	Do you think he would help me to learn from my mistakes and become a saint like him?
Susie	I sure do. And I think you'll be a terrific saint some day.
Billy	Me? A saint? A real live super-hero for God's heavenly kingdom?
Susie	Yessirree. Remember: A saint is a sinner who just keeps on trying. Bye! <i>(exits)</i>
Billy	Wahooo!!!! Look out bad guys! Here comes another sinner who just keeps on trying! <i>(Karate moves)</i> Hyyyaaaahhhh!!!! I am Peter the Magnificent! Wahooooey! <i>(exits)</i>

The End