



He will forgive you

Jonah Part Two: Jonah Prays to God
Jonah 2:1-10

Delbert and Lello headed toward the stream hoping the water was still warm enough that they could splash around a bit before lunch. As they neared the stream, Delbert spotted Granny B.

"Granny B!" Delbert called excitedly.

"Hello, my little ones," Granny B called as she looked up from her reading. Granny B was sitting on a quilt near the stream. Next to her was a picnic basket.

"Baa. What are you doing, Granny B?" Lello asked, sitting down next to her.

"I'm reading the Bible. I thought I'd read more about Jonah," Granny B explained.

"Haw! Jonah! When we talked before, we learned God still watched over Jonah, even when he disobeyed," Delbert blurted out.

"That's right, Delbert," Granny B encouraged. "In your Bible, did you two read what happened to Jonah when he was inside the fish's belly?"

"Baa. It's my favorite part. That's where Jonah prayed," Lello told Granny B.

"Haw! If I disobeyed God like Jonah did, I would have had lots to pray about!" Delbert shouted.

Granny B smiled and said, "Yes, I would have thanked God for saving me from the stormy sea."

"And, I would have asked God to forgive me for disobeying," Lello added.

"Haw! Me, too," Delbert brayed, "I bet that's just what Jonah did."

"It's good to pray, and it's good to tell God you're sorry when you've disobeyed," Granny B said as she opened the picnic basket.

"Baa. God heard Jonah's prayer, and He forgave him," Lello said.

"That's right. God told the fish to spit Jonah out onto dry land," Granny B said, passing out plates.

Delbert's eyes grew wide and said, "Whoa! Hmmm . . ."

Granny B eyed him and asked, "What are you thinking about, Delbert?"

"Well, I'm thinking about yesterday when I disobeyed my mom. That was wrong in God's eyes," Delbert said, deep in thought.

Granny B nodded.

Delbert continued, "Should I pray like Jonah did and ask God to forgive me?"

Lello nodded, "Baa! That's a great idea, Delbert! I know God will forgive you."

Delbert looked at Lello with one eyebrow raised. "How do you know that?" he asked.

"God promises to forgive us when we are truly sorry, and God is faithful to keep all His promises, remember?" Granny B said.

Delbert and Lello both nodded then noticed Granny B was pulling more things out of the picnic basket: fresh bread, fruit, lemonade, and chocolate chip cookies.

Granny B saw them eyeing the food hungrily. "I have an idea. Let's eat together, then we can all pray and ask God to forgive us for the times we've disobeyed."

"Yeah!" Delbert and Lello shouted. They filled their plates and as they ate, they talked about Jonah's prayer and God's faithfulness.