



Jesus Loved the Church

Jesus Clears the Temple
Mark 11:15-17

Granny B and Pops were in the garden. Pops was pulling weeds and planting new seeds while Granny picked some vegetables and flowers. They were hard at work when they heard "Baa!" and "Hee-haw!" Both looked up, knowing whom they would find.

"Hey, Delbert! Hello, Lello!" Pops laughed as he greeted their friends.

"Hello, little ones," Granny B added.

Delbert and Lello greeted Pops and Granny B as they entered the garden. Then, Delbert walked over to Pops and helped pull weeds. Lello sat next to Granny B and smelled the flowers.

"How did Lilly like going to church?" Granny B asked her.

"Oh, she loved it, thank you," Lello replied.

"Jesus loved the church, too!" Delbert chimed in from across the garden.

"That's right, Delbert. That reminds me of the Bible story Pops and I read at breakfast," Granny B said.

"Yes, we read about when Jesus told some people to leave the temple," Pops continued.

"Oh no!" gasped Lello. "Why would Jesus do that?"

"Jesus came into the temple and saw that people were selling things instead of worshiping God," Granny B replied.

"Baa. That is not good." Lello whispered.

"Haw! It sure isn't. So, Jesus told those people to leave?" Delbert asked.

Pops nodded and said, "That's right, Delbert. Jesus reminded them that God's house is a place of prayer. It is a special and holy place."

"Jesus did what was right. I want to take special care of God's house," Lello said.

"Lello, I am so glad to hear that. Did you know there are some little things you can do to show that God's house is special?" Granny B asked her.

"Like what?" Lello wondered.

"Haw! I know. When we pray we need to think about God and not talk with our friends," Delbert offered.

Granny B nodded.

"And when you're walking in the hallways, you can use your 'indoor voice' instead of being loud," Pops added.

Granny B nodded again.

"Baa! I like those ideas!" Lello exclaimed.

Lello began to get up when Granny B remembered something.

"Delbert and Lello, aren't you two learning a Bible verse?" she asked.

"Haw! We sure are. Would you like to hear it?" Delbert offered proudly.

Granny B and Pops both said they would.

Together, Delbert and Lello said, "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Ephesians 6:1."

Granny B and Pops clapped their hands and congratulated them both. After they all said the verse together, Pops asked Delbert to help him with the seeds and Lello offered to find the most beautiful flowers for Granny B.