



Listen and Learn

Ezra Teaches God's People
Ezra 7:6, 8-10

Delbert and Lello marched toward the farmhouse as if they were in a parade. Delbert was trying to walk like a noble king. Pops had asked Delbert to be a king in the play, and Delbert was taking his role very seriously.

"Lello? Do I look kingly enough?" Delbert asked grandly.

"Baa, I think so. But, you are walking slower than normal," Lello commented, looking up to see the farmhouse in view. "Come on, Delbert, can't we just run ahead and find Pops and Granny B?"

"Haw! You can if you'd like, but a king does not run unless it is an emergency," Delbert said wisely.

Lello sighed and continued the slow pace toward the farmhouse. Soon, they could see Granny B on the porch sitting in her rocking chair and reading. Delbert finally picked up his pace and he and Lello ran to see her.

"Well hello, little ones," Granny B said, as she saw them coming up the steps. She turned to Delbert with a smile and said, "I like your robe."

"Haw! Thanks, Granny B. Lello has been helping me with my king costume. Is Pops around?" Delbert asked, peering in the house through the screen door.

Granny B shook her head and explained that Pops was down the road getting some farm equipment fixed. Lello came and cuddled up with Granny B. Delbert looked a bit sad.

"I've been practicing the role of King Josiah. It's hard work," Delbert explained.

"Baa. Delbert's done a great job of obeying like King Josiah," Lello added.

Granny B smiled again and said, "But Delbert, I thought you wanted to be King Solomon because he was so wise."

"I did, but God liked the way King Josiah obeyed. I think that sometimes it is hard to obey!" Delbert exclaimed. He sighed as he sat down.

"It sure is," Granny B agreed. "You two have been learning quite a bit about the kings in the Bible, haven't you?"

"Yes, I didn't know there were so many Bible stories about kings," remarked Lello.

"Haw! I love to learn Bible stories," Delbert said, glancing at Granny B hopefully. Delbert loved to hear Granny B tell them Bible stories.

Granny B winked. "I know someone else who loved to learn about the Bible."

"Who?" Delbert and Lello asked.

Granny B opened her Bible and began, "In Bible times, there was a man named Ezra. Ezra loved to learn God's rules and he loved to teach them to others."

"Why did Ezra love to do that?" Lello asked curiously.

"Ezra wanted everyone to know God's rules so they could obey them," Granny B replied.

"Haw. How can we learn God's rules?" Delbert asked.

Granny B explained how they could learn God's rules from the Bible. When they read Bible stories, they are learning about God and what He wants them to do.

Delbert and Lello told Granny B how much they loved Bible stories.

"What's your favorite Bible story?" Granny B asked Delbert.

"I love the story of Noah and how he built that great, big ark!" Delbert smiled.

"Well, why don't you two come back tomorrow and I will teach you about another person who liked to build for God," Granny B offered. "I'll make sure to have some fresh bread hot from the oven."

Delbert licked his lips. Lello cuddled up to Granny B and the three friends sat on the porch enjoying the afternoon sun and sharing their favorite Bible stories.