



Jonah Part Three: Jonah Obeys God

Jonah 3:1-10

Suggested setting: The Prophets & Promises puppet scripts adapt to any setting such as a garden, forest, farm, or stable. Once or twice a year, a set change or addition to the set is recommended for added interest. Decorate with colorful flowers, butterflies, birds, and ladybugs. Puppets can pop out from behind a window, hedge, tree hollow, stonewall, etc. For a simple, portable puppet stage, puppets can pop up from behind a colorful blanket hung on a rod or from behind a card table turned on its side. Adjust setting and puppet names according to available puppeteers and resources.

Characters: Delbert the Donkey and Lello the Lamb are good friends who are always excited to learn more about Jesus and the Bible. The leader is the children's teacher or worship leader dressed in regular clothing or in costume consistent with the set (a gardener, a farmer, etc.) The leader helps children focus on the puppets and leads group interaction.

Leader (stands at puppet stage)
It's time to call for Delbert and Lello.
Repeat after me, "Dehhhhhl-bert Dehhhhhl-bert!" (Children repeat and Delbert the Donkey pops his head out of the window.) **Hellohhhhhhhhhh Lello!"** (Children repeat and Lello the Lamb pops her head out of the window.)

Delbert
Hee Haw! Hello everybody!

Lello (bleats)
Yeah. Hello every-bahhh-dy.

Delbert
Haw! I can't wait to hear the rest of the story about Jonah!

Lello
Yeah, it all started when Jonah disobeyed God, and God still watched over him!

Leader
That's right, Lello. And boys and girls, do you remember when Jonah was swallowed by a great big fish? (Pause for response.)

Delbert
Haw. And remember when Jonah prayed inside the fish's belly?

Leader
Yes. Boys and girls, do you think God forgave Jonah for disobeying? (Pause for response.)

Lello
Yeah, that's right! God forgave Jonah! God told the fish to spit Jonah out onto the dry land. I wonder what happened next.

Delbert
I bet Jonah had to take a bath. He was probably stinky after being in the fish's belly. Shooo-weeee!

Lello

Yeah. Shoo- wee.

Leader

I'm not sure about the bath, but the Bible tells us God gave Jonah a second chance.

Delbert

Haw. When I disobeyed my mom, she gave me a second chance, too! What did God tell Jonah to do?

Leader

God told Jonah to go to Nineveh.

Delbert

Oh, boy. I sure hope Jonah learned his lesson about obeying.

Leader

Yes, this time when God said, "Get up and go to Nineveh," Jonah obeyed right away!

Lello

But, I thought Jonah didn't want to go to Nineveh.

Leader

Sometimes obeying means doing things we do not want to do.

Lello

Yeah, like going to bed when you are not sleepy.

Delbert

Or, washing behind your ears when you just want to splash in the tub.

Leader

Yes, but God wants us to obey Him every time.

Lello

He does? Why?

Leader

Because great things happen when we obey God.

Delbert

Haw! I want to obey God, too. I'm gonna get up and go just like Jonah did! (Delbert exits quickly.)

Lello

Delbert? Delbert? He sure did get up and go! I can't even see him.

Leader

Delbert has the right idea, Lello. When God says, "Go," it's time to get up and go!

Lello

Yeah. Can I do that, too?

Leader

Of course, Lello.

Lello

Bah-bye every-bahhh-dy! I'm gonna get up and go! (Lello exits quickly.)

Leader

Bye, Lello.

(Exit.)