

**Script**

**Puppet:** Wow, you guys learned so much about Jesus today and forgiveness! But, I am having a problem.

**Teacher:** Oh no! Maybe we can help? (Motion to the class.) What is your problem?

**Puppet:** (In a frustrated tone.) Well, this morning, I was trying to tie my shoes to get to school on time, but my sister laughed at me because I was having a hard time tying my shoes! I was so mad! (Sad tone.) I did not like that. I really needed help, and instead, she laughed at me.

**Teacher:** Oh friend, it sounds like that really upset you. I am sorry to hear that happened.

**Puppet:** (Angry tone.) It did upset me, I felt mad and sad! Well, now I am NOT going to talk to her after school and I am NOT going to read with her before I go to bed tonight. I am not talking to her.

**Teacher:** Hmmm, do you think that will help you feel better about what happened with her?

**Puppet:** What do you mean? I'm mad that she laughed at me so I am NOT speaking to her.

**Teacher:** I can understand you are mad, but do you think not talking with her will help? When will you talk with your sister again? God has given you such a delightful family, I wonder if there is another solution we can find and use for when we get upset or hurt by people in our family. (Ask the students to share ideas with the puppet friend of what they do when they are hurt or upset by members of their family.)

**Teacher:** What did Jesus do for all of us on the cross?

**Puppet:** Well, I heard the stories today and I heard you all talking about Jesus forgiving us from our sins.

**Teacher:** That's right. Do we deserve Jesus' forgiveness?

**Puppet:** No, but he loves us so much that he died for us and chose to forgive our sins.

**Teacher:** You got it, you were listening so well! Now, I have another question for you. Do you love your sister?

**Puppet:** (Thoughtfully.) Well...yes, I do love her...but right now I DO NOT like what she said to me!

**Teacher:** I wonder how you might feel if you forgive your sister? When you told me what happened, you said you were mad and sad. I wonder if forgiving your sister for laughing at you might help you feel better. I know when I feel sad or mad, if I hold onto those feelings, I stay feeling bad. But I also know that when I chose to forgive someone, like how Jesus forgave me on the cross, I feel much better.

**Puppet:** Well, she didn't say sorry, she just laughed and went to school! I don't think I should have to forgive her until she says sorry!

**Teacher:** You are right, it is helpful when people who have hurt us tell us they're sorry without us asking them to, but sometimes, that doesn't happen. I wonder what would happen if you told your sister that it hurt your feelings when she laughed at you? Do you think she might want to say she is sorry and make things right between you two?

**Puppet:** Maybe, I didn't think about telling her how it made me feel. Do you think it will help?

**Teacher:** Yes of course! And even if she chooses to not say she is sorry, you can still forgive her. Remember, Jesus died on the cross before we told him we were sorry for our sins. He forgave us first. I wonder how you might feel if you asked Jesus to help you forgive your sister first? Families are such a special gift from God and in our families, we sometimes do not get along. That happens and sin can cause that feeling of brokenness.

**Puppet:** I heard you talking about that word, brokenness.

**Teacher:** Right! Only with Jesus' help, can we forgive others, we can give grace to others...we can love our family members enough to say, "I love you, and because I love you and Jesus' love is inside my heart, I forgive you because I want Jesus to restore our relationship again, to make it right." Our verse from I John 4:19 reminds us that, "*We love because he first loved us.*" Forgiving others is one way we can show love and grace to others, even if they do not say sorry first. Then with Jesus' help, we forgive them, we do not stay angry with them, and we let go of those hurt feelings.

**Puppet:** You know what, I think I will talk to my sister as soon as I see her after school today. As mad as I am that she laughed, my heart would be broken if I never talked with her again. Forgiving my sister will make my heart feel better, I am going to ask Jesus to help me forgive my sister so He can help us make things right again. Thank you friends!