

Puppet Script

(PJG022)

The destructive tongue!

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ALL AGE WORSHIP
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PUPPET SCRIPT: “THE DESTRUCTIVE TONGUE!” (PJG022)

Aim of script: To encourage people to think about how they speak.

Use of Script: In an All Age Worship Service setting, this script could be preceded by inviting people to think about the power of their words – that words can be used in either a good or a bad way, for the building up of people or for the destroying of them.

The script can be followed by reading Ephesians 4:29 and inviting people to confess to God where they have used their words in destructive ways.

Main themes: Tongue, power of words, gossip

Biblical references: James 3:1-2, Proverbs 18:21, Ephesians 4:29

Characters: The script is a dialogue between a young boy puppet called “James” who wants to follow Jesus but keeps getting things wrong, and his wise old “Grandad” puppet who helps to sort him out. Each puppet is operated by one person from behind a screen and so it is essential that the voices are heard; radio-microphones are ideal. Puppets and puppet screens can be purchased from many sources including <http://www.onewayuk.com/>



Enter Grandad

Grandad: James, James?

Enter James

James: Hello Grandad.

Grandad: Oh hello James, how nice to see you.....I haven't seen you for such a long time. Whenever I call, your mother says that you are on your computer. Have you found a new way to do your school work?

James: Not exactly Grandad.....I have been busy setting up my Kinzoo online account and chatting with my friends.

Grandad: I see.

James: It's amazing what you find out about when you are on Kinzoo Grandad. You won't believe this. You know Mira?

Grandad: Of course I do James. She is one of your friends.

James: Not any more...oh no....I'm not friends with someone like that thank you very much. I am giving her a wide berth from now on.

- Grandad: “*Someone like that.*” What are you talking about James? Mira is a lovely girl.
- James: You don’t know what I know Grandad.
- Grandad: And what do you know James?
- James: That she is a cheat, a liar, treats her pets really badly, and has stolen money from her mum. She is a shop-lifter, boy-mad, pinches her brother’s sweets and...
- Grandad: Hold on, hold on. Where has all this come from?
- James: Nic told me on Kinzoo that she is a cheat and he has proof. He said that Emily had told him that Sara had told her that Viv had seen her look over Ellie’s shoulder in the last maths test. So she is a cheat!
- Grandad: There may be another explanation for Mira looking over Ellie’s shoulder in the maths test James.
- James: Like?
- Grandad: Like she was trying to see the clock James.....I have never seen a watch on Mira’s wrist.
- James: Oh...well anyway she is a liar because Bob said on Kinzoo yesterday that Mira said that she had three cats, and then Sandy went round for tea and told Elizabeth and Mark that there was only one cat and....
- Grandad: Mira’s mother told me that last Wednesday two of their cats had been run over. Mira was devastated.
- James: Oh....but ...well....Rachel said on Kinzoo today that Mira was a shop-lifter. Apparently she stole some packets of sweets from the corner shop last Monday after school and she was seen by Harriet who saw the police arresting her.
- Grandad: Mira was in the library last Monday James because I was there reading all of the papers and she came in and did her homework for about two hours. You know how dedicated she is.
- James: Girls!!
- Grandad: Are you sure that Harriet is telling the truth about Mira? Isn’t she the girl who was suspended from school for stealing from the office?
- James: Yes she was....
- Grandad: James I think you need to be rather careful with this new Kinzoo of yours. There seems to be a lot of gossip going on and from the little you have told me, a lot of it is untrue and unkind.
- James: I’m feeling rather bad now Grandad because I have been giving Mira very dirty looks for the last few days and she has been looking so unhappy.

- Grandad: I'm not surprised with all those horrid things being said about her. James do you remember what you learnt in Sunday school three weeks ago when I came in and talked to your group?
- James: Oh yes Grandad, it was great. You brought in a great big ox tongue and you said that the tongue is more powerful than dynamite! I must admit it smelt a bit though!
- Grandad: It did a bit didn't it....hopefully it will help you remember why the tongue is so powerful James?
- James: Hmm...oh yes... you said that words have the power to either build up people or to destroy them.
- Grandad: That's right James.....Jesus wants us to use our powerful tongues to build up other people by speaking kindly to them and about them.....and not to use them to destroy other people by saying horrid things or passing on words that may not be true.
- James: I will try Grandad....
- Grandad: Well done James. Now, would you like to go fishing with your old Grandad this afternoon instead of sitting in front of that computer of yours?
- James: Oh no....Grandad I must run....oh no.
- Grandad: What's the problem James?
- James: I was cleaning out the terrapin tank as a surprise for dad when you called round....
- Grandad: That was kind of you James
- James: But I put the terrapin in the downstairs toilet for safe keeping....and I have just heard the toilet being flushed.....oh no.....dad had had that terrapin for over ten years!
- Grandad: Oh James!

Exit James and Grandad