

Won't You Be My Neighbor?
PREVIEW

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PURPOSE

Using nursery rhyme characters, this script is a unique take on a commonly known parable. It illustrates true friendship and clearly depicts what Jesus meant when He commanded us to love our neighbor.

SUMMARY

This script is an interactive re telling of the parable of The Good Samaritan.

CHARACTERS

Woman

Man

Volunteers: Jill, Spider, Cow, Three Blind Mice

RUNNING TIME

10 minutes

HOW TO

The story should be re-told every time in the exact same way. For example when the Woman says, "Once upon a time..." or when the Man says, "Thank goodness," they should have the exact same hand gestures each time the line is given. The humor will be found in the repetition.

Woman and Man should feel free to improvise in order to help the volunteers with their lines.

Volunteers can be children or adults.

COSTUME / PROP IDEAS

Spider: A few black pipe cleaners

Cow: A large white shirt or anything simple.

Mice: Sunglasses

WOMAN

Once upon a time, there was a girl named, Jill.

MAN

And a boy named, Jack. They went up a hill.

WOMAN

That's not the story I'm telling.

(Starting once again)

Once upon a time, there was a girl named, Jill. One day she was walking and fell down.

MAN

You're telling it wrong. Jack fell down and broke his crown and Jill came tumbling after.

WOMAN

Jack's not in this story.

MAN

What?

WOMAN

This is a story about Jill.

MAN

Just Jill?

WOMAN

Just Jill.

MAN

Fine. But she came tumbling after.

WOMAN

She fell.

MAN:

Tumbled.

WOMAN

Can we just agree that Jill got hurt?

MAN

Sure.

WOMAN

Good.

(To audience)

I need a Jill. Can you be my Jill today?

(Picks a volunteer from the audience)

Thank you. Lay down right here.

Then what happened? MAN

She cried for help. WOMAN

Cry for help. MAN
Whispers to volunteer.

Help! JILL

That's very good. But I think she needs to be louder.
(To audience)
Can you help us? When I point to you, everyone cry, "Help!"

Man points to the audience. They respond by saying, "Help!"

Repeat these a couple of times. Man can try and trick the audience by pointing quickly or pointing to them in silly positions.

Very good.

But Jill wasn't worried; she knew she had lots of neighbors that would be walking by shortly and could come and help her. WOMAN

Thank goodness. MAN

Along came a spider, WOMAN

I know this part. Along came a spider, who sat down beside her, and frightened Jill away. Right? MAN

No. Along came a spider.
(Picks a volunteer from the audience)
Would you be my spider today? WOMAN

He doesn't look like a spider. MAN

WOMAN
We're acting.

MAN
Can you look more like a spider?

Hands volunteer a small prop/costume. Then shows volunteer how to walk like a spider.
See! That looks more like a spider. So, along came a spider; then what?

WOMAN
And he heard Jill crying for-

MAN

Man points to the audience; they yell 'Help!'

WOMAN
But the spider went up the water spout, and hurried on its way.

Man helps spider act out the above line.

MAN
That wasn't very nice of the spider. He wasn't a very good neighbor.

WOMAN
(Agreeing.)
He wasn't.

MAN
Then what happened?

WOMAN
Well after the spider left Jill all alone, there came a cow.

MAN
A cow?

WOMAN
Yup.
(To a volunteer in the audience.)
Would you like to be my cow today? Now my cow has to jump really high.

MAN
The cow jumps over the moon.

WOMAN

No. No. In our story the cow jumps over Jill.

MAN

Oh. You look like you can jump really high. Can you try jumping for us?

(Volunteer jumps. He gives cow a small costume or prop.)

Very good. Now, where were we?

WOMAN

I forget.

MAN

Start at the beginning.

Man helps bring Jill, Spider, and Cow to their starting positions.

WOMAN

Once upon a time, there a was girl named, Jill. One day she was walking and fell down,

Jill falls.

so she cried for-

MAN

Man points to the audience; they yell 'Help!'

WOMAN

But Jill wasn't worried; she knew she had lots of neighbors that would be walking by shortly and could come and help her.

MAN

Thank goodness.

WOMAN

Along came a spider, and he heard Jill crying for-

MAN

Man points to the audience; they yell 'Help!'

WOMAN

But the spider went up the water spout, and hurried on its way. There came a cow, and he heard Jill crying for-

MAN

Man points to the audience; they yell 'Help!'

WOMAN

But the cow jumped over Jill and hurried on its way.

MAN

I don't like this story. Nobody is being very nice to Jill.

WOMAN

Well, wait. There's more. Next came three blind mice.

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