

“Susie’s Treasure”

by
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What Getting into trouble comes naturally to Willie. It’s in his DNA. In this skit, Susie helps Willie realize that knowing (and obeying) God’s Word is the surest way to avoid life’s troublesome situations.

Themes: Puppets, The Bible, Memorizing Scripture, God’s Word, Hidden Treasure, Kids Ministry

Who Willie
Susie

When Present

**Wear
(Props)** Magnifying Glass
Small Paper Bag

Why Psalm 119:11

How *See how to perform this puppet skit on the last page.

Time Approximately 7 minutes

Willie enters holding a magnifying glass up to his eyes. He glances downward as if searching for something. He looks to his left then slowly to his right, always keeping the magnifying glass up to his eyes. Glancing upward he faces the audience. The magnifying glass makes his eyes appear large. Susie approaches Willie from behind.

Susie: *(tapping Willie's shoulder)* Hi Willie.

A startled Willie jumps up then turns to face Susie.

Willie: Oh, hi Susie. *(Catching his breath)* Whew! You scared me.

Susie: *(giggling)* Sorry, I didn't mean to.

Willie: Wow! This magnifying glass really makes your head look big.

Susie: *(curious)* Just what are you doing with that thing anyhow?

Willie: *(seriously)* I'm lookin' for hidden treasure.

Susie: *(excited)* Hidden treasure? Have you found any?

Willie: *(excited)* I sure have. Just look!

Willie holds up his small paper bag for Susie to look into. She glances into the bag and is obviously disappointed.

Susie: Treasure, huh? It looks more like junk to me.

Willie: *(surprised and hurt)* Junk? Are you kiddin'? I've already found five popsicle sticks, a yellow shoelace, three shiny stones and the top half of a petrified frog.

Susie: *(disgusted)* Gross! Like I said...junk!

Willie: *(frustrated)* Ahhhh. What would you know?

Susie: Well, I know junk when I see it. *(Glancing back into the bag)* And what's that pink stuff on the bottom?

Willie: Pink stuff? Oh, yeah, I forgot about that. It's just some old bubble gum I found on the bottom of my desk at school.

Susie: *(disgusted)* Eeeeeeww! Gross again! You didn't put it in your mouth, did you?

Willie: Of course not, silly. *(Proudly)* I'm gonna wash it off first.

Susie: *(shaking her head in disbelief)* Oh, brother. *(Perking up)* Hey, did you know that I have a treasure?

Willie: *(amazed and speaking slowly in a whisper)* You have a treasure?

Susie: *(proudly nodding her head)* Sure do. A hidden treasure.

Willie: *(excited)* A hidden treasure? Wow! Is it gold?

Susie: *(shaking her head)* Nope. It's not gold.

Willie: Hummmm, is it silver?

Susie: No, it isn't silver either.

Willie: Well then, is it diamonds?

Susie: *(shaking her head)* Nope, not diamonds. In fact, my hidden treasure is more precious than all the gold and all the silver and all the diamonds in the whole wide world.

Willie: *(in awe and becoming excited)* Don't tell me. You have a double-sized, hand-tossed, stuffed-crust pepperoni pizza!?

Susie: *(frustrated and shouting)* NO! I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT A DOUBLE SIZED, HAND-TOSSED, STUFFED CRUST PEPPERONI PIZZA! I'm talking about God's Word.

Willie: *(confused)* God's Word? I don't understand. How is that a treasure?

Susie: Oh, Willie, it's a treasure for many reasons. First off, just because it is God's Word. Without God's Word we wouldn't know anything about who He is. We wouldn't know what makes Him happy or what makes Him sad. We wouldn't even know about His Son, Jesus, and how God sent Him to die for us to take away our sins.

Willie: *(thinking)* HmMMM.

Susie: It's important that we know God's Word and that we hide it in our hearts. The writer of Psalm 119:11 understood that having God's Word in our heart is a deterrent to sin.

Willie: A dee-tour-unt?

Susie: That's right. It helps to stop us from sinning. In Psalm 119:11 the writer wrote these words, "I have hidden Your Word in my heart that I might not sin against You."

Willie: Hmmmm.
Susie: Not sinning against God is sure more important than silver or gold, wouldn't you say?

Willie: I guess so. But how do you do it? How do you hide God's Word in your heart?

Susie: By memorizing it.

Willie: *(understandingly)* Ooooooh.

Susie: In fact, the more of God's Word we can memorize the greater our treasure becomes.

Willie: Cool. Maybe I could have God's Word hidden in my heart too.

Susie: *(excited)* Sure you can. I'll help you. Maybe you could start by memorizing Psalm 119:11.

Willie: *(excited)* Yeah, good idea **Susie**. I'll do it.

Susie: Good for you, Willie.

Willie: *(pause)* So, ah, let me see if I understand this right. If I have God's Word hidden in my heart I might not sin against Him?

Susie: *(pleased)* That's right, Willie.

Willie: *(pleased)* And if I have God's Word hidden in my heart, I might not get into so much trouble?

Susie: Bingo! Right again!

Willie: *(excited)* And...and then, if I have God's Word hidden in my heart, I might not do so many dumb things?

There is a moment of silence before Willie repeats his question.

Willie: I said, if I have God's Word in hidden in my heart, I might not do so many dumb things?'

Silence

Susie: *(giggling)* Hey...two out of three ain't bad.

Willie: *(upset)* Funny...NOT!

Susie continues to giggle.

Willie: Hey Susie, it's getting kinda late. Would you like me to walk you home?

Susie: *(pleased)* Thanks, Willie. That's very thoughtful of you.

Both puppets begin to exit together. They continue talking as they exit from view.

Willie: Hey, Susie. How would you like to hear me sing a song about Psalm 119:11. I sing really well, ya know.

Susie: Well, actually, I've heard you sing before. And I can say without hesitation that a good singing voice is probably one of your very well-hidden treasures.

Willie: *(proudly, mistakenly thinking he was just complimented)* Oh, Thanks.

Willie begins singing a simple melody to the words from Psalm 119:11. He sings loudly and waaaaayyyyy off key.

Susie: *(screaming and running in the opposite direction)* Nooooooooooooo!

Willie: Funny. Ha ha. She's just jealous 'cause she can't sing as well as me.

Willie resumes singing waaayyyyyyy off key as he follows Susie.

The end.

Director's Note:

Additional Scripture that may be helpful with this skit.

The ordinances of the Lord are sure and altogether righteous. They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold; They are sweeter than honey, than honey from the comb. Psalm 19:9-10.

The words of the Lord are pure words, like silver refined in a furnace on the ground, purified seven times. Psalm 12:6.

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet. And a light unto my path. Psalm 119:105.

How:

Tips for performing with puppets:

Puppets are wonderful tools for sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ in a fun, lighthearted way. What great joy it brings to hear the laughter of children when your performance goes well. I would like to take just a moment to focus on a few areas that I believe are key for that to happen.

The first has to do with the stage (curtain) itself. **PREPARE YOUR WORK AREA.** How you feel behind the curtain can make a big difference in how your presentation is seen in front of it. You will want a large enough work area behind the curtain to allow three or four puppeteers to maneuver comfortably behind it. A short stool or a rolled-up blanket can provide relief from the discomfort to your knees and back. Proper lighting is a must. This will help prevent you from losing your place while reading from the script. You may want to attach several copies of the script to the back of the curtain and have each puppeteer highlight their individual parts.

Next, because puppets are mostly expressionless, you will need to give them their spirit and vigor. **BE HIGHLY EXPRESSIVE AND ANIMATED.** Wave those arms, raise your voice and include lots of wows, boings, zonks and thuds! Children love that.

The presentation is most important. It is so easy for a good skit to suddenly go bad due to poor delivery. Reading over a script two or three times before performing it can make a world of difference. **COMMIT TO MEMORY AS MUCH OF THE SCRIPT AS POSSIBLE.** This will free you up to spend more time concentrating on the handling of your puppet...adding slap-stick humor, etc. **ALWAYS KNOW WHAT YOUR PUPPET IS DOING.** Is he positioned too high up...or down too low? Is he looking at who he's speaking to? Are his lips in sync with your words.

And finally, don't forget the 'risk' factor. By this, I mean to be bold. Take risks. Dare to be different. So what if your puppet (or your audience) gets a little wet. Who cares if your puppet ends up with whipped cream (shaving cream) on its face or with a little Play-Doh in its hair? It all comes out in the wash. **DO THE UNEXPECTED.** Your children will love you for it. If they are still talking about your puppet skit days, or even weeks, after it's over you're probably doing something right. In short, **HAVE FUN!**