

6. KEEPING YOUR WORD

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Feb 26 — _____

<u>Puppets</u>	<u>Skit</u>
Clunky	Narrator
Simon	Nerd A
	Nerd B
	Nerd C

1. Singing:

2. Offering

3. Clunky Puppet Skit 1: (Clunky & Teacher)

TEACHER: Children, have you seen Clunky? (allow kids to respond.) Would you help me call him up? Clunky! Clunky!

CLUNKY: (comes up) Hello, children! Hello, Teacher!

TEACHER: Clunky, I was wondering if you would do me a small favor.

CLUNKY: (nods) Why certainly! I would do anything for my favorite teacher.

TEACHER: Great! I have a lot of heavy boxes that need to go out to my car. Would you help carry them out their?

CLUNKY: (nods) Of course! Happy to Help! (leaves.)

TEACHER: Wonderful! Children, I have to go pull my car around, so we will have our Nerd Skit next.

4. Nerd Skit : (Narrator, 3 Nerds.)

NARRATOR: Children, you are going to watch four skits on keeping your word. This is skit number one.

Skit 1: (Nerd A and Nerd B come out playing catch with a baseball.)

NERD B: Hey, Nerd A, when are you going to teach me how to hit the ball?

NERD A: If you will go get a bat, I will teach you today.

NERD B: Great! (leaves to go get the bat.)

NERD C: (comes out with two tickets to the baseball game) Hey, Nerd A, would you like to go with me to the baseball game?

NERD A: The Baseball Game? My favorite team is playing! Let's go get our seats now. (They leave.)

NERD B: (comes back out and looks around) Nerd A, I brought the bat! Nerd A? (He hangs his head & leaves.)

NARRATOR: Children, was this a skit on keeping your word? (Let kids respond.) All right, here is skit number two.

Skit 2: (Nerd A and Nerd B come out playing catch with a baseball.)

NERD B: Hey, Nerd A, when are you going to teach me how to hit the ball?

NERD A: If you will go get a bat, I will teach you today.

NERD B: Great! (leaves to go get the bat.)

NERD C: (comes out with two tickets to the baseball game) Hey, Nerd A, would you like to go with me to the baseball game?

NERD A: The Baseball Game? My favorite team is playing! But first I have to tell my friend. (calls out) Hey, Nerd B!

NERD B: (comes back out)

NERD A: Hey, Nerd B, I'm afraid that my pet goldfish just died. I won't be able to teach you to bat today. Sorry. (Leaves with Nerd C.)

NERD B: (leaves with head down low.)

NARRATOR: Children, was this a skit on keeping your word? (Let kids respond.) All right, here is skit number three.

Skit 3: (Nerd A and Nerd B come out playing catch with a baseball.)

NERD B: Hey, Nerd A, when are you going to teach me how to hit the ball?

NERD A: If you will go get a bat, I will teach you today.

NERD B: Great! (leaves to go get the bat.)

NERD C: (comes out with two tickets to the baseball game) Hey, Nerd A, would you like to go with me to the baseball game?

NERD A: The Baseball Game? My favorite team is playing! But first I have to teach my friend how to bat.

NERD C: We don't have time for that. The game starts in 5 minutes.

NERD A: Okay, I'll work this out. (Calls out.) Nerd B!

NERD B: (comes back out)

NERD A: Hey, Nerd B, I'm going to the baseball game with Nerd C. I won't be able to teach you to bat today. But, look, here's 5 bucks. Why don't you go down to the batting machine and see what you can do. (Leaves with Nerd C.)

NERD B: (leaves with head down low.)

NARRATOR: Children, was this a skit on keeping your word? (Let kids respond.) All right, here is skit number four.

Skit 4: (Nerd A and Nerd B come out playing catch with a baseball.)

NERD B: Hey, Nerd A, when are you going to teach me how to hit the ball?

NERD A: If you will go get a bat, I will teach you today.

NERD B: Great! (leaves to go get the bat.)

NERD C: (comes out with two tickets to the baseball game) Hey, Nerd A, would you like to go with me to the baseball game?

NERD A: The Baseball Game? My favorite team is playing! But first I have to teach my friend how to bat.

NERD C: We don't have time for that. The game starts in 5 minutes.

NERD A: (looks at watch.) Hmmmm, that's not enough time to do both. (Calls out.) Hey, Nerd B!

NERD B: (comes back out)

NERD A: Hey, Nerd B, I was going to the baseball game with Nerd C, but I told you that I would teach you to bat, and I'm going to teach you to bat. Let's go practice. (Everyone leaves.)

NARRATOR: Children, was this a skit on keeping your word? (Let kids respond.)

5. Clunky Puppet Skit, Part 2: (Simon & Clunky)

SIMON: (comes up) Children, have you seen Clunky? (let children respond.) Will you help me call him up? Clunky! Clunky!

CLUNKY: (comes up) Hello, Children. Hello, Simon. Did you need to see me?

SIMON: Clunky, I have a favor. Can I count on you?

CLUNKY: Simon, you know you can count on me for any task, big or small.

SIMON: Great! I was hoping you would help me paint signs for the children's church.

CLUNKY: (nods) No problem, buddy old pal. Not to worry, I will be there to help. (Leaves.)

SIMON: Great! I'll go get the paint, and the Teacher can lead the Memory Verse.

TEACHER: Children, today, our Memory Verse has to do with keeping our word and doing what we say we will do. It comes from Psalm 15. (Show the children where the Psalms are in the Bible. Read the verse.)

6. Memory Verse: LORD, who may dwell in your sanctuary? He who speaks the truth from his heart and ...keeps his oath even when it hurts. Psalms 15:1, 2 & 4

TEACHER: This verse talks about speaking the truth and keeping your word even when it hurts. In our Nerd Skit, Nerd A told Nerd B that he would do what? (Teach him to bat.) Nerd C came along and offered Nerd A what? (Baseball Game Tickets.) What did it cost Nerd A to keep his word to Nerd B? (seeing the Baseball Game) Do you think that Nerd B appreciated Nerd A teaching him to hit the baseball? (Sure.) So it pleases God when we speak the truth and keep our word. (Looks around.) Hey, has anyone seen Clunky?

7. Clunky Puppet Skit, Part 3: (Teacher, Simon & Clunky, hand-held game)

SIMON: (comes up, looking around) Hello, children and Teacher. Has anyone seen Clunky? He was supposed to help me paint some signs.

TEACHER: Really? He was supposed to help carry some heavy boxes to my car. Let's all call him up. Ready children? Clunky! Clunky!

CLUNKY: (comes up with a video game or something taking his attention) Hey, everybody. What's up?

TEACHER: Clunky, you promised you would carry those heavy boxes to my car.

SIMON: And you told me you would help me paint some signs.

CLUNKY: (scratches head) Really? I don't remember all of that. I've been pre-occupied with my game.

TEACHER: Your game? Clunky, whatever happened to keeping your word?

SIMON: (to teacher) Teacher, I'll tell you what, I'll help you carry those boxes to your car.

TEACHER: And, Simon, I'll help you paint those signs.

CLUNKY: See there? Now everyone is happy. (nods)

TEACHER: And Simon, I was going to take Clunky out to lunch for helping me, so now I will take you out to lunch instead.

CLUNKY: (drops jaw) What?

SIMON: And Teacher, I was going to take Clunky to the Baseball game for helping me paint the signs, but I will take you to the game instead. (leaves happily.)

CLUNKY: (looks at each of them quickly) But.....(hangs head and leaves.)

TEACHER: Yes, it's good to keep your word, isn't it children? Now here is our Bible Story about a city of people who lied, and a city of people that kept their word, even though they had been lied to. The Gibeonites lied, and the Israelites kept their word. (Hold the Bible up as you tell/read the story.)

8. Bible Story: Joshua 9

Many of the kings came together to make war against Joshua and Israel. However, when the city of Gibeon heard what Joshua had done to Jericho and Ai, ⁴they decided to trick him: They loaded up their donkeys with worn-out sacks and old wineskins. ⁵The men put worn and patched sandals on their feet and wore old clothes. All the bread of their food supply was dry and moldy. ⁶Then they went to Joshua in the camp at Gilgal and said to him and the men of Israel, “We have come a long ways from a distant country; we want you to make a treaty with us.”

⁷The men of Israel said to them, “But perhaps you live near us. How then can we make a treaty with you?”

⁹They answered: “Your servants have come from a very distant country because of the fame of the LORD your God. For we have heard reports of him: all that he did in Egypt, ¹¹And our leaders said to us, ‘Take provisions for your journey. ¹²This bread of ours was warm when we packed it at home on the day we left to come to you. But now see how dry and moldy it is. ¹³And these wineskins that we filled were new, but see how cracked they are. And our clothes and sandals are worn out by the very long journey.”

¹⁴The men of Israel looked them over, but did not inquire of the LORD, so they made a treaty of peace with them.

¹⁶Three days later, the Israelites heard that they had been tricked ¹⁹but all the leaders answered, “We have given them our oath by the LORD, the God of Israel, and we cannot touch them now. ²⁰This is what we will do to them: We will let them live, so that wrath will not fall on us for breaking the oath we swore to them.” ²¹They continued, “Let them live, but let them be woodcutters and water carriers for the entire community.” So the leaders’ promise to them was kept.

TEACHER: Wasn’t that a good story of how the Israelites kept their word, even though they had been lied to? Hey, speaking of keeping your word, is that Clunky I see? He sure looks mad. Let’s see what he’s mad about.

9. Clunky Puppet Skit, Part 4: (Teacher & Clunky, toothbrush)

CLUNKY: (comes up with his mad face on)

TEACHER: Clunky, the children and I noticed that you look mad. What’s going on?

CLUNKY: I’ll tell you why I’m mad. Everyone is being mean to me.

TEACHER: What do you mean?

CLUNKY: Well, Simon was going to take me to the ballgame, but he took you instead. And You were going to take me to lunch, but you took Simon instead. So I'm mad.

TEACHER: Clunky, do you know what our children's church has been about today?

CLUNKY: Keeping your word. What's your point?

TEACHER: And what did you NOT keep today?

CLUNKY: Oh. (looks down) My word.

TEACHER: So why should YOU be mad?

CLUNKY: (still looking down.) I guess I shouldn't. (looks up.) Is there something else I could do for you, Teacher? You know, to make up for not keeping my word?

TEACHER: Hmm. There is one thing that needs to be done.

CLUNKY: Yes?

TEACHER: The toilets all need cleaning. (Here's a toothbrush.)

CLUNKY: I'll go do that now. (leaves)

TEACHER: Children, let's go over our review questions, now.

10. Review Questions :

Question : Why was the first skit not a skit on keeping your word?

Answer : It wasn't because he left and didn't teach his friend how to bat.

Question : Why was the second skit not a skit on keeping your word?

Answer : It wasn't because he lied to him.

Question : Why was the third skit not a skit on keeping your word?

Answer : It wasn't because even though he told him the truth, he still didn't do what he said he would do.

Question : Why was the fourth skit a skit on keeping your word?

Answer : It was because he kept his word and did what he promised.

Question : Why did everyone get mad at Clunky?

Answer : Because he promised them he would help, but he didn't.

Question : What excuse did Clunky give for not keeping his word?

Answer : He was playing his game.

Question : In the Bible Story, Who did Joshua make a promise to?

Answer : The Gibeonites.

Question : What did Joshua do when he found out they had lied to him?

Answer : Joshua still kept his word.

11. Sermon:

1. People come up with many different excuses on why they don't keep their word, but excuses are no excuse.
2. God tells us that we should keep our word, even if it costs us something (Psalms 1:4). In other words, if you give your word, you keep your word even if it means you suffer for it. Because, though you may suffer for it for a while, people will know that you can be trusted.
3. There is a saying: "A person is only as good as their word." If you are a person who does not keep your word, you are a person no one can trust. On the other hand, if you are a person that keeps your word, you are a person that everyone will trust.
4. What kind of person would you trust, a person who lies to you, or a person who keeps their word? (Let kids respond.)
5. What kind of person do you want to be, someone who nobody trusts, or somebody who everyone trusts?

12. Games (perhaps Simon says or a friend game)

Line-Up Game. Have the kids line up on the wall or walls for the following:

- ☺ Boys on 1 wall; Girls on the other wall.
- ☺ Tallest to smallest

- ☺ Smallest to tallest
- ☺ Dark colors on 1 wall; Light colors on the other wall.
- ☺ Oldest to youngest
- ☺ Youngest to oldest
- ☺ 2 Walls: 1 loves hamburgers more; 1 loves pizza more
- ☺ 2 Walls: 1 loves to play inside more; 1 loves to play outside more.
- ☺ A to Z for first names
- ☺ A to Z for last names

Body Parts. Find a partner. When I say “Mingle,” you have to walk around away from your partner and repeat: “Mingle, mingle, mingle” until I call out to you. When I call out 2 body parts, such as “Head to Toe,” you have to find your partner and one of you has to put your head on their toe, or your toe on their head. Let’s practice that one. Okay, get ready to mingle....MINGLE! (Wait about 5 seconds, then yell out the body parts.) Head to Toe! (After the last couple completes the assignment, reset. Other pairs are: Heel to Calf, Ear to Thumb, Elbow to Knee, Rear to Rear, Heel to Heel, Fist to Fist, Ear to Ear, Sole to Sole, Knees to Knees, Elbows to Elbows. Always end with “Armpit to Nose”.)

Quiet Rock. (Quiet Rock is for calming them down somewhat. The object is to give them quiet time and active time within the game itself. Clear the floor of chairs.) For this game, children, you get to start out as a rock, then transform into whatever animal or object I call out. Whenever I call out “Quiet Rock” you are to curl up on the floor with your head down and your arms in. And you have to be quiet. When I call out a name, such as “Giraffe,” you instantly pretend you are a giraffe. Maybe you raise your neck up and pretend to eat leaves off a tall tree. You can move around like a giraffe, and if you know what a giraffe sounds like, you can make a giraffe sound. Now when I call out “Quiet Rock” what are you supposed to do? (Make sure they all assume the position.) Okay, very good. You all look like quiet rocks. “Giraffe!” (Let them do their Giraffe for up to 15 seconds; then it gets rowdy. Other animals/objects you can call out: Cow, Snake, Sheep, Hippopotamus, Horse, Hamster, Owl, Waterfall, House, Balloon, Tree, Mouse, Worm, Fish.)

Red-Light, Green-Light

Simon Says

Simon Says give pretend food to your neighbor.

Give your neighbor pretend money.

Simon Says make a noise like a donkey.

Simon Says stop making a noise like a donkey.

Hold up your left hand.

Simon Says look for a \$20 bill on the ground.

Pat your head and rub your tummy.

Simon Says tell your neighbor that Jesus loves them.

Simon Says squat down like a tiny person.

Simon Says stand straight up like a big person.