



*Florida General Baptist Convention,
Inc.*

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“Swallowed Up to Be Brought Up”

Theme: Obedience is Better than Trouble

Children's Rally

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Introduction

Title: Swallowed Up to Be Brought Up

Scriptural Background: Jonah: 1, 2

Theme: "Obedience is Better than Trouble"

Skit Background: Kids who are being bad are confronted about their wrong doing and learning that obedience is better than trouble.

Children's Rally Cast

Speaker One: Ring leader in doing wrong

Speaker Two: Not sure of identity and always confused

Speaker Three (James): The one who is like Jonah in the bible, the one given the assignment from God.

Speaker Four: Disobedient without a question

Speaker Five: One with conscience, but afraid to speak up.

Part 1: *(Standing in a Semi-circle talking to each other)*

Speaker One: *(Smirking)* Look, I didn't do my homework and my mama told me to do it and I didn't do it anyway.

Speaker Two: *(Looking Confused)* I don't understand why you would disobey your mama.

Speaker One: *(Looking mean)* Shut up. I do what I want to do and who cares about homework anyway. Besides, I will just take Julius homework and if he doesn't give it up he will pay for it.

Speaker Five: *(Shaking his head)* Ms. Baker class is boring anyways, so I am going to do something to liven it up today.

Speaker Four: What you mean? What are you talking about?

(Enters child three)

Speaker Three: *(Walking up)* What y'all out here doing? Looks like y'all up to no good.

Speaker One: *(Throwing his hands up)* Oh boy, here he goes Mr. Goodfoot, always worrying about us, please mind your own business.

Speaker Three: I mean don't y'all get tired of being bad and doing wrong?

Speaker Four: You have some real nerves, it wasn't that long ago when you used to be a bully, you use to steal, and you were doing wrong.

Speaker Two: *(Confused)* Yeah, I'm confused what makes you think we're going to listen to you, when you used to do the same things as us?

Speaker One: Exactly, no one is listening to you. Since your mama whopped your butt and got you in check, doesn't mean we have to stop doing us because you scared.

Speaker Three: Y'all right; I was bad, but I learned my lesson. *(Pausing)* Why do I keep trying to tell y'all to stop doing wrong? I'm not y'all Savior.

Speaker Two: *(Looking confused)* Now, I'm really confused. Who is Savior? Y'all know Savior?

Speaker Five: Not only are you confused, you slow too.

Part One Ends *(Song)*

Part 2: *(Sitting in front of classroom)*

Speaker Five: You think he's coming to school today? Julius was really hurt bad.

Speaker Three: Why do you follow these kids? You know better and beating that kid up was not right.

Speaker Five: Look, I use to be that kid that was bullied every single day. So, to fit in I started bullying so I wouldn't get bullied or picked on anymore.

Speaker Three: I guess I understand, but it's still wrong. I've made mistakes before, but I decided to change my ways because of God and not my mama.

Speaker Five: *(Laughing)* I guess, but I thought you didn't care and you were going to stop telling us about being bad and doing wrong?

Speaker Three: *(Pausing)* I want to, but I was given an assignment by God, and I ask him every day why should I care and warn them about doing wrong, when y'all obviously don't care. Why does God keep giving y'all chance after chance?

Speaker Five: *(Pausing)* Well stop then. If you really don't care then stop doing it.

Speaker Three: I wish it was that easy, but then I think and say what if God had given up on me, where would I be?

Part Two Ends (*Praise Dance- Amazing God*)

Part 3: (*Sitting in the classroom*)

Speaker Two: Do you guys know the police came to my house last night asking me in front of my parents about Julius, the video, and the beating?

Speaker One: (*Looking mean*) I know you didn't say anything about what happened did you?

Speaker Four: Now, you know he did. He always confused, so he probably got confused by there their questions and told everything.

Speaker Two: Whatever, I wasn't confused when they said they seen the video and Julius' parents want to press charges.

Speaker Five: (*Looking surprised*) What video? How did they see on the video?

Speaker Two: I was asking myself the same thing. Did you show anyone besides us the video?

Speaker One: (*Upset*) Look, so what if I did show someone else the video? It doesn't matter as long as we all stick to the same story we're fine.

Speaker Five: See, we should've listened to James. He kept warning us to stop being bad and getting in trouble.

Speaker Two: You right, he told us every day we need to change our ways, but we didn't listen? Now look, we're in serious trouble.

Speaker One: (*Strongly*) No we are not. No one cares about Julius or James and we always manage to get out of trouble.

Speaker Two: (*Sarcastically*) Are you slow? I said the Po-Po is questioning us and Julius' parents are pressing charges.

Speaker Five: (*Boldly*) I don't like being in trouble. I have goals and dreams of going to college to be a doctor; and hanging with y'all getting in trouble is not going to help me reach my goals or my dreams. If God can hear my cry, I promise I will change my ways because I do not want him to pass me by.

Part Three Ends (*Hymnal Pass Me Not*)

Part 4: (*Standing in front of classroom looking sad*)

Speaker Three: Why do you guys look like you all lost or surprised?

Speaker Two: Because we all have to do 300 hours of community service hours for what we did to Julius.

Speaker Four: *(Upset)* Why you telling him? He doesn't care, so don't waste your time.

Speaker Five: *(Looking around at the group)* What do you mean he doesn't care? He tried over and over again to warn us, but we didn't listen.

Speaker One: Whatever, and when did you become so bold to speak up?

Speaker Five: When I realize that I love and respect myself enough to stop making stupid decisions and understand that God says in **2 Timothy 1:7, that he does not give us a spirit of fear**, so I don't have to be afraid of you or anyone else.

Speaker One: Yeah, whatever.

Speaker Three: Listen, I just want to tell y'all a quick story that's almost like this situation.

Speaker Two: *(Throwing his hands up)* Man, no one wants to hear no Humpty Dumpty.

Speaker Four: I know that's right.

Speaker Three: No one is talking about Humpty Dumpty. I am talking about Jonah and the Big Fish.

Speaker Five: I think I heard this story in Sunday School. Wasn't he trapped in the belly of the whale?

Speaker Four: The belly of a whale?

Speaker Three: *(Laughing)* Listen, yes the belly of a big fish. Think about a fish you know and like.

Speaker Two: The only fish I know is tilapia, and all I know is that my mama dip it, flip it, fry it, and I eat it. *(Laughing)*

Speaker Three: *(Laughing)* Okay, okay, okay. Seriously, the story of "Jonah and the Big Fish," is a story in the bible and it kind of reminds me of us.

Speaker One: *(Angrily)* What are you talking about?

Speaker Three: Listen because in this story, Jonah was told by God to tell the people of Nineveh to stop being bad and stop doing wrong. Just like I'm always telling you guys to stop getting in trouble.

Speaker Four: (*Laughing*) Well if we're like the people of Nineveh, obviously they didn't listen either.

Speaker Three: Exactly, that's why I get frustrated with y'all like Jonah got with them. Why? Because I keep telling you guys over and over again to do right and you don't.

Speaker Five: Continue with the story.

Speaker Three: Well, God told Jonah to tell the people of Nineveh to stop being bad, but Jonah was mad because he didn't want to tell them, so he decided to run away from Nineveh and God.

Speaker Two: Why did he run away?

Speaker Three: The same reason I don't like telling you guys because y'all hard headed. He couldn't understand why God would want to give them chance after chance. So instead of doing what God told him to do, he decided to go somewhere else and not listen to God's instruction.

Speaker Four: So what happened next?

Speaker Three: Exactly what is happening now? Jonah decided to run from God, so God caused something drastic to happen.

Speaker Five: Wasn't there a storm? And isn't this where Jonah told the captain he was the reason for the storm? And isn't this where he got off the boat and God allowed the big fish to swallow Jonah up?

Speaker Two: You say I'm confused, but you sound more confused than me.

Speaker Three: (*Laughing*) No, he's actually right. It was a storm, just like what we're going thru now. Police involved, community service hours, and our parents upset with us; that's our storm.

Speaker One: (*Listening*) So you trying to tell me because you stop telling us to stop being bad, we got in trouble?

Speaker Three: In a sense, but not all of it's my fault. Me not listening to God just like Jonah is my fault, but y'all being bad and beating up that boy is on y'all.

Speaker Four: Wow, this story is starting to sound like us more and more. (Looking at James) Please finish.

Speaker Three: So it's simple God allowed the big fish to swallow up Jonah so he could reflect, think, and appreciate God for not giving up on him, showing grace and mercy, not letting him drown, but most importantly bringing him up out of that belly to do what's right and remembering if it had not been for the Lord on his side where would he be.

Speaker Two: So you mean us getting in trouble and having to serve community hours is God's way of protecting us from something worse? This is like being in the belly of the big fish?

Speaker Three: Exactly, you finally are not confused. You got that absolutely right. 300 community hours isn't anything we could have been in way more serious trouble. See God brought us up to know we can't run from him and obedience is better than trouble.

Skit Ends (Selection)