

SHAKY START

Note: Puppets can be very effective with this age group and may be used instead of actors. A teacher may carry on a conversation with a puppet as the other character if two actors are not available.

[Scooter and Beth enter; Scooter is shaking.]

Beth: What's wrong, Scooter? You're shaking!

Scooter: I am? [looks at shaking self] Oh, I guess I am.

Beth: Are you cold?

Scooter: No.

Beth: Are you sick?

Scooter: No. [puts hand to forehead] But I kind of wish I was sick so I wouldn't have to go to school today.

Beth: Are you scared?

Scooter: Scared? Me? [pauses] YES!

Beth: Why are you scared?

Scooter: There's a kid in my class who says mean things to me. And yesterday he said I better watch out because he was going to get me. Now I'm scared. [shaking]

Beth: Did you tell your Mom about it?

Scooter: Yes. We even prayed about it. And she told the teacher.

Beth: That's good. But you're still scared? [Scooter nods.] Have you heard of Esther from the Bible? [Scooter shakes his head.] She was a girl who became a queen in the land where she lived. One day she had to go ask the king an important question, and she wasn't sure if he would let her live.

Scooter: The king would kill the queen?!

Beth: Well, one of the rules of the kingdom was that he could kill her if he was unhappy. But Esther was brave and went anyway. She knew that asking her question could save many people in the kingdom.

Scooter: Wow! What happened?

Beth: God was with her, and he did amazing things because Esther was brave.

Scooter: I want to be brave like Esther.

Beth: Just remember that God is always with you.

Scooter: I'm not shaking anymore!

Beth: Phew! I'm glad. Your day was off to a shaky start!

[Both laugh and exit.]