

I CAN'T WAIT!

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.

[Beth enters.]

Scooter: [rushes on bursting with excitement] I can't wait! Oh, I can't wait. I just CAN'T WAIT!

Beth: What can't you wait for?

Scooter: MY BIRTHDAY! I'm going to have a party and a cake and get presents. Oh, I can't wait!

Beth: Scooter, didn't you just have a birthday?

Scooter: [looks deflated] Yeah. [his excitement is revived] But my NEXT birthday is only three-hundred-and-fifty-five days away! I CAN'T WAIT!

Beth: You'll have to wait for a while.

Scooter: That's why it's so hard, Beth!

Beth: I know of some people who had to wait for something MUCH more exciting than a birthday.

Scooter: Now you're just being silly, Beth. WHAT could be more exciting than a BIRTHDAY?!

Beth: Well, when Jesus rose again lots of his followers saw him and talked to him, but then he had to go back to heaven.

Scooter: Why?

Beth: Because he needed to go back to be with his Father and prepare a place for his followers in heaven. He told them he was going to send them a helper, but they would have to wait.

Scooter: A helper? What kind of helper?

Beth: He was going to send them the Holy Spirit—the part of God that would be with them and help them all the time.

Scooter: That WOULD be hard to wait for!

Beth: They waited patiently and one day the Holy Spirit came. He came like a great blowing of wind and flames of fire over their heads. It was a great day!

Scooter: That sounds exciting!

Beth: You know the best part?

Scooter: What?

Beth: Once the Holy Spirit came, he came to stay. So we don't have to WAIT to have the Holy Spirit in our lives. He comes to be with us the moment we believe in Jesus.

Scooter: Cool! [pause] I guess I still have to wait for my birthday, huh?

Beth: [looks at watch] Three-hundred-and-fifty-four-and-a-half days!

Scooter: At least I have the Holy Spirit with me. Maybe the wait won't be so bad after all.

Beth: My birthday's coming up. Want to help me plan the party?

Scooter: YEAH! [begins to exit the stage with Beth] I've got TONS of ideas! We can have a racecar cake and streamers and a hot air balloon ...

[Both exit.]