



"As I Have Forgiven"

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PUPPETS

1. Bitsy Bunnington

PEOPLE

1. Preacher
2. Melissa
3. Narrator

PROPS

1. One man stage
2. Pulpit? (Could use music Stand)

SOUND

1. Ripples Theme
2. Forgiven Song

ACT I

Music: "Ripples Theme"

Scene – Worship leader opens with music, and a brief talk about the forgiveness of God and how we take it for granted.

Music: "Forgiven Song (softly in background)"

Scene – *Preacher is wrapping up his message. Bitsy is enrapt and agreeing with everything the preacher has to say. The sermon is obviously speaking to her.*

Preacher – And so I say to you today, have you asked Jesus into your heart? Have you asked the almighty Savior to come into your life and forgive you of your sin?

If not, then today is the day of salvation! Raise your hand if you want Jesus to save you! (Bitsy raises her hand.) Now for those of you who want Jesus to come into their hearts and forgive them of all of their sin, please bow your head and repeat this prayer after me.

Scene – *Pastor leads Bitsy in sinner's prayer.*

Preacher – Bitsy, it's good to see you at church today. Did I see you raise your hand when I called for those who wished to repent today.

Bitsy – Yes.

Preacher – That is wonderful Bitsy. I am glad you finally made that step of faith.

Bitsy – But Pastor? I'm not sure about one thing.

Preacher – And what is that Bitsy?

Bitsy – Does God really forgive me for everything? I mean I have done some really bad things and I am not sure if He will ever forgive me. And if He doesn't forgive me, how then can I be a child of God?

Preacher – Oh you don't have to worry about that Bitsy, Jesus paid the price for all of your sins. All of the sins you have ever committed and even those you haven't even done yet.

Bitsy – Everything?

Preacher – Yes. *(This goes back and forth several times.)*

Bitsy – Even...? *(Motions for him to come over and whispers in his ear.)*

Preacher – My that is serious Bitsy but yes, even that.

Bitsy – Whew! I was worried. 'Cause you know us bunnies are not always cute and cuddly.

Preacher – Well, Bitsy. Welcome to the body of Christ. We are happy to have you. Why don't you stop by my office later this week and we can talk a little about what it means to be a Christian and I can give you a new bible.

Bitsy – Oh I would just love that! Thank you Pastor.

Narrator – So, Bitsy is welcomed into the church family and all she can talk about is how much she loves God and she can't even wait until she gets to see the pastor again and get her new bible.

We now find Bitsy on her way to meet with the pastor.

ACT II

Bitsy – *(Humming to herself.)* Oh, I can't imagine what kind of bible the Pastor is going to give me. I hope it is a purple one.

Melissa – Hi Bitsy! Are you going to see the Pastor too? *(Bitsy ignores her so she says it again)*

Bitsy – *(Cops an attitude)* Oh, hi Melissa. What are you doing here?

Melissa – I am here to see the pastor about the car wash on Sunday. He put me in charge *(Says with pride).*

Bitsy – Well, I guess that is one event I won't be going to.

Melissa – Why would you say that Bitsy?

Bitsy – If you are going to be there, then I want nothing to do with it. And if you are in charge, that goes double!

Melissa – I don't understand Bitsy. We used to be friends.

Bitsy – That's right.. we USED to be friends but we aren't anymore so get USED to it!

Melissa – Why are you so mean to me Bitsy? What did I ever do to you?

Bitsy – It's not what you did to me Melissa, it's what you said and you know it!

Melissa – Are you still mad about that? I thought we settled that a long time ago.

Bitsy – We may have settled it, but no friend of mine would have said something like that – so you are no friend of mine.

Melissa – I said I was sorry Bitsy!

Bitsy – Not good enough!

Melissa – Then what can I do Bitsy do that we will be friends again?

Bitsy – There is nothing that you can say or do, you traitor, that would ever make me be your friend again.

Melissa – That's not fair. You didn't even give me a chance!

Scene – *Pastor interrupts the argument.*

Preacher – Bitsy, could I speak with you in private for a minute?

Bitsy – *(in a snotty tone)* See the Pastor wants to see me, not you! I'll be happy to talk with you... alone.

Scene – *Melissa sits off to the side in a chair.*

Preacher – What was that all about Bitsy?

Bitsy – Oh... you heard that?

Preacher – Yes I did Bitsy and I must say that I am very disappointed in you.

Bitsy – But Pastor, you don't understand the mean things that she said about me.

Preacher – I don't need to understand them Bitsy. And do you know why?

Bitsy – Why?

Pastor – Because the bible says that I am to forgive others just as I am forgiven.

Do you remember asking me if God would forgive you for everything?

Bitsy – Yes.

Pastor – And, aren't you glad that He does.

Bitsy – Oh yes, I am so glad that He does.

Pastor – what would happen do you think Bitsy, if God only forgave us once and never gave us another chance? Do you think any of us would get to heaven?

Bitsy – Probably not. I already messed up this morning when I lied to my mother. Does God forgive me for that?

Pastor – Did you ask him for forgiveness?

Bitsy – Oh yes! Right away!

Pastor – Then He forgave you. Aren't you glad?

Bitsy – Uh huh?

Pastor – So why then can you not forgive you friend? Did she ask for forgiveness?

Bitsy – Well... yes.

Pastor – Then don't you think she deserves a second chance?

Bitsy – I guess so...

Pastor – then why don't you forgive her right now.

Bitsy – Oh Melissa?

Melissa – (comes over) Yes Bitsy?

Betsy – I am sorry I didn't forgive you. I was wrong. I forgive you. We can be friends again.

Melissa – Do you want to help with the car wash?

Bitsy – That sounds like fun.

Scene – *The two start whispering, while the pastor steps forward and reads the story about the debtors.*

Matthew 18:21-32 The Parable of the Debtor.

At that point Peter got up the nerve to ask, "Master, how many times do I forgive a brother or sister who hurts me? Seven?"

Jesus replied, "Seven! Hardly. Try seventy times seven.

"The kingdom of God is like a king who decided to square accounts with his servants. As he got under way, one servant was brought before him who had run up a debt of a hundred thousand dollars. He couldn't pay up, so the king ordered the man, along with his wife, children, and goods, to be auctioned off at the slave market.

"The poor wretch threw himself at the king's feet and begged, 'Give me a chance and I'll pay it all back.' Touched by his plea, the king let him off, erasing the debt.

"The servant was no sooner out of the room when he came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him ten dollars. He seized him by the throat and demanded, 'Pay up. Now!'

"The poor wretch threw himself down and begged, 'Give me a chance and I'll pay it all back.' But he wouldn't do it. He had him arrested and put in jail until the debt was paid. When the other servants saw this going on, they were outraged and brought a detailed report to the king.

"The king summoned the man and said, 'You evil servant! I forgave your entire debt when you begged me for mercy. Shouldn't you be compelled to be merciful to your fellow servant who asked for mercy?' The king was furious and put the screws to the man until he paid back his entire debt.

And that's exactly what my Father in heaven is going to do to each one of you who doesn't forgive unconditionally anyone who asks for mercy."

(from - The Message (bible translation))

Closing Prayer

Music: "Ripples Theme"

~End~