

August -Year C

Be Obedient

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Oatmeal Cookies With Raisins

By Linda Porter Carlyle

Let's go play at my house for a while," Francie said. She dragged the toes of her sneakers on the ground to stop her swing. "We can draw on the sidewalk with my new chalk."

"OK," Emily agreed. "I'll go ask my mama if I can."

Emily and Francie hopped up the back steps. "Mama! Mama! Can I go to Francie's house and play?" Emily called through the screen door.

Mama put down the spoon she was using to stir something on the stove. "OK," she said. "But tell Francie's grandma to send you home in thirty minutes. Daddy will be home then, and we will be ready to eat supper."

Emily and Francie ran around the side of the house and down the street to Francie's. "We're going to play here for a while, Grandma," Francie called out. The two girls ran to Francie's bedroom to get her new box of colored chalks.

"Something smells good!" Francie said, as she pulled open drawers to find the chalk.

"It smells like cookies," Emily said.

"Let's go get some!" Francie exclaimed. She grabbed Emily's hand and hurried to the kitchen.

"Hi, Emily!" Francie's grandma said with a big smile. She pointed to the kitchen counter. "I've been making oatmeal cookies. Would you like some?"

"With raisins?" Francie asked.

"Of course with raisins," Grandma answered.



"Oh, good!" Francie exclaimed. She looked over the rack of cooling cookies. "I'm looking for the biggest one," she announced.

"Go ahead, Emily. Help yourself," Grandma said.

Emily put her hands behind her back. "I'm not supposed to eat cookies just before dinner," she said softly.

"Don't you like oatmeal cookies with raisins?" asked Francie with her mouth full.

"Yes, I do," Emily answered.

"Well, just have one, and don't tell your mama," Francie suggested.

"No," Emily said. "I'm not supposed to eat cookies just before dinner," she repeated.

"I think your mama's mean for making that rule," Francie said. She reached for another cookie.

"Francie!" Grandma exclaimed. "That's not a nice way to talk! I think Emily is being very good and brave to mind her mama so well." She turned to smile at Emily. "I'm sorry," she said. "I didn't know about that rule, or I would never have asked if you wanted a cookie right now. But," she continued with a twinkle in her eye, "would you like to take some cookies home to eat after dinner?"

Emily nodded happily.

Grandma pulled a paper plate out of the cupboard and gave it to Emily. "Here," she said. "Pick out two cookies for your daddy, two cookies for your mama, and three for yourself. The extra one is for being so obedient," she added.

"Thank you," Emily said, politely. She put the plate beside the rack of cookies and began looking for seven cookies to take home. She smiled to herself. She felt good.

September- Year B

Be Pure

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October-Year B Be True

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November-Year B

Be Kind

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December-Year B Respectful

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January-Year B

Be Attentive

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February-Year B

Be Helpful

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Helping Pastor Mike

By Rob Robinson

Ring! Ring! Ring! The telephone rang early one morning at Jaime and Pablo's house. *Ring! Ring! Ring!* The telephone woke up Jaime and Pablo.

"It's not a problem, Pastor Mike," they heard Mama say. "I'll see you in just a little bit then." Jaime and Pablo wondered what Mama was talking about.

"How come Pastor Mike is calling us so early in the morning?" Jaime asked.

"He has to go to a meeting this morning, but his wife has to work a little bit longer at the hospital. He needs someone to watch Mark while he is gone to his meeting. I told him we would be glad to help him by taking care of Mark while he is gone."

"Yes!" Jaime said, "Now we'll have someone else to play with today."

"Hooray!" Pablo shouted. "I can pull him around in my wagon."

"But before we can do any of that, I know two little boys who need to go get dressed quickly," Mama said. "Pastor Mike and Mark will be here in just a few minutes. Then we'll have breakfast, and then you can go out to play."

Jaime and Pablo raced back to their bedroom. They got dressed quickly and raced back out to the family room to wait for Pastor Mike and Mark. After waiting for what seemed like an awfully long time, they finally heard a car pulling into the driveway.

Jaime and Pablo ran to open the door. "Mark's here! Mark's here!" they seemed to sing together. Mama opened the door for Pastor Mike and Mark.

"Thank you for watching Mark for a little while this morning," Pastor Mike said as he dropped off a bagful of books and toys and clothes for Mark. "You are helping me so much by doing this today. Thank you!"

Pastor Mike hugged Mark and was soon driving away to his meeting.

Mama got breakfast ready while Jaime, Pablo, and Mark looked at books from the bag that Pastor Mike had left.

After breakfast, Jaime, Pablo, and Mark helped Mama wash dishes before they all went out to the backyard.

"Let's go on a safari and see what we can find," Jaime said. And with that all three boys headed in different directions as they explored the backyard.

Jaime found a ladybug crawling on a big green leaf. Pablo found a pinecone that had fallen down from a tall pine tree. And Mark found a slippery, slimy snail!

Next they went to dig in the sandbox. Jaime made a tall castle in the sand. Pablo made a long, long road for his toy car. And Mark tried to make a little house for his slippery, slimy snail!

Soon it was getting too hot to play outdoors. Mama helped all three boys wash up before going indoors to play. She brought out a big box of markers and lots of drawing paper. Soon all three boys were busy drawing pictures of things that were very special to them. Jaime drew a picture of the sand castle he had made. Pablo drew a picture of a pine tree with lots and lots of pine cones. And Mark drew a picture of a slippery, slimy snail!

Before too long Pastor Mike was knocking on the door—ready to take Mark back home. Mama packed the books and toys back into Mark's bag.

"Thank you so much for watching Mark for me," Pastor Mike said. "This was a big help to me. I really appreciate it."

"We enjoyed helping you," Mama said. "We ate breakfast, went on a safari, played in the sandbox, and drew some pictures."

"And we had fun helping you," Jaime and Pablo said.

"I had fun too, Daddy. I even made a brand new friend today," Mark said as he reached his hand into his shirt pocket and pulled out a slippery, slimy snail!

Kindergarten Lesson Message: We can help God's leaders.

March-Year B

Be Cheerful

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April-Year B
Be Thoughtful

May-Year B

Be Reverent

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