

03 Lights – Big and Small

PUPPETS: Arpee and Smukey, troop of small puppets
PROPS: Laser light, Small Flashlight, Towel or blanket, Little key light, Light globe, Large flashlight or search light
GOAL: To help people know that we are lights to the world and it doesn't matter how big or small the light, as long as we stay connected to the source to shine and bring glory to God.
KEY TEXTS: 1 Peter 2:9
Matthew 5:14-16

Arpee: *(Playing with laser beam and singing.)* We are but little candles yet we can brightly shine. And show our loving Saviour by this one tiny sign. Just how we live to serve Him and all His wish fulfil. And oh, we dearly love Him and want to do His will.

Smukey: *(Appears and listens carefully, following Arpee's actions)*

Arpee: So twinkle, twinkle, twinkle, twinkle
As we brightly shine,
Shedding rays of light around us,
Upward, downward, upward, downward,
Here and there, everywhere
That's the way we shine!
(Points laser at Smukey during the actions)

Smukey: Hey, hey, hey! What's all this twinkling business about shining and shedding rays around us?

Arpee: Oh haven't I told you about that?

Smukey: Well, you told me to come out darkness into the light, you told me that Jesus is the light of the world and that I don't need to be afraid but can go anywhere with Him to find lost things.
But what's all this about us shining?

Arpee: Well, that's just it. When we have Jesus in us, His light can't help but show through the cracks – and let me tell you some of us have a few more cracks than others! *(Laughs)*

Smukey: Hey, that's not nice..

Arpee: No, I was just joking. But we are all different and Jesus' light shines from us in different ways.

Smukey: You mean like there are all sorts of different lights...

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- Arpee: That's right. Look at this light
- Smukey: Oh, that's not a very big light, what good is it really?
- Arpee: It's special because it is used to point things out on the computer screen. A big light couldn't do that.
- Smukey: Oh, suppose so...
- Arpee: Just a minute, let me show you something. I even have a teeny, tiny light here on my key ring. It has a special job to find the keyhole. Saves me having to carry round a bigger torch at night.
- Smukey: No, I think I would like a light like that one over there. *(Points to small flashlight)*
- Arpee: *(Picks it up and turns it on)*
- Smukey: Yeah, that's better.
- Arpee: Just a minute, what about this one *(Picks up a big searchlight)*
- Smukey: Wow, that's bright.
- Arpee: True, but all these lights depend on batteries to shine.
- Smukey: Well you could always just turn the light on!! *(Points to electric light)*
- Arpee: True, but it still requires power.
- Smukey: So... what are you trying to say?
- Arpee: Well for any light to shine – candles, flashlights, penlights, electric lights – you need a power source.
- Smukey: Arh... What about the sun or the moon or the stars. They're lights and they don't.
- Arpee: Yes, they do. The moon shines because it reflects the light of the sun. If it got out of the sun's rays it wouldn't shine. The sun shines because it has all this power generated within it that God put there in the first place and the same with the stars – the sun is really just a star.
- Smukey: Yes, that's true! In fact, I read somewhere that the sun generates enough power like millions of atomic bombs going off every minute? Can't remember the exact amount but it was pretty impressive!

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- Arpee: Wow! That's some power!
- Smukey: Yeah, hey, but anyway, what's that got to do with that twinkling song you were singing about us shining.
- Arpee: Well that's just it. When we are connected to the power source we can shine too.
- Smukey: So I need to put my fingers in the power outlet.
- Arpee: No! NO! NO! That would create a spark - but not the sort I'm talking about
- Smukey: Okay, so please explain...
- Arpee: Well, do you remember that text from the Bible I mentioned to you when you had the towel over your head?
- Smukey: Oh yeah – that really hit me between the eyes like a beam of lightning.
To think I loved darkness instead of light...
- Arpee: Well I have another one for you which talks about what happens when we come into the light. It's in Ephesians 5:8
For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light. Now that's a real challenge for you. And the apostle Peter wrote these words: But you are a chosen people..., a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.
- Smukey: Oh, boy – you mean I can belong to God and declare His praises.
- Arpee: That's right! We need to be connected to God – He's the power source. He says that His Holy Spirit will fill us with power, then we can shine God's light to the world for Him – we declare His praises when we do that.
- Smukey: So... it doesn't matter what kind of a light I am...? Big or little?
- Arpee: No, God needs all different kinds of lights because each type of light has a special work to do..whether a little light or huge searchlight..
- Smukey: We just need to be connected to the power,.. then we shine, right! Is that what you're saying?

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- Arpee: That's about it.
- Smukey: Okay, so how can I stay connected to the power in order to shine?
- Arpee: Spend time everyday in reading God's Word – it's a light too, remember?
- Smukey: Yeah – shows me where to go and what to do or not do.
- Arpee: Talk to God in prayer – He is light and in Him there is no darkness at all – He powers us. Ask Him to live in your heart every day.
- Smukey: Okay, so I read the Bible and pray. What else?
- Arpee: Shine the light in the darkness – tell others about the light – call them out of darkness, too. Walk in the light with them!
- Smukey: Like you did to me – like looking for lost things where they are lost!
- Arpee: You've got it! It's no good having a light and covering it up. Use it to bless others and bring glory to God.
- Smukey: So I guess you're saying that all this light I've had shed on me this week, needs to be shared with others?
- Arpee: Well, it's not going to help someone else if you keep it to yourself. That would be like turning on a flashlight and wrapping it up in a blanket. *(Does that and waves it around)*
Doesn't do any good and will eventually flatten the battery.
- Smukey: Hey, I think I know a song about shining too. I heard some kids singing it once. It isn't the one you were singing when I came in though... it's another one.
But I like the one you were singing – it was cool with the twinkle twinkles bit... You'll have to teach it to me sometime.
- Arpee: Yes, well that song reminds me of what Jesus said: You are the light of the world.. let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.
- Smukey: This song is about that too. It's called This Little Light of Mine. Maybe some of you know it too.*(Looks at audience)*
- All Puppets *(Come up)* Yes, yes.

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Arpee & *(Turn around and look up surprised)*

Smukey:

Arpee: Yes, I know that song.
Would you like to sing it together?

All Puppets: *(Nod enthusiastically)*

Arpee: Okay, Everyone, let's go: This Little Light of Mine - 1, 2, Sing...
(Conducts – turns to audience at the let it shine repeats and conducts them as well)

All Puppets This little light of mine
(Shine flashlight and do actions) I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine
I'm gonna let it shine *(turns to audience)*
Let it shine, let it shine
Let it shine

Hide it under a blanket (No)
I'm gonna let it shine
Hide it under a blanket (No)
I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, Let it shine
Let it shine.

Smukey: Well at least that's a good song to go out on..

Arpee: Uh, uh, don't talk about going out –
talk about shining out.
See you all again – happy shining out! (Waves)

Arpee & *(Exit singing This little light.. and shining flashlight!)*

Smukey: