



# Eureka!

By Deborah Wassenberg

*This is the most touching lesson I've ever written. The Holy Spirit took it in a certain direction, so I believe its healing message will be used powerfully in the lives of children who have suffered or are suffering.*

## Suggested Songs:

- To Be Like You (Hillsong: KPTV)
- Trust (Hillsong Young and Free: KPTV)
- Forever God is Faithful
- Worship Forever 2

## Bible Story: Skit 'Eureka!'

**Characters:** Jacko, a prospector (wearing jeans and shirt, boots and Akubra)  
Sonny, Jacko's son (a mini version of his Dad)

**Props:** Jacko is carrying a small pick.  
Sonny is carrying a swag.  
A large gold nugget (rock painted gold) covered in dirt.

**Setting:** Australian gold field. Rocks of differing sizes are scattered around the stage.

Jacko enters stage right. He is looking down at the ground. Sonny follows.

**Sonny:** Hey Dad, I'm parched.  
It's a stinker out here on the gold fields today.

**Jacko:** Right you are, Sonny. But I reckon this is a promising spot for gold.

**Sonny:** We haven't had a sit down for donkey's ages.

**Jacko:** Chin up old son.  
*(Jacko spies something and walks to a rock stage right)*  
Sonny! Come here and look at this!

**Sonny:** *(Sonny rushes to his Dad and looks where he is pointing)*  
What have you found, Dad?

Jacko: EUREKA! *(Holds up the gold nugget)*  
Gold, Sonny. We've found gold!  
*(Does a little jig)*

Sonny: *(When Dad has calmed down, Sonny looks at the gold)*  
Are you sure, Dad?  
It looks just like a lump of rock to me.

Jacko: Nah, it's the real McCoy, Sonny.  
This is gold in its raw form.

Sonny: I don't think Mum would have worn it...if she were still alive.

Jacko: *(Jacko moves Down Stage right and sits)*  
Take a load off, son.  
*(Sonny takes off his swag and sits beside his Dad)*

Jacko: *(Looking at gold)*  
Isn't she a little ripper?

Sonny: If you say so, Dad.

Jacko: I do.  
You see, raw gold like this has to be processed.  
First it has to be crushed.  
Then it goes to a refinery so the gold can be separated from elements or minerals mixed in with it.

Sonny: How do they separate the gold from that other stuff, Dad?

Jacko: By melting it at a high temperature. Then all the impurities naturally drift off it.

Sonny: You'd think all that crushing and melting would wreck it!

Jacko: Yeah, but truth be told, it's the refining that's needed so you're left with 99.5% pure gold.  
Reminds me of a Bible Story... *(Quotes dramatically)* 'I shall come forth as gold...'

Sonny: What are you on about, Dad?

Jacko: I'll give you chapter and verse...

*Dim the house lights. Jacko narrates the Bible Story.*

## Insert Bible Story: The Suffering of Job The Book of Job

Use your projector to screen the slide show available at Free Bible Images. I recommend the Sweet Publishing version. Jacko narrates the story and Sonny can ad lib and ask questions. Use the Story Planner to help you. If you don't have a projector, make flashcards for a volunteer to hold.

### Skit Continues...

Jacko: Taking a gold nugget like this (*showing it to Sonny*) and refining it until it's pure gold is hard work, but it's worth it in the end. That's why Job said, 'But He knows the way that I take [and He pays attention to it]. When He has tried me, I will come forth as [refined] gold [pure and luminous]. (*Job 23:10 AMP*)

Sonny: It was worth it in the end for Job. Do sad things happen to every Christian?

Jacko: Yeah, mate, the Bible calls them 'tests' or 'trials'.

Sonny: Like when Mum died. I was so crushed I didn't think I could even breathe.

Jacko: I know, Sonny. Felt like we were having a melt down for a time, didn't it. It's been hard work.

Sonny: Do you really think we'll come out the other side, losing Mum, better looking and worth more? Sounds like a lot to ask.

Jacko: Well, Sonny, there's some things we need to remember...

### Insert PowerPoint or Flashcard Visuals:

#### **Visual 1: You Are Not Alone (Jesus with arms around child)**

Jacko: When a test or trial comes, it doesn't mean God's forgotten us. He's always with us and He will never leave us by ourselves. We need to trust Him.

#### **Visual 2: It Won't Last Forever (Clock)**

Jacko: God is always in charge. The devil cannot trick Him. God will help us and there will come a day when the hurt is not so bad and we'll find life easier and happier.

**Visual 3: Don't Worry about What Other People Think (Kid's Gossiping)**

Jacko: People won't understand what we're going through unless the same thing has happened to them. They'll say the wrong thing or expect us to behave in a certain way. They don't really have a clue. God will sort them out...we just need to keep our eyes on Him. If anyone upsets you, pray for them straight away because that will help you, too.

**Visual 4: You Didn't Do Anything Wrong (Child breaking/spilling something)**

Jacko: Of course we want to know 'why' things happen. But we might never know why. We can't blame ourselves. It's nothing we said, or did, or didn't do that caused the trial or test to happen. It's just life here in this world. Things will be very different in Heaven!

**Visual 5: Trust God No Matter What (Child reaching up arms to Dad)**

Jacko: It's easy to trust God when life is great but trusting God when times are tough...that's when we need Him most, so we don't turn our backs on Him! God is the only one who can really understand what we're going through and help us.

Skit Continues...

Sonny: *(Taking the gold from his Dad)*  
So, in time Dad, **we'll be as good as gold?**

Jacko: No Sonny, we'll be **better than gold!**

Ministry to the Children:

*Altar Call: Ask any child who is suffering or who has suffered to come forward for prayer. Pray this prayer corporately...then ask your team to pray for children individually.*

*Corporate Prayer: In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, I say to you, your life is not a mistake. God made you and He made you at the right time and in the right place. You are not in the way. You are not a burden. You are a joy and a delight. You belong to God and you are innocent in His sight.*

*Now, Jesus, we thank you for dying on the Cross for us. We leave every hurt, every bad word, every fear and every sadness at the Cross right now. Jesus, we ask you to destroy all lies from*

*the devil. And now fill us with your healing love. Fill us with Your forgiveness. Give us Your peace and Your joy. Amen.*

## Memory Verse: 1 Peter 1:7 (b) NCV

But the purity of your faith will bring you praise and glory and honour when Jesus Christ is shown to you.

*Explanation: Even when times are tough there is always something to be thankful for. Despite any trial or test, your love for Jesus should show on your face, in how you act, and in how you praise and worship Him. If you can do these things even when you are having a bad time, then when Jesus comes back you will shine bright like Him!*

Eureka! Memory Verse:

Write the words of the Memory Verse out on pieces of gold paper in the shape of nuggets. Before the children arrive, hide the gold nuggets under random seats. Ask the children to look under their seats. Who has found gold? The children sitting on a gold nugget must shout 'EUREKA!' and run the nugget to the front of the room. Now all the children must put the verse in the right order and say it in unison.

## Morning Tea:

Something special...chicken nuggets!

## Game: Nab the Nugget!

You will need a large rectangular area with clear boundary lines and a gold painted ball or beanbag as the nugget.

Divide the children into two even teams. Line the teams up side by side facing each other on the boundary lines. Give each team member a number. (So, there will be two number ones and two number twos and so on.) Place the gold nugget in the centre of the playing area, an equal distance from each team on their boundary.

Begin with the teams chanting, 'Gold! Gold! Who has the gold?' A leader calls out a number and the players from the teams who were given that number race out to the centre to grab the gold. The team player who grabs the gold first must run it back to their boundary without being tagged by the other team player with the same number. The leader can call out another number at any time...or call out more than one! If the leader calls 'Gold Rush', every number can run for the gold nugget!

## Craft: Iced Biscuits

Ice Milk Arrowroot biscuits and decorate with gold sugar sprinkles, gold chocolate coins, or gold coloured pearls. If you run a smaller Kid's Ministry, and you have someone who loves to bake, cupcakes would be great to decorate.