

FRUIT BASKET UPSET

By Dorothy Dunham
and Kyle Dunham

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GALATIANS 5:22, 23 -- "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law."

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STORY OF THE PLAY

This program is just what you need if you are doing a study on the "Fruits of the Spirit." These playlets will bring home the truths you are trying to instill. Each one runs about 10-15 minutes. The cast size varies from 2 to 5. Enhance your worship service or use for youth meetings.

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**LOVE - The very nature of God and the
greatest of the Christian virtues.**

THE SACRIFICE

*By Dorothy Dunham
(2 W, 3 Flex)*

CAST OF CHARACTERS

TERRY: Male or female. Leader of the abuse center.

JEAN: Female. Tammy's counselor.

ACTOR 1: Male or female. Counselor at the center.

ACTOR 2: Another.

TAMMY: Young, abused mother.

PROPS - Stack of papers, sheet of paper, notebook, phone,
purse, paper, pen.

SCENE 1

*(Meeting room of an abuse center. AT RISE: JEAN, ACTOR
1 and 2 are sitting around a table or in a circle talking to
each other.)*

TERRY: *(Hurriedly rushes in)* Sorry I'm late.

JEAN: Where have you been, Terry? We couldn't start the
meeting without you.

ACTOR 1: Yeah, we've been waiting for ten minutes.

TERRY: It couldn't be helped.

ACTOR 2: Is something wrong?

TERRY: Not any more so than any other day.

JEAN: What's wrong?

TERRY: A call came in on the abuse hot-line about an hour
ago from a woman named Tammy.

ACTOR 1: When is she coming in?

TERRY: In a couple of hours.

JEAN: Did she tell you what is going on?

TERRY: A little. *(Pauses, thinking)*

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ACTOR 2: (*Impatient*) Well...can you let us in on it?

TERRY: Sorry, I was lost in thought. It is really sad. You know sometimes this job really gets to me...having to deal with these situations day after day.

JEAN: I know what you mean. It's so hard seeing all the pain in this world. I'm so glad I know Jesus and have Him in my heart. He gives me the strength and wisdom I need to carry on and help others.

ACTOR 2: Oh, come on Jean, not this again. Get off your soap box! I'm tired of hearing about your religion.

JEAN: But it's true (*Name of ACTOR 2*). Jesus is always there to help me. And He'll help you too, if you ask Him.

ACTOR 1: All right you guys...enough. We aren't getting anything accomplished this way. Let's get the meeting started.

TERRY: It seems Tammy has been abused several times by her husband. She was in the hospital twice. Like most women, she has tried to keep it quiet, but now he is starting to abuse their daughter. She is afraid for her.

JEAN: This seems to be happening more and more all the time. What is happening to our society?

ACTOR 2: You seem to have all the answers...you know...strength and wisdom. Why don't you tell us?

ACTOR 1: Stop it! We are here to help others. We shouldn't be tearing each other apart. How is that going to help? And it's not very professional. We are professionals here, right?

JEAN/ACTOR 2: Yes.

TERRY: Okay! Let's get on with the meeting so we can get back to work. Jean, I'll start with you. Let's hear a quick update on your cases for last week. (*LIGHTS fade, scene ends.*)

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SCENE 2

(Terry's office. AT RISE: TERRY is sitting behind a desk looking over papers. There is a KNOCK on the door.)

TERRY: Come in.

TAMMY: *(Entering sheepishly)* Are you Terry?

TERRY: Yes, I am. *(Going around the desk to shake HER hand)* Tammy, I presume?

TAMMY: Yes. I really shouldn't be here. If my husband finds out, I'll be in big trouble.

TERRY: We're here to help you. I'll try not to keep you too long. I have a sheet of paper here of names and numbers of agencies that might be a help to you in the future. *(Hands TAMMY the sheet of paper)*

TAMMY: Thanks. *(Looks over the sheet)*

TERRY: I'd like to set you up to see one of our counselors.

TAMMY: Okay.

(There is another KNOCK. JEAN pokes her head through the door.)

JEAN: Sorry to interrupt, I just wanted to get this report to you.

TERRY: That's okay, come in. *(JEAN enters and hands TERRY the notebook.)* I was just about to call you. I'd like you to meet Tammy.

JEAN: *(Shakes TAMMY'S hand)* Nice to meet you, Tammy.

TERRY: Tammy, this is Jean.

TAMMY: Nice to meet you, too.

TERRY: Jean is one of our counselors. She is very good and has helped a lot of people. I think she can help you.

TAMMY: I sure hope so. I don't know what to do anymore.

JEAN: Tammy, I'm sure we can help. Why don't you come to my office where we can talk?

TAMMY: I really can't right now. This was short notice and I told my husband I was just running to the store for some milk. How about Thursday? My husband will be working and I'll have more time.

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JEAN: Fine, how about 10 a.m.?

TAMMY: I'll be here. Thanks for your help. I feel better just knowing I have someone to turn to.

JEAN: Great, I'll see you Thursday. In the meantime, if you need anything just call.

TAMMY: I will. *(SHE exits.)*

JEAN: *(To TERRY)* She seems like such a nice girl, too bad she has to be going through this.

TERRY: I agree.

JEAN: I better get back to my office. See you later. *(Exits)*

TERRY: Bye. *(TERRY exits. End of Scene)*

SCENE 3

(Terry's office. AT RISE: HE/SHE is sitting at the desk going through some papers. After a couple of beats he/she picks up the phone and dials.)

TERRY: *(Into phone)* Hi, Jean, could you come to my office...okay. *(Puts down phone. After two beats a KNOCK is heard on the door.)* Come in.

JEAN: Hi, what's up?

TERRY: I just wanted to check to see how things were going with Tammy. Is she coming to her sessions?

JEAN: As a matter of fact, she is quite regular. She's only missed a couple of times.

TERRY: I'm glad to hear that. How is she doing?

JEAN: I'm real happy with her progress. Tammy is making some good choices lately.

TERRY: Such as?

JEAN: She has found another place to live. She wanted her daughter out of that abusive situation. I admire her for that. You know how most are.

TERRY: Yeah, they usually stay in the situation until it is too late to get out.

JEAN: I guess, from what she said, her husband was furious when he found out she was gone.

End of Freeview

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