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BIBLE ADVENTURES SCRIPT:

A1448 ~ Aaron's Staff Blossoms.

Welcome to Bible Adventures. Help for today. Hope for tomorrow. Jesus is Lord of all.

Mary's mother was worried. Her little daughter seemed too small to be starting school. At the end of the first day, Mary came running out to meet her mother. Her face was one big smile. She was so excited.

"Mother," she said, "I stopped a big fight today."

"But you are so small! How could such a little girl do that?"

"Oh," said Mary, "John and Tommy were very angry with each other. I know something about John that would have made Tommy even more angry. But I didn't say anything about it to them and in the end, they just walked away from each other."

Mary showed great wisdom, even though she was only a child. She stopped herself from making more trouble. She was only a few years old, but she understood she should control what she said. Perhaps she had heard the words of the Bible book Proverbs, chapter 16 "Gossip is spread by wicked people; they stir up trouble and break up friendships."

And chapter 6 says this, "There are 7 things the Lord hates: ...a proud look, a lying tongue, hands that kill innocent people, a mind that thinks up wicked plans, feet that hurry off to do evil, a witness who tells one lie after another, AND a person who stirs up trouble among friends." The Bible book Matthew, chapter 12, also says this, "You can be sure that on Judgment Day your words will be used to judge you - to declare you either innocent or guilty."

Some men from the tribes of Levi and Reuben had stirred up other tribal chiefs against God's chosen leader, Moses. They had all rebelled, and God had judged them. All had died.

But many people were still refusing the leaders God had given them, and again God's judgment came on them. 14,700 died of a sudden plague, before Aaron stepped in to pray for God's mercy. Everyone now knew Moses was God's chosen leader for them. But they still needed to agree that God had chosen Aaron to be their High Priest.

DRAMA - The Bible In Living Sound.

At last the people really understood. Aaron was God's choice. Aaron was their High Priest. He, and his sons after him, would stand for the people of Israel before God. All these men as priests of Israel had to offer sacrifices to God, first for their own sins, and then for the sins of all the Israelites. They had to carry out special rituals on the Day of Atonement each year. They also had to sacrifice many offerings throughout the year.

The children of Israel needed a High Priest who could speak to the great and holy God for them. And, just like them, we need Someone who will stand for us before the Almighty God. We have no right to come to God in our own way. We need a High Priest too.

The Bible book Hebrews, chapter 8, says this, "Jesus is the High Priest that meets our needs. He is holy; He has no fault or sin in Him;...He is not like other high priest. He does not need to offer sacrifices every day for his own sins first, and then for the sins of the people. He offered one sacrifice, once and for all, when He offered Himself...Jesus lives on forever, and His work as Priest does not pass on to someone else. And so He is able, now and always, to save those who come to God through Him, because He lives for ever to plead with God for them."

God's Holy Word, the Bible, does not teach that we never sin again, after we turn to the Lord Jesus Christ. But it does teach that our Father God gives us power to overcome our wrong ways. The Holy Spirit of God speaks in our hearts. He shows us what is right, and we grow as God's children when we follow and obey.

The children of Israel did not settle their arguments in the right way, but the Lord Jesus Christ has taught His followers what to do when they disagree. In the Bible book Matthew, Jesus said this, "If your brother sins against you, go to him and show him his fault." Do it privately, between yourselves. If he listens to you, you have won your brother back. But if he will not listen take one or two others with you as witnesses. If he will not listen to them, tell the whole thing to the church. Finally, if he won't listen to the church, treat his as though he were an (unbeliever).

Jesus also taught about the importance of forgiving one another. If we refuse to forgive others, God will not forgive us.

In the Old Testament book of Numbers, chapter 5, when someone had harmed another person, the guilty one had to restore what he had taken and add more to it. This payment helped the hurt person to recover from his loss and was very important in God's sight. When we have wronged someone else, we should say "sorry" and try to help that person, praying for God's blessings upon him and his family. And we must not let pride and hurt hinder us from being ready to forgive when someone else has wronged us.

Are you right in God's sight? Have you turned from your wrong ways?

Have you asked God's forgiveness? Do you love Him because He gave His One and Only Son Jesus to pay the debt for your wrongdoing? The Bible book 1 John, chapter 4, says this, "We love because God first loved us. The command Christ has given us is this: whoever loves God must love others also."

MUSIC - <u>Integrity Music</u>.

That was Perry Coleman with the song "His Own Love For Us."

The drama is from The Bible In Living Sound.

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