

THE GOLDEN RULE

Puppet Script

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Puppets Needed: Candie, Sandy-Jordan, Vernon, Tamika, Grandma-Nona

ALL: (singing) Happy Birthday to you...happy birthday to you. Happy birthday, dear Sandy,
Happy birthday to you.

(All puppets except Grandma-Nona gather around Sandy. Grandma-Nona exits. She'll return later.)

CANDIE: (excited) SANDY! Open my present first!

SANDY: Ooh. If yours is so exciting, how 'bout I open it last... you know, 'save the best for last.'

CANDIE: Okay.

SANDY: Let's see what this one is. *(picks up present and reads card)*

"Happy birthday from Vernon."

VERNON: That card took me a long time to write.

TAMIKA: *(sarcastically)* Ha, ha, ha!

VERNON: What? Do you think I'm lying?

TAMIKA: Yes. How could it take you a long time to write that?

VERNON: Well, I forgot how to spell birthday.

SANDY: Thank you for the baseball and glove.

VERNON: You're welcome. *(steps aside)*

SANDY: *(reading another card)* "Happy birthday to you, You're a hundred and two. You look like
Kris Kringle, and your beard is white, too." What? I don't get it. What beard? And who is
Kris Kringle?

TAMIKA: You know...Santa Claus.

SANDY: Oh brother. Uhhh. Nice card, Tamika.

CANDY: Why don't you see what Tamika gave you. Open it!

SANDY: *(shuffles with wrapping paper)* Oh, wow! Thanks for the stuffed animal.

TAMIKA: Oh, don't mention it. You see, it was free. Mom bought it.

CANDIE: Oh, boy! Now you can open **MY** present!

SANDY: Yep. It looks like a cool present already. (fumbles with paper)

CANDIE: *(after present is opened)* See!! It's a Time-to-Dance Barbie. Do you like it? Isn't it great? I really wanted one for myself, so I knew you would like it, too. The Bible says treat others the way you want to be treated, so that's why I got it for you. Now, when it's my birthday, you can get it for me!

SANDY: *(disappointed, but not sarcastic)* Uhhh. Thanks Candie... If you like it so much, you can have it back.

CANDIE: Oh, no. I'll wait for my birthday, but could we play with it now?

SANDY: Uhhh. I think we're going to have cake and ice cream now.

(All puppets except Jackie go to one side of stage. Jackie goes to the other side, and Grandma enters next to her).

GRANDMA-NONA: How's the party going, Candie?

CANDIE: (sad) Okay, I guess. Except Sandy didn't seem to like the gift I gave her.

GRANDMA-NONA: What did you give her?

CANDIE: A Time-to-Dance Barbie.

GRANDMA-NONA: Well, if I were a teenager, I probably wouldn't like that gift either.

CANDIE: I don't understand. The Golden Rule of the Bible says that we should treat others the way we want to be treated, so that's what I did. I gave her the Barbie I want!

GRANDMA-NONA: Oh, I see what you mean. But that's not what Jesus was talking about. He was talking about how we Treat each other. Like being nice to each other, listening to others, and doing what would help them.

CANDIE: That sounds hard, Grandma-Nona. But, What about the bullies at school and people that are hard to get along with?

GRANDMA-NONA: It is, hard, Candie. But even though some of Jesus' commandments are hard. We still have to obey them.

CANDIE: So what should I do?

GRANDMA-NONA: Well, maybe you could ask Sandy what she would like for her birthday, and exchange the Barbie for that.

CANDIE: And what do I do about treating other people nice that are mean to me?

GRANDMA-NONA: First of all, I suggest you pray about it. Ask God to help you do the right thing. Besides, if you're nice to your enemies, they might just become your friends.

CANDIE: And...remember to treat others nice because Jesus said to, not because it's easy.

GRANDMA-NONA: I think now, Candie, you're beginning to understand the Golden Rule.

CANDIE: Oh, YEAH!

(all puppets exit)