

Puppet Skit --- Ralphy's Test

The Characters: Estelle, Ralphy, Precious, Mr. Joe **The Setup:** Mr. Joe's backyard.

[Begin music.]

Announcer: *[Enters.]* Hi kids. Have you ever met someone who really wants to help God do something big? But he doesn't realize he first has to be ready for the small things. Let's find out what's happening at Mr. Joe's house today. Estelle, Ralphy and Precious are pretty excited about the upcoming church play, and they all want a part. Let's see what "big thing" Ralphy is believing for, and whether or not he's ready to take it on. *[Exits.]*

[End music. Mr. Joe enters. Ralphy follows him.]

Mr. Joe: *[Turning round.]* Ralphy, I can't put you in charge of the church play.

Ralphy: Why not?

Mr. Joe: It's a huge responsibility, and I don't think you're ready for it.

Ralphy: I'm ready, Mr. Joe. Please, please. You know I can do it.

Mr. Joe: *[Affectionately.]* Ralphy, a lot of things can go wrong. I don't want you to get in over your head.

Ralphy: I'm good at fixing things.

Mr. Joe: A lot of things can happen, things you may not be ready for.

Ralphy: *[Impatiently.]* I know I can do it, just give me a chance.

Mr. Joe: This is what I'll do—

Ralphy: *[Excitedly.]* Tell me! Tell me!

Mr. Joe: I'll give you a test.

Ralphy: *[Shocked.]* A test?!

Mr. Joe: If you can pass the test, you can be in charge of the play.

Ralphy: *[Happy.]* All right, thank you, Mr. Joe! *[Pauses.]* Uh, what's the test?

Mr. Joe: For the rest of the day, you have to be ready for anything. Then I'll see if you can handle being in charge.

Ralphy: I'll be ready, you'll see.

Mr. Joe: OK, we'll see. *[Exits.]*

Ralphy: *[Looks around like he's waiting for something to happen.]*

Precious: *[Enters.]* Ralphy, what are you doing?

Ralphy: *[Annoyed, keeps looking around. Tries to ignore her.]* I'm taking a test.

Precious: What kind of test?

Ralphy: *[Frustrated.]* I can't talk to you right now. I'm busy.

Precious: But you're not doing anything.

Ralphy: Yes, I am, now leave me alone!

Precious: Can you help me read my lines for the church play?

Ralphy: I told you, I'm busy! I don't have time to help you. *[Flustered.]* Go study on your own.

Precious: *[Hurt.]* Fine. I'll study on my own. *[Exits.]*

Estelle: *[Enters, singing badly out of tune.]* "God can work it out for you..."

Ralphy: Estelle! What are you doing?

Estelle: I'm practicing for the church play.

Ralphy: You sound awful. Can you go somewhere else and do that?

Estelle: I was hoping you could help me.

Ralphy: Not a chance!

Estelle: But Ralphy!

Ralphy: *[Resigned.]* OK. Fine.

Estelle: *[Badly out of tune.]* "God can work it out for you..."

Ralphy: You sound horrible. *[Imitates her singing.]* “God can work it out for yow-oo.”

Estelle: *[Pauses, looks down. Looks up feeling hurt.]* I’ve been working really hard on that song.

Ralphy: *[Terse.]* OK, work harder. Can you leave now? I’m kind of busy.

Estelle: *[Upset.]* Fine! *[Exits.]*

Ralphy: Why are they always bothering me?

Mr. Joe: *[Enters.]* Hey, Ralphy.

Ralphy: Mr. Joe, man, I’ve been waiting all day. When do I get my test?

Mr. Joe: You had the test.

Ralphy: What do you mean, “I had the test”?

Mr. Joe: Remember Precious asking you to help her with her lines?

Ralphy: *[Surprised.]* I didn’t know that was the test.

Mr. Joe: Not only did you not help her, but you also were rude. And you really hurt Estelle’s feelings. Why weren’t you more encouraging?

Ralphy: But those were such small things. I thought the test was going to be a really big thing.

Mr. Joe: I told you to be ready for anything.

Ralphy: I thought it would be something like telling people what costumes to wear or what kind of sets to build. I didn’t know you meant small things like helping people say their lines or having to encourage really bad singers. Man, she was lame.

Mr. Joe: I did say “anything.” I’m sorry, Ralphy. You’re not ready. *[Exits.]*

Ralphy: Well, whatever! *[Disappointed, he exits.]*

[Begin music.]

Announcer: *[Enters.]* There are a lot of people like Ralphy. They want to do big things for God, but they miss the small things. You may think the small things are not important. But if God can’t trust you to do the small things, He will never give you the big things. Say, for instance, God told you He wanted you to do something for Him. Would you be ready for anything? “Anything” could mean encouraging others. “Anything” could mean doing things your mom wants done around the house. “Anything” could mean helping a friend with their homework. God wants you to do outstanding things for Him—starting right at home. Do you think you can be ready for anything? *[Exits.]*

[End music.]