

**"2<sup>nd</sup> Grade"**

Matthew 14:22-33

August 13, 2017

by Rebecca Enney

Barabas was very anxious when he went to bed last night. Uncle Floyd said "Son, I reckon there seems to be a problem. Can we talk about it?"

"No!" said Barabas. Uncle Floyd rubbed his forehead (like this) and remained silent for a moment.

"I don't want to talk about it!" said Barabas. Uncle Floyd rubbed his forehead again.

"NO!" said Barabas. Uncle Floyd did not rub his forehead a third time.

"It will just happen again and I don't want to do it."

"You don't want to do what?" Uncle Floyd asked gently.

"Go to school."

"But you are really smart! I reckon you did great last year!"

"Yeah, but the first day was awful! I did not know where to sit and I didn't know the new kid beside me and I didn't remember the teacher's name and I forgot my lunch money and I cried in front of the whole school and everyone laughed at me. I won't go this year!"

"I reckon I remember." said Uncle Floyd as he rubbed his chin.

"It was the worst day ever!"

"I see," said Uncle Floyd rubbing his chin again.

"And stop rubbing your chin!" Barabas shouted.

Uncle Floyd gave Barabas a "look" and Barabas saw it and he felt ashamed for shouting like that at Uncle Floyd. Then he said: "I am afraid it will happen again this year."

"Would you rather stay home under your bed? You know, you can't hide there forever. It would be hard to eat under there or go to the bathroom under there, or play with your friends there."

"No . . . (and Barabas tried hard not laugh at Uncle Floyd's silly joke) but what else can I do? I am afraid to go. What can I do?"

"I reckon we can begin to make a plan. After all, school doesn't start for another week or so. And after we make the plan, we can say a prayer about it and ask for God for courage."

"What would the plan be?" And Uncle Floyd explained that they would walk to the school and talk with the lady in the office and ask his teacher's name and write it down and then they would find his classroom and then they would look at where the boy's restroom is and then look at the cafeteria.

Barabas looked up at Uncle Floyd and asked "And then we would ask Jesus for courage?"

"That is the plan. I reckon that is exactly what we will do!" said Uncle Floyd. THE END