

CHRISTMAS IN JULY
By Ann Shorb

This skit may be performed by children or by puppets.

AIM: To encourage children to experience and express the joy of Christmas all year long.

CHARACTERS: Jason and Jessie (two elementary age children--boys or girls.)

(Jason is sitting on stage, lifeless. Jessie enters, walks over and stares at him.)

Jessie: Hey, Jason. (He doesn't move. She walks around him and speaks louder.) Jason, are you alive?

Jason: (Moves slightly.) Huh?

Jessie: How come you're just sitting there?"

Jason: (Looks up at her.) I'm bored!

Jessie: (Nods.) I'm kind of bored, too. (She sits down next to Jason.)

Jason: Jessie, I *couldn't wait* for summer vacation and now that it's here, there's *nothing* to do. (Rests chin on his hand and speaks sadly.) *I'm bored.*

Jessie: There has to be *something* we can do.

Jason: Like what? (Both sit still thinking for a moment.)

Jessie: (Looks at Jason.) Hey, I know! We can ride our bikes.

Jason: Nope. My tire's messed up.

Jessie: How about a game of baseball?

Jason: Nah, all the other kids went away and it would just be you and me. And you'd probably beat me any way.

Jessie: Hmm. (Thinks a moment.) I got some new comic books. Want to read?

Jason: (Shakes head.) Nope. We'll do enough of that when school starts.

(Both sigh and shake their heads and speak at the same time.) There's *nothing* to do!

Jason: Maybe if we sit here till *Christmas* we'll think of something.

Jessie: Christmas? (Jumps up excitedly.) That's it!

Jason: (Stunned. Looks at her.) What? What did I say?

Jessie: (Excitedly.) *Christmas! Let's celebrate Christmas!*

Jason: Now? In the middle of *July*? [Use the name of the current month.]

Jessie: Why not? At Christmas time people are kind and thoughtful and do things to share the love of Jesus with others. Shouldn't we do that all year long?

Jason: Yeah, I guess so.

Jessie: Well, why wait till Christmas? Let's do some of those special things *now*.

Jason: You mean like visiting the old people and singing Christmas songs to them?

Jessie: That's a great idea!

Jason: (Frustrated.) Yeah right! They'll think we're *crazy*.

Jessie: We could sing other songs instead of Christmas carols.

Jason: (He stands up slowly.) Hmm. (Thinks a moment.) That *is* a great idea. I'll bet nobody goes to sing to the old people in the summer. Everyone's too busy.

Jessie: Let's ask Mom if we can bake some cookies or make some candy to take along.

Jason: (Excitedly.) Nice! I'm beginning to *like* your crazy idea, Jessie.

Jessie: Maybe, if *we* promise to do the work, we could even have a party for the kids in the neighborhood.

Jason: A *Christmas party* in July! *That's* a new one.

Jessie: We could make up some games and stuff, and somebody could read the
Christmas story—or maybe some other story about Jesus from the Bible.

Jason: Hey, do you think Dad would come put up the *Christmas tree*?

Both: (They look at each other, shake heads and speak together.) *No way!*

Jessie: I've got colored paper and some other stuff to make decorations.

Jason: And *I'll* do the invitations on the computer. (Proudly.) I'm good at that.

Jessie: Great!

Jason: You know, Jessie, we should visit that new family that moved in down the street
and invite them to our party.

Jessie: (Shakes head in agreement.) Mom always says there's never enough time to do
all the things we want to do at Christmas, so this year we'll get an early start.

Jason: Wow! Now we have *tons* of stuff to do! This summer isn't so boring after all.

Jessie: C'mon. Let's get started. There's no reason to wait till Christmas to share the
love of Jesus!

(They exit together singing loudly "Joy to the World.")

Teachers/Parents: Consider planning a *Christmas in July* activity or party. Let the
children share their ideas and help with the planning and preparation.

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