

Think before you act

Biblical Material: Proverbs 13.16

'Wise people are careful to stay out of trouble, but stupid people are careless and act too quickly.'

You will need:

A glove with some stickers on for eyes, mouth etc.

Introduction

Introduce your puppet - give him/her a name. Hold the glove limply, do not put your hand inside. Try to get the glove to wave to the children. It must refuse to do anything you ask it. Ask your puppet to run, jump, dance, hit you etc. All the time the glove must hang limp.

Finally ask it what the matter is: it can whisper to you or the pupils can tell you what is wrong.

'My glove puppet says it has no mind of its own, it needs someone else's hand to control it.'

Either put the glove on yourself or ask one of the children to put it on. Now tell the glove to do things. Demonstrate it running, jumping etc.

Core Material

Our hands and bodies do not act by themselves, they are guided by our minds, just as the glove puppet is guided by the hand and the mind of the puppeteer. Some people do not use their minds before they act. They act first and think afterwards. It's like a hand running free with no mind to guide it. Actions, like words, need careful thought, and if our minds control our actions, it is very important that we watch what we put into our minds. Read the Biblical Material. The Bible says this: 'Fill your minds with things that

are good and deserve praise, things that are true, noble, right, pure, lovely and honourable.' (Philippians 4.8).

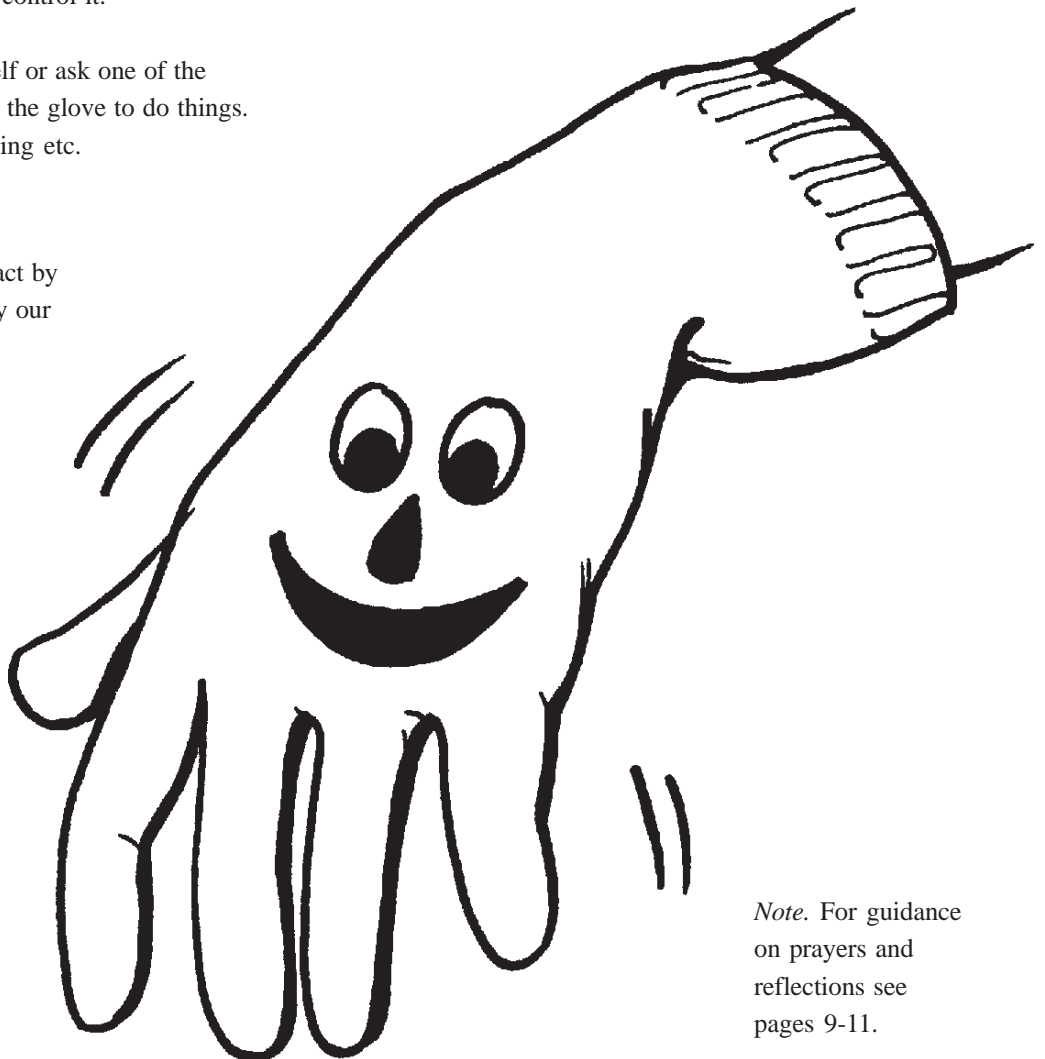
Prayer/Reflection

Ask pupils to look at their own hands for a moment, in silence. Hold up the glove puppet and read the prayer. Ask pupils to listen to the prayer with their eyes open, using the glove puppet as a focus.

*Our hands do not have a life of their own,
They are ours to guide*

*Our bodies do not have a life of their own,
They are ours to guide.*

*Thank you Father, for minds and hearts to guide our
bodies.*



Note. For guidance on prayers and reflections see pages 9-11.