

"THE BOY AND THE ANTS"¹

Characters: Billy, Sally, and narrator

Narrator: One day a young boy named Billy discovered some ants building an anthill at the side of his house. He began watching the busy ants working. Day after day he watched them. As he came and went, he tiptoed very carefully because he didn't want to step on any of them. He really liked watching those ants and studying their entire busy behavior. One day his mother told him that a bug exterminator was coming the next day. Once a month, a man would come and spray bug spray on the inside and outside of their house to get rid of those pesky ants.

ENTER BILLY

Billy: What can I do! How can I save the ants? (Yells at the anthill.) Ants, leave right away! Tomorrow you're going to be killed by bug spray! Leave! Don't wait! Hurry! Oh dear. They can't understand me. What if. . . what if I became an ant? Then I could make them understand.

ENTER SALLY

Sally: Hi, Billy. What in the world are you talking about?! I heard what you said. You know you can't become an ant.

Billy: I know that! Do you think I'm a dimwit or something? But if I could become an ant, I would go down to the anthill and talk with the ants. I would warn them in ant talk about the bug spray. I would tell them to leave right away. Some of the ants might listen to me and others might not. But the ones that did listen and believe me would leave and be saved.

Sally: Something like that really did happen once, you know.

Billy: What? What are you talking about? You mean someone really became an ant?!

Sally: I'm not talking about someone becoming an ant. I'm talking about Jesus.

Billy: What? I don't get it. Jesus became an ant?

Sally: No, Jesus didn't become an ant; he became a man.

Billy: Why did he do that?

Sally: Well, you want to become an ant so you can save those silly ants from dying, right?

Billy: Right . . . but what does that have to do with Jesus?

Sally: Well, Jesus became a man to die for our sin so we don't have to be separated from God forever. While He was here He showed us what God is like. He loved the way God loves. He always told the truth, kept his promises, and was patient the way God is. Why do you want to become an ant?

Billy: So I could save the ants from the exterminator.

¹ Adapted from Billy Graham Children's Crusade, September, 1993.

Sally: Yes, that's kind of like Jesus. Jesus came down to earth as a man so He could save us from the punishment we deserve.

Billy: So that's why Jesus left heaven and came to earth.

Sally: Yeah. He came as a man to die on the cross and take the punishment we deserve for our sin. He was punished for everyone. Because He is God, He could take the punishment for all the sins of all people for all time. If we believe in Him and ask that His death count for our sins, we are forgiven. Isn't that awesome love?

Billy: Wow! That is awesome! God loves more than I can imagine. I wouldn't mind going down there as an ant, but I sure wouldn't want to die for ants.

Sally: I know. But what I told you about Jesus isn't just a story. It's true. Jesus really did come to save people. I sure hope people listen to Him.

EXIT BILLY AND SALLY

Narrator: So that is the story of the boy who wanted to become an ant. The thing Jesus did for us is much more awesome than for a boy to become an ant. God left heaven and came to our earth as the man Jesus. He became a human being like you and me and took the punishment we deserve by dying for us on the cross. He showed us that He is God by loving even the people who crucified Him. And that's because **“No one can see God, but Jesus is exactly like Him” (Colossians 1:15).**