Never Too Far from Love

How Luna's Question Sparked a Message of Love

During a recent Bible study, Luna bravely asked a big question that many of us have wondered at some point in our faith journey: "What is hell, really?"

Her curiosity led to a deep and honest conversation about the nature of God, love, and the misunderstandings many people, both children and adults, have about hell. Luna shared that she didn't believe God would ever want to hurt anyone and wondered if maybe hell wasn't a place of punishment, but something else entirely.

Inspired by that conversation, Luna worked with her family to create a short puppet play to share her new understanding with the congregation. With Mary and Jesus as the puppets, she helped write a beautiful, and simple message. That hell is not a place of fire and torment, but a feeling of being far from love, and that God never stops reaching for us.

Her play ends with the powerful reminder she wanted everyone to carry with them:

"God is love. It really is that simple."

Mary:

Jesus... can I ask you something that's been on my heart?

Jesus:

Of course, Mary. You can always ask me anything.

Mary:

It's about... hell.

Some people talk about it like it's a place where people go if they're bad. Like, a scary place forever.

Is that true?

Jesus:

That's something a lot of people wonder about.

But no, Mary, that's not how it works.

Hell isn't a fiery pit where God sends people to suffer.

Mary:

It's not?

Jesus:

No. God is love, always. Love doesn't want to hurt us. Love wants to heal us. Hell isn't a place you're sent to. It's more like a feeling... a state of being.

Mary:

A feeling? Like when someone feels really sad or lost?

Jesus:

Yes. Hell happens when people forget who they are... when they feel far from love, far from God, far from peace.

It's when someone is stuck in fear, anger, shame, or selfishness.

Mary:

So it's not a punishment?

Jesus:

No. It's something we go through when we're not living in truth and love.

But even then, God never leaves us.

No one is ever too far gone. There's always a path back to love.

Mary:

That makes so much more sense. So hell is kind of like being far from the light... but the light is still shining?

Jesus:

Exactly. And the light is always shining.

You are never alone in the dark.

And love is always ready to guide you home.

Mary:

So the truth is... God doesn't want anyone to be afraid.

Jesus:

No fear. Just love.

That's the message I came to share.

Marv:

That's beautiful, Jesus. I want everyone to know that.

Jesus:

Then let's say it together, so no one forgets.

Mary & Jesus (together):

God is love. It really is that simple.