



Gospel Tracts for Kids

# THE HAPPY PUMPKIN





“**TRICK OR TREAT, Trick or treat,**” yelled the happy Halloweeners as they knocked on Uncle Willy’s front door.

“Come on in, all of you,” he said with a laugh.

Uncle Willy was a jolly, generous old fellow. All the boys and girls in Avonlea loved him—especially at Halloween. They knew he always had hundreds of candies, nuts and apples for his “visitors” on this special night.

It wasn’t long until everyone’s bags were bulging like blown-up frogs. Uncle Willy had filled every one of them.

“Say, Uncle, why do you have **two** pumpkins in your window?” asked freckle-faced Freddie, trying to talk with a mouth full of candy.

“One pumpkin looks happy and the other seems sad,” commented Susie.

“Would you like me to tell you the whole story?” Uncle Willy asked with eyes twinkling.

“Oh, yes, please tell us!”

“All right. Let’s begin with Sad Sam, the unhappy-looking pumpkin,” he said. “Do you know who he looks like? He looks like I did when I was a sad, sinful young boy. I had tried the devil’s ‘tricks’:

swearing, stealing, smoking, and disobeying my parents. He had told me that I would be happy if I tried his ‘treats.’ But I found out that they were nothing but dirty, old ‘tricks’. The devil, like a mean old trickster, had fooled me. Maybe he’s still fooling some of you.”

Uncle Willy looked seriously at each one of the Halloweeners sitting in front of the fireplace. Then his face brightened.

“Now do you want to hear about Happy Harry, my other Halloween pumpkin?” he asked.

“Yes!” they hollered.

“Well, one day my Sunday school teacher told me that the Bible says, ‘*All have sinned . . .*’ (Romans 3:23). I knew then why I was unhappy. I was a sinner. But then my teacher said, ‘*. . . God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life*’ (John 3:16). I became happy when I heard that God loved me and wanted to forgive me. I asked Jesus into my heart. And He washed it white as snow. Don’t I look happy?”

“Yes, Uncle Willy, you sure do!” they agreed.

“Well, that’s why I made Happy Harry with a curved-up mouth,” Uncle Willy explained. “I wanted everyone to see how God had changed me from

being a Sad Sam into a Happy Harry. The good Lord turned my frown upside down. That made me smile. And I'm happy with the real 'treats' He gives me."

"Can God make us happy, too, and take away our sins?" asked the Halloweeners.

"I **know** He can!" Uncle Willy declared. "Let's bow our heads and ask the Lord to forgive us our sins. He loves every boy and girl in this world."

Yes, pal, God loves you, too. Why not ask His Son, Jesus Christ to come into your heart right now? Say this simple prayer:

"Dear Jesus, I confess I am a sinner. I thank You for dying on the cross for me. Please come into my heart and help me to live for You every day. I promise to tell my friends and family about Your love. Amen."

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