

Finding the Way Back to Mayberry Episode # 81, "The Loaded Goat"

Introduction:

Mayberry is having an underpass put in and this is requiring some blasting out at the construction site. Hodge brings his goat (Jimmy) into town for the day and, while running errands the goat gets loose and eats some of the dynamite. Everyone becomes afraid of the potential for explosion Jimmy possesses. They seek to find solutions to the quandary. Finally they stumble upon the idea of Barney playing his French Harp and lead the goat out of town. The mayor and Hodge hear an explosion from the construction site and think Andy and Barney were blown up leading the goat away. They break into a eulogy not knowing the duo had returned and were listening in the other room.

Lesson Points

How to handle situations when we don't know what to do (Proverbs 3:5-6)

Barney

Panics

Blames the goat for doing what goats do naturally

The Mayor

Wants to force a solution that won't work

Wants to shoot the goat and thus

Andy

Remain calm

Get advice (Proverbs 11:4; 15:22)

Become creative (lead the goat out of town with music)

The Power of music (1 Samuel 16:23; Ephesians 5:19)

It can have a significant effect on those who listen to it

The Importance of a good reputation (Proverbs 20:11; 22:1)

It is earned over time

It can be lost by foolish behavior

Discussion

What do you do when you become afraid or have a problem you don't know the answer to?

How does the music you listen to effect you?

What kind of a reputation might they assign to you if people look at what you say and do?

Noteworthy (Leviticus 16:21-22):

The original meaning of scapegoat was "escape goat," the goat that was allowed to "escape" with its life. The accepted modern meaning is "someone who is punished for the wrongs of others." What or who do we often attempt to make the scapegoat in our lives when things don't go as we hoped?

Final Thought:

Barney: That's right. Nothin' to worry about. No sense gettin' in a panic. Just stay calm, and cool ... (explosion in the distance) THERE HE GOES!!!!

(New International Version, ©2011)

Proverbs 3:5-6

5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;

6 in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Proverbs 11:4

4 Wealth is worthless in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivers from death.

Proverbs 15:22

22 Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed.

1 Samuel 16:23

23 Whenever the spirit from God came on Saul, David would take up his lyre and play. Then relief would come to Saul; he would feel better, and the evil spirit would leave him.

Ephesians 5:19

19 speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord,

Proverbs 20:11

11 Even small children are known by their actions, so is their conduct really pure and upright?

Proverbs 22:1

1 A good name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold.

Leviticus 16:21-22

21 He is to lay both hands on the head of the live goat and confess over it all the wickedness and rebellion of the Israelites—all their sins—and put them on the goat's head. He shall send the goat away into the wilderness in the care of someone appointed for the task. 22 The goat will carry on itself all their sins to a remote place; and the man shall release it in the wilderness.