

PEPE



the
**Perky
Parrot**

“PEPE” - THE PERKY PARROT

By Aunt Sharon.



Meet “PEPE”

“Pepe” is a parrot who lives in Mexico.

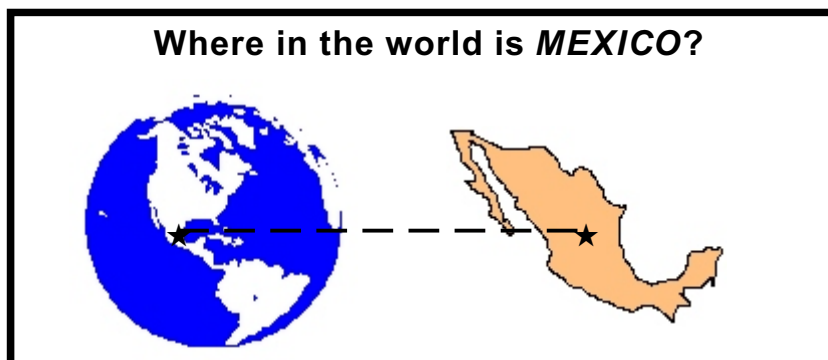
He eats pine seeds (pinyon nuts), acorns, agave flowers and fruits.

He has a very thick bill and a fleshy little tongue
so he can crack and eat hard-shelled nuts.

When he eats, he holds his food in one foot.
It can be either the left one or the right one.

“Pepe” likes to copy sounds.
He can even talk!

Sometimes he makes an awful lot of noise!



The ADVENTURES of “PEPE” THE PERKY PARROT



“Pepe” the IMITATOR

“Pepe” was born in the Sierra Madre mountains of Mexico. He learned to fly by imitating his Mother. What does “imitating” mean? (It means to copy what someone else does.) Good answer! He learned to eat this way too. In fact, everything he learned, he learned by “imitating”!

“Pepe” was captured and sold to a missionary when he was just a little bird. They loved him and cared well for him. They fed him good parrot food. They made sure he had plenty of water and that his cage was clean.

They also talked to him. And guess what! Pepe started imitating what they said to him. He learned to say: “Hello, have a good day!” When they heard him say that, they were thrilled, so they decided to teach him some other things to say. We’ll hear what some of them were in other “Adventures of “Pepe” the Perky Parrot”.

Have you ever “imitated” anything or anyone? I bet you have! Do you know the Bible says we should “imitate”? What do you think it says to imitate?

The Bible teaches us that we should imitate Jesus. (Juan 13:15; I Peter 2:21) I wonder what that means. I guess that means we should act like Jesus. How did Jesus act? He loved people. He obeyed his Father. He helped people. He prayed. He loved us so much, that he gave his life for us. How can you “imitate” Jesus?

The ADVENTURES of “PEPE” THE PERKY PARROT



“Pepe” the Praying Parrot

Pepe sat on his perch on the patio outside the kitchen window. He could hear very well everything that went on in the kitchen. He especially liked to hear them preparing his food!

He heard the family pray and thank God for the food before they ate each meal. One day when the missionary family was sitting down for breakfast, they heard Pepe yell: “Thank you for the food!” Everyone was so surprised and they began to praise Pepe and then they gave him a cracker. Pepe was so happy that he began to repeat over and over: “Thank you for the food! Thank you for the food!”

Pepe was imitating again. Imitating can be good. Jesus taught his disciples to pray because one day they asked Him to. How can we learn to pray? That’s right. By imitating. We learn by imitating, but we also have to make the prayer our own thoughts.

How did Jesus teach his disciples to pray? (Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:1-4) He taught them to address God the Father and to praise Him. He taught them to pray for that God’s will would be done. He taught them to ask Him for food. He taught them to ask for forgiveness from sins. He taught them to pray to be saved from evil or bad things. And He taught them to give God the glory for all things.

Do you know how to pray? Do you pray? Do you think we should imitate Jesus and pray to God? Do you want to learn to pray? I hope so. Let’s pray right now.

The ADVENTURES of “PEPE” THE PERKY PARROT



“Pepe” the Penitent Parrot

One day when the missionary family was at church, they left Pepe in his cage in the house. Pepe worked and worked and finally opened his cage door. Out he flew all over the house! Oh, what fun! He could zoom and zoom all around. When he got tired, he decided to rest on the back of the couch.

He started to bite and pick at the material of the couch. Pretty soon he had made a big hole! Pepe didn't know he was doing something bad. When the missionaries arrived home, they saw the cage was open and Pepe wasn't in it. Oh, no, they said. They were afraid Pepe had gotten outside. When the mother missionary was looking for Pepe, she found him in the living room. Then she saw what Pepe had done.

She told him he was a bad bird and should be ashamed of himself. Pepe felt really bad. He wished he could tell her how sorry he was for making her sad. But he had never learned to say “I'm sorry.”

Do you say you are sorry when you do something bad? I hope so. The Bible teaches us that we should say we are sorry when we sin or do something wrong. (1 John 1:9) We should pray and ask God to forgive us. We should also ask people to forgive us when we hurt them.

The missionaries forgave Pepe for being a bad bird and they taught him to say: “I'm sorry!” God forgives us when we tell Him we are sorry, too. I hope you learn to say: “I'm sorry” when you do something wrong. You should say it to God and you should say it to people.

P.S. “Penitent” means to feel sorry for something you have done.

The ADVENTURES of “PEPE” THE PERKY PARROT



PEPE, THE PUGGY PARROT

One day after the Mrs. Missionary had washed the sliding door windows, she decided to go shopping for groceries. Pepe was sitting on his perch in the family room and when he noticed that no one was there, decided to take a fly around the room. He thought the sliding doors were open, because they were so clear. So he decided to fly outside for a while. He headed right for the doors. The closer he got, the more excited he became to be able to fly outside again. He began to fly! When all of a sudden “clunk”! He hit it so hard, he couldn’t think straight. He stood up and shook his head and thought: “What was that?” He thought he was going to be flying outside, but here he was on the floor having trouble thinking and walking. And his nose (beak) hurt! He felt like he had mashed it right into his face! He felt that he looked like a pug dog!

Even though Pepe was happy living with the missionaries, he still longed to be free and fly away outside. Have you ever felt that you were in a cage and wanted to be free? There are things that make us feel that way. Sin makes us feel this way. Do you remember ever doing something bad and how you felt afterwards? Something makes you feel bad and not free. It feels kind of like Pepe’s sore nose. (Romans 8:2; Galatians 5:1) God gives us freedom when he forgives our sins. Remember how it felt to tell Dad or Mom what you had done that was wrong? Before you told them, you felt afraid and closed up, but afterward you felt free again. When we sin we should tell God that we are sorry for acting badly. He will forgive us if we do. (1 John 1:9) Then we can feel clean and free again.

If you want to be free, trust Jesus and always tell Him about it when you do something bad. I hope Pepe learned his lesson, and I hope you learn something too.

The ADVENTURES of “PEPE” THE PERKY PARROT



Pepe Learns a New Word

Pepe couldn't believe his ears! He thought he heard another parrot! He did! The next door neighbors have a parrot! This is great he thought. So he listen real good and then he started calling to the other parrot. Squawk, Squawk! The other parrot answered him: Squawk, Squawk!

They called each other all morning long. The other bird knew a lot or words too. Pepe started repeating the words that the other parrot was saying.

When the missionary family was eating dinner, Pepe decided to show them what he had learned. So he said “#\$%&%\$” (bad word). The Daddy missionary said: “Pepe” that was a bad word. You shouldn't say that word!” Mother missionary said: “Where did he learn that word?” I bet he learned it from the parrot next door. Oh, my, we mustn't let him hear that parrot talk.

Pepe had made a friend of a bad parrot and he began acting like the bad parrot. Do you know that we, too, can start acting like the people we listen too and look at? We have to be careful not to copy their bad ways. That is why sometimes Daddy and Mother won't let us play with some children. That is why they won't let us watch some of the programs on the television. We should be very careful of what we hear and see. We should listen to and see things that are good. Jesus wants us to have clean minds and hearts. We can keep them clean by listening to and seeing good things. Listening to and reading God's Word (the Bible) cleans our minds and hearts. We should read or listen to God's Word everyday.

Pepe listened to bad words and he began saying them. The missionary family decided to teach Pepe some more good words, so he would forget the bad words. If we hear a bad word, we shouldn't repeat it. We should look for a good word to say. (Colossians 4:6)

Who is Aunt Sharon?



Larry and Sharon Lilly have been missionaries to Mexico since 1970. Sharon felt as a little girl that she would some day be a missionary. She married Larry after finishing Bible College. Later God called Larry to be a missionary and they surrendered to go to the country of Mexico.

They published a magazine for Christian teachers in Spanish (El Maestro Cristiano) for many years. While writing stories for the magazine, Sharon became “Tía Sara” or Aunt Sharon. Although now, she is thinking of being called “Grandma Sharon”!

We hope that these stories will not only lead children to Jesus Christ, but will also teach many things that will help them to grow as Christians. We hope that some will give their lives to Jesus to serve Him in full-time service and that many will surrender their lives to serve God on the mission field.

Another goal for these stories is to keep missions and missionaries in the minds and hearts of those who hear them. They can be used as stories in themselves, as an introduction for a lesson, or as a series of stories in the opening exercises of Sunday School or Vacation Bible School.

You can also visit us on the WEB at www.lillymx.com . You will soon find links there for these stories.

May God bless the use of these stories. And remember to pray for the Lilly family and the Baptist Bible College of Cd. Mante, Tamaulipas, Mexico.