

## **Dodger Is Thirsty.**

A story for young children to introduce the idea of the importance of water and enable teaching about Jesus as the water of life.

Dodger was a Dog who liked to hide – that's how he got his name. He was always Dodging people and hiding from them. He thought it was great fun.

He would hide in the bushes. He would hide behind the sofa.  
He would hide under the beds. He would hide in the dirty washing basket.  
He would even hide under the duvets on the beds!

Dodger like to hide, but he also like to be found. Jenny, the little girl who looked after Dodger, would look everywhere and when eventually she found him she would tickle him and cuddle him and give him special treats. After all Jenny was always so pleased to see Dodger.

One day Jenny called: "Dodger! Where are you? Its time to go out!"  
Dodger had already found the perfect place to hide. He squeezed through Jenny's slightly open wardrobe door and snuggled down under a pile of old clothes that were lying in the bottom.

Dodger stayed very very quiet and Jenny looked everywhere for him. Eventually though Jenny shouted, "I've got to go out Dodger - bye!"  
Dodger heard the front door go 'bang,' and then the whole house went very quiet.

After a While Dodger crept out of the wardrobe and looked around. The house was empty, everyone had gone out, and they had left Dodger alone.

Dodger ran up and down the stairs. It was great fun! He jumped on all the beds. That was fun too! He knocked all the cushions off of the couch. That was fun as well!

After a while though he started to get tired and thirsty. Dodger went to his water bowl, But Oh No! Jenny had forgotten to check to see if there was any water in it! It was empty! Dodger tried to lick the bottom of the bowl but his tongue was so dry it almost got stuck. He had trouble pulling it off! Dodger walked around the house with his tongue hanging out but he couldn't find any water anywhere.

The more he looked, the more his tongue hung out. It seemed to get longer and longer and longer.  
"Gosh!" said Dodger to himself. "Maybe it will never stop! Maybe my tongue will keep on growing!"

Dodger tried to think about other things but he always kept thinking about water, and the more he thought about water and how thirsty he was, the longer and longer his tongue

seemed to get. Eventually, as he walked around, his tongue was scraping on the ground! Poor Dodger, he started to get bits of fluff and things stuck to the end of his tongue.

"Oh dear!" thought Dodger to himself. "My tongue will grow so long that I will keep tripping over it whenever I go to the park!"

Dodger was very sad. He lay down in his basket and soon fell asleep.

Dodger dreamed about big bowls of water. He dreamed about playing with Jenny in their paddling pool. All he could hear in his dream was Jenny saying: "Water Dodger, Water. have some water Dodger."

Suddenly Dodger woke up and there right beside him was Jenny. In her hands was a great big bowl of clear cold water. "Water Dodger," she said, "drink some water."

Dodger jumped up and began to drink and drink and drink and drink. He drank the whole bowl full and, to Dodger's amazement, the more he drank the shorter his tongue seemed to get, until, when he went to run around the garden, he found his tongue had gone back to normal and he didn't trip over it any more.

"Phew!" said Dodger. That was a close one!"

And do you know? Dodger has not been quite so keen on hiding ever since.

Copyright (c) John Beauchamp/Kingdomstory.net 2010 All rights reserved.

Please refer to [www.kingdomstory.net](http://www.kingdomstory.net) for copyright restrictions and permissions.