

## FREDDY'S BATH TIME ADVENTURE

“Oh, no, not again,” cried Teddy Bear. His brother Freddy was supposed to meet him outside by the big oak tree so they could play. When he didn't show up, he knew Freddy was up to something and it usually meant trouble for both of them. As he looked through the bathroom window there, in a bathtub full of bubbles Freddy. Now, the little bear cubs were just as cute as could be but Freddy was the mischievous one. He just couldn't seem to stay out of trouble. Teddy loved his twin brother but he always seemed to get into trouble trying to keep Freddy out of trouble!

“I thought we agreed you would stay out of the bathtub unless Mom said it was okay? Don't you remember the trouble we got into the last time there were bubbles in the bathtub?” asked Teddy.

“Aaaah, it wasn't so bad,” said Freddy.

“Not so bad? Are you kidding? Mom said to stay out of the bathtub until she said we could get in. But you just couldn't wait and we couldn't have any honey for two weeks because of the mess YOU made,” cried Teddy.

“I believe it was only one week,” said Freddy as he made a bubble hat on his head.

“Well, it seemed a lot longer than that. Besides I don't want to go one day without honey,” said Teddy.

“I know, but I just couldn't help myself. I love bubbles! When I saw this mountain of bubbles, I just had to jump in. Besides you worry too much. Come on in, the water is great! Think of the things we can make with all these bubbles,” said Freddy. “Look, I have a bubble beard!”

“I don't know,” said Teddy. “I heard Mom say to stay out of the bathtub until she gets back. She doesn't want to clean up another mess like the last one. If she finds out we will be in BIG trouble this time, I just know we will.”

“Come on, scaredy cat, we'll be careful,” begged Freddy.

“Oh, okay, but we have to be very quiet and no bubbles on the floor. If we get in trouble it's your fault,” said Teddy.

Teddy ran into the house and just as he was about to climb in the tub, he stopped. “Listen,” he said. “What's that noise? It sounds like running water.”

Teddy looked down at the bathroom floor and, sure enough, there was water all over the bathroom floor. It was beginning to cover his paws!

“The water is running over the side of the tub and onto the floor. Quick, turn it off!” cried Teddy.

Freddy turned off the water. “There, happy now?” he asked Teddy.

All Teddy could see were thousands and thousands of bubbles – bubbles in the tub, bubbles on the floor, bubbles on his brother. In fact there were so many bubbles on Freddy that you couldn’t even see him! He looked like a bubble snowman! There was a mountain of bubbles all over the bathroom!

“There are bubbles everywhere. How are we going to get this mess cleaned up before Mom comes back?” cried Teddy.

Just then they heard someone coming down the hall. It was mom! Teddy just knew they were in BIG trouble and wouldn’t get any honey, probably for the rest of their lives!

“Oh, my gracious,” exclaimed Mrs. Bear, as she entered the bathroom. “I must have forgotten to turn off the water and now there are bubbles everywhere!”

“Teddy, will you please help me clean up this mess? Where is your brother? I’ll get the mop while you start picking up these bubbles. Just toss them out the window. I’ll be right back,” she said.

“Freddy get out of the tub and help me get these bubbles out of here before Mom gets back,” said Teddy, as he frantically started scooping up the bubbles.

When Mrs. Bear returned with a mop and a bucket, the bubbles on the floor had all been scooped up and tossed out the window. Both Teddy and Freddy were soaking wet and Freddy had bubbles all over him.

“Well, well, well. I see Freddy has decided to help us. Look at the wonderful job you boys have done getting all these bubbles out of here. Thank you so much, but Freddy how did you get so wet?” she asked.

“Well...” Teddy started to say.

But before he could say anything Mom said, “I tell you what. Since you did such a great job helping me clean up this mess, you can take a bath in the leftover bubbles while I mop up the water on the floor. I know you like bubbles, especially you Freddy. That’s why I fixed this bubble bath for you. Maybe the next time you will wait until I turn off the water before you jump in,” Mom smiled as she winked at Teddy.

“I’m sorry, Mom, I won’t do it again,” promised Freddy.

“Okay, you are forgiven. Oh, by the way, once you are done with your bath I have some honey in the kitchen if anyone is hungry,” said Mom.

“Hungry? We are always hungry for honey!” chimed the little bears as they jumped into their wonderful bubbles!

### **Author’s Notes:**

This is a short story for young children. While we realize that bears do not take bubble baths or even talk, the point of the story is about disobedience, consequences, self-control (Teddy following his brother even when he know he was doing wrong) and even forgiveness. The Bible has many, many stories of disobedience (not just by children but adults as well) and how through the loving kindness of God we can be forgiven of our transgressions and sins. While young children may not be able to relate to or understand the forgiveness of God for our sins, they are able to understand their parents’ love and forgiveness of something they have done. Children are quick to try to “hide” something they have done wrong but we as parents know when they have disobeyed. We know that God knows all we do, say, think and feel and yet if we ask for forgiveness, with a repentant heart, he will forgive!

I hope you enjoy this short story and please feel free leave comments. I have updated this story and will be submitting other new stories in the near future.

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