

“You Can Be a Butterfly” VBS 2023

Day 3 Script

The Caterpillars try to fly

Shepherd

Heart Person

Caterpillar 1

Caterpillar 2

Caterpillar 3

Caterpillar 4

Butterfly 1

Butterfly 2

Butterfly 3

Additional Butterfly

Larry Law

Suzy Cleaner

Shepherd and Heart Person greet the kids, and reminds them through question and answer about what they saw yesterday: four miserable caterpillars who met some butterflies and found out that the life of Jesus can be their wings to help them fly above the earth with all its yucky attitudes and selfish ways. Then they explain that we are going to watch the caterpillars as they try to figure out how to become butterflies.

FEEL FREE TO ADD IN ANY OF THE NEW IDEAS IN THIS AREA

(The caterpillars are lifting weights, doing jumping jacks, and things like that. They are all trying to grow their wings. Caterpillar 3 is currently offstage.)

Caterpillar 1: *(lifting weights)* Growing wings is real hard work! I am getting exhausted! It is amazing those butterflies ever get off the ground!

Caterpillar 2: *(doing jumping jacks)* Just got to keep going!

Caterpillar 4: If I memorize one more Bible verse, I think my brain will fall out of my head. How can I ever know enough Bible verses to be like those butterflies?

Caterpillar 2: You better switch to crying over your sins really hard and see if that helps.

Caterpillar 4: *(sighs)* Ok... *(starts trying really hard to grow wings)*

Enter Caterpillar 3.

Caterpillar 3: *(dressed as a pilot)* Stop everything! I know what to do!

Caterpillar 1: What in the world are you doing?

Caterpillar 3: You see, while you were all doing whatever you are doing to grow wings, I went to flight school! I have now learned everything there is to know about flying. I know all about aerodynamics, and wind patterns, and the structure of wings, and how many times a second one must flap in order to achieve the perfect take-off. I witnessed dozens of butterflies taking flight and made diagrams of all their movements, and—
(This can go however long, and can be totally different from this dialogue. The point is just that Caterpillar 3 has lots and lots of information about the life of Christ in the believer, i.e. flight using butterfly wings, but still has no wings and no ability to fly.)

Caterpillar 4: Quit talking and show us!

Caterpillar 1: Yeah, let's see it! Maybe we can learn like you did!

Caterpillar 3: Alright! I'll show you! *(Gets on a chair, makes a big show of it, but ultimately jumps in the air and hits the ground.)*

Caterpillar 4: See? You just learned a bunch of *stuff*. All you've got is information, not wings!

Caterpillar 2: Hold on now, I think maybe it'll work if you just beg first!

Caterpillar 3: Of course! Yes, I forgot. One must always beg very hard before flying. Watch, I'll show you. (*Gets back on chair, prays very hard, takes some serious breaths, jumps, and falls.*)

(Gallorpathorp may jump in, try to jump high enough to fly)

Enter Larry Law.

Larry Law: What's the problem? Can't you fly?

Caterpillar 3: I'm trying!

Larry Law: You are not trying hard enough! The Bible tells you everything you should do, so you better get to it! You better DO IT!!

Caterpillar 4: But we can't do it! No matter how hard we try we can't be like Jesus or the butterflies!

Larry Law: Then you're not trying hard enough! Do better! Do you want to fly or not?

Caterpillar 3: (*Getting nervous and scared that she won't fly*) Oh—ok, I'll try harder. (*Gets back on the chair and recites to herself really hard*) Ok, ok, be nice, love everyone, don't be mean. Be nice, love everyone, don't be mean. Be nice, love everyone, don't be mean. (*Jumps and falls to the ground.*) Oh I can't do it! I can't fly! As soon as I try to be like Jesus I fail and fall down. I'll never have the wings of His life...

Larry Law: Then you haven't tried hard enough, if you had tried harder you would be flying by now!

Caterpillar 4: Well I have tried to act nicer a whole bunch, so let me try. *(Gets up on the chair and recites to herself really hard)* Ok, love the people who are mean to you, love the people who are mean to you, love the people who are mean to you...*(She flaps as she recites, jumps, and falls to the ground.)* I can't do it...I'm stuck in the dirt, I have no wings of His love to flap and fly above.

Caterpillar 2: Hold on now, I haven't tried. Maybe I have more will power than you guys and I'll be able to fly. *(Gets on the chair and recites to himself really hard)* Ok, be like Jesus: don't be selfish, don't brag, don't make people feel bad. Don't be selfish, don't brag, don't make people feel bad. Don't be selfish, don't brag, don't make people feel bad. *(Jumps and falls to the ground.)* Ohhhh, man that hurt... I was focusing so hard on not bragging or being selfish, and I really thought I could do it but the more I thought about it the worse I got! I think I'll always be stuck being a selfish crawler...

(NOTE: What each caterpillar says does not have to be this. It can all be changed. The point is to keep it before the kids that flying is not a light, happy feeling that we get instead of a sad, depressed feeling. Flying is the life of Christ manifesting, and so every time they fall, they are falling short of the nature of Christ coming out of them.)

Enter Sister Suzy The Cleaner

Sister Suzy: What is this? You all look positively ridiculous! Clean yourselves up! Wipe that dirt off! Straighten your shirts! Don't you know cleanliness is next to godliness?

Caterpillar 4: Actually, I don't think that's in the Bible...

Sister Suzy: No back-talk! You all need to look and act like butterflies. (*All the caterpillars straighten up, dust themselves off, and act very proper in an attempt to seem "righteous."*) That's better! Don't you all feel perfectly butterfly-like? Isn't that much nicer than feeling like you can't fly?

Caterpillar 4: But...we still can't fly.

Caterpillar 1: Maybe we can! We can't seem to act like Jesus, but maybe if we look really good and talk really well, we can make ourselves think we can fly and then maybe we will! Now that we look like butterflies and talk like butterflies, maybe we can fly like butterflies! (*Gets up on the chair and talks to himself*) You are a butterfly. You can fly. Of course you can fly. You look and sound just like a butterfly. So the next step is to fly like a butterfly... (*Jumps off the chair and falls to the ground.*) Nope, no good...

The caterpillars fall to the ground in exhaustion. Enter butterflies. They chase off Larry Law and Sister Suzy with their wings and then surround the sad, pathetic, tired, moaning caterpillars, one on each side and one behind them so that the children can see everyone.

Butterfly 1: What happened to you all? Are you sick? Why are you so exhausted?

Caterpillar 1: We have been trying to get better for Jesus. We are trying to get really strong and do everything right so our wings will grow and we can fly. Someday we will be loving and nice and do great things for God.

Caterpillar 4: No, I give up. I know I can't do it. **Who will deliver me from this body that crawls and cannot fly? (Romans 7:24)**

Butterfly 2: Do you know the Apostle Paul asked the same question? But there is good news! You aren't supposed to get better! You're supposed

to really know what happened to all of us when Jesus died on the Cross so His life can grow in you!

All Caterpillars: WHAT?!

Caterpillar 3: What do you mean?

Butterfly 2: Our job is to wrap ourselves up in JESUS and hold onto His Cross until His life grows in us as and gives us wings!

Caterpillar 1: How do we do that?

Butterfly 1: You must wrap up in your cocoon.

Caterpillar 2: What's a cocoon?

Butterfly 1: It's a place to be SOOOO changed that Jesus grows bigger in you and the old caterpillar ways fall away.

Butterfly 2: Yeah! You will literally FLY out of that cocoon, because your crawling days are GONE!!

Butterfly 3: It is a place where the Cross of Jesus makes real change in your heart. You wrap up in Jesus for a time, you wrap up in everything He did on His Cross, and **His LIFE GROWS and OLD LIFE goes!!!**

The Butterflies sing to them (and they eventually join in) - "The Way To Become A Butterfly" song.