

Welcome back to the Different Isn't Bad podcast for kids. I'm Miss Robin. Have you ever needed help? Maybe you were learning to ride a bike or even write a story and someone helped? It might have been your parents or a good friend or even a stranger. In today's episode Lucy the dog helps Buddy the cat understand the new rules in the big backyard. Listen in.

"I'm so confused," Buddy the cat cried. "Nothing makes any sense to me."

Buddy was new to the big backyard. He didn't understand some of the other cats or the unwritten rules everyone else seemed to know!

Lucy the dog has lived in this backyard since she was a puppy. She was older now. Every year Lucy saw new cats come and go. Some were friendly and some were NOT!

This was very confusing!

"Why won't you want to play with me?" Lucy barked as she chased the cats around the yard.

Some of the cats would hiss and scratch every time she put her nose down to greet them.

"That's what they do to me," Buddy said as he rolled over on his mat and watched the outdoor cats chasing lizards and birds.

"You need someone who knows the rules and can help you." Lucy replied.

Lucy the dog and Stubby the cat had been kind to Buddy from the first day he appeared in the big backyard.

"I'm trying to understand but the rules keep changing," Buddy meowed and stretched his long legs as Lucy made her way to him across the kitchen floor.

"Why does it all have to be so hard?" Buddy continued.

"It doesn't have to be," Lucy answered.

“The nice master was my helper when I first came to the big backyard. He taught me many things and I will teach you too.” Lucy was brave and kind just like Stubby the cat and Buddy decided to let her help him.

“Where do we start?” Buddy said as he turned to greet Lucy allowing their noses to touch.

“Will you listen and do what I ask you to do?” Lucy wagged her tail showing Buddy how excited she was to help him.

Buddy nodded his big gray furry head in agreement.

“Yes! I will do my best.” he responded.

“And I will do the rest.” Lucy barked.

Then they laid on the mat together. Buddy with his ears perked up listening and Lucy with her brown nose pressed against the glass door telling Buddy all the things she knew about the other cats.

Now it’s time to talk about what we just learned. Remember to pause the podcast after each question.

Why was Buddy the cat confused?

What were some of the things the other cats did when Lucy first came to the big backyard?

Who helped Buddy understand the unwritten rules of the big backyard?

What is an unwritten rule?

Have you ever been confused about something?

What confuses you?

Now it’s time for our verse. I’m going to say it first then you say it with me ok?

John 14:26a

But the “Advocate”, the Holy Spirit, who the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things.....

Now it’s your turn to say it with me, ready?

John 14:26a

But the “Advocate”, the Holy Spirit, who the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things.....

What does Advocate mean Miss Robin?

Advocate means someone who is for you and helps you when you are confused. Especially helping you with other people.

Miss Robin is an advocate for kids that struggle with school work. That’s my job, to help them understand what the other kids might already understand in the classroom.

Have you ever struggled to understand something? I have. Especially when it comes to reading God's word (the Bible).

I struggle too, Miss Robin!

I know you do, lots of kids struggle and so do lots of adults. That’s why God the father left the Holy Spirit with us.

If you want to hear more about how the Holy Spirit help us as God’s children go back and listen to episode 88 Water your seeds.

The Holy Spirit helps me understand what I read everyday in the Bible. Just like Lucy the dog and Stubby the cat helped Buddy, the Holy Spirit knows how to help us.

So next time you read something in the Bible or don’t understand something at school or even at home, ask the Holy Spirit to help you. He will teach you. That’s a promise from God’s word and God NEVER breaks His promises.

I’m going to end with a prayer. It’s a little different but we are ok with being different around here, aren’t we?

Dear God, thank you for sending the Holy Spirit to live inside of us when we are your children. Thank you that you promised you would never leave us. Help all of us to remember that we have super hero strength that comes from God. His name is the Holy Spirit! Give us everything we need to help us listen and obey what the Spirit tells us. Thanks for loving us first and for sending your only son Jesus to die for our sins. Help us to love others the way you love us. Amen.

I'm so glad you joined me today. If you'd like to learn more about me, Miss Robin, take your adult with you to my instagram account at @robinmarie59, I have some fun videos there along with lots of pictures of my family and my cats. You can also learn more about me and find coloring pages on my website at www.robinmarie.org along with all the transcripts to this podcast and to my NEW podcast for adults called "Chasing Different."

So until next time. Remember Be brave, be kind and be different! Let the Holy Spirit help you understand and love people.

Bye.