READY TO USE PARABLE

# Morgan and the missing bass riff

“That’s it,” yelled Morgan. She threw down her guitar, marched over to James and shouted in his face.

“One bass solo. In the whole set. That’s all you had to do! One bass solo! And you mess it up, every time!”

James was so stunned he didn’t know what to say.

“You’re a terrible bass player,” she continued, then looked around at the rest of the band. “In fact, you’re all rubbish. I’ve tried to carry you, but enough is enough! I’m going solo. We’re selling all the equipment. I’m taking my share of the money and I’m off.”

She unplugged her guitar and amp, picked them up and stormed out of Dave’s parents’ garage. Dave, James and Sabiya stared at each other.

“What just happened?”

Morgan checked her bank account. It had looked so healthy when she’d been paid her share of the money from the sale of the band’s equipment. But now, there was barely anything left. She’d blown it all going to parties, trying to attract the attention of musicians and record label people.

At the start, she’d had a bit of success. Well, when she’d flashed the cash around. She had loads of friends then, all promising to get her a meeting with this exec or that agent. But they’d only been interested in what she would buy them, and none of the meetings had come about.

Now, here she was with nothing left. She’d even blown the money she was meant to give to her dad to help with the housekeeping. So now she needed a part-time job to help with the shortfall. In the window of the local newsagent’s she saw a card:

“Guitarist wanted for a band playing for children’s parties.”

It was the fifth time that day she’d played ‘Let it go’. There were hundreds of little girls (or so it seemed) dressed as Anna and Elsa.

*I can’t keep playing this trash!* she thought. *The old band used to play more exciting stuff than this, and we used to make more money. Even if James always messed up his solo.*

After the *Frozen* party had finished, she handed her resignation in to Debbie, the party organiser, and walked back to Dave’s house. The garage door was open when she walked up the driveway, and the band was just setting up. Before she knew what was happening, James ran up to her and gave her a massive hug.

“I’ve been waiting for you to come back!”

## Discussion questions

* What do you think of Morgan’s actions?
* Why do you think James acted in the way he did?
* If you were one of the other band members and you saw Morgan, what would you think?
* Has anyone forgiven you for any hurtful stuff you’ve said or done? Or have you forgiven others? Why?

This story is based on Luke 15:11-32. Read this passage to the group and compare the story to this one. You may want to chat about the story using these questions:

* What do you like about this story?
* Are you in this story? Or is any of this story about you?
* If you were the younger son, how might you feel at the end of the story? What if you were the father? Or the elder son?
* If you were telling the next chapter of this family’s story, how might it carry on?
* What is going on in this story? What is Jesus trying to teach here?

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