

Exodus 32: 1-14

(Lectionary Year A, Proper 23)

By Jude Waldron

An interactive storytelling and prayer engagement, particularly suited to children's talk time	
You will need:	One or Two presenters; Wooden spoon with drawn on eyes and mouth; prayer prompts on screen
Time required:	3-5 minutes

Spoony the Kitchen God

*Present the gathering with "Spoony", a wooden spoon with a simple smiley face drawn in texta on the bowl of the spoon. If presented by one person, each paragraph describing Spoony needs to start reverential, and then fall in a heap of disappointment and ordinariness. If using two presenters, dividing between the **red** and **black** text, one remains reverent or enthusiastic, while the other takes over in a matter of fact way.)*

This is Spoony. It is amazing. I have decided that it is worthy of all my love and praise. Behold its wood, behold its handle, behold its smiling face. Spoony is a mystery. We don't know where it comes from. It just exists and it is...
...actually, I bought Spoony from the supermarket and it was made in a factory. It's not like God who has always been.

Anyway, back to Spoony! Spoony is beyond our imagination! It is bigger than us and can see everything and....

...actually, I got out a ruler and measured Spoony this morning. He's 26 centimetres long. That's short. I'm 5'3". And his eyes are just drawn on because I drew them on last night. Spoony is not like God, who is bigger than the whole universe and can see everything. Hmph.

(Struggling to find another good thing) Well, well, well, Spoony is powerful. He stirs, and pats things and spreads things..

...but that's about all Spooky could do, and my knife and fork could also do that, and Spooky can't do it without me holding him anyway.

And nothing can defeat Spooky...

...except that I could break Spooky if I wanted to or burn Spooky and there'd be nothing left. But God can do more than I ever imagined or dreamed, and I can't control God at all, and there's no way to break God or burn God or destroy God.

So maybe, instead of worshipping Spooky, I should just forget about Spooky. And just in case I'm silly enough to think that Spooky is a real god again, I could even break Spooky, get rid of Spooky.

Because God is way better than the idols that we make – can't be measured, we didn't make God ourselves, is more powerful than us, knows and sees more than us, doesn't need us to make God work and can never be defeated! That's a God we don't control.

So maybe it means we have to be brave – to hand over our Spookies that we think we control, and hand ourselves over to the God we don't control.

Prayer (with Gestures):

What we can control, (*clench fists*)

We hand over to God. (*Open hands gesturing out*)

What we can measure, (*hands showing distance between them*)

We hand over to God (*Open hands gesturing out*)

What we desire, (*hands clenched to chest*)

We hand over to God (*Open hands gesturing out*)

What we keep safe (*hands in pockets or behind our backs*)

We hand over to God (*Open hands gesturing out*)

All of our idols, made of cleverness, material goods, power and unfulfillable dreams (*large circular gesture*)

We hand over to God. (*Open hands gesturing out*)

Bigger than us (*Gesture out*)

Smarter than us (*Point to brain*)

Stronger than us (*muscle arms*)

Before we even existed (*point to imaginary watch*)

And loves us more than we can imagine. (*hug self*)

All worship and glory to God. Amen. (*Arms up in a cheer*)



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