For Want of a Plum

Andrew, no! Don't eat that plum! Daddy just sprayed the tree to kill the bugs. The insecticide could make you very sick if you ate a plum!

The plums also need to ripen and be cleaned properly before they are eaten.

But the next day.

That plum looks so yummy!

Andrew, I ate a plum!

Quick, drink lots of water to flush out any of the insecticide! Let's pray you don't get sick.

I won't get sick. Maybe Mommy was just trying to scare me.

It can make you sick.

Iate a plum!

Oh no! Andrew, that was not a good thing to do!

Because Andrew doesn't believe that anything will happen to him from eating the plum, he is not sincere in his prayer.

Jesus, help me not to get sick. Amen.

Mother called poison control to ask what else she could do, and then kept an eye on Andrew to see if he started to feel unwell like they instructed.
A COUPLE OF HOURS LATER...

Mommy, I feel sick! My tummy hurts and my body feels yucky!

I need to take you to the doctor.

No! I don’t want to go!

Andrew, it’s important to find out if there’s something else we can do to help you get better.

At the doctor’s office.

His stomach is upset from the insecticide. With the right care, he should feel better soon. You are very fortunate that it is not worse, Andrew. Insecticides can make you terribly sick!

They returned home, and Andrew’s mother settled him in his bed to rest.

I’m sorry that you are unwell, Andrew, but why do you think you’re sick?

I didn’t listen and obey.

I’m sorry, Mommy. I wish I hadn’t eaten that plum. I didn’t really believe you about the insecticide. But now I feel so yucky. I’m sorry for not listening to you.

Together Andrew and his mother prayed for his full recovery, and by the next day, Andrew was feeling better.

He had learned an important lesson of listening to his mother and trusting her to know what’s right for him.

Even if you don’t always understand why your parents or teachers tell you not to do something, it’s better to listen and obey. “Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.”

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