

BOLD AND HUMBLE

Written by Tiwatope Oluwaseyi for Lesson on *Plenty, Plenty Rain*

Mrs Ojo is seated trying to calculate some things. One after the other her three children enter.

Mrs. Ojo: This COVID-19 pandemic has really affected a lot of things. Thank God the house we're building was almost completed before pandemic started. We'll be able to move in next month when the rent for this place expires. *(Holds paper and pen)* Let me see...

Darasimi: *(Comes in.)* Mummy, I hope you have not forgotten that you promised to give us a treat when we vacated at the end of the session. I want you to buy us a PS4 and we should go to that new eatery once a week.

Mrs. Ojo: Do you know how much a PS4 costs? That is about ₦200,000. We can't afford it now.

Darasimi: That's not true. We will be moving to our own house and we won't be paying rent. I don't care how you are going to do it, but if you want me to continue to do well you must buy us a PS4. That is what is going to make our long vac enjoyable. *(Leaves.)*

Mrs. Ojo: *(Shakes her head)* Darasimi doesn't understand the situation of things. Well, if I am going to buy them anything, it's not going to be a PS4. 200k, there's a lot I can do with that money.

Bidemi: Mummy...

Mrs. Ojo: Yes, dear

Bidemi: *(Playing nervously with hands, not looking up)* I want to know ... I was wondering if... You see, the session is almost over and...

Mrs. Ojo: Yes, Bidemi, what is it you want to ask me?

Bidemi: I, I want us to go swimming this holiday. It's been a long time we've gone swimming. I know you are busy but...

Mrs. Ojo: Yes?

Bidemi: *(Scratches head.)* I've said what I wanted to say. *(Dashes out.)*

Mrs. Ojo: Why does Bidemi find it so difficult to talk with me? *(Sighs) Goes back to what she was doing.*

Ayo: Good evening, Mummy.

Mrs. Ojo: Good evening, Ayo. What do you want?

Ayo: First I want to thank you for coming to the school concert yesterday. I was encouraged and my music teacher said that I sang very well, that day, better than I had sang before.

Mrs. Ojo: That's good news.

Ayo: Mummy...

Mrs. Ojo: Yes?

Ayo: The session is coming to an end and I know I will make you proud when you see my marks on my report card.

Mrs. Ojo: I agree with you. You have not disappointed me in the past. What do you want?

Ayo: You know you promised us a treat for the long vac...

Mrs. Ojo: Go on.

Ayo: I want us to be able to have a different outing every week. For example, we could go swimming one week and the following week we play at the Botanical gardens. Another week we could go to our cousins' place or have lunch at an eatery.

Mrs. Ojo: *(Nods)* Hmm. That is a good suggestion. I even know of a few places that would be of interest to you and your siblings.

Ayo: Mummy, thank you. You're the best. *(Hugs mother.)*