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# The Dramas

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## TRACK 1:

### Prayed-Up Hootenanny (WEEK 1)

#### **Cast of voices:** Two singers

When you pray don't be no hypocrite,  
Standin' out front like you got no wits.  
Jesus isn't wantin' a circus clown,  
So pray in private, where you can't be found.

The Father in heaven will hear your prayer,  
And he'll fill your needs because he cares.  
But don't go babblin' like an ignorant fool.  
Talk from your heart, and things will be cool.

Jesus taught us how to talk to the Father.  
Follow his advice and pray like you oughter.  
Give God in heaven the respect due him.  
Let him be in charge, and give your love to him.

Ask for some food to fill your tummy.  
Ask him to forgive you; don't be a dummy.  
Forgive other people, and one more tip.  
Ask God to release old Satan's grip.

Now this is the end of our little rhyme.  
Read Matthew 6 when you got the time.  
That's where you'll find the entire story.  
Now pray to God, and give him the glory!  
Heehaw! Heehaw!

## TRACK 2:

### Zeke's Eats (WEEK 2)

#### **Cast of voices:** Phil, the narrator

**Narrator:** Hi, my name's Phil. I want to tell you what happened to my son, Zeke.

A few weeks ago, my boy Zeke left our house with six loaves of bread and two fish. Now Zeke's a good kid, and he was bringing me my lunch. So he was hopping down the road...let's see you hop, Zeke...when he ran smack into the biggest, nastiest bully in the whole neighborhood. You know the kind of kids I'm talking about...the ones who get so big because they're taking everyone else's lunch. This bully's name was Mallory...they called her Mal for short, which she wasn't.

Well, we've always taught Zeke to try to talk his way out of confrontation. But Mal wouldn't budge, just standing there with her arms crossed. Calling my son names like Geeky Zeeky, and Sneaky Zeeky.

Mal grabbed one of the loaves of bread...the lunch that Zeke was bringing to me...and even as they struggled, and struggled, and struggled, Zeke eventually had to let it go. Mal chewed, and chewed, and chewed, eating the whole loaf. Let me hear all of you out there make your loudest chewing noises.

Ew, that's a horrible sound!

"I'll make you give the bread back," Zeke said.

"You and what army?" Mal crossed her arms and laughed a big belly laugh.

Off in the distance, a low rumble started. It sounded like an army! Can all of you out there stomp your feet?

Then, it got louder and louder. Let me hear you stomp louder! Thousands of people were stampeding down the road, straight toward Mal and Zeke! They were swept up on top and began to body surf the rushing crowd. Zeke and Mal, show us how you surfed that crowd!

They surfed the crowd to the Sea of Galilee. The crowd finally slowed, and Zeke and Mal climbed down. They looked all around, scanning the horizon, and finally saw why the crowd had gotten so excited. They'd all been rushing to see Jesus! Now I'm not sure if you've heard about Jesus, but let me tell you, he's a big deal around here.

Zeke noticed that Jesus and his disciples were talking about food, so he and Mal made their way up front, moving through the crowd like they were walking through a corn field. Mal couldn't believe it when Zeke offered the food to Jesus...Sure, Mal knew Jesus could get full, but Jesus had twelve disciples to feed, plus thousands of people. So Mal just laughed at Zeke again, knowing that his tiny gift of five loaves and two fish would never help. Laugh, Mal, laugh!

Zeke never did get that lunch to me that day. I had to ride my donkey through the drive-through instead. But when I got home, both Mal and Zeke were waiting for me. They were so excited to tell me what had happened that they were jumping up and down. Jesus had taken Zeke's small offering and made it so that thousands of people could be fed—even Mal! By the end of the day, all the folks who were there were rubbing their tummies and saying "MMMMmmmmmm!" Can you all do that?

My Zeke is a good boy. He learned that no matter how much you have to give to Jesus, you'll always get a lot more back—sometimes in ways that will totally surprise you. You may even make a new friend. Just look at Mal and Zeke and their big smiles. God really can use us in amazing ways!

### TRACK 3:

## Nicky at Night (WEEK 3)

**Cast of voices:** *Spy* (male, sort of a 1940s detective)

**Spy:** Hey, kids, you want to see something that nobody was supposed to see? I'll show you—but you've got to promise you won't say anything. It's classified. Very hush-hush. Top secret. Mum's the word.

See those Pharisees walking across the stage? That's them over there. See how they're talking to each other? One of those guys is Nicodemus. Hold up your hand, Nicodemus. The Pharisees were Jews who lived when Jesus was on earth. They were really good at following rules and figured everyone should follow their rules. Jesus didn't do that, so they didn't like Jesus. No, sir, didn't like him one bit.

Now, Nicodemus was a great teacher. He was one sharp cookie. And he had a few questions for Jesus, but he couldn't let his Pharisee buddies see him talking with Jesus. That would get old Nick kicked right out of the club, you know.

OK, Pharisees, freeze in place.

Now, kids, take a look over there where Jesus is standing. See him there? Wave, Jesus. Jesus has been teaching huge crowds, but the crowds have all gone home because it's late.

Hey, look at Nick. He's sneaking away from his Pharisee buddies. He's ducking down behind a bush. Now he's crawling on the ground toward Jesus. Looks like he doesn't want anyone to see him, and nobody does—except us. Looks like ol' Nicky has a meeting that he doesn't want anyone to know about.

Now Nicodemus is knocking on the door of the house where Jesus is staying, and Jesus is answering the door.

And there it is—the meeting that ol' Nick doesn't want anyone to know about. Nick is asking Jesus how to get to heaven—see Nick pointing up in the sky? Jesus is smiling, saying that Nick has to be born again.

Now that one's got Nick stumped. He's scratching his head. He's asking Jesus to explain. Nick doesn't understand what it means to be born again.

Jesus is smiling and putting an arm on Nick's shoulder. He's saying that to go to heaven, Nick's *spirit* must be born again, not Nick's body. Nick has to love God so much that he becomes someone different on the inside.

Nicodemus is nodding in agreement. He understands.

Now Nick is leaving the house and joining up with his Pharisee friends. OK, Pharisees, you can move again. Keep walking along.

You know, Nick is still a Pharisee, but he knows the truth about Jesus now. I get the feeling that for Nick and Jesus, this is the start of a beautiful relationship.

Let's have all our actors take a bow! Give them a hand!

### TRACK 4:

## Jesus Loves Me! (WEEK 4)

**Cast of voices:** *Samaritan* (female)  
*Friend* (female)

**Samaritan Woman:** Open the door! Quickly! Please, open the door!

**Friend:** Stop banging on my door. I'm opening it right now. What's wrong with you? You're out of breath and red in the face. Here, sit down in this chair.

**Samaritan Woman:** No! I don't have time to sit down! You have to come with me now!

**Friend:** I can't go anywhere right now. I have chores to do. I'm sweeping the floor—can't you see that?

**Samaritan Woman:** Give me that broom. I'm going to lean it against the chair. Sweeping can wait. I've found him! I found *him*!

**Friend:** Who?

**Samaritan Woman:** I found someone who loves me. His name is Jesus!

**Friend:** Not again. How many times have you told me you've found someone who loves you? Now let me have my broom. You've wasted enough of my time.

**Samaritan Woman:** Stop trying to get the broom! I'm not giving it back until you come with me. Jesus isn't like the others. Jesus loves *me*.

**Friend:** I've heard this same thing too many times. Fine. He loves you. Now let me do my cleaning.

**Samaritan Woman:** Sit down for a second. I'll sweep the floor for you if you'll listen to what happened.

**Friend:** OK. I'm sitting down. Go ahead. Just be sure you sweep while you talk.

**Samaritan Woman:** You know how I always go to the well after all the women have drawn their water and gone home so I don't have to deal with the other women who don't like me?

**Friend:** Yeah. Keep sweeping.

**Samaritan Woman:** When I got there today, a man was sitting there. He asked me to give him a drink. I could tell he was Jewish, and everyone knows that Jewish people don't like us Samaritans. I was shocked, so I asked, "Why are you asking me, a Samaritan?" Then he said the weirdest thing.

**Friend:** What? "I love you? Let's get married?" I've heard enough.

**Samaritan Woman:** No. I'm serious. He said, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water."

**Friend:** Stop sweeping for a minute. I'm confused. If he had this *living water*, why was he asking *you* for water?

**Samaritan Woman:** I didn't understand either. So I said, "You don't have anything to use to get water out of this deep well. Where can you get living water?"

He looked into my eyes and answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

Then he told me things about my life that no stranger could possibly know. I knew this man was special. A teacher or a prophet.

**Friend:** Are you telling me that a Jewish prophet loves you? Did you hit your head or something?

**Samaritan Woman:** No! Listen! When Jesus finished speaking, I said, "I know that the Messiah is coming. When he comes, he'll explain everything to us."

Then Jesus smiled at me and said, "I who speak to you am he."

I dropped my water jar and ran to the town. I had to tell everyone that the Messiah is here. Jesus is the Messiah! And he's here for you and for me. Jesus loves us! I'm begging you to join me.

**Friend:** Then forget about the sweeping! Let's go! I'm going to meet the Messiah!

## TRACK 5:

### What Happens Next? (WEEK 5)

**Cast of voices:** Minos Runz  
Ima Brain

**Minos Runz:** It's time for everyone's favorite game show, *What Happens Next?* Put your hands together for me, your host, Minos Runz.

Let's meet today's contestant. She enjoys cross-country bowling and collecting toenail clippings. Welcome, Ima Brain!

The rules are simple. The *What Happens Next?* actors will act out a very famous story, and you ring in when you think you know what happens next. If you're right, you win fabulous prizes.

Our story is taken from the Bible, from the book of Luke. The clue to this story is "Be kind to others."

Once there was a man traveling from Jerusalem to Jericho. He walked along the road. Then robbers jumped out from behind some rocks and beat him until he was lying on the ground nearly dead. The man lay on the ground moaning.

A short while later a priest happened to be traveling down that same road. The priest walked along. When he saw the man he—

Actors, freeze where you are. Ima, speak into the microphone and tell us your answer to "What happens next?"

**Ima:** I am guessing that the priest, being a man who dedicated

himself to the service of God, would go to the man, treat his wounds, pray for him, then organize a Bingo game to cover the medical expenses. I'm right, aren't I? Yahoo! I won!

**Minos:** Sorry, that's not correct. Actors, you may begin acting again. This priest walked on past the man who was injured.

A short while later a Levite, who was another kind of holy man, happened to be traveling down that same road. When he saw the man, he walked by on the other side of the road. Awhile later, a man from Samaria came walking down that same road. When he saw the man, he looked at him, felt sorry for him, and went over to him—

**Minos:** Actors, freeze. Ima, speak into the microphone.

**Ima:** I remember something about this. People from Samaria didn't like Jews. So this Samaritan probably went over to the hurt man and tried to rob him of any jewelry.

I mean money. He was looking for money.

Baseball cards?

**Minos:** Sorry, Ima, but that isn't what happens next. Actors, here we go again. The Samaritan man put bandages on the injured man. The Samaritan put him on his own donkey and took the man to an inn where he took care of him.

It looks like Ima wasn't able to guess what happens next. Let me shake your hand anyway. I'm Minos Runz reminding you to be kind to others! Let's have a hand for all our actors today! Goodbye!

## TRACK 6:

### The Next Day (WEEK 6)

**Cast of voices:** Co-Worker  
Lazarus  
Mary

**Co-Worker:** Are you almost finished moving those stones?

**Lazarus:** Almost, I just have to roll this one over here. Have you finished moving yours?

**Co-Worker:** Yeah, that was the last one. Do you want to stop for lunch?

**Lazarus:** That would be great. My sister will be here soon with our lunch. Let's stop and sit down while we wait for her. Do you want to sit on one of these rocks?

**Co-Worker:** I'm going to sit down *beside* the rocks. Would you like some water? I missed you at work on Friday. Did you have big plans for the weekend?

**Lazarus:** Not really, I was just dead for a couple of days. Thanks for the water.

**Co-Worker:** I know what you mean. The heat was terrible. May I have the water back?

**Lazarus:** It was hot, but that isn't what I mean. I was really dead. I died.

**Co-Worker:** You died?

**Lazarus:** Yup, I died. They put oils all over my body, wrapped me in cloths, and put me in a tomb.

**Co-Worker:** How did you do that? I mean die and not die. I mean live. I mean...you know what I mean.

**Lazarus:** Well, I'd been sick; and my sisters, Mary and Martha, sent for a friend of ours, who's a great healer, to come. Oh! Here's Mary now with lunch. Hi, Mary. Sit with us while we eat.

**Mary:** Thanks. I brought bread, honey, and a couple of smoked fish we had left over from your funeral dinner.

**Co-Worker:** Your brother was telling me some kind of joke about being dead over the weekend.

**Mary:** It's true!

**Co-Worker:** You two are serious! Lazarus really died? And you've got a friend who's stronger than death?

**Lazarus:** My friend's name is Jesus. And yeah—he's stronger than death. Hey, Mary, can you open that lunch bag and pass us each a fish? Thanks. Anyway, as I was saying, I got really sick, my sisters sent for Jesus, but I died before Jesus arrived. So they buried me. Then Jesus showed up, called to me in the tomb, and I was suddenly alive again!

**Co-Worker:** Wait a minute. You were dead?

**Lazarus:** Yup.

**Co-Worker:** Then he told you to get up, and you weren't dead anymore?

**Lazarus:** I know it is hard to believe. I don't even know how to explain it.

**Mary:** It was amazing! We took Jesus to the tomb, and he said, "Lazarus, come out!" And Lazarus came walking out of the tomb! We were shocked!

**Lazarus:** So that was my weekend. How was yours?

**Co-Worker:** Um...I didn't do much.

**Lazarus:** Come on, let's get back to work. You don't want to go home and tell your wife that a dead man outworked you today!

## TRACK 7:

### TV News Live at 5:00 (WEEK 7)

**Cast of voices:** Anna Domini  
Phil N. DeBlanks  
Child

**Anna:** This is Anna Domini reporting live from the gates of Jerusalem. There's a large crowd moving toward the gates, and we aren't sure what's happening. We just got word that Phil N. DeBlanks is live on location. I can see him working his way through the crowd. There he is, waving his hands in the air. Phil, can you hear us? Phil?

**Phil:** Yes, Anna. I'm here just outside the gates, and the crowd is tremendous. I have to hold the earphones very close to my ears just so I can make out your voice. I have never seen a crowd so large. They seem to be swarming around someone and waving branches, and they are obviously hungry.

**Anna:** Please speak right into the mike, Phil. We can barely hear you above the crowd. What makes you say they're hungry?

**Phil:** Well, there is a group of them yelling, "Lasagna, lasagna" over and over again. I assumed they were looking for a restaurant. Anna, now that I'm closer I can hear them saying, "Hosanna, hosanna." I repeat, Anna, it's *hosanna*, not *lasagna*. I'm going to try to find someone who knows what's going on.

**Anna:** Phil, what you might not know is that *hosanna* means "save us." Perhaps these people are gathering around a king or great leader. Phil, I can't see you anymore. Can you wave your hands in the air? Can you see me pointing at you?

**Phil:** I can see you. People are pushing, trying to get closer to a man in the middle of the crowd. I'll see if someone here can tell me what's happening. I'll tap this child on the shoulder. Excuse me, kid, do you know what's happening here?

**Child:** It's Jesus! My dad told me all about him! He's come to save us! Jesus is riding through the streets on a donkey, and we're all waving palm branches and putting them on the ground. It's our way of praising Jesus! It's like a big parade!

**Phil:** You heard it here first, folks. The man whose arrival has excited the whole city is named Jesus. He must be a king of some sort. He's dressed in common clothes and riding a very ordinary-looking donkey. He doesn't look like much of a king to me. He looks like a regular guy. But there's *definitely* something special about him. Everyone here wants to praise Jesus.

**Anna:** This is a very special day in Jerusalem. We are in the presence of someone very special. The people of Jerusalem know it, and I'm proud to have shared it with you. For the 5:00 news, I am Anna Domini, saying good night.

## TRACK 8:

### Jesus Is Alive! (WEEK 8)

**Cast of voices:** Mary Magdalene  
Angry Man  
Angry Woman  
Angel  
Jesus

**Mary:** Friends, my name is Mary Magdalene. I was with Jesus during his last weeks on earth, and I want to tell you about them. It's a sad and frightening story, so sit close to someone and listen carefully. But don't worry, because the end of the story is very happy.

Jesus spent three years teaching people how to live, performing great miracles, and forgiving people of their sins. But some people were angry and didn't believe Jesus is God. They decided to arrest him even though Jesus had done nothing wrong. Friends, let's all shake our heads sadly back and forth to show how sad we are that Jesus was arrested.

The soldiers made a crown of thorns and put it on Jesus' head. The thorns hurt Jesus. Then the soldiers knelt down and pretended to worship Jesus, but they were just being cruel. The soldiers called out to Jesus...

**Angry Man:** Hail, king of the Jews!

**Mary:** The soldiers spit on Jesus and hit him. They nailed Jesus' hands and feet to a wooden cross. This is much too terrible to watch. Let's all cover our eyes. While Jesus was on that cross, bleeding and dying, he did not look like a king. We were all very sad to see him there. Friends, let's wipe our tears.

Not all the people were sad. Some people passing by were glad to see Jesus suffer. They shook their fists and shouted awful things at him...

**Angry Woman:** Save yourself! Come down from the cross if you are the Son of God!

**Mary:** Let's cover our ears for a moment. We don't want to hear these insults.

Jesus cried out to God...

**Jesus:** My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

**Mary:** Then Jesus cried out again in a loud voice, and he died. But strange and frightening things began to happen. Hold a friend's hand while I tell you what happened next.

First, it was completely dark outside for three hours even though it was the middle of the day. Then the earth started to shake and rumble. The people were terrified! They knew they'd made a terrible mistake.

**Angry Man:** Surely he was the Son of God!

**Angry Woman:** What have we done?

**Mary:** Friends, let's kneel and raise our arms up in praise of Jesus.

We know he is the Son of God. Later that day Jesus was buried in a tomb and a large stone was rolled in front of it.

On the third day, I went with my friend to look at the tomb. When we got there, we saw an angel sitting there. He looked like lightning; his clothes were white as snow. Let's cover our eyes because this angel is too bright to look at. The angel spoke to us...

**Angel:** Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay.

**Mary:** We went into the tomb, and Jesus was not there! Could this really be true, that Jesus was dead but now he is alive? Friends, jump up and down with me to celebrate with us that Jesus is alive!

We ran as fast as we could to tell the disciples that Jesus is alive! Friends, run in place right now!

Well, friends, this story began sad, but just as I promised, it ended happy. It ends with the best news of all—Jesus is alive! Let's clap and celebrate together because Jesus is alive!

## TRACK 9:

### We Need Joy! (WEEK 9)

**Cast of voices:** Narrator  
Peter

**Narrator:** Peter, who was one of Jesus' disciples, was living in Rome. Wave to everyone, Peter. Back when Peter was alive, a lot of people were mean to Christians. The Christians became discouraged. Let's see how sad and lonely you Discouraged Christians look.

Most Christians had never seen Jesus in person before he went to heaven, and they were beginning to wonder if it was worth it to believe in him. Peter decided he'd better write all the Christians a letter to remind them how great God is and encourage them. Peter, begin writing your letter.

**Peter:** Hello, friends. I know you feel alone and strange in the world, but I'm writing to you today to remind you that you have many reasons to be happy. Let's give praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! He gave us new birth into a living hope. And why do we hope? Because we know Jesus Christ has risen from the dead!

**Narrator:** Let's have the first Gift Bearer show us a cute new baby to remind us about our new birth and the second Gift Bearer bring us a wrapped gift to remind us of what we hope for.

**Peter:** Not only that, but Jesus has given you an inheritance that can never fall apart or spoil or fade, and he's keeping it safe in heaven for you where no one can take it away!



**Narrator:** Let's have the third Gift Bearer bring the inheritance scroll down here for those Discouraged Christians to see. Yes, it sure looks safe to me. Isn't that amazing? Come on, you Discouraged Christians, let's hear a big woohoo over that inheritance!

**Peter:** Now God is using his great power to shield you through faith until you can see your salvation when he's ready to show you.

**Narrator:** Let's have that shield of faith, fourth Gift Bearer. Now Christians, don't you feel safe and secure because of God's shield of faith? How about a round of applause and a woohoo!

**Peter:** Now friends, I know you have had to suffer grief. I know you're sad and discouraged.

**Narrator:** Discouraged Christians, show us how sad and discouraged you have been. Oh, look at those sad faces. I think I'm going to cry myself. Oh, that's so sad. Oh, Peter, I hope you have some good news for us.

**Peter:** When you have troubles because of believing in Jesus, your faith becomes tough and strong and pure. It's worth more than the purest gold! Now that's something to praise God for! You are receiving the salvation of your souls! Wow! Isn't that worth rejoicing about? Don't be discouraged. Be filled with joy!

**Narrator:** Yes, yes! Let's be filled with joy. Come on, Gift Bearers, throw that confetti around. Come on, Christians. Come on, audience. Join us in celebrating our salvation. Everybody cheer! Let's be filled with joy. Peter, you, too. Everybody celebrate!

## TRACK 10:

### **Coach Jesus** (WEEK 10)

#### **Cast of voices:** Narrator Coach Jesus

**Narrator:** After Jesus rose from the dead, he spent time with his disciples and other people who believed in him. But Jesus knew that soon he was going back to heaven, and he wanted to make sure that his followers were ready to continue to do his work even after he was gone. He was kind of like a coach, preparing them for a big game.

**Coach Jesus:** OK, team, run on over here and let me review a few things with you. Now I'm not going to be with you much longer, and you still have a big game to play. Pay close attention because this is the last chance I'm going to have to coach you in person. OK, team, give me five push-ups right now. One! Two! Three! Four! Five! Good job! I'm glad you're following directions.

Disciples, I have some final instructions for you. First of all, don't leave Jerusalem right away. Wait here until you get the gift that my Father in heaven, the head coach, has promised. You've heard me

tell you about this gift before, and I want you to be ready for it. So stay here. You got it? Now give me five jumping jacks, pronto! One! Two! Three! Four! Five!

Good job, team. You remember that when we first put this team together, John baptized you with water, right? Well, soon you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit. Quit looking so confused! The Holy Spirit will be your new coach, and he'll be here soon to help you play the big game. If you listen to him and do what he says, you will be amazed at the power you have. As a matter of fact, let's see how much power you have now. Five sit-ups, everyone. On the floor. One! Two! Three! Four! Five!

OK, team, what I'm about to tell you is very important. It's exactly what I want you to do until you see me again. I want you to tell others about me. Tell your friends and family about me. Tell people who live in your city about me. Tell people who live in your country about me. Tell people who are different from you, who speak different languages, who dress differently, who look different, who live in different countries—tell them all about me. Wherever you go, whatever you do, be ready to tell everyone about me. Teach them to obey all my commands in the same way I have taught you.

And don't forget—no matter what happens—I will always be with you, during the whole game, during your whole life.

**Narrator:** Shortly after that, Jesus went up to heaven in a cloud and disappeared. The disciples were pretty amazed by this, and they all looked up into the sky to see if they could still see him. Come on, disciples, look up!

And suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them and said, "Hey, team, why are you looking into the sky? This same Coach Jesus, who just went up into heaven, will come back someday in the same way he just left." The disciples once again were amazed.

Come on, friends. Come on, disciples. Let's all remember to tell everyone about Jesus!

## TRACK 11:

### **Share It All!** (WEEK 11)

#### **Cast of voices:** Carnival Barker Child

**Carnival Barker:** Get your peanuts! Yes, you there with the M&M's, come on over here and get your peanuts.

**Child:** I don't have any money. See? My pockets are empty.

**Carnival Barker:** I'll share with ya. Here, just take some.

**Child:** Wow! Thanks! Hey, I've got some M&M's. Would you like some?

**Carnival Barker:** Sure, kid, sure, that's great. Give me some. Mm, mm! Well, kid, you seem to be getting into the spirit of things here.

**Child:** Who are all these people?

**Carnival Barker:** When Jesus went to heaven, he sent his helper, the Holy Spirit, to help his followers live right and tell other people about him. And when the Helper came, 3,000 people decided to follow Jesus. I am one of them. And the Lord keeps adding to our number daily.

**Child:** You mean 3,000 people are here?

**Carnival Barker:** More than that, because the Lord keeps adding to our number daily. More and more keep coming here to Jerusalem to learn about Jesus and become his followers.

**Child:** What do all those people do together?

**Carnival Barker:** We talk about Jesus. We pray a lot, too. We share everything we have. And the Lord keeps adding to our number daily. All these new believers are together all the time, and some of us don't have very much. So we all started selling our stuff and giving to anyone who needs anything. And the Lord keeps adding to our number daily. And we gladly share our food and our homes. This is a very exciting time to be in Jerusalem. I hope it will be like this forever!

**Child:** What do you mean?

**Carnival Barker:** Look at how happy all these new Christians are. Look at them hug each other and high five each other and clap each other on the back. They share and give and praise God and smile and laugh and talk. They encourage one another every day. Don't you want to be part of a group like this forever? When these new believers encourage me, I want to encourage them. Hey, here they come to share all their stuff with us!

**Child:** I want to share, too!

**Carnival Barker:** I knew you were getting into the spirit of it! Peanuts! Get your peanuts right here!

**Child:** M&M's! Get your M&M's right here! Get your blue and green and yellow and brown M&M's!

## TRACK 12:

### Last Words (WEEK 12)

#### **Cast of voices:** Narrator One Narrator Two

**Narrator One:** Y'know, here in the Old West when someone rustles a cow or steals a horse, we don't wait fer no judge or jury. We just punish them varmints right on the spot. And the part I like best is hearin' their last words.

**Narrator Two:** Yep, they always say how they haven't done nothin' and don't deserve what's comin' to 'em...whiners, ever last one of 'em.

**Narrator One:** We're gonna see someone git himself in trouble right now. The cowpoke's name is Stephen. Wave there, Stephen. Attaboy. What did ol' Stephen do, pardner?

**Narrator Two:** Well...nothin' to speak of. Just look at him. Stephen is bein' a good friend, and he's livin' a good life, praisin' God and servin' Jesus. You see how he's prayin'?

**Narrator One:** That don't mean that everyone likes him, though. See them nasty lookin' hombres over there? The ones scowling and talkin' together? They're *powerful* upset that Stephen is tellin' everyone about Jesus. So them bushwhackers have been spreadin' lies about Stephen. See how they're lookin' around all sly-like?

**Narrator Two:** Now they're doin' more than *lookin'*! They're goin' over to Stephen and grabbin' him and draggin' him over to be tried by the Sanhedrin.

**Narrator One:** The San-who?

**Narrator Two:** The *Sanhedrin*. They're them important-lookin' guys sitting in a row. They're like judges, and they want to make sure that nobody does anything out of line.

**Narrator One:** They're noddin' their heads and rubbin' their chins and talkin' with each other.

**Narrator Two:** Look! Now they're pointin' at Stephen. They want him to explain hisself.

**Narrator One:** I don't know what ol' Stephen can say *now* to sweet-talk them Sanhedrin boys into lettin' him go. He hasn't *done* nothin', but I don't think they'll care...maybe if he just promises to never talk about Jesus again.

**Narrator Two:** Shh! Lissen! Stephen's explainin' how Jesus is God's Son...see how Stephen is walkin' around and talkin'? This is *important* to him!

**Narrator One:** And see how the Sanhedrin is scowlin' and lookin' mean? They don't like what they're hearin'!

**Narrator Two:** Now Stephen is sayin' how the Sanhedrin and the people like them always killed the prophets. They obey the rules and all, but they don't see what God's *doin'*. And now Stephen is pointin' to them Sanhedrin guys and sayin' they murdered God's Son, Jesus.

**Narrator One:** *That* did it! The Sanhedrin is all standin' up and jumpin' up and down. They're *powerful* mad!

**Narrator Two:** And Stephen is lookin' up at heaven like he sees someone standin' there.

**Narrator One:** He's sayin', "Look, I see heaven open and the Son of Man standin' at the right hand of God." That's *Jesus* he's talkin' about, y'know.

**Narrator Two:** Them mean hombres are grabbin' Stephen again, and they're draggin' him clear out of the room. This ain't lookin' good for Stephen!

**Narrator Two:** Now the mean hombres are pickin' up rocks and standin' around Stephen. He's a goner fer sure.

**Narrator One:** I declare: This isn't fair! All Stephen did was help people and serve God! And now they're *killin'* him for it! I hope he tells them what fer! They deserve it!

**Narrator Two:** The mean guys are throwin' sharp rocks at Stephen. They're breakin' his bones! He's bleedin' all over! But he's sayin' somethin'...

**Narrator One:** He's sayin', "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." And he's sayin', "Lord, do not hold this sin against them."

**Narrator Two:** Now the mean guys are standin' stock still—not movin' a muscle. And Stephen is layin' still. I think...yep...Stephen is dead. They killed him.

**Narrator One:** That boy's last words were to forgive the men who murdered him. In all my born *days*, I don't think I'll ever hear last words like that again.

**Narrator Two:** It ain't easy to stand up fer Jesus.

## TRACK 13:

### The Unknown God (WEEK 13)

#### **Cast of voices:** Narrator One Narrator Two

**Narrator One:** Welcome to the *Armchair Traveler*, the first-class show about how to travel on a third-class budget. Today we'll take a tour of Athens, Greece!

**Narrator Two:** Athens—one of the most *beautiful* cities in the world. Filled with temples, filled with art, filled with...

**Narrator One:** Idols.

**Narrator Two:** Umm...pardon?

**Narrator One:** Athens is filled with idols. You see, the people who live here believe there are many, many gods, and different people worship different ones. You can see some of the gods there on that busy street.

**Narrator Two:** Those statues are *gods*?

**Narrator One:** Actually, they're idols built to the gods, and people pick out the ones they want to worship. The one on the far left is Humidity, the god of hot, sweaty days. See how he's slumped over because he's so hot? How his tongue is sticking out because he's been panting? And how tired and sweaty and *nasty* he looks?

**Narrator Two:** Why would someone worship Humidity?

**Narrator One:** Beats me. The next idol to Humidity is *much* more popular. That's Sylvania, the goddess of light. See how her right hand is stretching out toward the sun? And her left hand is stretching out toward the moon?

**Narrator Two:** Why does she have such a pained expression on her face, like something is hurting her?

**Narrator One:** That's because she's also the goddess of *fire-light*, so she's standing on hot coals.

**Narrator Two:** *That's* gotta hurt.

**Narrator One:** The next idol is Lottarinia, the goddess of good luck. You'll notice that she's all chipped and nicked and standing sort of crooked—leaning to the right?

**Narrator Two:** Yeah, what's with that?

**Narrator One:** People believe that carrying a piece of Lottarinia brings good luck, so they've chiseled off most of the marble base the idol is built on. People take the chips to sporting events and other places where they make bets.

**Narrator Two:** So being the goddess of good luck hasn't been so lucky for Lottarinia?

**Narrator One:** Nope. And the last idol is someone *really* special.

**Narrator Two:** You mean that plain statue that guy is looking at so closely? It doesn't *look* all that special...

**Narrator One:** Ah, but that's the idol built to the *unknown* god! Athenians don't want to accidentally leave a god out, so they built an extra idol—just in case.

**Narrator Two:** The guy standing next to the idol...he's turning to face the crowd on the street. He's starting to say something, and people are actually *listening*. Look at how he's pointing to the idol of the unknown god, and then pointing to the crowd.

**Narrator One:** He says he knows who this "unknown god" *is*... that this god doesn't live in temples and he's not carved out of stone, gold, or silver.

**Narrator Two:** He's saying that there's a *real* God—and that the *real* God wants us to quit doing bad things and come to him in faith.

**Narrator One:** And that real God *proved* he's the real God by raising Jesus from the dead! Wow! That's big news! Listen to how the crowd is responding! They *love* this guy! Who is he, by the way?

**Narrator Two:** I think it's the Apostle Paul.

**Narrator One:** Well, the crowd is asking him to go to Areopagus so he can share his new idea with an even *bigger* crowd. And Paul is doing it—he's walking off with the crowd!

**Narrator Two:** We should go with them.

**Narrator One:** Great idea, but that's all the time we have today. Thanks for joining us here on the *Armchair Traveler*, and for both of us I want to wish you happy trails everywhere you go. But *before* we go, let's give a hand for all our outstanding actors!





## Don't just teach *about* the Bible. Change lives!

FaithWeaver Friends is a resource God will use to change the lives of the children in your church.

FaithWeaver Friends lessons encourage children to focus on the one most important thing in life: a growing relationship with Jesus. In Luke 10:41-42 (the Martha and Mary visit), Jesus said, "Martha, Martha...you are worried and upset about many things, but only one thing is needed." *Only one thing.* Every week, the activities at FaithWeaver Friends help children focus on this one thing, a growing relationship with Jesus. Whether they're exploring Bible passages from the Old Testament or the New Testament, learners will be challenged to grow closer to Jesus every week.

You'll be thrilled at the way FaithWeaver Friends encourages learners to weave faith into life. By providing meaningful activities, great discussions, and personal challenges, FaithWeaver Friends takes learners past "head knowledge" of the Bible and into heart- and life-change.

## FaithWeaver Friends— Where Kids Experience God's Love



### Friends Love at All Times... Proverbs 17:17

#### FaithWeaver Friends helps kids become...

- **Friends with God**

Through prayer, praise, and journaling, kids deepen their friendship with God.

- **Friends with one another**

By experiencing community in small groups, kids grow in friendship with one another.

- **And Friends with those in need**

Through kid-sized service projects, kids learn the blessing of being a friend to those in need.


FaithWeaver Friends is where kids experience God's love through friendships. FaithWeaver Friends helps kids deepen their relationships with God, one another, and those who need a helping hand. Through prayer, praise, and journaling, kids deepen their friendship with God. By rotating through activity centers in small groups, kids grow in friendship with one another. And through community service projects, kids learn the blessing of being a friend to those in need.

FaithWeaver Friends works great with FaithWeaver NOW and Kids Own Worship. All three programs follow the same scope and sequence to help you reinforce the Bible message all week long.

FaithWeaver Friends helps kids grow closer to God, one another, and those in need.

### Weave faith into life!



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