

The Acts of the Apostles

Name: _____

Dear Parents and Sunday School Students,

We are excited to be looking into the Acts of the Apostles this year for the Sunday School Entertainment. **We kindly ask that you memorize your lines for the FIRST play practice.**

We would also ask that you please practice your songs so that you will not need the sheet music on the day of the final presentation to sing from.

Love in Christ,
Sunday School Entertainment Committee

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Act 1 Scene 3: Lying to the Holy Spirit

John NAME
Woman 1 NAME
Barnabas NAME
Peter NAME
Ananias NAME
Sapphira NAME
Crowd NAME
NAME
NAME
NAME
NAME
NAME

Act 2 Scene 1: The Conversion of Saul

Jesus NAME
Saul NAME
Ananias NAME
Guard 1 NAME
Guard 2 NAME

Act 2 Scene 2: Baptism of Lydia

Silas NAME
Paul NAME
Woman 1 NAME
Woman 2 NAME
Woman 3 NAME
Woman 4 NAME
Woman 5 NAME
Woman 6 NAME
Woman 7 NAME
Woman 8 NAME
Woman 9 NAME
Luke NAME
Lydia NAME
Timothy NAME
Lydia's Husband NAME
Lydia's Family NAME
NAME NAME

Act 2 Scene 3: Paul and Silas Imprisoned, Philippian Jailer Saved

Master 1 NAME
Master 2 NAME
Slave Girl NAME
Silas NAME
Paul..... NAME
Magistrate 1 NAME
Magistrate 2 NAME
Guard 1..... NAME
Guard 2..... NAME
Jailer NAME
Prisoner 1 NAME
Prisoner 2 NAME
Prisoners NAME
NAME

Act 3 Scene 1: The Riot at Ephesus

Gaius NAME
Paul..... NAME
Aristarchus NAME
Person 1 NAME
Person 2 NAME
Person 3 NAME
Person 4 NAME
Person 5 NAME
Person 6 NAME
Demetrius..... NAME
Silversmiths NAME
NAME
NAME
Crowd NAME
NAME
NAME
NAME
NAME
Official NAME
City Clerk NAME
Alexander NAME

Act 3 Scene 2: Shipwreck on Malta

Guard NAME
Julius..... NAME
Paul..... NAME
Captain NAME
Sailor 1 NAME
Sailor 2 NAME
Sailor 3 NAME
Sailor 4 NAME
Sailor 5 NAME
Villager 1 NAME
Villager 2 NAME

Act 3 Scene 3: Paul in Rome

Paul..... NAME
Guard NAME
Scroll Person..... NAME
Believers..... NAME
NAME
Crowd NAME
NAME
NAME

Responsibilities

Director NAME
Producer..... NAME
Music Director..... NAME
Props NAME
NAME
Costumes..... NAME
Sound NAME
Lights NAME
NAME
Stage Hands NAME
NAME
Curtain Operator..... NAME
Pianist..... NAME
Flyer & Program NAME
Recording NAME

Intro music.

**Opening remarks, hymn 360 and prayer
(include words in the program – cast will be backstage)**

Side light on.

(NAME)

Narrator 1

This morning we will be looking into the Acts of the Apostles. Jesus Christ has just ascended to heaven and left his disciples with the command to “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned”. There are many wonderful stories in the Acts and we have chosen just a few to showcase the joys and trials of spreading the Truth.

Side light off.

Act 1 Scene 1: Peter’s Sermon

Place: Jerusalem

Backdrop: Riverside/Path

Props: scroll, basket of bread

Curtain open. Lights on.

(speaking in tongues sound effect – many different languages)

Apostles speaking in tongues.

(NAME)

Person 1

Look! Aren’t all these men that we hear speaking from Galilee? But each of us hears them in our own language. How is this possible?

(NAME)

Peter

(reading from scroll) Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and heed my words. Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him, you have crucified. Whom God has raised up from the dead because he was sinless. Therefore, being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this miracle which you now see and hear.

(NAME)
Person 2

What shall we do?

(NAME)
Person 3

Yes, we believe what you have told us. What is the next step?

(NAME)
Peter

Repent and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. For the promise is to you and to your children and to all who the Lord calls.

Peter and John walk into water. Each person gets baptized by Peter and John. Sit down in circle, center stage.

(NAME)
John

We are so happy that you have chosen to follow after Jesus and believe in Him. May we continue to uphold the doctrine that has been given to us. Let us break bread together.

(NAME)
Peter

God has blessed us with bringing you all into the ecclesia. We are so excited to teach you more of the way of God and what the Truth is all about.

Passing bread basket around. They all partake together in a meal of fellowship.

Lights out.

Side light on.

(NAME)
Narrator

About three thousand people believed and were baptized that day and each day thereafter the ecclesia grew as more people were baptized into Jesus Christ. They all continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.

Some time passed and now Peter and John were going to the temple at the hour of prayer, in Jerusalem, when they came across a certain lame man.

Side light out.

Act 1 Scene 2: The Lame Man Healed

Place: Temple at Jerusalem

Backdrop: Riverside/Path

Props: bowls, money

Crowd outside temple, including all nursery and preschool classes. Lame man and other beggars sitting at gate of temple.

Crowd:

Lights on.

(NAME)

Lame Man

(begging to crowd) Money for the poor. Money, for some food.

(NAMES)

Beggars

(begging to crowd) Money for the poor. Money for the poor.

(some of the crowd put money into bowls)

Peter and John walk in from stage right, toward the lame man.

(NAME)

Lame Man

Please kind sirs, could you spare some money?

(NAME)

Peter

(Firmly, but gentle) Look at us.

Lame man looks up. Holding out his bowl.

(NAME)

Peter

Silver and gold have I none, but what I do have I give to you; In the name of Jesus Christ, rise up and walk!

John takes lame man by the right hand lifts him. Immediately he receives strength and starts walking and leaping and praising God.

(NAME)

Lame Man

(walking and leaping) Praise the God of Heaven! I have been healed! Thank you!

Crowd cheers and claps and they all sing a song.

Song: Silver And Gold Have I None

Peter and John went to pray.
They met a lame man on the way
He asked for alms and held out his palms,
And this is what Peter did say

Silver and gold have I none,
But such as I have give I thee,
In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk.

He went walking and leaping and praising God,
Walking and leaping and praising God,
In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk.

Silver and gold have I none,
But such as I have give I thee,
In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk.

He went walking and leaping and praising God,
Walking and leaping and praising God,
In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk.
In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk.

Lights out.

Side light on.

(NAME)
Narrator

What a wonderful miracle! The healing of the lame man and other miracles caused the ecclesia to grow even more. The multitude was of one heart and mind. They all shared their possessions with one another and laid them at the apostles' feet, and they distributed to each as they needed. But there was a certain man named Ananias and his wife Sapphira, who sold a possession, but kept back part of the proceeds and brought only a small part and laid it at the apostles' feet.

Side light off.

Act 1 Scene 3: Lying to the Holy Spirit

Place: Ecclesia at Jerusalem

Backdrop: Riverside/Path

Props: table, money, blankets, certificate

Peter, John and the apostles all around a table. Crowd of believers next to table.

Lights on.

(NAME)

John

Please, bring what you have up to the table.

(NAME)

Woman 1

I have sold some blankets, and I made 10 dollars.

(NAME)

Barnabas

I have sold some land and have made 100 dollars.

(NAME)

Peter

Thank you Barnabas. Your contribution will help so many, as will all of yours.

Ananias walks in from stage right to the table.

(NAME)

Ananias

(aside to audience) My wife and I don't want to share all of our money from the land we sold. I know, we will pretend we're giving all of it but keep most of it for ourselves. (turning to Peter) We, too, have sold our land, and we're giving all of that money to help the believers. Here is 40 dollars.

(NAME)

Peter

(stands up) Ananias, why are you lying to God and holding back part of the price of the land for yourself? Why have you thought this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God!

Then Ananias, hearing these words falls down and breaths his last. Everyone else looks fearful and gasps. Two members(Faith & Sophia) from crowd drag him off stage. Sapphira enters from stage right.

(NAME)

Peter

Tell me, did you sell some land for 40 dollars.

(NAME)

Sapphira

Yes, for 40 dollars. Why?

(NAME)

Peter

Liar! How is it that you have agreed together to test the Spirit of the Lord? Look, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out.

Then Sapphira, hearing these words falls down and breaths her last. Same two members (NAMES) from crowd drag her out.

Curtain close. Lights out.

Side light on.

(NAME)

Narrator

The story of Ananias and Sapphira teaches us that despite the growth in the early ecclesia, there were moments of weakness. This story reminds us that we cannot hide anything from God. On the outside, Ananias and Sapphira looked just like everyone else as they gave to the ecclesia. But in their hearts they were greedy for money while also wanting to appear generous to the ecclesia. That is why they conspired together to present a *portion* of their money while passing it off as the *entire* amount. They had forgotten that God could see what was in their hearts. That is why despite fooling everyone else, Ananias and Sapphira were still found out. ***There are no locked doors or hidden places from God.***

Also, at this time there was a man named Saul, who was persecuting the ecclesia. He did not believe Jesus was the Messiah and was very cruel to the believers. But as we will see, God shows grace to his people by converting Saul.

Side light out.

Act 2 Scene 1: The Conversion of Saul

Place: Road and Judas' House

Backdrop: Stage right riverside/path. Stage left house.

Props: book

Curtain open. Stage right light on, dim.

Saul and his men walk across the stage, when they get to SR Saul stops and a bright light shines on him and he falls to the ground on knees and bows, men back up and remain standing.

(NAME)

Jesus

Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?

(NAME)

Saul

(raising head) Who are you, Lord?

(NAME)

Jesus

I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting.

(NAME)

Saul

(trembling) Lord, what do you want me to do?

(NAME)

Jesus

Arise and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do.

Saul remains bowed down on knees. Saul's men remain standing.

Stage right light out. Stage left light on.

(NAME)

Jesus

Ananias?

(NAME)

Ananias

Here I am, Lord.

(NAME)

Jesus

Arise, there is one called Saul who you must find and put your hands on so that he might receive his sight.

(NAME)
Ananias

(in dismay) Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much harm he has done to Your saints in Jerusalem. And he has come here with authority from the chief priests to arrest all who believe in you.

(NAME)
Jesus

Go! I have chosen Saul for an important work. He must proclaim my name to Gentiles, to kings, and to the people of Israel. I will show him how much he must suffer for my name.

Lights on stage right and left.

(NAME)
Saul

I cannot see! (*touching eyes*) You must guide me to the house of Judas.

(NAME)
Guard 1

Where is it my Lord?

(NAME)
Saul

In Damascus.

(NAME)
Guard 2

Follow us, we will lead you there.

Saul's men guide Saul into Judas' house. Saul kneels. Ananias moves to house of Judas and lays his hand on Saul's shoulders.

(NAME)
Ananias

Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road, has sent me, that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.

Touching his eyes.

(NAME)
Saul

The Lord has given me back my sight. I see clearly the way in which I need to go. I must be baptized into the saving name of Jesus Christ.

Walks to water's edge (stage right) and Ananias baptizes him.

(NAME)
Ananias

I baptize you into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit for the remission of sins.

Lights out.

Side light on.

(NAME)

Narrator

The story of Saul's conversion has some helpful lessons for us today. We see that Jesus is *always* watching over His people no matter how bad it might seem. Saul was trying to destroy the ecclesia, but God had other plans for him. Not only would Saul stop trying to destroy the ecclesia, but he would end up **preaching the very faith he once tried to destroy**. *No one* is beyond the reach of God. Jesus saved Saul who considered himself the worst sinner of all. The lesson for us is to not think there is anyone who is beyond the reach of God's grace. The conversion of Saul reminds us that *Jesus came into the world to save sinners*.

After sailing to Macedonia Saul, who is also called Paul, arrived in the city of Philippi. There he found a group of women gathered beside a river praying and he taught them about Jesus. One of the women was Lydia, a businesswoman who sold very expensive purple cloth.

Side light out.

Act 2 Scene 2: Baptism of Lydia

Place: Philippi

Backdrop: Stage right riverside. Stage left house.

Props: pillows, blankets

Lydia and women center stage praying. Lydia's household on stage left.

Lights on.

Paul and the apostles enter.

(NAME)

Silas

Yahweh be with you.

(NAMES)

Women 6-9

Yahweh bless you.

(NAME)

Paul

I am Paul the apostle, and these are my brothers Silas, Timothy and Luke, we are servants of Jesus Christ and we bring you good tidings of the kingdom of God.

(NAME)

Woman 1

Please, sit down, we have been praying that God would send someone to teach us about His word.

(NAME)

Woman 2

We had heard about Jesus from some people travelling through Macedonia and long to learn more about him.

(NAME)

Paul

This Jesus who you have heard of is the son of God. He died on the cross and rose three days later so that we might have forgiveness of sins and a hope of the Kingdom to come.

(NAME)

Woman 3

What an amazing act of love.

(NAME)

Silas

It is this faith that we hope to share with you and the surrounding area. We urge you to consider the words which we have spoken here and let them transform your life.

(NAME)

Luke

Jesus Christ came to seek and to save those which are lost. The gospel message gives us a path to follow and a goal to work toward. Repent and let everyone of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins.

(NAME)

Woman 4

We must forsake ungodliness and follow what is good.

(NAME)

Woman 5

Yes, let us run to the Lord and live!

All women and Lydia gather at center stage to sing.

Song: Run to the Lord and Live

Women exit. Lydia walk to stage left.

(NAME)

Lydia

Brethren, it is clear from the words you have spoken that in order to be saved we must be baptized...Please come to my house and tell my family these things.

(NAME)

Timothy

We would love to.

(NAME)

Lydia

This is my husband, and my children. Please come in.

(NAME)

Paul

We have told Lydia about the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ. She brought us here so that we might share the gospel with you.

(NAME)

Lydia's Husband

Let us be baptized. For the things which they speak we believe to be true.

All walk over to riverside and Lydia and her husband get baptized by Timothy while the others standby.

(NAME)
Timothy

We baptize you into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit for the remission of sins.

(NAME)
Lydia

If you consider me a believer in the Lord please come and stay at my house.

(NAME)
Silas

We wouldn't want to impose...

(NAME)
Lydia

It is no imposition – you have given me the words of eternal life, the least I can do is to give you a place to stay.

(NAME)
Paul

Well, if you insist. We still have a lot of work to do in this area, and it would be good to have somewhere to stay.

Lights out.

Side light on.

(NAME)
Narrator

The story of Lydia teaches us that God has the power to open anyone's heart to hear his words. Lydia teaches us that it is important to listen to the words of God and allow them to transform our lives. She did not hesitate to get baptized once she learned about the Truth. She knew what she had to do and shared it with her family. We must do the same. We must not hesitate to allow the Truth to motivate our actions and to share it with those around us.

Paul and Silas continued in the area of Philippi and preached the gospel while using the house of Lydia as a home base. They would often go to pray by the river and pass the marketplace on their way where there was a certain slave girl who was a fortune teller that worked there.

Side light off.

Act 2 Scene 3: Paul and Silas Imprisoned, Philippian Jailer Saved

Place: Jerusalem, Jail

Backdrop: Stage right riverside/path. Stage left house. Side stage jail.

Props: remote candles, chains, fortune ball, lantern with candle

Lights on.

(NAME)

Master 1

She has made us so much money by fortune telling.

(NAME)

Master 2

Yes, today at the market we should make more money as well.

(NAME)

Master 1

Girl, go and work over by the marketplace today and bring back what you make.

(NAME)

Slave Girl

Yes sir.

Runs over towards Paul and Silas.

(NAME)

Slave Girl

(loudly) These men are the servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation.

Paul turns around and looks.

(NAME)

Silas

(to Paul) Oh, no – here she is again! She’s been following us for weeks.

(NAME)

Slave Girl

(loudly) These men are the servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation.

(NAME)

Silas

There she goes again!

(NAME)

Paul

(getting up, annoyed) I have had enough of this. I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to stop saying these things.

Slave girl falls to her knees.

(NAME)

Slave Girl

I feel strange. I don't feel crazy anymore! (turning to Paul) Thank you, you really are the servants of the Most High God!

(NAME)

Paul

God has healed you.

(NAME)

Slave Girl

(walking over to her masters) You won't believe this. I am healed! I am healed!

(NAME)

Master 1

What are you going on about now? What do you mean you have been healed? Aren't you having dreams still?

(NAME)

Slave Girl

No, not anymore. No more voices in my head. The preacher man spoke to me – and now I can think clearly.

Master 1 and 2 grab the slave girl and walk over to Paul and Silas.

(NAME)

Master 2

(to Paul) Are you the men who healed this girl?

(NAME)

Paul

Well, actually God healed her...we're just...

(NAME)

Master 1

What have you done?! How will we make money now!

(NAME)

Master 2

The magistrates will deal with you both! You've ruined our business! We made a lot of money selling her predictions.

Master 1 and Master 2 seize Paul and Silas and walk over to the guards.

(NAME)

Magistrate 1

What do you bring against these men?

(NAME)

Master 1

These men, being Jews, are troubling our city.

(NAME)
Master 2 And they teach customs which are not lawful for us, being Romans, to do.

(NAME)
Magistrate 2 This is terrible! They need to be punished.

(NAME)
Magistrate 1 I agree. *(to guards)* Throw them in prison! Make sure the jailer puts their feet in stocks!

Guard 1 and 2 seize Paul and Silas.

(NAME)
Guard 1 (to jailer) Here are your prisoners.

(NAME)
Jailer I'll lock them up right away.

Puts on their chains and sits them with the other prisoners. Jailer sits at center stage. Guards stand by jailer.

Lights dim (nighttime). Candles on.

(NAME)
Paul *(praying)* Dear God, please be with us during this trial. Keep us in your care and watch over us. In Jesus Name, Amen

(NAME)
Silas Shall we sing a hymn?

(NAME)
Paul Yes, what a good idea.

Paul and Silas sing.

Song: Hymn 14

Earthquake happens (play SFX), stage lights are turned off, jail falls over and all prisoners remove their chains.

Lights back on.

(NAME)
Prisoner 1 We're free... God must have heard your prayers and sent that great earthquake!

(NAME)

Prisoner 2

Looks like your singing was heard too...you've brought the house down.

Jailer comes running back in from stage right. (Sinks to his knees.)

(NAME)

Jailer

Oh no! The jail doors are open! The magistrates are not going to be happy with me!

Pulls out his sword and is about to kill himself when Paul calls out.

(NAME)

Paul

Don't hurt yourself! We are all here!

(NAME)

Jailer

Bring me a light!

Guard brings jailer a lantern and he runs into the prison and falls down before Paul and Silas.

(NAME)

Jailer

Sirs, what must I do to be saved?

(NAME)

Paul

Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, and your house.

Lights out. Curtain close.

Side light on.

(NAME)

Narrator

Paul spoke to him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house. And he took them in the same hour of the night and baptized them, adding to the ecclesia in Philippi another faithful household besides Lydia. And they went out of the prison and entered into the house of Lydia: and when they had seen the brethren they encouraged them to continue in the faith, and that it would be through much tribulation they would enter into the kingdom of God.

While many were being converted in Philippi there was also great opposition to the gospel in other areas that Paul visited. Paul traveled to Ephesus where he and his disciples encountered some that were opposed to the Truth.

Side light off.

Act 3 Scene 1: The Riot at Ephesus

Place: Ephesus

Backdrop: Riverside/path

Props: fire pit (stage right), silver idols, books

*Paul, disciples and a small crowd gathered around a fire pit, stage right.
Demetrius and other silversmiths gathered in theater on stage left.*

Curtain open. Lights on.

(NAME)

Gaius

These God's which you worship have no power.

(NAME)

Paul

The God of heaven is the true God.

(NAME)

Aristarchus

Believe on Him and you will be saved.

(NAME)

Person 1

The miracles that we have seen and the words we have heard have changed our hearts to believe.

(NAME)

Person 2

It truly is the work of our Lord Jesus Christ and our Heavenly Father.

(NAME)

Person 3

These books of magic cannot be true! Let us burn them!

(NAME)

Person 4

(throws book in fire) This is not the true word! We believe in the name of Jesus Christ and the things concerning the Kingdom of God.
All throw books in fire.

(NAME)

Demetrius

This (*holding up idol*) is how we make our money. Haven't you heard that all over Asia Paul has turned away many people from believing on our

gods? How are we to make money if these people do not believe in our gods? Our livelihood is in danger of being ruined, but also the temple of the great goddess Diana may be destroyed.

(NAMES)

All Silversmiths

(proclaiming loudly) Great is Diana of the Ephesians! Great is Diana of the Ephesians! Great is Diana of the Ephesians!

Crowd rushing in and joining the chant.

(NAMES)

Crowd

(proclaiming loudly) Great is Diana of the Ephesians! Great is Diana of the Ephesians! Great is Diana of the Ephesians!

Silversmith 1 and 2 seize Gaius and Aristarchus.

Official & City Clerk enter.

(NAME)

Paul

I must go and help Gaius and Aristarchus! *(official holds him back)*

(NAME)

Official

Paul, you must not go after them for your own safety!

(NAME)

Person 5

What is going on?

(NAME)

Person 6

Why are we all chanting?! This is so confusing!

Silversmiths 1 and 2 bring out Alexander from the crowd, aggressively.

(NAME)

Alexander

(raising hands) Please let me make my defense!

(NAMES)

Crowd

(proclaiming loudly) Great is Diana of the Ephesians! Great is Diana of the Ephesians! Great is Diana of the Ephesians!

(NAME)
City Clerk

Men of Ephesus, what man is there who does not know that the city of the Ephesians is the temple guardian of the goddess Diana? Therefore, since these things cannot be denied, you ought to be quiet and do nothing rashly. For you have brought these men here who do not blaspheme Diana. If Demetrius and his fellow workers have a case against anyone let them go to the courts. Otherwise, stop this non-sense and return to your day's activities.

Lights out.

Side light on.

(NAME)
Narrator

The riot at Ephesus shows how much the Truth had spread in the area. It was affecting the business of making idols and made people very angry at Paul and the disciples. Can you imagine if today the Truth we preached was causing people to stop buying TV's? When we preach the Truth it can cause some people to become angry, but as we have just seen we must preach the Truth and trust God to take care of us.

Side light off.

Act 3 Scene 2: Shipwreck on Malta

Place: Malta

Backdrop: Stage right riverside/path. Stage left sea.

Props: boat, blankets, fire pit (stage right), pile of sticks, snake

Sailors on boat.

Lights on.

(NAME)

Guard

This is Paul, the apostle who is to be taken to Rome to appeal to Caesar.

(NAME)

Julius

I will take him from here. Thank you.

(guard leaves)

(NAME)

Paul

I perceive that this voyage will end with disaster and much loss, not only for the cargo and ship, but also our lives.

(NAME)

Julius

According to the captain we should be fine. We set sail for Rome!

(board ship)

(NAME)

Captain

All aboard! Raise the anchor! Hoist the sails!

(NAME)

Sailor 1

It's starting to rain captain...I hope there isn't a storm coming.

(rain sound effect)

(NAME)

Sailor 2

Those clouds don't look so good...

(lights flash and thunder sound effect)

(NAME)

Captain

Grab the ropes and tie them around the ship to hold it together!

(NAMES)

Sailors

Yes captain!

(lights flashing, thunder sound effects repeat)

(NAME)

Captain

Throw all the cargo overboard! We must lighten the load or we will sink.

(lights flashing, thunder sound effects repeat)

(NAME)

Paul

Men, you should have listened to me, and not have sailed. But now I tell you to cheer up. None of you will die! But the ship will be lost. Last night an angel from God came to me and said, "Do not be afraid, Paul. You must stand trial before Caesar. And God has given you this promise: He will save the lives of all those men sailing with you" Therefore, have faith.

(NAME)

Julius

We must trust this man. Captain, what are we to do?

(NAME)

Captain

We've run aground. Everyone, abandon ship and swim for shore!

(all jump off ship, lights dim)

(bring in fire, all huddle around the fire)

(villagers handing out blankets)

(NAME)

Sailor 2

It's so cold!

(NAME)
Sailor 3

But at least we're alive.

(NAME)
Sailor 4

I can't believe we're still alive!

(NAME)
Sailor 5

The apostle Paul was right, and this truly is a miracle.

(Paul enters with bundle of wood, lays on fire, snake bites his hand)

(NAME)
Villager 1

(to each other) This man must be a murderer!

(NAME)
Villager 2

Yeah even though he survived the shipwreck, because of his crimes he will not live.

(Paul shakes the snake back into the fire)

(villagers are amazed, walk over and look at his hand)

(NAME)
Villager 1

Your hand is not wounded.

(NAME)
Villager 2

This is a miracle. You must be a man of God.

Lights out.

Side light on.

(NAME)
Narrator

This story is about how God protects and watches over his people. He protected Paul and the sailors on board of the ship. If we trust in God He will guide us through the storms of life.

After some time on the island of Malta, Paul sailed to Rome and was under house arrest. There he wrote letters to the ecclesias in the

surrounding area, encouraged the brothers and sisters who came to visit and preached to any who would listen.

Side light off.

Paul: *NAME*
Guard: *NAME*
Scroll Person: *NAME*
Believers: *NAME*
Crowd: *NAMES*

Act 3 Scene 3: Paul in Rome

Place: Rome

Backdrop: black curtain

Props: desk, letters, candles

Lights on dim.

Song: Crown of Righteousness (playing in background)

Silent acting only in this scene.

Guard standing stage right. Single light on Paul sitting at a desk in chains. Person delivers a letter and leaves. Paul reads the letter, thinks, says a prayer. Writes a letter in response. Person returns, Paul gives instructions and person takes the letter. Paul prays next to bed. Paul goes to sleep. Wakes up. Prays again next to bed. Believers enter and deliver a meal. They eat the meal together and talk. Believers leave. Paul sits up to desk and begins to write. Three people arrive, and Paul instructs them from the bible. People leave. Person arrives with another scroll. Paul takes letter and sits at desk and reads the letter. Paul prays next to bed. Paul goes to sleep.

Curtain close. Lights off.

Side light on.

(NAME)
Narrator

Paul wrote many letters to the surrounding ecclesias to teach and strengthen them. He continued fervently in the word and persevered through his trials looking to the day when the Lord Jesus would return and give him a crown of righteousness...eternal life.

In today's stories we have seen many individuals who had great faith as they answered the call of the gospel and allowed the word of God to transform their lives. This same gospel message has been revealed to us

and we have been called upon to preach it, teach it and live it too. May we, like the faithful men and women of the Acts, share this hope with others and bear its fruits and run the race as we wait for Jesus' second coming.

Side light off.

All children gather on stage to sing final hymn.

Curtain open. Lights on.

**Closing Song: Hymn 436
(whole cast)**