

The Ministry of Jesus

A Reader's Theatre

THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS

Characters: Jesus and Satan

Setting: Desert

Props: Rocks

Reader 7: The temptation of Jesus

Reader 1: Jesus was in the desert

Reader 5: He was tempted by Satan

Reader 3: Jesus was hungry, after

All: 40 days and 40 nights

Reader 6: Then the devil came to Him, and said:

Reader 4: If you are God's son, then turn these stones into bread

Reader 2: Jesus answered

Reader 5: The scriptures say, Man cannot live on bread alone

All: But by every word of God

Reader 1: Then the devil took Jesus to Jerusalem

All: The Holy City

Reader 5: Set Him on the highest point of the temple

Reader 7: And said to Him

Reader 6: If you are God's Son,

All: Throw yourself down

Reader 1: God will give orders to His angels to save you

Reader 5: They will hold you up with their hands

Reader 3: Not even your feet will be hurt on the stones

Reader 2: Jesus answered
All: Do not put the Lord to the test
Reader 7: Then the devil took Jesus to a very high mountain
Reader 1: Showed him all the kingdoms of the world
Reader 4: Their greatness
Reader 2: All this I give you
Reader 5: If you kneel down and worship me
Reader 7: Jesus answered
All: GO AWAY SATAN
Reader 4: For the Bible says
Reader 6: Worship the Lord and serve only Him

CALLING THE DISCIPLES

Characters: Jesus, Peter, Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Matthew, James, Thaddeus, Simon, Judas

Setting: Lake

Props: Boat, Nets

Reader 7: Jesus calls his disciples
Reader 1: Jesus saw two brothers
Reader 3: Who were fishermen
Reader 4: Simon, called Peter
Reader 2: And his brother Andrew
Reader 6: Jesus said to them
All: Come with me
Reader 5: I will teach you to catch people

Reader 7: He saw two more brothers
Reader 3: James and John
All: Sons of Zebedee
Reader 2: Jesus called them
Reader 4: They went with him
Reader 6: He continued to call others
All: Come follow me
Reader 5: Philip
Reader 7: Bartholomew
Reader 3: Thomas
Reader 5: Matthew
Reader 1: James
Reader 2: Thaddeus
Reader 6: Simon the Patriot
Reader 4: Judas
All: They all followed Jesus

CALMING THE STORM

Characters: Jesus, Peter, Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Matthew, James, Thaddeus, Simon, Judas

Setting: Lake

Props: Boat

Reader 7: Jesus calms the storm
Reader 1: Jesus got into a boat
Reader 5: With his disciples
Reader 3: Suddenly

Reader 7: A fierce storm hit the lake
Reader 2: Jesus was asleep
Reader 6: The disciples were afraid
Reader 5: They woke Him up
Reader 1: What little faith you have!
Reader 3: He ordered the waves to
All: STOP
Reader 4: Peace...
Reader 6: Be still
Reader 2: And there was a great storm
Reader 5: Everyone was amazed.

HEALING THE PARALYZED MAN

Characters: Jesus, Peter, Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Matthew, James, Thaddeus, Simon, Judas, Paralyzed Man, 4 friends carrying man, Crowd of people, Pharisees

Setting: City

Props: Small Blanket

Reader 7: Jesus heals a paralyzed man
Reader 2: They brought a paralyzed man to Him
Reader 4: Jesus saw he had faith
Reader 7: Jesus said
All: Courage my son! Your sins are forgiven
Reader 6: The Pharisees said to themselves
Reader 3: This man is speaking blasphemy
Reader 5: Jesus perceived

Reader 1: What they were thinking

Reader 4: So he said to the man

All: Get up

Reader 2: Pick up your bed

Reader 7: Go home

Reader 1: When the people saw it

Reader 3: They were amazed

Reader 2: And praised God

RAISING GIRL FROM DEATH

Characters: Jesus, Peter, Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Matthew, James, Thaddeus, Simon, Judas, Jewish Official, Little Girl, Mourners,

Setting: City/house

Props: Blanket

Reader 7: Jesus raises a girl from death

Reader 1: A Jewish official came to Jesus

Reader 4: My daughter has just died

ALL: Come

Reader 3: Place your hands on her

Reader 6: And she will live

Reader 2: Jesus went to the official's house

Reader 7: Get out, he said to the mourners

Reader 6: The girl is not dead, she is just

All: Sleeping

Reader 4: Jesus took the girl's hand

All: And she got up

PARABLE OF THE SOWER

Characters: Jesus, Sower

Setting: Field

Props: Bag

Reader 7: Jesus tells the parable of the sower

Reader 3: Once there was a man

Reader 1: Who went out to sow some seeds

Reader 5: As he scattered the seeds

Reader 2: Some fell along the

All: Path

Reader 7: Birds came and ate them up

Reader 4: Some fell on the

All: Rocky soil

Reader 3: Seeds soon sprouted

Reader 1: The roots were shallow

All: The sun burned them up

Reader 6: Some fell among the

All: Thorns

Reader 7: They were soon choked out

Reader 5: Some fell in the

All: Good soil

Reader 2: They grew into strong plants

Reader 4: And bore much grain

FEEDING OF THE 5,000

Characters: Jesus, Peter, Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Matthew, James, Thaddeus, Simon, Judas, Crowd

Setting: Lake Shore

Props: Bread, Basket

Reader 7: Jesus feeds the 5,000

Reader 1: Jesus was teaching on a hillside

Reader 6: His disciples said

Reader 2: It's already late, send the people away

Reader 5: To get something to eat

Reader 3: Jesus said

All: Feed them

Reader 1: All we have are

All: Five loaves and two fish

Reader 4: Jesus said, bring them to me

Reader 1: Jesus looked up to heaven

Reader 3: He gave thanks to God

Reader 2: He broke the loaves

Reader 4: And gave them to his disciples

Reader 7: Everyone ate and had enough

Reader 5: Then the disciples took up the

Reader 6: Baskets of leftovers

Reader 1: The number who ate was about

All: 5,000

JESUS WALKS ON WATER

Characters: Jesus, Peter, Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Matthew, James, Thaddeus, Simon, Judas

Setting: Lake

Props: Boat

- Reader 7: Jesus walks on water
- Reader 5: Jesus was sad because John
- Reader 3: Had died
- Reader 4: On the other side of the lake
- Reader 7: His disciples were in a boat
- Reader 1: There was a storm
- Reader 5: Jesus walked on the water
- Reader 7: Toward the boat
- Reader 1: Disciples screamed
- All: GHOST!
- Reader 3: Jesus said, it's me
- Reader 2: Peter wanted proof that it was Jesus
- Reader 6: Peter walks on the water
- Reader 1: He saw the waves and became scared
- Reader 4: Peter was drowning
- All: Because of his lack of faith
- Reader 7: Jesus saved Peter
- Reader 5: Disciples said
- All: Truly you are the son of God!

JUDAS ACCEPTS PAYMENT

Characters: Judas, Pharisees

Setting: Temple

Props: Bag with Coins

Reader 7: Judas accepts payment for betrayal

Reader 1: Judas went to the chief priest

All: He asked

Reader 6: What will you give me

Reader 5: If I betray Jesus?

Reader 2: They paid him

Reader 4: One...

Reader 7: Two...

Reader 1: Three...

Reader 3: Thirty.

All: Silver coins.

THE LAST SUPPER

Characters: Jesus, Peter, Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Matthew, James, Thaddeus, Simon, Judas

Setting: House

Props: Bread, Cup with Juice

Reader 7: The last supper

Reader 2: While they were eating

Reader 3: Jesus took a piece of bread

Reader 5: Gave a prayer of thanks

Reader 7: Broke it

Reader 4: And gave it to the disciples

All: Take and eat
Reader 1: For this is my body
Reader 6: Then he took a cup
Reader 2: Gave thanks to God
Reader 3: And gave it to them
All: Drink it
Reader 5: This is my blood
Reader 4: Then they sang a hymn

JESUS ARREST

Characters: Jesus, Peter, Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Matthew, James, Thaddeus, Simon, Judas, Pharisees, Servant, Small Mob

Setting: Garden

Props: Plastic Sword

Reader 7: Jesus is arrested
Reader 3: Jesus was praying
Reader 6: On a mountain alone
Reader 2: Some of his disciples
Reader 4: Were taking guard
Reader 1: Jesus returned to His disciples
Reader 5: And Judas arrived with an army
Reader 7: Judas kissed Jesus
Reader 3: That was the signal to arrest Him
Reader 6: They arrested Jesus
Reader 2: One of the disciples cut a servant's ear
Reader 4: With a sword

Reader 1: Jesus said
All: Who takes a sword dies by a sword
Reader 5: All the disciples ran away
All: All this made the scripture come true

SENTENCE TO DEATH

Characters: None
Setting: Golgotha
Props: Cross

All: Crucify Him
Reader 7: The crowds shouted
Reader 6: Beaten
Reader 4: Mocked
Reader 6: Beaten
Reader 3: Spit upon
Reader 6: Beaten
All: Crown of thorns
Reader 7: Darkness covered the sun
Reader 2: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
Reader 1: The temple curtain tore
Reader 6: The earth shook
Reader 4: Graves opened
Reader 3: He was
All: The Son of God.

EMPTY TOMB

Characters: Jesus, Marys, Soldiers, Angel

Setting: Graveyard

Props: Grave Stone

Reader 7: After the Sabbath

Reader 1: As Sunday morning came

Reader 2: Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb

Reader 6: Suddenly, there was a violent earthquake

Reader 3: An angel of the Lord came down from Heaven

All: Rolled away the stone

Reader 4: And sat on it

Reader 2: The guards were so afraid

Reader 6: The angel spoke to the women

All: Do not be afraid

Reader 1: I know you are looking for Jesus

Reader 3: He is not here, He has been raised

Reader 5: Go quickly and tell his disciples

Reader 4: They left filled with joy

Reader 7: Suddenly Jesus met them and said

All: Peace be with you

Reader 3: They took hold of his feet and worshiped Him

THE COMMISSION

Characters: Jesus, Peter, Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Matthew, James, Thaddeus, Simon

Setting: Hill

Props: None

Reader 7: The commission

Reader 6: The eleven disciples went to the hill

All: In Galilee

Reader 7: Where Jesus had told them to go

Reader 3: When they saw Him

All: They worshiped Him

Reader 4: I have been given all authority in Heaven and Earth

Reader 2: Said Jesus

All: Go to all people

Reader 6: Everywhere

Reader 2: And make them my disciples

Reader 1: Baptize them

Reader 7: In the name of the Father

Reader 3: the Son

Reader 2: and the Holy Spirit

All: Teach them

Reader 3: To obey everything I have commanded you

Reader 7: I will be with you until the end of the age.

All: Amen