



Wake Up Call Camp Theme Package

*A Five-Act (Evening) Stage Play Script on the Book of Jonah
&
A Four-Act (Morning) Stage Play Script on the Life of Jesus
&
A Theme Song with Lyrics and Chords*

Written by Zack Payne

For the 2023 Summer Camp Season at Camp Wakonda

Cast of Characters

(in order of appearance/speaking)

Evenings (27 Characters)

Announcer: 1 line in 1 act. Has a great voice for announcing late night hosts, game shows, etc.

Host (Wahid Jehuzi): 11 lines in 1 act. Essentially, Caesar Flickerman, from the Hunger Games.

Stagehand: No lines, holds up signs.

King Jerry 2.0: 6 lines in 1 act. Nickname for King Jeroboam II. He is the current king of Israel, but he is a wicked King. God is against him, Amos prophesies against him, and Jonah befriends him by fudging the prophecy in his favor.

Jonah: 67 lines (two are voiceovers) in 5 acts. Some are quite long. At his core, Jonah is the sinful side of humanity that we don't want to admit we identify with: focused on self-preservation and avoiding any discomfort at all costs. Jonah is a prophet of God, but he's caught up in the political game. He wants desperately to be King Jerry's right-hand man, but is pestered by the knowledge that God has different plans for his life. God's plans will not endear him to King Jerry and his countrymen, so he makes other plans.

Amos: 5 lines in 1 act. Amos is a true prophet of God who is uncompromising in speaking the truth. He acts as a foil to Jonah, who is not as interested in telling the truth as he is in having everyone like him. Amos is not welcome in polite society because he doesn't "play the game," so to speak.

Steve: 2 lines in 1 act. Steve is a local "prophet" from the capitol who is paid to make the king look good. He contributes nothing of substance to any conversation.

Comedian: 4 lines in 1 act. He's beloved by Israelites for his anti-Ninevite humor. He's offensive and rude, but it's socially acceptable to hate people from Nineveh, so he gets a pass and has become very popular in the capitol.

Royal Bard: 6 lines in 1 act. The ancient near east equivalent of a social media influencer. Knows how to flatter people of power. If TikTok existed, he'd have a killer profile.

King Senna: 27 lines in 5 acts. Nickname for King Sennacherib, ruler of Assyria and Nineveh. He is going through an existential crisis, asking the meaning of life, wondering if there's more to life than world domination. The problem is: he doesn't know the Lord. His character sets up urgency on the part of Jonah: will our selfish protagonist reach him before he hardens his heart and is no longer open to repentance?

Scout: 2 lines in 1 act. Runs in, out of breath, to tell King Senna about invaders. Rushes off to communicate orders with no hesitation.

Angel Uriel: 35 lines in 5 acts. Uriel plays the role of communicating how we're supposed to feel when confronted with the obtuse behavior of Jonah. Even if, as humans, our inclinations are those of Jonah—to act selfishly and to avoid discomfort—we know logically that what he's doing is wrong, and Uriel is explicit about pointing that out. He proudly brings a message from the Lord to Jonah, and is then flabbergasted when Jonah runs away. He follows Jonah, being a bit pestery along the way, because Jonah is being ridiculous to try to run from an omniscient and omnipresent God. And then he is upset when he realizes that Jonah only finally delivers his message out of obligation, and truly hopes for Nineveh's destruction.

Sailor A: 35 lines in 4 acts. Captain of the ship to Tarshish: actually named Jack (but would be mad if you called him "Cap'n Jack"). This character is very pragmatic and wears emotions on his sleeve. He doesn't like phonies, so his employee who acts like a pirate, as well as Jonah with his erudite ways, annoy him very obviously.

Sailor B: 24 lines in 4 acts. Actually named Loomis. This character has a past of white-collar crime, and his crimes were exposed on national TV by Wahid Jehuzi, in "gotcha journalism" fashion. Now he is going through a mid-life crisis and is trying to escape his past by working the shipping trade and adopting the mannerisms of a pirate.

Sailor C: 20 lines in 4 acts. Actually named Scooter. He's never sailed before and his inexperience shows. The other sailors poke fun at him, but he's pretty upbeat and it doesn't bother him.

Satan: 3 lines in 2 acts. This character illustrates the Great Controversy theme in life. Whether visible or not, he's fighting with Jesus over the fate of every character—explicitly Jonah and King Senna. He also, in the climax of the play, plays the important role of breaking the fourth wall and addressing the sinful selfishness of the audience. This is meant to cause introspection in the part of the viewer, which is then met immediately with the grace of Jesus, who saves despite our flaws.

Jesus: 15 lines in 3 acts. This character must be played by the same actor in both morning and evening plays. Jesus shows up to infuse the scene with grace, love, and truth. He fights with Satan over the life of Jonah. He fights with Satan over the soul of King Senna. And He challenges Jonah to be less selfish and to think about how God loves everyone, not just Jonah or the people of Israel.

Sailor Friend: 8 lines in 1 act. Actually named Chauncey. He's not a believer, per se. But he's an upfront, salt-of-the-earth person who says what he means and doesn't have any

qualms about what others think. When met with the story of the sailors' survival, he is compelled to bring a bigger audience to hear the story.

Frank: 1 line in 1 act. He's a salesperson who finds out that his crate of custom belt buckles was thrown into the sea, as an attempt to save Jonah's life. While, like the others in Tarshish, he doesn't care much for Jonah, he can't help but be drawn to the God who saved the lives of the sailors. He's instrumental in rallying support for a mission trip to tell Nineveh about the Lord.

Buford: 1 line in 1 act. Also a salesperson who finds out that his crate of dates was thrown into the sea, as an attempt to save Jonah's life. Wants to tell others about the Lord. Favorite song is "This Little Light of Mine."

Advisor A: 7 lines in 2 acts. Stuck in the past: wants to see Assyria continue forward in world domination. Really concerned about the brand-identity of Nineveh.

Advisor B: 7 lines in 2 acts. Stuck in the past: wants to see Assyria continue forward in world domination. Really concerned about food poisoning.

Citizen A: 11 lines in 2 acts. This person is essentially a Cub Camper in adult form—asks off-topic questions, derails the conversation, is insensitive or oblivious to the feelings of others.

Citizen B: 9 lines in 2 acts. Like Citizen A, but makes a little more sense. Asks the right questions, makes the right connections.

Citizen C: 3 lines in 1 act. Also called Homeless Mike. His house was taken away from him and replaced with an ice cream parlor.

Reporter: 2 lines in 1 act. Trying to get the scoop on Jonah's message and King Senna's reaction. Plays the role of asking the question on behalf of the common people: what should we do? Also serves to embarrass Jonah, whose worst nightmare is having his picture and story in the paper so that people in Israel and King Jerry 2.0 can find out what he's been up to.

Deranged Worm: no lines, just eats Jonah's vine with great zeal.

Mornings (18 Characters)

Matthew: 15 lines in 4 acts. He is a disciple who used to be a tax collector. He gives spiritual mentorship to Zacchaeus, who is also a tax collector and is trying to follow Jesus.

He also plays a prophetic role in the last act: the world doesn't accept Jesus' truth and to this day argues over what the truth is.

John: 15 lines in 3 acts. Kind of a man-child who is easy to pick on, but he's also the disciple who is closest to Jesus. Promises to take care of Jesus' mother once He has passed.

Peter: 19 lines in 3 acts. A disciple who is a rough-around-the-edges sailor and fisherman, and the clear leader of the pack on good days. His mom makes really good challah bread. His foolhardiness gets him into trouble and the play ends with him wanting to give up on being a disciple.

Thomas: 3 lines in 1 act. Not a good sailor. Is very scared in nautical situations.

Jesus: 16 lines in 4 acts. This character must be played by the same actor in both morning and evening plays. Jesus' divine side is more apparent in the evening play. His human side is more apparent in the morning play. Here, we find him among the disciples, being a little warmer and encouraging, even protecting, but in a very calm way. The last act is his crucifixion, where he asks God to forgive those who are crucifying Him. These are snapshots of Jesus. His character and plan of salvation is revealed more clearly in the evenings.

Tax Collector (TC): 10 lines in 1 act. Jaded and discouraging to those who want to do something better with their lives, his real dream is to be a singer-songwriter, playing music in Caesar's palace.

Zacchaeus (Zac): 18 lines in 1 act. He has repented of his sins and was baptized by John in the Jordan river. However, he is struggling with the fact that the career choices he's made have given him a bad reputation around town. No one likes him and no one is rooting for him. But Jesus accepts him, and that's really all that matters. Matthew also resonates with him, as a tax collector who is currently following Jesus'.

Guy: 3 lines in 1 act. Spiteful jerk who follows Jesus but doesn't want Zacchaeus to follow Jesus.

Girl: 1 line in 1 act. Was wronged by Zacchaeus in the past and can't see him as anything but a liar. Doesn't accept that he truly wants to follow Jesus.

Pharisee 1: 6 lines in 2 acts. He leads the pack of pious sinners as they drag a woman to be stoned to death. His dirty secret is that he is stealing money from the high priest. Jesus reveals this to the disciples and he is humbled.

Pharisee 2: 6 lines in 2 acts. He is the mouthpiece of persecution, however he himself has committed egregious sins. He is a hardened person, not open to repentance.

Pharisee 3: 6 lines in 2 acts. Likes to throw the stones. Gets injured when he drops a stone on his foot. Has feelings of conviction and repentance when Jesus is on the cross.

Woman 1: 2 lines in 1 act. This woman has a history of abuse from men. She hopes in the resurrection.

Woman 2: 2 lines in 1 act. A practical lady who tells it like it is and isn't discouraged easily.

Woman 3: 2 lines in 1 act. This is Mary, the sister of Martha and Lazarus. She is a close, personal friend of Jesus.

Soldier 1: 3 lines in 1 act. Super disrespectful.

Soldier 2: 5 lines in 1 act. Going through a worldview shift. Believes Jesus is Lord.

Soldier 3: 2 lines in 1 act. Jaded and apathetic.

Morning & Evening Outlines & Schedules

Sunday Evening (Jonah):

Act opens with a late-night talk show in Israel. Amos tries to speak truth to King Jerry 2.0. Jonah, in contrast, shows himself to be more loyal to the king than to the truth. In Nineveh, King Senna is wondering: is there more to life than brutally conquering the world? Years later, the angel Uriel comes to give Jonah a new calling: go to Nineveh and preach to them so they will turn from their wickedness. Jonah runs away, because he's got his own mission: bring back supplies from Tarshish.

Monday Morning (Jesus):

Act opens with the disciples in a boat on the Sea of Galilee. A storm rages, but Jesus is asleep inside the boat, on a cushion. They wake Him up, and He calms the seas.

Monday Evening (Jonah):

Act opens with sailors at the harbor. Uriel is still trying to convince Jonah, but Jonah boards the ship to Tarshish. There is a great storm, but Jonah sleeps through most of it. Finally, Jonah admits to the sailors that God sent this storm on his behalf, but he would rather die than go to Nineveh. With no other options, the sailors throw Jonah overboard. The storm ends and the sailors believe in the Lord. In Nineveh, King Senna is wondering if making a heart change is worth it. Uriel watches the king in this state and hopes Jonah would get there before it's too late.

Tuesday Morning (Jesus):

Act opens with Zacchaeus talking with a fellow Tax Collector (TC) about how he's decided to follow Jesus. When Jesus comes around, others discourage him from following Jesus. When they finally meet, Jesus defends him. Matthew comforts Zacchaeus: it's hard to shake a bad reputation, but following Jesus is worth it.

Tuesday Evening (Jonah):

Act opens with Jonah, sinking to the bottom of the sea. A voiceover plays his inner monologue, pulled from Jonah 2. Satan shows up and says God's prophets could never take Nineveh away from him. He shouts at the audience, telling them this is what will happen to anyone who tries to do God's will. Jesus breaks into the scene and saves Jonah, putting him into the mouth of a giant fish (which will be a barrel decorated like a fish). Jonah finds a ukulele and starts singing about his situation. Eventually, the fish spits him up on the shore. Uriel is there waiting for him. In Nineveh, King Senna is on the fence. Jesus and Satan are present, vying for the king's heart.

Wednesday Morning (Jesus):

Act opens with Jesus trying to tell the disciples that He will be crucified, but they aren't understanding that He isn't speaking in metaphors. Pharisees appear, with a woman they have caught in adultery. They are zealous to stone her, but the Jesus writes their sins in the sand. The Pharisees run off, and Jesus comforts the woman. Act ends where it started, with the disciples trying to understand Jesus.

Wednesday Evening (Jonah):

Act opens in Tarshish with the sailors, telling the story of how they were spared by the Lord to the local citizens. They all decide that, since Jonah wasn't able to complete his mission to Nineveh, they should all go and tell them about the Lord. In Nineveh, King Senna casts a new vision of goodness and mercy to his advisors. They scoff at the king and he fires them. They compare him to the crazy blond man preaching in the city. This piques King Senna's interest and they take him to meet Jonah. Jonah is busy preaching a message of fire and brimstone and no hope of salvation, to the chagrin of Uriel. However, the people seem to catch onto the message of God's grace, despite Jonah's best efforts. King Senna arrives to hear Jonah's message of condemnation and takes that as affirmation that he and the kingdom need to change. He leads the way in turning to the Lord, and the kingdom follows happily. Jonah slinks away, upset.

Thursday Morning (Jesus):

Act opens with Jesus on the cross, crying: "Father, forgive them." We see various groups come by with various reactions. First a group of Pharisees, then a group of disciples, then a group of women, then a group of soldiers. The morning plays end with one soldier remarking: "Surely this man is the Son of God." This sets up what Jesus did for us, so that in the evening, when Jesus is explaining the plan of salvation: we've just seen the evidence.

Thursday Evening (Jonah):

Act opens with Jonah and Uriel, looking down on Nineveh from atop a nearby mountain peak. Uriel tries to reason with Jonah, but Jonah finally is at his breaking point and cannot contain his rage. In Nineveh, the sailors arrive to find that the city is already converted. They decide to stick around for the experience of revival. King Senna and his advisors are caught up in praise and worship over God's grace and make peace. Back up on the mountain, an irate Jonah is momentarily comforted by a plant that Jesus cultivates for shade. After a short nap in the shade, the plant is destroyed by a worm. Jonah is, again, upset and wishes he could die. Jesus sits down with him and reasons that just like he wants to die for the death of the plant, Jesus wants to die to bring him, the people of Nineveh, and all of humanity life. Jesus sends Jonah back to Nineveh to experience what revival looks like. Then Jesus breaks the fourth wall and explains his plan of salvation to the campers. The pastor is then invited up to make a call to follow Jesus.

Evening Scripts

Sunday

(Scene opens on a talk show set)

Announcer: Welcome to the stage, the King of Late Night, Wahiiiiid Jehuzi!

Host: Welcome to Tonight in North Town, I'm your host Wahid Jehuzi, and our guest tonight is the literal King of the North, you know him, you love him (you have to): King Jerry
2.0hhhhhhhhhhh!

Stagehand holds up "Applause" sign to the audience, to get them to cheer.

Host: How do you think things are going, o groovy king?

King Jerry: Talking points about what's going well under his reign.

Host: That all sounds amazing! How about we turn things over to our prophetic panel, to see if there's a good word from the Lord for the king, eh? Joining us tonight, we've got Amos from Tekoah, Jonah from Gath-Hepher, and Steve from the right here in the capitol!

Stagehand holds up "Applause" sign

Host: Now, prophets, you've been inquiring of the Lord, you've been entreating His merciful blessings...what can you share with us that the Lord has shown you?

Jonah: Well, you see—

Amos: It's not good, Wahid! Not good at all.

Jonah: (to Steve) I was talking...you heard me talking first, right?

Steve: The guy is an over-talker

Amos: I'm sorry, but this just can't wait.

Host: Wow, I must say: Amos, you are a passionate prophet. Please, tell us: what has the Lord shown you?

King Jerry: Yes...do tell...

Amos: The Lord showed me armies: encamped around the Northern Kingdom of Israel. Buildings burning, families separated, leadership eviscerated! Crying, pain, death! All because you, oh King, have refused to remove the high places of pagan worship. You have encouraged idolatry. You are a bad king and you will be remembered as a bad king, if you don't change your ways! Now, our God is merciful, and this can all be avoided. But not without repentance!

Host: (into headset) who let this guy on the panel? Don't we have a vetting process?

Stagehand: He checked out...but yeah, this is out of control.

Host: ...Oh good, you agree...do something!

King Jerry: It's fine...tell me Amos: do you like apples?

Amos: Well, I—

King Jerry: This is my country and I don't have to listen to naysayers like you! How about them apples? Guards, throw him off of the show!

Guards take Amos and throw him out

Host: You can't write this stuff folks! This is why you keep watching, we've got the best show on late night!

Jonah: Ahem...there is more to the prophecy.

Host: (Sober) Ok, Jonah, you're next. But a word of warning,: you've seen how much power this King wields...tread lightly, if you want to stay on the show.

Jonah: (Laughs nervously) Sure, sure, God DID say the things Amos talked about...but He also said that during King Jerry 2.0's reign, the borders of Israel would be expanded. That means more Israel and less pagan territory. Which...I think we can all agree is better for the world, right?

King: (ponders, then speaks) I don't care for the first part of the message so much, but I can get on board with what Jonah is saying here. Expanded borders is an excellent platform to continue my campaign on. Jonah, how would you like to officially join my cabinet? I could use a positive PR guy like you!

Jonah: How can I refuse? I can start right away!

Host: Wow, folks, history is being made right here on late night. Steve, any closing thoughts?

Steve: I'd just like to say, I'm here for all of this. And King, can I just say: your wardrobe is on fleek! Who is your royal vendor these days?

King Jerry: His name is David ben Charmani.

Steve: I'm tagging him in my latest tweet.

Host: And there you have it, folks, that's the fashion to watch. Up next, we've got a pro-Israel comedian who can't stand Assyrians, and doesn't care who knows it.

"Applause" sign

Comedian: What's the difference between a Ninevite and a stump? The stump has a higher IQ!

...How many Assyrians does it take to screw in a lightbulb...doesn't matter how many you bring, they've never heard of a lightbulb. They'd probably try to eat it...savages.

...What's the favorite cologne in Nineveh? Toilet water!

...But for real folks, stay away from Nineveh. I know...

(Amos wanders back into the foreground)

Amos: I tell you what...God will take a humble Ninevite over a pompous, unrepentant Israelite any day. Nineveh's an evil place, yes. But they don't know our loving God. If someone could just bring them the Good News...maybe they would change their ways. Unlike this King Jerry 2.0, who is leading our country further into darkness.

Host: Why is he still here? Guards!

Stagehand holds up sign: BOO!

(Guards chase Amos off)

(Cut to new scene, a battlefield in Nineveh)

Stagehand holds up sign: MEANWHILE IN NINEVEH

Royal Bard: (playing ukulele or something) Make way! All hail the great King Senna: Lord of Nineveh!

King Senna: I feel like that's a bit much.

Royal Bard: It's all part of the show. People need to know you are great.

King Senna: We've made a lot of big moves in my time as king...but I don't know...I'm feeling somehow like it's less me and more the gods somehow.

Royal Bard: Living that hashtag humble life king. I got you. But stay hungry too. Ooh...that would make a good shirt right? Hashtag Humble but Hungry? I'm writing that down. For real though: You've expanded the borders of our country...you've made the great city Nineveh the official capitol. You've done so many great things. Don't cut yourself short.

King Senna: I guess you're right. I've just been feeling lately like...I'm not as big as people think I am. Like there's a greater plan than mine in all of this. Do you think maybe...maybe I shouldn't be so tough on the people and so brutal to our enemies? I'm feeling almost...convicted that maybe I should change.

Royal Bard: O king...who am I to question the royal conscience? I would just say this: our kingdom is great and it's partially because you've been so ruthless. You've got the reputation. People fear you. Use that! Let Assyria keep growing until you rule the world! Then...well, then you'll have time for philosophy. Like I said though...I'm just your humble servant.

King Senna: Maybe you're right...why ruin a good thing, eh?

(Scout runs in)

Scout: O great king! There are Babylonians invading from the south. We greatly outnumber them, but we have to move quick. We await your order.

King Senna: (thinks for a moment) Destroy them and show no mercy. We'll use the Assyrian way: no one left alive. And find their home village and destroy that too.

Royal Bard: That's the confident king we know and love!

Scout: You got it boss. No mercy. (runs off)

Royal Bard: So what happened to repenting and changing your ways?

King Senna: Like you said...there will be time for that later. I have a kingdom to run and a world to rule!

(Cut to new scene, Jonah's house)

Stagehand hold a sign: Years later

Angel Uriel appears outside of Jonah's office

Uriel: Hello everyone! I am the angel Uriel. And I'm right here outside of the prophet Jonah's house. (pulls out scroll, clears throat) In the past and in various ways, God spoke to us through His servants the prophets. In this case, I have a special message for the prophet Jonah. He doesn't know it yet, but he's about to go on the mission of a lifetime. Yes, God has one final warning for those in Nineveh who don't know their right hand from their left. Come with me as I give Jonah the blessed news that God has chosen him.

(Uriel walks into the house)

Jonah: (sitting at desk, reading a letter) Greetings, to the prophet Jonah, this is your king. I thank you for your years of service, and wanted to say: Project Expand Israel could not have been possible without your good word from the Lord. It's been a joy having you on my kingdom's leadership team, and PR has never been better! Keep up the flattery, and you'll continue to go far. That's a joke, ha ha, LOL...winky emoji? (Jonah shakes his head incredulously, Uriel facepalms)

Uriel: (aside, to the audience) Seriously? This king is a joke.

Jonah: (continues reading) ...Anyway, I wanted to let you know that I need an envoy to head to Tarshish for me, and I've chosen you for the job. You'll board the next available boat and then accompany several tons of gold and silver as it makes its way back to the kingdom for the purposes of fashioning into ornaments for the palace and my summer home. This is huge for you Jonah: a once-in-a-lifetime leadership opportunity for you. Thanks in advance for your willingness. Send me a letter once you've arrived in Tarshish. All my best, King Jerry 2.0. (no longer reading, but talking aloud to himself) ...Wow! What an opportunity. Things are really looking up for me! (still doesn't notice that Uriel is standing there)

Uriel: (tries meekly clearing his throat, which doesn't get Jonah's attention, so he goes for a loud introduction) Greetings and salutations from the Lord!

Jonah: (screams, hides under desk)

Uriel: Oh, Jonah, no I'm not here to harm you. I'm here to congratulate you.

Jonah: (timidly, nervously) Ah, I see. So you heard that? Yes, yes. I am to be congratulated. I need to get packing pretty quick, eh?

Uriel: Indeed, because the Lord is calling you on a once-in-a-lifetime journey!

Jonah: Oh, yes, my Lord, the King of Israel *has* called me on a very special mission. Boy, Tarshish is a long journey, but it's going to be a huge payoff. (starts packing) Have you seen a pair of fancy boots? I'm going to need my fancy boots for this outing.

Uriel: No...Jonah, have you forgotten you are a prophet of the Lord God? I'm telling you, God has a message for you today.

Jonah: Oh...Him? Wow...I haven't heard from Him for years. What's this about?

Uriel: Jonah, God's message is as follows: (clears throat, reads from scroll) "Arise, go to Nineveh, that Great City, and call out against it, for their evil has come up before me."

Jonah: (finishes packing, laughs nervously) Heh, well, wouldn't you know...this is my literal nightmare. Well, if God is calling, who am I to say no? (makes a visible cringe face)

Uriel: You haven't even heard the best part! The King of Nineveh, King Senna, he is having a change of heart. His kingdom doesn't get it, but he's feeling repentant and if you go to him with this message: It could change the whole kingdom. You could be known as: Jonah, friend to Ninevites, uplifter of Assyria.

Jonah: (to himself) What's this guy on about. Doesn't he know that's terrible for my brand? I'm basically best friends with the King of Israel, and now I'm supposed to go on a sympathy mission to our enemies? (snaps back to conversation with Uriel) Wow...that is a high calling indeed. So I guess I'll just say...thanks for the message. I'd better get going (exits).

Uriel: That was easy. A lot of times the prophets go on their mission kicking and screaming. Jonah was already packing by the time I got here and off he goes to...wait a second...that's the WRONG WAY!

Jonah: (starts sprinting by the sign saying "to Tarshish")

Uriel: God sees you, Jonah! Don't make me chase you! (sighs) Well, he's...gone. Well, there you have it folks. I've seen some stubborn prophets in the past, but this is my first literal sprinter. Looks like he's headed down to Joppa to get on a boat. I'll try to get there before him.

(scene ends, act ends)

Monday

(scene opens up at the docks of Joppa)

Sailor A: Arr! Another day at sea.

Sailor B: What are we pirates? Pillaging and talking like Irishmen?

Sailor C: Personally, I don't do anything. I just sit down and lie around.

Sailor B: Oh no you don't! We all pull our weight around here, newbie.

Sailor A: He be right, lad! Unless you want to walk this scurvy plank here!

(Sailor C hops up to help)

Sailor B: Really? A plank? We're sailors...not pirates.

Sailor A: I was a pirate once...old habits be hard to break.

Sailor B: Well, just make sure you don't throw anyone overboard, ok? This is a respectable operation we're running here. We bring the cargo from Joppa to Tarshish, we bring more cargo back. We make our money in a legit way. So far, the gods have always given us safe passage, so I'd say we're on a good roll.

Sailor C: You've never had any bad storms on your trips? I'm kind of nervous for my first voyage. I've heard how rough the Mediterranean Sea can get.

Sailor B: In all my years, I've been blessed with calm seas. Of course, I do my research and make sure we've got a good week with fair skies ahead before embarking on a voyage. But I also credit my success with the fact that...I'm a nice person. Treat people with kindness, be good to your patrons, and the gods will bless your trip.

Sailor C: Wow...you've got a lot of knowledge about the high seas. How long have you been doing this?

Sailor B: Going on twenty years.

Sailor A: Arr! I've been on the high seas for nigh thirty moons. I've survived some of the worst storms and lived to tell the tale. Once I even lost all me treasure and ended up washed up on shore here in Joppa. That's why I be here.

Sailor C: Wow, really!? That sounds like some story.

Sailor B: It's made up. He used to be an accountant in the palace. He got fired and spent some time in jail for fudging the numbers and skimming some profit for himself.

Sailor A: Arr! And I would have gotten away with it too, if it wasn't for that scurvy Steve the Prophet. What does he know.

(everyone shakes their head)

All: Steve...

(All begin miming like they're loading the boat)

(Uriel walks onstage, quietly behind the action. Jonah runs up, breathing heavily)

Jonah: I think I lost him. Phew.

Uriel: Hey friend.

Jonah: Oh come on!

Uriel: Don't do this. You know who you serve. God has big plans for your trip to Nineveh. You could help an entire nation turn to the one true God.

(Sailor B, overhears the conversation)

Sailor B: Arr! This ship be setting sail to Tarshish. It be literally the complete opposite direction from Nineveh, arr!

Uriel and Jonah: (blinks at Sailor B) What are you guys pirates?

Sailor A: No! No, this is a respectable operation. I'm the captain. Name's Jack. The new guy here is Scooter. And the (does air quotes) "pirate" here is Loomis. He's an embezzler.

Jonah: Oh, I remember you! We had an episode of Late Night in North Town where he thought he was a guest to talk about his new book on economics. And Prophet Steve totally exposed his crimes on national television. It was epic. Wahid was all: "Stealing from Israel is like stealing from God. Ya fired!" (laughs) Good times....So....you're a pirate now?

(Sailor B is fuming now)

Sailor A: Like I said, we're not pirates. Just humble businessmen, blessed by the gods, headed to Tarshish. Nineveh is that way.

Jonah: Well that is perfect, because despite what you heard, I'm actually on a mission from the King to pick up some supplies in Tarshish. You'll be paid handsomely.

(Uriel folds his hands and steps back)

Sailor A: We've got the room if you've got the money. I have one rule though: everyone who rides pulls their weight. You might be from the capitol, but I can't have laziness on my ship.

Jonah: Well, Israel Today's culture reporter, Rashon Mishpat, once called me the nation's thirstiest prophet. Does that mean anything to you?

Sailor A: No it does not.

(Awkward silence)

Jonah: The point is, ok, I'll be helpful. Now, can we go? I'm on the king's orders.

(Sailor A waves him on dismissively)

Sailor C: I can get your bags. (nodding to Uriel) What about your grandpa here? Does he need any help?

Jonah: Oh, he's not coming. He's headed to Nineveh.

(All head onto the boat, except for Uriel)

Uriel: (Calling to Jonah) You can leave me here, but you can't run from God!

Jonah: I'm not running from God, I'm helping HIS people by bringing riches back to Israel!

Uriel: You're only lying to yourself. God is calling you. Don't you feel it?

Jonah: Can't hear you! Byeeeeeee!

(Uriel throws his hands and walks away. Jonah and the sailors set sail)

Sailor B: Arr, lad! Help me with this cargo, eh?

Jonah: I'll be right back. I just want to take a quick tour of the boat. (Steps down off the stage, or somewhere lower to show he's descending into the boat) Ooh...these beds look comfy.

Sailor A: Just as I feared. He's more useless than the kid.

(Both look at Sailor C, who is picking his nose)

Sailor A and B: Don't eat it, son!

(All go back to work. Jonah lies down to take a nap)

Stagehand holds up a sign: 3 Hours Later

(all are stumbling around, because there is a great storm upon the sea)

Sailor C: This is bad. I think I'm gonna be sick!

Sailor B: Arr, this ain't the worst storm I've fared.

Sailor A: Yes it is! You're not a pirate! Help me with this rope, eh?

(all struggle for a moment)

Sailor A: Where is that Jonah anyway? Go get him!

(Sailor A keeps struggling with the rope. Sailor B and Sailor C go down to where Jonah is sleeping, wake him, mime an argument, and push him up onto the deck)

Sailor A: So, most thirsty of all prophets, what do you have to say for yourself? Help out will you?

Jonah: Oh this is bad, you're a terrible captain. I can't believe you would take us out on a day like this.

Sailor A: It was supposed to be clear skies. All signs pointed to that. This must be an issue with the gods. But which one of us has offended them? We have to make it right!

Sailor C: At home, my mom makes us draw straws to see who the offender is. I come from a family with lots of siblings. None of us ever admits to anything. "They can't punish all of us," my big brother always says.

Sailor A: Do you have the straws on you?

Sailor C: As a matter of fact, I do. Let's all take one. Whoever has the short straw is the culprit. At least, that's what mom always says.

(all draw straws, while still struggling not to fall over)

Sailor C: Ah ha! It's Jonah! He has the short straw. He has to feed the family pigs all week as a punishment.

Sailor B: There be no pigs here boy! I say he walks the plank!

Sailor A: No! He's an imbecile and he's done something wrong, but we will treat him with respect. This is a respectable business, not a pirate ship! Now Jonah, why don't you tell us what it is you've done to offend the gods, so we can make it right?

Jonah: Well, I don't think I've done anything wrong, so...

Sailor B: Captain...just let me go get my plank. I always keeps it with me, arr, right under me bed. I could have it installed in a flash.

Sailor A: Jonah! You know what you did. Now spill it!

Jonah: Ok, well I got a letter from King Jerry 2.0. He wanted me to go to Tarshish to get some supplies for the kingdom. This is Israel we're talking about and he's the king, so I take that to be as sacred a mission as any. But then this angel of the one true God, the God I serve, comes and tells me that I should go to Nineveh. And I'm like: Nineveh?? Something about how the king there is feeling repentant and willing to turn to God. AS IF SOMEONE FROM NINEVEH COULD EVER SERVE THE LORD. So I'm thinking: you've got to be joking. Between getting supplies for God's kingdom, and visiting the nastiest people in the world, obviously I choose Tarshish.

Sailor A: You're a prophet...and you heard from your God...and you didn't listen...well that explains it. We might be doomed. Maybe if we can turn this boat around and get you to Nineveh, we'll be spared yet.

Jonah: Well, I'm not going to those godless heathens. I'd rather you throw me overboard. In fact...if you do that, you'll be saved.

Sailor B: I'll get the plank!

Sailor A: NO! I won't have that on my conscience. Men, help me throw the cargo overboard. Maybe if we have less weight, we can ride this storm out.

(all mime throwing cargo for a moment)

Sailor C: It's not making any difference. Oh man...my first voyage. We're going to die out here.

Sailor A: Jonah...I can't believe I'm going to say this...but these men don't deserve your fate. What is your God telling you to do? You're a prophet...tell me!

Jonah: I'd rather die than listen to God if it means going to Nineveh. Throw me over.

Sailor A: As you wish. (Pushes Jonah overboard. Jonah mimes floundering offstage and then is pulled backstage by the "current")

(Seas calm, all stop stumbling)

Sailor C: Captain...you really did it. And look...it worked.

Sailor A: The God this man is running from...must be the one true God. Our lives are spared by His mercy. I will never set sail again without praying to Him first. That Jonah is a fool. He deserves what he got.

Sailor B and Sailor C: Amen....

Sailor B: You couldn't let me grab my plank first?

Sailor A: You're not a pirate!

Sailor B: Aye Captain. I mean (clears throat), yes sir. I'm Loomis. And Jonah...he's a goner.

(cuts to new scene, King Senna's royal chambers)

MAYBE MAKE THIS SCENE LONGER? MAYBE NOT?

King Senna: Another day, another victory, another village pillaged and tortured and burned...and yet, I feel so...empty. I cry out to the gods: send me someone to explain life's mysteries to me! But no one has come. I seek the truth! Am I on the right path or not? I feel so alone...and so I move forward with bloodlust and world domination...but...I kind of wish it wasn't this way. I wish for peace...maybe at the end of all the warfare...I'll find it.

Uriel: Oh Jonah, you fool! When will you wake up and get over here? This may be a pagan king, but he seeks the truth. He might not be open to God's word forever...I hope you figure it out before he hardens his heart.

(scene ends, act ends)

Tuesday

(scene opens, bottom of the Mediterranean Sea)

Jonah: I'd rather die than listen to God if it means going to Nineveh. Throw me over.

Sailor A: As you wish.

(splash! Jonah is sinking, voiceover plays)

Jonah (voiceover): I'd rather die than listen to God...did I really say that? Did I really mean it? Is this what I wanted? In distress, I cried out to God. Out of the belly of my watery grave, I cried, for I was cast into the deep, into the heart of the seas, and the waters surrounded me; all the waves and billows passed over me. I thought to myself: 'I am driven away from Your sight, yet I shall again look upon your holy temple.' The waters closed in over me to take my life; the deep surrounded me; weeds were wrapped about my head at the roots of the mountains. I went down to the bottom of the sea whose bars closed around me...

(Satan walks the bottom of the sea, pretends to help Jonah up, then casts him down, laughs at his apparent victory)

Satan: What a prophet. What a mighty man of God! Mission to Nineveh? Convincing a pagan king to repent? HA! Never going to happen! And all because of your beautiful, beautiful selfishness. Let me make this clear: YOU ARE MINE! When you know what God is asking you to do and you do what YOU want instead: YOU BELONG TO ME! I love nothing more than a person who pretends to be good, and yet leaves nothing but destruction in their path. THAT is where I thrive. Jesus, you can't have Nineveh! This is what will happen to

your prophets. Because at the end of the day, they are nothing more than wimpy, pitiful, sinful humans. They cannot do YOUR will. They are too busy being selfish. Look and see: I win today. And I'll win in the end. (laughs maliciously)

Jesus: NO!

(Jesus storms in and looks Satan in the eyes)

Jesus: Not today Satan.

(Jesus helps Jonah up from the ground, voiceover resumes)

Jonah (voiceover): I went down to the bottom of the sea whose bars closed around me; But You brought up my life from the grave, O Lord my God. When my life was fading away, I remembered You, and my prayer came to You, into your holy temple. Those who focus on selfishness and vanity and the things of this world forsake their hope in God's steadfast love. But with an attitude of thanksgiving I will sacrifice for You. I will live my life for You. I will stop going my own way and I will follow You. That is a promise I will keep. Salvation belongs to the Lord!"

(Jonah, in the fish)

Jonah: Ok...feels like we're moving...I guess this is non-stop to Nineveh...where's the bathroom...oh, there is none? Ok...well, I can't imagine it's less than a three day journey...what to do in the meantime? Oh look...a ukulele!

(singing)

In the the belly of a fish

Never thought it'd come to this

Tried to go to Tarshish

God said "watch this."

Fish fish a fishy fish

It smells really bad in here

Pushed off the boat oh dear

Nineveh is in my sights

But I'm stuck in this tight, tight space

Fish fish a fishy fish

I caused myself a lot of strife

But here's a second chance at life

There's stomach juices in my beard

Guess I'll preach to those Assyr....ians

Fish fish a fishy fish

(song ends)

(cut to next scene, the edge of the Sea and Uriel is there waiting)

(Jonah is thrown up on shore, wearing yellow wig)

Uriel: Big Guy said you'd be here.

Jonah: Ohhhhh....why is the sun so...hurtful??

Uriel: Well, your skin looks very pale...maybe burnt by stomach acid, And, hey, what's with your hair?

Jonah: What about my hair? (feels hair) Aw man! That haircut was super expensive. It's all messed up now!

Uriel: I mean...I'm sure this hairstyle will be all the rage for angsty teenagers...someday...in the very distant future.

Jonah: You think so?

Uriel: I don't know. I'm just trying to make you feel better.

Jonah: So which way to Nineveh?

Uriel: Here, take my hand, we'll get you there.

(cut scene to sailors in Tarshish)

Sailor B: Arr! Here be Tarshish! It's a beautiful sight!

Sailor C: Get out of my way! (pushes other sailors over and falls down on the ground) Oh, dry land, I love you so much! (Kisses the ground repeatedly and then tries to hug it, but just ends up laying on the ground flat)

Sailor A: Ah, this brings back memories. I remember the first time I nearly died in a storm. And this last one was a doozie.

Sailor Friend: Is that you Cap'n Jack? Wow, it's been ages! What brings you to Tarshish?

Sailor A: Chauncy, my lad, it's good to see you! Well, I'd say we're just here on a routine cargo trip...but that would be doing a disservice to the Lord.

Sailor Friend: The Lord? What did you go and get saved?

Sailor A: As a matter of fact, yes. You see, I've been praying to all sorts of gods over the years and I thought they were keeping me safe. But we met this guy just now...Jonah....

Sailor Friend: Is that the bloke who's always at the right hand of King Jerry 2.0?

Sailor A: The very one!

Sailor Friend: Oh man...that guy bugs me.

Sailor A: No doubt my friend. Anyway, he shows up, wants a ride to Tarshish, so we let him on the boat.

Sailor Friend: Ok...two things, first of all: are you crazy? I'd never let that guy on my boat...and second....where is he? I want to give him a piece of my mind.

Sailor A: That's just it. He was useless on the boat. But did you know he's a true prophet? Like, he worships THE true God. The Lord! And I wouldn't have thought anything of it. But we all got caught in the worst storm I've ever seen. Me and my crew all were crying out to our various gods, like we normally would, but nothing changed. We were goners for sure. Then we found Jonah sleeping and we asked him what he was doing.

Sailor Friend: What kind of laziness??

Sailor A: I know! But turns out he was hiding. He was running from a direct command from his God. We tried everything else, Chauncy....but in the end he told us the only way for his God to relent from the storm was to throw him into the sea. And so...faced with no other options...we did.

Sailor Friend: You threw Jonah the prophet into the open sea? This is a dream I've had, I'm sure of it.

Sailor A: But get this: the storm stopped. Right then. Right there. He was running from the one True God. And I can't help but tell the story now. Everyone needs to give up on these nonsense gods, because this one is legit.

Sailor Friend: That's quite the story! I know some guys down the street who would love to hear it. Come with me! My crew will take care of this cargo for you.

(Scene cuts to Nineveh. King Senna is in his study, reading)

(Satan sneaks up in the background)

King Senna: I don't know...maybe I'm overthinking things. I'm reading these stories of great Assyrian kings that came before me. They all seemed so sure of themselves. Maybe I just need some more self-confidence. They weren't so worried about the meaning of life and whether they were on the right track. They just followed in their fathers' footsteps and were the best barbarian overlords they could be. Maybe I just should settle for that. I am pretty despicable after all. I've got real street cred among the other pagan kings. They know not to mess with Nineveh.

(Satan looks really satisfied. Jesus comes onto the opposite side of the stage)

Jesus: Leave this man alone!

Satan: Give it up Jesus! He's mine. This whole kingdom is mine and there's no amount of arm-twisting selfish prophets that will change that.

Jesus: Jonah is on his way here right now.

Satan: And I'll make sure he's met with the utmost resistance when he gets here!

Jesus: Satan, you're forgetting one thing...the good news is bigger than that. Your time is short. And you can make all the fuss you want: my Love wins in the end.

(Satan throws his hands up, annoyed. Jesus shoos him off, and Satan leaves)

King Senna: (gets up and looks out the window) But here's the thing...I can tell people here aren't satisfied. I'm not leading a kingdom that is leaving people with hope or satisfaction. There's crime and violence in the streets. There's always going to be some of that....but I want to change that. We're on the wrong track. God...if there is a True God out there...how do I change my life? How do I lead my nation to follow goodness and mercy? My heart is open...

Jesus: (walking off stage, turns around) Hang on my son. I've got a messenger on the way. I know it's tough when you're praying and an answer doesn't come right away. But I've made provision. Don't harden your heart. I'll make my plan clear very soon.

(act ends)

Wednesday

(Scene opens, in Tarshish. Several people are gathered around the three sailors)

Sailor B: Arr! So there we were! Surrounded by waves fifteen feet above the boat. We were sloshing every which way. And Jonah the prophet tells us that he's running from his God. He tells us that he was supposed to be going to Nineveh, but he ran the opposite way, to this here Tarshish. And God had sent the storm as a wakeup call! He needed to course correct. He told the Cap'n: throw me into the sea. It's the only way the storm will stop.

Sailor C: Believe me, the Cap'n tried everything else first. Frank, sad to say, we threw your box of custom belt buckles off. Travis, your new set of pottery kitchen ware is at the bottom of the sea. Buford, it pains me, but your bushel of fresh dates is fish food now. But the Cap'n truly was doing everything in his power not to throw a man overboard.

Sailor B: It's not like we be pirates or nothing! Arr!

Sailor A: But this is the part that will blow your mind. He insisted. The only way was to throw him over. And so, eventually, we did. And the sea calmed right then and there. The God he was running from was the True God. He has power over the sea and storm! And we're here to tell all of you: it's time to stop playing around with these pagan gods. I will spend my life learning about and following this True God. And I think Tarshish is as good a place as any to start all of that. What do you guys say?? Will you join us??

(moment of awkward quiet)

Frank: Well, I'm sad about my belt buckles. They couldn't have weighed that much. But...your story is fascinating. I'm in. What do we think fellas?

All: Praise to the One True God!

Buford: But what about Nineveh? It sounds like they never got the message...Should we hide this story under a bushel...or should we go and tell Nineveh what it is they are missing?

All: Here here!

Sailor C: What say ye Cap'n??

Sailor A: Well....I say: we can have the boat ready to leave by sunrise!

Sailor B: Arr! To Nineveh!

All: To Nineveh!

(scene changes, king's chamber, Nineveh)

King Senna: Thank you all for being here! This is a very important meeting. I've decided. We need to make a change here in Nineveh.

Advisor A: I'll say...I can't remember the last time I was thanked for being in a meeting with the king. I wonder what's going on.

Advisor B: And the snacks at this meeting are really on point. He's got something up his sleeve.

King Senna: I'm sure you've all noticed that, up until now, Nineveh has been the kind of place that is obsessed with conquering and subjugating. It's been everything we've lived for.

But it's taken a toll on our kingdom. We can only keep this up so long before our society collapses. We're constantly worried about a coup. There's unrest in the streets. People are not happy with the way things are going.

Advisor B: That's true, o king, but it's been that way for decades. We just squash the rebellions and move on, knowing that the greater good is eventual world domination.

King Senna: And that is a good point. However...recently I'm compelled to go in a new direction. One where...love and goodness and mercy are more incorporated with our vision. I'm not totally sure how to do it, but I'm sure that's something we're missing.

Advisor A: Mercy? That has never been a priority here in Nineveh. It's totally off-brand for us. If you ask me, we need to go the opposite way. Really let people know who's boss so that no one gets any ideas.

Advisor B: And these words...love and goodness...they're all relative. Who is to say what is good? Those who rule the world, that's who. If we keep pushing for domination, then we can tell people good is whatever we say it is. I don't know King Senna. I think maybe you ate some bad fish before bed or something.

King Senna: I am sure of this new direction. Something needs to change. Starting with you two. You are no longer to be my advisors. Please see yourselves out.

Advisors: You can't be serious!

King Senna: I am serious. Don't forget your gift baskets on your way out. You've served me well, but I need a new team that will support this vision.

(Helper gives them baskets)

Advisor A: Gift basket? What's going on? Certainly the king has changed, but this is so weird.
Ooh! Bath bombs!

Advisor B: I got one too. Look, it's shaped like a starfish.

King Senna: I want to lead our great City of Nineveh in repentance. I'm still not totally sure how to do that. But we need a nation-wide change of heart. We need to turn to a better path.

Advisor A: King, don't take this the wrong way, it's just some parting words from an advisor on his way out. But you sound just like the crazy blond man at the gates.

King Senna: What's this now?

Advisor B: Yes, that's who he reminds me of! There's this man with bright yellow hair who has been stirring up people in the streets. Says he spent three days inside of a fish and now he's here to call our nation to repentance.

King Senna: I must meet this man. Can you take me to him?

Advisor A: This is pretty weird. I'd just throw him in jail, personally. But I'm not your advisor anymore. I can bring you to him though. I live over in that area of town anyway.

King Senna: Let's go at once.

(scene changes. Jonah is preaching in the streets. People are mystified by his presence and his message)

Jonah: God's destruction is near! Soon this city will be destroyed, and it's all because Nineveh is a place of evil and corruption. I come from Israel, where we know the One True God. I serve Him, and He saved me from certain death because he needed me to preach this message in Nineveh. And now I'm here on his behalf: giving you this message.

Uriel: They're really eating this up. God's plan is sure! They're going to change their hearts and turn to Him!

Jonah: Easy, buddy. This is Nineveh, there's no way anyone is going to change here.

Citizen A: Tell us the part about the fish again!

Citizen B: Who does your hair?

Citizen A: Do you play the ukulele?

Jonah: See, they're just interested in superficial things. They don't care about actually repenting.

Uriel: I wouldn't be so sure. I haven't seen such a positive reception in a pagan nation...ever. This place is really ready for your message in a special way.

Jonah: (rolls his eyes, then turns back to the crowd) Fire and destruction! Really, really bad things are coming for you! It's really too bad you've been such evil pagans for so long.

Citizen B: Is there any way we can change that? Surely the God you serve is merciful.

Citizen A: Except for that hair! God really got you with that one. Hilarious! (high fives Citizen B)

Citizen B: He saved you from the bottom of the sea right? If God can save you after you disobeyed...maybe he'll have grace on us too!

Uriel: Ooh! Tell them about repentance!

Jonah: You guys are getting the wrong idea. He saved me because I'm a Jew and I'm his prophet, and even though I made a mistake, I'm in the club. Fire and brimstone is your future. I'm just trying to be real with you guys.

Citizen A: Ok...but what about the sailors you were with. Did the storm stop?

Jonah: Well yes....

Citizen B: Were they Jews?

Jonah: Well....no...but....

Citizen A: So God can have mercy on pagans too right??

Uriel: I think they get it better than you do. Go ahead. Tell them about God's plan of salvation. How He's a God of justice and mercy and forgiveness.

Jonah: Ah, that reminds me! JUSTICE! God is a God of justice and you all have been unjust for far too long!

Citizen C: Tell that to the king! Five years ago he kicked me out of my house because he wanted a new ice cream shop there. I've been homeless ever since. Where's the justice in that?

Citizen B: We've all heard the story, homeless Mike.

Citizen A: And we've all tasted the ice cream too. Totally worth it!

Jonah: See, you have no sympathy for the homeless man. All you care about is ice cream.

Citizen B: Well, I can change though. In fact, recently I tried frozen yogurt. It's so good. And healthy for you.

Citizen A: Yeah, maybe if we're healthier God will like us better!

Uriel: Ok, we're getting off track a little. Jonah, tell them about how God wants to deliver people from sin, and isn't just out to get them.

Jonah: God wants to deliver people from sin. But they have to be willing. From what I'm seeing here, there just isn't much willingness.

Citizen B: I'm totally willing!

Citizen A: Me too! Just tell us what we need to do. We'll tell the whole neighborhood.

(King Senna and advisors walk on stage)

Advisor A: All hail King Senna! He is here to speak with the man with yellow hair!

Advisor B: There he is, sire!

Reporter: Ok, king, let's get a picture of you and the prophet. There we go, just stand there and I'll paint it up really quick!

(Advisors position King Senna and Jonah so they are shaking hands and standing tall)

Jonah: This isn't going to be in international newspapers, is it? I do not want King Jerry 2.0 seeing me pose with a pagan king! I'm still on team Israel.

Uriel: Relax. With that hair? King Jerry wouldn't even recognize you if he did see the pictures.

King Senna: (relaxes his shoulders) God has been placing on my heart a burden. We as a people have been going in the wrong direction. What is your message, o prophet? I'm ready to repent and turn a new leaf here in Nineveh.

Uriel: This is awesome! God's Holy Spirit prepared the way and the king is ready to make a change!

Jonah: (aside to Uriel) It might seem that way, but I've studied Nineveh. This is probably a cheap trick. They'll do anything to gain a foothold, and once they do, it's game over. He's not seriously ready to turn the kingdom around.

Uriel: You've got to give people the chance to respond to the truth. You can't make that decision for them!

Jonah: (sighs) God has said that he will destroy this great city. It has been on the wicked path far too long. Fire and brimstone will destroy this place.

King Senna: I'm sure your message is true. I've felt it in my heart. We have been oppressive and vicious and focused only on gratifying our desire for domination. But I can feel it in my heart. And I see it in the faces of my people. We can't go on this way. I want to forge a new path of goodness and mercy and justice in Nineveh. What is the name of the God you serve?

Jonah: He is the Lord.

King Senna: He has answered my pleadings by sending you here. I now have confirmation that my feelings are correct. We are on the wrong path. We must entreat the Lord. Citizens of Nineveh! Let it be known today that we will no longer go in the direction of wickedness! We will humble ourselves and serve the Lord! Perhaps he will have mercy, even on a sinful nation like ours.

(Jesus and Satan enter on opposite sides of the stage. Jesus looks proud of what is happening. Jonah slinks away and Satan follows him off stage).

Reporter: O king, what do we need to do?

King Senna: Let neither man, nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything. Let them not feed or drink water. But let man and beast put on sack cloth and call out mightily to the Lord. Let everyone turn from the evil things they have been doing, and the violence they have been perpetrating. Perhaps God will relent from this plan of destruction and we may not perish. Whatever happens, my life is better now that I know the truth. And I think our great city is better off as well. Blessed be the name of the Lord.

Citizen A: Let's all listen to the King!

Citizen B: Blessed be the name of the Lord!

King Senna: And, dear citizen, I'm so sorry about my selfishness regarding the ice cream shop. I will build you a new home at once. You can stay in my palace until it is finished.

Citizen C: That's ok. Hey, there's this new frozen yogurt shop. Maybe we could stop there for a treat!

King Senna: If our city is still standing in forty days, I will buy a frozen yogurt for everyone!

All: Hooray! I scream, you scream, we all scream for...frozen yogurt.

Citizen A: It doesn't quite work. I think we need a new song...

(all exit. Act ends)

Thursday

(scene opens: Jonah and Uriel are climbing to the peak a mountain, a ways off from Nineveh)

Uriel: (breathing heavily) Wow! So this is what it's like to hike up a mountain. I've got to say: I don't get it. I'd rather fly. Although I know that's not an option for you. Are you an avid hiker, Jonah?

Jonah: What? No. I don't hike. I just want to get a better view of Nineveh, so I can really appreciate the destroying God is about to do.

(moment of awkward silence)

Uriel: Jonah...forgive me if I'm wrong...but it almost seems like you want Nineveh to be destroyed. I mean...God called you to go and offer them a chance to repent. First you ran away. Then, when you got to Nineveh, you focused only on the destruction message, and totally left out calling them to repentance. And now...you're just gleefully watching from afar...to see if God will...where did you get popcorn??

Jonah: (with a mouth full) Oh, it's just to enhance the experience. I watch all my favorite shows this way. The key is, you drizzle a little olive oil, and then add some salt and cumin...you know what, here just try some.

Uriel: You're missing what I'm trying to tell you. (takes a bite) Oh wow...you know, the cumin works better than I thought it would. But you're missing the point! God didn't call you to watch a city get annihilated. He called you to intervene so that they wouldn't have to be.

Jonah: (listing on his fingers) Sodom...Gomorrah...Jericho...Look, these cities were destroyed. Destroyed! Because there wasn't even one person who was repentant there. I've been keeping tabs on Nineveh for a long time. If God destroyed Sodom, He'll do the right thing and destroy Nineveh too.

Uriel: I know, Nineveh has been a wicked city for a long time. But you were there. You saw it with your own eyes. The people are open to repentance. The king himself has enacted a law that everyone must fast and turn from evil and worship the Lord. That's...well that's everything. In fact, from what I've seen...it's more than Israel is willing to do right now.

Jonah: Bite your tongue, sir! Israel is God's country. He established it and one day, He will rule the world from that spot.

Uriel: Jonah...I hate to tell you this, but you're in the wrong here. And...I think you know that I'm right. You were there when Amos was given the vision about Jerusalem's destruction. You received it too...you know what is coming there if the people don't turn to the Lord.

Jonah: Shh...something's happening.

(both squint)

Uriel: Oh wow...look at the people...they're all humbling and worshipping the Lord as one. They repent. Look! You did it! Maybe you didn't mean to...but the Lord used you to save a wicked, pagan nation. That's something to be proud of.

Jonah: (enraged and shouting upward) Ugh! This is exactly why I didn't want to go in the first place! This is why I ran to Tarshish in the first place!

(Uriel walks off sadly)

Because look! Here are the enemies of goodness and truth, and You...God...You are just being merciful and loving and patient with them! You're not even going to burn one building down?? Take my life, Lord! I don't want to live! Do you hear me? I don't want to live!

(scene transitions to down in Nineveh. The men from Tarshish and the Sailors have arrived)

Sailor C: Finally! Nineveh!

Sailor B: Arr! Now we be proper missionaries! Let's tell someone about the Lord!

Sailor A: Excuse me sir! Do you know the Lord?

Citizen A: Oh, yes, but see I'm really hungry. I've been fasting for days and I'm busy turning my heart from selfishness. It's really kind of a lot. But I have peace about it. Can I help you with anything?

Sailor A: Uh...ok. Well, I guess I'm good. Thanks for offering!

Sailor C: Wow...how did that guy know about the Lord? Are we in the right place? I heard Nineveh was full of frightening people. It's quiet here. And people seem...nice.

Sailor B: Arr, neighbor! Be ye a follower of the Lord?

Citizen C: I love the Lord! For years I was homeless, but now I get to live in the King's palace while he build's me a new home. He's even going to buy us all frozen yogurt if the city isn't destroyed in 40 days! What a great King! What a great God!

Sailor A: Jonah did sink to the bottom of the sea right? Excuse me, sir! How does everyone here know about the Lord already?

Citizen B: Well...the King has decreed that everyone fasts for forty days. We're supposed to take that time to repent and worship the Lord. So everyone knows about it. But it was the man with yellow hair who told us about it. I think his name was...Johnson? I really can't remember. I'm sort of woozy from fasting.

Sailor A: Thank you. Carry on. Wow, so it seems like the Lord made a way with or without Jonah! Everyone here already knows God. It's...it's like a revival!

Sailor C: Let's join them!

Sailor B: Come again, arr!

Sailor C: The Lord spared our life. I know we came here to tell others about Him...but maybe we're here so we can learn more about Him.

Sailor A: Well...what if in 40 days this place does get destroyed? Do we want to be caught up in that?

Sailor C: Look at these people...they're changed. There's no way the Lord we know would destroy a place like this.

Sailor B: Arr, I agree with the lad. I'm staying.

Sailor A: Ok. Another week off from work so we can worship the Lord. I'll just put "spiritual retreat" on my time card.

(scene change, King Senna is with his Advisors, holding hands)

King Senna: Sing with me if you know it.

"Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound,

That saved a wretch like me.

I once was lost, but now I'm found.

Was blind, but now I see."

Advisor A: I think I'm starting to get it now...

"Through many dangers toils and snares,

I have already come

Twas grace that brought me here thus far

And grace will lead me home."

Advisor B: Look at the changes around the kingdom already...everyone's hearts are changed. It's a whole new era. King...thank you for your leadership. Lord: Thank you for your forgiveness.

"The Lord has promised good to me,

His Word my hope secures

He will my Shield and portion be

As long as life endures."

(all three hug)

King Senna: I'm glad you get it now. You guys are hired back. Praise be to the God of amazing grace.

(scene change, Jonah up on the peak)

Jonah: Look at them all down there. PRETENDING! Just to save their skin. Ugh...this heat!

It's...killing me. Rather I wish it would kill me. I wish I was dead!

(Jesus walks on stage and places a plant to shade Jonah)

Jonah: What? Where did this plant come from? Oh...the shade is nice. Maybe I don't need to die just yet. Maybe I'm...just...tired.

(curls up under the plant and falls asleep)

(moments later, a deranged looking worm crawls on stage and takes a big bite out of the plant. It falls over, withered. Jonah tosses and turns and then wakes up)

Jonah: What? My plant! Grr! That's it! Dying would be better than living at this point. I have nothing left to live for! I can't go home! I hate it here! My plant is dead! God, why!? Why???

(Jesus comes and sits next to Jonah)

Jesus: Jonah...tell me something...why do you care so much about this plant?

Jonah: The plant gave me shade. It was beautiful! The only thing worth caring about in this forsaken place. I hate everything. I didn't hate this plant. But now it's gone!

Jesus: I didn't hate the plant either. And I don't hate you. In fact, I love you very much. That's why I saved you from the bottom of the sea. I love the people of Nineveh too. That's why I'm saving them. They are worth so much more than a plant that sprung up this morning and died not long after. Do you think it's okay to be angry about the plant?

Jonah: Yes! So angry I want to die.

Jesus: Imagine how I feel about you...about the people of Nineveh. There are over 100,000 people living there. They hardly know anything about me. They've been walking in the dark. They're just now starting to understand who I am. Should I not have mercy on them?

Jonah: (silence, sighing, starts to speak but decides not to)

Jesus: You want to die for the sake of the plant. But a plant is a plant...we'll plant a new one. It doesn't have feelings, and it doesn't care about things. It doesn't have hopes and dreams, and it cannot carry out my will. But look down there at those people, Jonah. They are turning away from evil, and they are singing my praises. Do you imagine that my heart is overflowing right now? Why are you so upset?

Jonah: I knew who I wanted to be. I wanted to be a powerful member of King Jerry's team. I wanted to see Israel take over the world. I wanted that because that is your kingdom! I thought that was the way to spread your good news.

Jesus: I think you're starting to see it aren't you? King Jerry, as much as I love him...he's not very interested in doing my will. Can a kingdom be my kingdom in name only, but not in deed? He wants to rule the world...but is it for me...or for his own glory that he's interested? And I'd ask you the same question.

Jonah: (silence)

Jesus: You have been faithful. You came to Nineveh. The people here have heard my message through you, as faulty as it might be, and they are turning to me. It might not last forever. It doesn't mean they'll be perfect. But in the same way that you want to die for the plant...I want to die for them...so that they might have everlasting life. I want the same for you.

Jonah: Lord...I'm...not worth that effort.

Jesus: To me, you are.

(they share an embrace)

Jesus: Now go down there and see what has come from your ministry. See how the people of Nineveh have changed. You might even meet some people you already know down there.

(Jonah nods, gets up, lingers a little and looks back at Jesus, before exiting the stage)

Jesus: It's the same with each of you. I know you're not perfect. I know you've made mistakes. But I love you and I'm calling you to follow me today. I died...so that you could have life. So that you could be with me in heaven. And I'm coming soon to take you to where I am. Because I have prepared a place for you in my Father's house. Prepare your heart today. I want to take you home.

(act closes)

Morning Scripts

Monday

A storm rages. Jesus is asleep inside the boat, on a cushion. Then he wakes and controls the seas.

(Matthew 8:23-27)

(Scene opens, disciples on a boat)

Matthew: I can't believe Jesus is sleeping.

John: I can! Give the guy a break he just healed, like, a hundred people. Including Peter's mom! She was a handful.

Peter: You have to admit, though, her challah bread is out of this world!

(all mumble in agreement)

Matthew: I like how she put just the right combination of goat's butter, mint, and just a dash of salt.

John: Great! Now I'm hungry!

Peter: If you're hungry, then why don't you catch us some fish?

John: I don't know...ever since we started fishing for people...I'm just never in the mood for fishing for fish anymore. Maybe I'm just tired, I don't know. You think there's room for me to lie down and take a nap too?

Peter: We need you to help with the boat, John. Out of the twelve of us, there are only four who know anything about boats, and you're one of them. You think a tax collector knows anything about raising and putting away sails?

Matthew: Hey!

Peter: No offense! If I need some folks roughed up for not paying their coliseum tax, I'll call you. Total rip-off, by the way. And what's with the name change? It used to be called Centurion Park...now it's called Soldier Field? Terrible name. I liked the old one better.

Matthew: I'm not in charge of corporate sponsorships. I've never even been to a coliseum show. Plus, you know I'm done "roughing people up." I'm never in the mood for it anymore, now that I met Jesus. In fact I'm giving so much these days to people who can't afford their taxes, I'm going broke over here.

John: Are you trying to get out of paying for dinner tonight? You know it's your turn, Matthew.

Matthew: I'm going to echo my friend Peter...If you're hungry, why don't you catch us some fish?

(storm in the distance)

Peter: You guys hear that?

(everyone starts wobbling like they're on a boat being tossed in the waves)

Peter: John! James! Fold in the sails! The rest of you, get the oars. It's time to row like your life depends on it.

(all mime throwing oars and sit in position, so there will need to be chairs, all mime rowing together)

Peter: If we row together, we make it to shore safe! Pull...and Pull...and Pull!

(all making sounds of struggle as they mime rowing)

Thomas: It's too much!

John: There goes my oar!

Matthew: There goes mine!

Thomas: It's too much...abandon ship!

Peter: (grabs Thomas) Don't be a fool!

John: Jesus! Wake up! Save us!

(all stop and look, still rocking with the waves, Jesus gets up and springs into action)

Jesus: Don't be afraid! Have faith!

(Jesus looks out at the waves, then says a prayer up to heaven)

Jesus: Peace be upon you, waves! Peace be upon you, wind! Be still!

(everyone mimes the waves settling, any noise makers now subside)

Peter: Wow...who is this man...that even the wind and the waves obey him?

Thomas: Wait do you guys hear that? Is the thunder coming back?

Matthew: No, that's just John's stomach growling.

(all look at John, who smiles sheepishly and laughs)

Jesus: Well, John, if you're hungry...why don't you catch us some fish?

(Jesus lays back down and falls asleep)

John: We all almost just died, and he just goes back to sleep.

Peter: He has a peace that passes my understanding, that's for sure. Anyway, James, John...raise the sails back. Let's get this ship back to shore.

(scene ends)

Tuesday

Jesus and Zacchaeus: The Son of Man came to seek and save the lost.
(Luke 19)

(Scene opens with Zacchaeus [Zac] and a fellow Tax Collector [TC] talking)

TC: Good morning Zac! What's the word on the street?

Zac: I hear Jesus is going to be in town today!

TC: Oh yeah, THAT guy! He owes me money.

Zac: Really?

TC: Oh...no, not really. Just being funny. How can you owe money when you are homeless and don't own anything?

Zac: I suppose.

TC: Say...why do you care about Jesus...you're not one of His followers are you?

Zac: Well, not yet. But I want to be! I got baptized by His cousin John a while back and ever since then, I've just really felt compelled to do something different with my life.

TC: Oh, yeah, wouldn't that be nice. I dream of being a singer/songwriter someday.

Zac: I had no idea.

TC: Yeah, I've been sitting on tons of material for years. I have this fantasy where I'm just playing, you know, for fun, and one of Caesar's palace workers hears me, and he invites me to play for some social event at the palace. After that, I'm in: rubbing elbows with all the important people. I tell you what: collecting taxes pays the bills. But for me: I just want to create art.

Zac: Wow. That's really cool.

TC: Eh...too bad it will never happen.

Zac: What do you mean?

TC: I mean, you know what people say about us right? Outside of being good at our job, we have no reputation. In fact, the better we are and the happier we make Caesar, the worse people think of us. I go up on a stage? I'll be booed off in an instant. No, my path is set out before me. I can't change now.

Zac: I...I don't think that's true. We all have the chance to repent. I have. And Jesus accepts people, no matter who they are or how much people hate them.

TC: Listen man, He even rebukes the Pharisees. If THEY aren't good enough...there's no way I'll ever be. Why do you care about His acceptance anyway?

Zac: I want to follow Him! I want to be a disciple.

TC: Keep dreaming, man! Even if He accepts you...none of His followers will. You're a marked man. Better just keep your head low and keep on keeping on. Anyway, I've got a house to shake down. Catch you around!

(Zac waves TC off and stands, bothered and sighing)

Guy: (Running) Jesus is coming!!

(Zac perks up and follows. Jesus approaches the stage slowly, insulated by a crowd. Zac tries to meet Jesus, but as the crowd passes, he's not able to get past the people to Jesus)

Zac: Jesus! Jesus!

Guy: Zac?

(Guy recognizes Zac and pushes him away)

Guy: Stay away! Jesus doesn't want you!

(Zac is frustrated, but collects himself. He looks for a better vantage point. Then he climbs a "tree" so he can better see Jesus)

Zac: Jesus!

(Jesus stops and looks around. The crowd is silent. Jesus looks up and makes eye contact with Zac and smiles)

Jesus: Zacchaeus! There you are. Get down here!

(Zac climbs down. The crowd parts, a little begrudgingly, and Zac pushes his way through to see Jesus)

Jesus: I know we've never met, but I'm glad to see you. John told me good things.

(Crowd is whispering, some even throw their hands up and walk away)

Zac: Jesus, everyone...I know I've done some bad things in the past. I've been unfair. It was required of me by the State. But I want to make things right. I want to lead a different life!

(Crowd grumbles louder)

Girl: Can you believe him? What a liar!

(Jesus shoots Girl a look. She looks away)

Zac: I want to give half of everything I own to the poor. I didn't come by it honestly anyway. It doesn't belong to me. And if I took from anyone unjustly, I'll give them back four times as much.

(Jesus goes and puts an arm around Zac. The crowd gasps)

Jesus: I want everyone to hear this. Salvation has come to this man's house today. He is a child of Abraham.

(Crowd is whispering confusedly)

Jesus: The Son of Man came to seek and save the lost. Zac, point me in the direction of your house. I want to talk some more.

(Crowd seems to shrug it off and keeps following Jesus. One disciple, Matthew, stays behind. He and Zac walk after the crowd, but slowly, and stop before leaving the stage)

Matthew: I know your pain. I was a tax collector before I met Jesus.

Zac: Really? How did you shake the reputation?

Matthew: I really haven't yet. I still have people throw their drinks in my face and slam their doors in my face. But I have to realize it's not about me...it's about leading people to Jesus.

Zac: But how do I do that if people hate my guts?

Matthew: Well, it helps to have Him on your side. The thing people don't realize is He's on everyone's side. Of course, there's some who need a little rebuking, but those are the ones who don't realize how much they need a savior. You, my friend, you're not perfect, but you're on the right track.

Zac: It seems kind of hopeless though. I'm just glad I got to meet Him. And glad to have people hear my speech. But what's next?

Matthew: It's a daily journey. Each of us is tempted every day to go back to our old lives. But when we choose to follow Jesus, it's crazy to see what these guys are doing in His name. Trust me: if Peter, James, and John can be considered holy men...anyone can.

Zac: Oh yeah, what did they do?

Matthew: They're some of the most argumentative, offensive people you might ever come across. They're fishermen, so they're not really polished people, you know. But I find that when people realize you're legit, our rough pasts: they enhance our ministry. And each of us has the ability to reach different people in Jesus' name BECAUSE of what we've been through. What Satan used for evil in our past, God will use for good.

Zac: Thanks man. I appreciate the pep talk. Oh, I can hardly see Jesus. Let's catch up!
(Both run off. Scene ends)

Wednesday

Woman caught in adultery. Go now sin no more. I am the light of the world.
(John 8)

(Scene opens with Jesus talking with disciples)

Matthew: So you're saying...(mimes building a temple out of sand)...let's say this is the temple. It's going to be destroyed (mimes explosions and destruction) and then three days later, they're going to rebuild it? That just doesn't make sense, Lord.

Jesus: Let me break it down for you again...I AM THE TEMPLE. They're going to destroy ME...and three days later...I will be rebuilt. Does that make sense?

Peter: It's a riddle...we'll figure it out yet (points at his head knowingly)

Jesus: It's really not...the religious leaders are going to destroy me but I'll rise up, having conquered death and sin, three days later.

John: It's ok, Jesus, give us some time to think about it. We'll crack the code and get back to you.

Jesus: I'm just trying to give you a heads up because it's going to be really traumatic to those who are close to me. Read Deuteronomy 21:23, or Psalm 22...Leviticus 16:27...it's all been foretold throughout the scriptures.

Matthew: Oh right, Leviticus 16:27 talks about sacrifices happening outside of the city. Hmm...that reminds me, I have a couple of errands to run outside of the city. I'll see you guys later!

(Matthew leaves, Jesus throws his hands in defeat. Pharisees run on stage)

Pharisee 1: There he is!

(Jesus and the disciples look confused and shrug to each other, Pharisees drag a woman who is fighting for her life onto the stage. Once they finally get her in front of Jesus, she cringes and waits for the stones to be thrown)

Pharisee 2: Teacher, this woman has been caught in the sin of adultery!

All Pharisees: Booo!!

Pharisee 2: (holds hands up for silence) The Law of Moses, which you seem to be very familiar with, tells us that we must execute her by stoning. What do you say?

(Jesus says nothing, but squats down and starts apparently playing in the sand where Matthew was making a sand temple)

Pharisee 3: I knew it! He's got nothing to say. Stones ready, gentlemen!

(Raises huge rock, ready to strike)

Peter: Oh snap! He did what??

(Pharisee 3 is stopped in his tracks)

John: No way! I thought the pharisees were...like perfect. YOU did this?

(Pharisee 3 lowers the stone and comes over to read what Jesus is writing in the sand. His eyes grow large and he drops the stone on his foot)

Pharisee 3: Ow! Oh, my foot!

Pharisee 1: Bro, are you ok?

Pharisee 3: (looks up and then back at Jesus, and then at the crowd, and then he messes up the sand with his hands and starts to hobble off) I gotta get out of here!

Pharisee 2: What's his deal? (to Jesus) What are you writing over there?

Peter: Woah. Man, you really did that? Oh, I would never do that...and I'm a fisherman. Ok, now I get Jesus' comment about being more righteous than the Pharisees.

Pharisee 2: Let me see this...(again, his eyes grow large, and he runs off immediately and comically)

Pharisee 1: You guys have nothing on me.

John: (squinting to read the sand, looks up at remaining pharisee) Oof, the high priest is not going to be happy.

Pharisee 1: (stares back, sizing them up) You're bluffing!

John: It says here you stole money from his...

(Pharisee 1 runs off quickly)

(Jesus gets up and then goes to kneel down by the woman)

Jesus: Where are the ones who were condemning you to die?

Woman: (looking around) I guess there aren't any.

Jesus: Then neither do I. Go and live...but do not continue in your sins.

(Woman nods, pauses, hugs Jesus, and then gets up and walks off the stage)

Peter: Wow Jesus, you really showed them!

Jesus: All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. But through me they can find redemption. (pause) About what we were discussing earlier, I am going away soon, but you can't follow me right away.

Peter: (to John) What is he talking about now? First the temple is going to be destroyed, and then he's going to leave us?

Jesus: When the Son of Man is lifted up on a cross, you will understand who I am. I don't do anything of my own accord, but only what my Father in Heaven has sent me to do.

Peter: Now he's talking about crosses...another metaphor...we'll crack this code yet.

Jesus: I'm telling you, it's one story. I'm really not beating around the bush here.

John: It's ok Jesus, don't help us...we'll figure out the riddle yet.

(Jesus throws up His hands in disbelief, shakes His head, and motions for them to all follow Him off the stage)

Thursday

(Scene opens with Jesus on the cross)

Jesus: Father, forgive them....for they do not know what it is they are doing.

(Pharisees enter)

Pharisee 1: I told Jesus, if He messed with us, He was going to get it.

Pharisee 3: Yeah, you don't mess with us.

Pharisee 2: That's right, because God is on our side!

Pharisee 3: But...didn't Jesus say that before Moses ever existed, He was the I Am?

Pharisee 1: What are you saying?

Pharisee 3: Nothing...it's just...I mean...no one could have known the secrets I was keeping...somehow He did...even now...His eyes seem as if they could tell my whole story...but He's up there...and I'm down here.

Pharisee 2: Whatever. You're just tired after a long night. Let's go see the high priest.

(Pharisees walk off, disciples walk on)

Peter: I just wish there was more I could do! I tried to fight off the soldiers as they took Him away! Why did He stop me?!

John: He stopped you because the scriptures said that the Messiah would go silently and willingly as a lamb to the slaughter. He had to fulfill those words. If the scriptures had mentioned something about a swordsman, you'd fit right in.

Peter: But He said Himself: I came not to bring peace on the earth, but a sword. Sorry if I took that literally!

Matthew: He said a lot of things that we didn't get right away. I think the point, though, was that the truth never is accepted fully, and there's going to be a lot of fighting over His words, throughout history.

Peter: Speaking of fighting, where did that Judas go? Wait until I get my hands on him...

John: Come on, Peter, will you ever learn...?

Peter: I'm frustrated, ok?? I just wish Jesus would have given us some sort of guidance for this scenario! Like, what happens next? What are we supposed to do now??

(Jesus tries muttering weakly, but passes out)

Peter: I can't do this anymore. I can't be here anymore. I'm going back to fishing in Galilee.

(James follows Peter off the stage, John lingers)

John: Don't worry, Jesus...I'll take care of your mom while you're gone.

(John walks off the stage, three women walk on)

Woman 1: No man understood me like this man!

Woman 2: Are men meant to understand us?

Woman 3: In general, no, but I agree: this man saw me. He cared about me. He told me things about my life that I never told anyone, and yet He accepted me.

Woman 1: I couldn't help but wonder if this was coming...I mean, He kept talking about the cross, and His death...but He also talked about resurrection...I can only hope that part of the story is true too.

Woman 3: Right! That's why I bought the special perfume to anoint Him with. None of those guys understood...they didn't really ever pay attention when He was talking about...well, this...But I wanted Him to have a proper consecration before He had to go through this. I'm glad I did it...even if it did ruffle a few feathers at the time. Like you said: He accepted me. He understood me. And I think I understood Him too.

Woman 2: All we can do now is wait...and pray...and trust that God's plan will come to fruition. I guess that's a lot, even though I wish we could do more. We'll make plans to visit the tomb on Sunday morning.

(women walk off the stage, soldiers walk on)

Soldier 1: I've got His robe, I've got His robe. Do you have His robe? Did you win the ultimate gambling tournament? NO? Didn't think so! I'm King of the Jews!

Soldier 2: Will you stop being so irreverent?! This man did nothing wrong. I mean, I get it, it's our job to listen to Pilate and to try and keep the peace...but seriously, you saw who they set free right? We'll be crucifying Barabbas here soon...and for good reason after all the crimes I'm sure he'll commit now that he's free.

Soldier 3: Ok, ok, take it easy. So what? Pilate's not always going to make the right call. And even if he doesn't, who are we to judge? We get paid either way right?

Soldier 2: Maybe I don't want to get paid to be someone's crony anymore.

Soldier 1: Hey what are you saying? You're not quitting on us are you??

Soldier 2: Maybe I am...this man's eyes...the way He just stood there and took it...I've never seen such a man. He's more of a man than you'll ever be, I can guarantee that!

Soldier 1: Hey!

Soldier 2: He's more of a man than I'll ever be...I can't help but feel...broken around Him. And yet, at the same time, I wish I could talk to Him more...like maybe if I got to know Him, I'd be made whole.

Soldier 3: Wow, getting a little mushy there, eh, captain?

Soldier 2: Just take off that ridiculous robe! It's not even His anyway, it was meant as a joke by some of our tasteless colleagues. And you, get back to your post! You're not even supposed to be here right now.

(Soldiers 1 and 3 walk off the stage. Jesus looks down at Soldier 2)

Soldier 2: There's no doubt about it...this man is the Son of God...and that He died for you and me...that's something worth living for.

Theme Song: Wake Up Call

Intro

G | D | G | D

Verse 1

G D
I can't help but wonder
G
Should I turn around?
D
And I start to shudder
G
When my feet hit the ground
D
I know I am running
G
Fast in the wrong way
D
But I hear You calling
Bm
Stop, it's not too late

Pre-Chorus

A G
I know You're patient
Bm
I know You're loving
A G
I know it's high time that I made a change

Chorus

G D
It's Time for a wake-up call
G D
I want to be Yours once and for all
G
I'm here at the
Bm A
Bottom of the sea
G
Give me Your hand, and I'll hang on

Post-Chorus

Time to wake
(1, 2, 3, UP!)
Time to wake
(1, 2, 3, UP!)

Verse 2

G D
I know what Your plan is
G
But I have not complied
D
And all peace has vanished
Bm
Cause I have not been wise

Pre-Chorus

Chorus

Post-Chorus

Bridge

G Bm D A
I don't want to hide Your light
G Bm D A
I don't want to waste my life

Chorus x2

Post-Chorus

Ending

G | D