

8th Grade Sunday School Class

CAST - Speaking Parts

Ms. Ebert –

Rachel -

John –l

Krista –

Angie –

Kirk –

Jesus –

Peter –

Non-speaking Parts

James –

John –

other disciples

(Grade Sunday School Class - table and chairs set in place)

(Ms. Ebert enters and takes his seat. Rachel enters)

Ms. Ebert: Rachel, Good morning!

Rachel: Good morning, Ms. Ebert.

Ms. Ebert: Are you ready for a great class today?

Rachel: I'm kind of sleepy today – I didn't get home from babysitting until one in the morning.

Ms. Ebert: I didn't know you babysat. Do you enjoy it?

Rachel: As long as the kids aren't too old. Last night I took care of a three and a five-year old. I enjoyed playing games with them.

(John enters while Rachel is speaking)

Ms. Ebert: Morning, John. You look like you are on top of the world today!

John: Hi. Today's my birthday – I'm having a party this afternoon.

Ms. Ebert and Rachel: Happy birthday!

Ms. Ebert: Let me guess – fourteen?

John: You got it. Two more years and I'll be driving. I can't wait.

(Krista and Angie enter as John is speaking)

Krista: Hi everyone! (Greetings are shared by everyone)

Angie: Guess what? I got a new puppy yesterday! I'm so excited.

Rachel: What kind is it?

Angie: A Cocker Spaniel – he's so cute and cuddly!

John: You just wait – he'll be tearing up your stuff before long!

Angie: No, not Oscar. He's awesome!

Kirk (entering): Were you talking about me, Angie? I heard the word awesome.

Ms. Ebert: Hi Kirk! Have a seat and we'll get started. Krista, I think it is your turn to lead the opening prayer.

Krista: Dear God, we thank you for this beautiful day and for our family and friends. Guide our study this morning. Help us with all our problems. Help all people who are poor. Amen.

Ms. Ebert: We finished reading about the Last Supper last week. Today we start with Mark 14:26. John would you read?

John: Sure. "When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them, (John stops as attention shifts to Jesus and the disciples)

Jesus: You will all become deserters because of me this night. But after I am raised up I will go ahead of you to Galilee.

Peter: Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you.

Jesus: Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times.

Peter: Even though I must die with you I will not deny you.

(all the disciples say the same)

(Jesus and the disciples walk a little further)

Jesus: Sit here while I go over there and pray. Peter, James, John – come with me.

(Peter, James and John go with Jesus)

Jesus: I am deeply grieved, even to death: remain here and stay awake with me.

(Jesus moves away from them and kneels for prayer)

Jesus: My Father, all things are possible for you; remove this cup from me; yet not what I want but what you want.

(After pausing for a bit Jesus stands and goes back to the disciples who are sleeping)

Jesus (awakening Peter): So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial. The spirit indeed is willing but the flesh is weak.

(Jesus moves away and kneels once more)

Jesus: My Father, all things are possible for you; remove this cup from me; yet not what I want but what you want.

(Jesus returns to the sleeping disciples – awakens them)

Jesus: Asleep again? Stay awake with me.

(Jesus goes and kneels once more)

Jesus: My Father, all things are possible for you; remove this cup from me; yet not what I want but what you want.

(Jesus returns to find them asleep)

Jesus: Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come, the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.

(Jesus and the disciples freeze in place)

Ms. Ebert: Well, what do you think?

Rachel: I feel sorry for Jesus. He wasn't asking very much of his disciples but they failed him.

Krista: I am always confused why Jesus prayed that he would not have to die. Didn't he know that is why he was born?

Kirk: Maybe he felt the way I feel when I know we have a tough wrestling practice coming up. I know that we have to go through it but I keep hoping the coach will change his mind.

John: I don't get why it was so important to him that the disciples stay awake.

Angie: Yeah, with Jesus being God and all why did he care whether these guys sleep or not?

Rachel: But he did care.....the way I care whether my friends are going to be there for me.

John: I always used to think Jesus had it easy with friends to be with all the time. That was before I realized that his friends did not stick by him. (pausing – thinking) Do you think that whenever we are living the way God wants us to live we will be lonely?

Kirk: During football season I'm never lonely – all the guys on the team stick together.

Angie: I've got my friends – I think I am living the way God wants me to live.

Krista: I think I know what John is getting at. It seems like to stay friends you have to let some things slide.

Angie: Nothing serious though – maybe some jokes – some nasty comments.

Krista: Nothing serious unless you are the one the comments are about.

John: I find that to get along I kind of need to leave Jesus behind. Not take him too seriously.

Rachel: The way the disciples did not take him very seriously that night?

Kirk: Well, Jesus is Jesus and we are we. He's the one who saves everyone – we don't have that responsibility.

Krista: Kirk, you know that some of the members of your team go to parties where there is drinking. Shouldn't you report them? Isn't that what God wants?

Kirk: What they do is none of my business.

Ms. Ebert: Let's not get personal. Let's get back to Jesus' time.

John: That is the trouble with the church – we never talk about the things that really matter.

Ms. Ebert: Jesus matters.

(John rolls his eyes following Ms. Ebert's comment)

Krista: I would think that in the church we could really find a close group but all of us here are closer to our school groups than we are to one another.

John: That's why I think following God means we will be lonely.

Angie: But I don't think that is the way Jesus wants it. I think he wants to gather us together.

Kirk: The way he ate with tax collectors and sinners. He didn't worry about their sins – only that they were with him.

Angie: And the way he gathered the disciples after he was raised from the dead. He came back to them. Trusted them once more.

Rachel: I know this: I am not very good at being a Christian alone. I need to be supported by others.

Kirk: The way even Jesus needed to be supported.

Ms. Ebert: We can all agree with that. Jesus wanted his disciples to stay awake for him.

John: And I want all of you to keep coming to church the way I do – even after we are confirmed.

Krista: And I want all of you to act like you know me when I see you at school – especially you, Kirk, when you are with your football friends.

Rachel: I know Jesus will be there for me – I want to know you all will be there for me too.

Ms. Ebert: Time to wrap this up. I will lead us in prayer. “Jesus, teach us to love one another. Keep us awake. Keep us together. Amen.

All : Amen.