

Interactive story

Session Ten – Jesus Raises Lazarus

Characters

NARRATOR (ADULT/9+)

MARY

MARTHA

LAZARUS

BYSTANDER

JESUS

DISCIPLE

The Narrator should either be an adult or age 9 and above. The Narrator could read from a book. Lines can be printed and placed here.

Interaction with the audience will be prompted by the line “If you listen carefully”. This indicates that you want the audience to make the following noises/sound effects. You may want to practice this.

Have fun and be creative, you may like to go all out and add costumes. It’s up to you! You’re in charge!

NARRATOR: Today’s tale begins like any other day. A gentle wind blew, spitting sand as it brushed through the dusty town of Bethany. Like yesterday, the day before that, and the many infinite days before that one, the sun once again rose from the East. And the town of Bethany awoke from a long sleep.

If you listen carefully, you might be able to hear the cockerel crowing in the morning! (CHILDREN MAKE COCK-A-DOODLE-DOO NOISES!)

Oh, it was much louder than that! (REPEATS) Fantastic, it sounded just like that!

Whilst this tale may sound like the start of any ordinary day. For the two snoring sisters, Mary and Martha, it would be the start of something extraordinary!

MARY AND MARTHA SNORE LOUDLY BESIDE THE NARRATOR.

NARRATOR: But suddenly, their snoring stopped as their brother, Lazarus, barged into the house, coughing and spluttering!



LAZARUS IS BEING HELPED IN BY A BYSTANDER

LAZARUS: I feel sick!

LAZARUS COUGHS. HE STRUGGLES TO STAND! MARY AND MARTHA RUSH TO HIM. THEY LAY HIM DOWN. HE STRUGGLES TO TALK.

MARY: Oh, Lazarus! It's okay. We are here now.

MARTHA: I know just the person who can help!

TALKS TO THE BYSTANDER

MARTHA: Go and find Jesus. He is a good friend of ours. He will know what to do!

THE BYSTANDER LISTENS, IS SHOCKED, AND RUNS TO FIND JESUS. BYSTANDER SHOULD REACT TO WHAT THE NARRATOR SAYS.

NARRATOR: The bystander ran as fast as their legs could take them, over the hills, through the dusty tracks, they jumped over hedges, ducked under tree branches and past a stinky old farm. PHWOAR!

If you listen carefully? You may be able to hear the pigs playing in the mud! (PIG NOISES) Oh, the pigs were much louder and stinkier than that! (REPEATS)

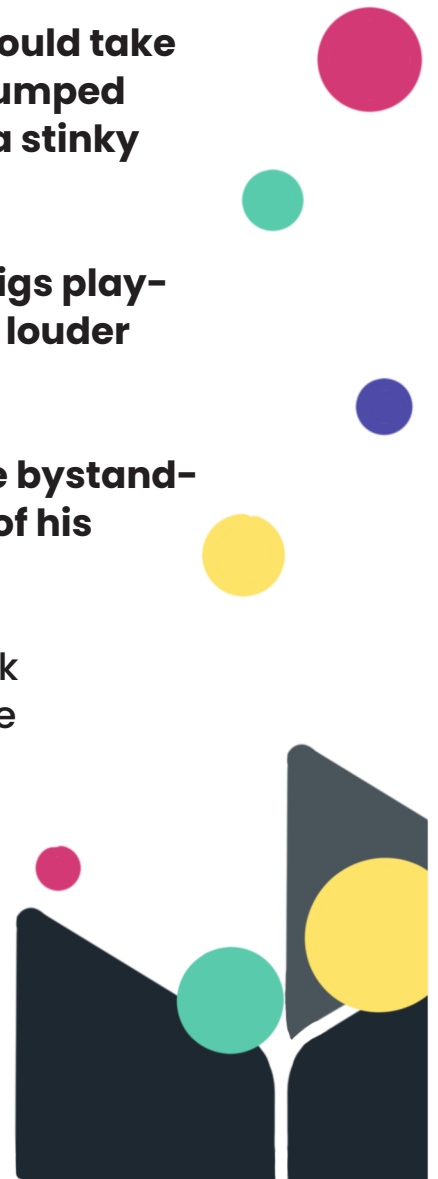
It was a long, long way to Jesus. But finally, when the bystander was a little way off, he heard Jesus talking to one of his friends, one of the disciples.

DISCIPLE: Please, Jesus, promise me we won't go back to Judea again. It was horrible. The people living there were soooooo nasty...

JESUS: I can't promise you that.

DISCIPLE: Judea is not a nice place. Very creepy! Oh, and smelly too!

I'd hate to go back. I hate it, hate it hate it!



Ugh. I am never going back.

NARRATOR: Finally, our bystander interrupted.

BYSTANDER: Jesus, come quick! Lazarus is ill! He is very sick. Mary and Martha are scared he will die!”

DISCIPLE: Oh no!? We can help. Where do they live?

BYSTANDER: The town of Bethany, it’s In Judea.

DISCIPLE: JUDEA!! Oh no?!

JESUS: This sickness will not end in death. We will go. We leave in 2 days!

DISCIPLE: But Jesus...

JESUS: We will go.

NARRATOR: The disciples did not want to return to Judea. The last time they were there, they had been chased away by an angry mob. But Jesus would make sure they went. However, no one knew why Jesus waited two days before they left! Because by the time they arrived at Mary and Martha’s, sadly, Lazarus had already died.

LAZARUS IS DEAD, MARY AND MARTHA PRAY OUTSIDE HIS TOMB.

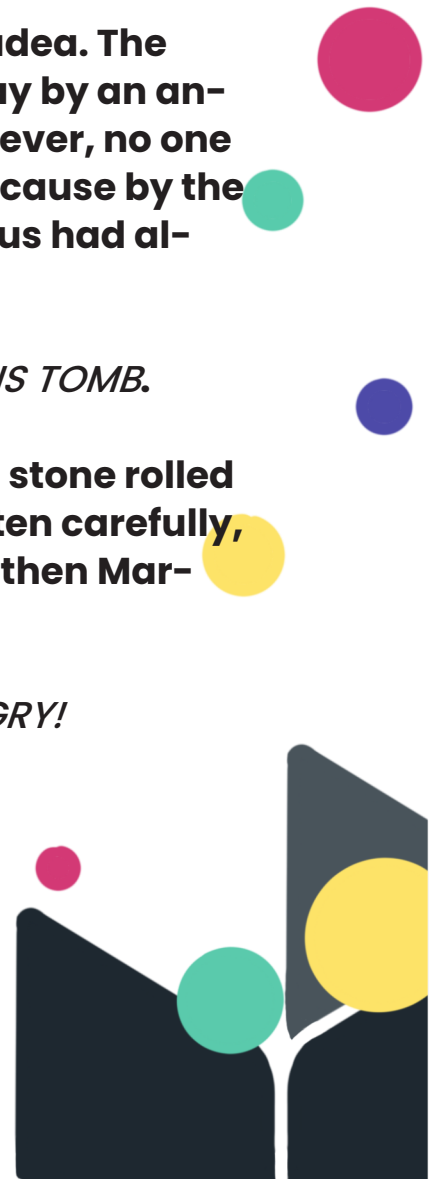
NARRATOR: There, you can see his tomb, with a large stone rolled in front of it. Crowds have formed around it. If you listen carefully, you can hear the town crying! (CRYING NOISES). But then Martha spotted Jesus!

MARY AND MARTHA SEE JESUS; THEY ARE SAD AND ANGRY!

MARTHA: Where were you, Jesus! Lazarus died four days ago!

THE SISTERS START SOBBING

JESUS: Your brother will rise again! He who believes in me will live even though he dies.



NARRATOR: The two sisters looked confused. But they trusted him.

MARY: He is lying in the tomb over there.

JESUS: Roll away the stone!

MARTHA: But it has been four days, Lord. It is probably getting a bit smelly by now.

NARRATOR: Jesus wept as he looked at the tomb of his friend. He then started praying to God. For a moment, it was silent. So silent in fact, that if you listen carefully, you can just about hear the tiny ants scurrying on the ground. (SOUNDS OF ANTS)

Suddenly Jesus shouts!

JESUS: LAZARUS. COME OUT!

NARRATOR: Everyone is surprised!

LAZARUS EXITS THE TOMB

NARRATOR: The crying crowds couldn't believe it! Lazarus was alive!

DISCIPLE: No way! No waaaaay!

BYSTANDER: How did he do that?

MARY & MARTHA: LAZARUS!

MARY AND MARTHA GIVE LAZARUS A MASSIVE HUG

LAZARUS: I'm alive?

NARRATOR: Lazarus had been resurrected; he had been brought back to life! The sad crowd turned into a joyous crowd! And all who saw that day, knew Jesus must have been sent by God. If you listen carefully, you can still hear them shouting for Jesus even today!

Written by Jake Drake

