BOOKS OF THE **BIBLE**



TIME TO ACT!

ITEMS NEEDED: A diary

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN: 1M, 1F

CHARACTERS:

Phil - A door to door salesman Mary - An unsuspecting customer

Phil enters, carrying a diary.

PHIL: "Dear Diary, Some weirdo came to my house and started trying to sell me a Bible. Dear Diary, Weirdo has moved into the guest bedroom. My husband is really annoyed, and so am I. Dear Diary, Weirdo is teaching me a few books of the Bible every week. He's really strange. Dear Diary, Why won't this weirdo get the hint and go? How long is this going to take? Dear Diary, every week with this guy! He finds new ways to teach me about the books of the Bible. Dear Diary, What is happening to me? I feel like I'm trapped in a series of skits for a really long kids ministry series about the books of the Bible."

Mary enters.

MARY: What are you reading?

PHIL: Oh, just something I found in the den.

MARY: That's my diary!

PHIL: It is?

Mary snatches the diary.



MARY: That's personal, and private, and -

PHIL: And a very detailed record of our time together.

MARY: You read all that?

PHIL: I did. And I have to tell you, I've been called crazier things than "weirdo."

MARY: Well, I don't mean to hurt your feelings, but-

PHIL: But nothing. I am not hurt. In fact, I'm inspired by your detailed and thorough account of our time together. Do you know why?

MARY: Oh, here it comes!

PHIL: It reminds me of one of my favorite books of the Bible, a book called The Acts of the Apostles, or simply... Acts.

MARY: Just one book this week?

PHIL: Just one book. One action-packed chronicle of the early church that tells how the story of Jesus spread beyond one small community to the whole world!

MARY: You couldn't throw in a few more so we can get this over with?

PHIL: Madam, I would be short-changing you and Luke, author of the book of Acts, to just toss it in with some other books. It's in the book of Acts we see how the early church formed. We see it grow into a movement. We see the disciples becoming leaders, taking the gospel to the Gentiles as well as the Jews. And we meet Paul, one of the greatest missionaries who ever lived.

MARY: That's a lot of story.

PHIL: This book has everything. Chases! Escapes! Murders! Shipwrecks! Poisonous snakes!

MARY: All that in one book?



PHIL: All because the early believers were so excited about Jesus, they had to share the news with others.

MARY: No wonder you're so enthusiastic.

PHIL: Madam, if it were not for the Acts of the Apostles, we would not be here today in this land of freedom where we can worship God as we choose. They braved persecution, prison, and death so that the whole world would know the good news about Jesus! I can repeat all that slowly if you want to add it to your diary.

MARY: Augh!

Mary exits.

PHIL: Remember, madam, without Acts, there is no church!