

A script from



## “Camp Sunrise: God is With Joseph”

by  
Rebecca Wimmer

**What** This is a fun telling of Joseph the dreamer, and how God was always with him, even through some really awful circumstances!

**Themes:** Kids Church, Children's Ministry, Protection, God With Us, Bible Story

<b>Who</b>	Counselor	Joseph	Baker
	Henry/Harriet	Brother 1	Cup Bearer
	Marigold	Brother 2	Pharaoh
	Ivy	Ishmaelite Trader	Jacob
	Dusty	Potiphar	Benjamin
	Reed	Potiphar's Wife	

**When** Present day and Bible times

**Wear (Props)** Campers should wear appropriate clothes for camping  
Bible characters can wear biblical clothing  
Coat of many colors  
Bottle  
Teddy Bear  
Silver Cup  
Bags for food  
Setting for camping- campfire, logs for sitting on or short stools, tent, lanterns etc.  
Blanket

**Why** Genesis 37, 39-46

**How** The following roles can be played by the same actor as such: Brother 1, Potiphar, Baker, Brother 2, Potiphar's Wife, Cup Bearer, Ishmaelite Trader, Pharaoh, Jacob

**Time** Approximately 18 minutes

The **Counselor, Marigold, Ivy, Dusty** and **Reed** sit huddled around a campfire. **Dusty** sits next to **Ivy** and they have a shared blanket draped across their legs in which we can only see **Ivy's** legs. That's important for later. They all appear to be cold and trying to get warm from the heat of the fire.

- Ivy:** It's soooo coooooold.
- Dusty:** I can't feel my nose. Is my nose still on my face?
- Marigold:** Are we really going to sleep outside in *this*?
- Counselor:** It's not *that* cold.
- Dusty:** I can't move my legs! I CAN'T MOVE MY LEGS!!
- Ivy:** Dusty! Calm down! (*Pulling off the blanket*) See? Those are my legs.
- Dusty:** Oh. Phew.
- Marigold:** It's damp. It's dark. All those weird noises are back. And the moon isn't out. It's so dark tonight.
- Counselor:** I imagine this is kind of what it looked and felt like for Joseph when he was in prison all those years.
- Reed:** Who's Joseph?
- Ivy:** And why was he in prison?
- Dusty:** Did he kill someone?
- Counselor:** No.
- Reed:** Did he steal?
- Counselor:** No.
- Ivy:** Did he cheat?
- Counselor:** No.
- Marigold:** Did he kidnap the president and ransom him for a hundred billion dollars then take the money and escape to South America and buy a small island and bury the money in the sand and then made up a new criminal name, like the Night Nuisance and begin a spree of ice cream theft up and down the countryside? (*Pause as she waits for a response. They all look at her strangely.*) No?

**Counselor:** No. In fact...he didn't do anything that warranted him going to prison. Hmmm. Where should I start?

**Joseph** enters in a fancy colorful coat.

**Counselor:** Joseph was his Dad's favorite son.

**Joseph:** *(To the audience)* Dad totally likes me best.

Enter the **Brothers**.

**Counselor:** But almost needless to say, this didn't make Joseph's other brothers very happy. In fact...they really hated Joseph.

**Brother 1:** Ugh! Here comes Joseph again!

**Brother 2:** And he's wearing that fancy, totally awesome coat that I wanted but Dad bought it for *him!*

**Brother 2:** He always gets whatever he wants. Dad spoils him rotten.

**Brother 1:** He just better not tell us another one of his ridiculous dreams again.

**Reed:** Dreams?

**Counselor:** Yeah. Joseph had these dreams that God gave him. The dreams basically said that one day Joseph's brothers would all bow down to Joseph because Joseph would one day be in a very big and important role later in life.

**Ivy:** I bet that made his brothers even more mad.

**Brother 1:** It sure did! *(To his Brothers)* I tell you what...when Joseph gets here let's just get rid of him once and for all...whatdya think?

**Brother 2:** Um...ok.

**Joseph:** *(Approaching)* Hey brothers! You are *not* going to guess what I dreamed about last night!

**Brother 1:** Grab him!

**Joseph:** Hey! What's going on?! That's my coat!

**Brother 2:** *(Taking the coat off Joseph)* It's my coat now! *(Putting it on he models it for his brothers a little bit)* It looks pretty good on me, doesn't it?

Everyone ad libs general approval at how it looks. Even **Joseph** who then says...

**Joseph:** Hey! Wait a minute! That's mine! Give it back!

**Brother 2:** You won't need it where you're going.

**Joseph:** And where am I going?

Enter **Ishmaelite Trader**.

**Brother 1:** *(Looking around he spots the Ishmaelite Trader)* Um...um...with this guy!

**Joseph:** *(Pointing to Ishmaelite Trader)* With him?!

**Brother 1:** *(Pointing to Ishmaelite Trader)* With him.

**Ish Trader:** *(Pointing to himself confused)* With me?

**Brother 2:** *(Pointing to Ishmaelite Trader)* With you.

**Joseph:** *(Pointing to his Brothers)* With you?

**Ish Trader:** *(Pointing to himself confidently)* With me.

**Brothers:** *(Pointing to Ishmaelite Trader)* With him.

**Joseph:** *(Pointing to Ishmaelite Trader)* Oh...with him. *(Pause)* But where?

**Brother 1:** *(Speaking to Ishmaelite Trader)* Where are you headed?

**Joseph:** *(Wishful thinking out loud to himself)* Please say home please say home please say home...

**Ish Trader:** *(To Brother 1)* Egypt.

**Brother 1:** *(To Ishmaelite Trader)* Egypt?

**Ish Trader:** *(To Brother 1)* Egypt.

**Brother 2:** *(To Joseph)* Egypt.

**Joseph:** *(To Ishmaelite Trader)* Egypt?

**Ish Trader:** (To **Joseph**) Egypt.

**Brothers:** (To **Joseph**) Egypt.

**Joseph:** Oh...Egypt. Egypt?! (Pause) But why?

Exit **Ishmaelite Trader** "tying" **Joseph's** hands behind his back and pushing him out as the **Brothers** admire the new coat and exit following them.

**Counselor:** The brothers were so sick of Joseph they sold him as a slave to this passing traveler who was on his way to Egypt.

**Marigold:** That's terrible!

**Counselor:** But...God was *with* Joseph.

**Dusty:** If God was *with* Joseph, then why didn't he stop his brothers from selling him to become a slave in Egypt?

**Counselor:** Well, think about it. His brothers *could have* decided to kill Joseph but they didn't. And even though Joseph wasn't exactly where he wanted to be...on his way to become a slave in Egypt...he was alive, and remember those dreams of his? God had big plans for Joseph.

**Ivy:** So what happened next? Did he escape and go back home to his dad and get his fancy coat back?

Enter **Joseph** still being held by the **Ishmaelite Trader** with his hands behind his back. Also enter **Potiphar** and **Potiphar's Wife**.

**Potiphar:** I need a slave to help clean my house. (Looking at **Joseph**) How about this one? He looks strong.

**Pot Wife:** And cute!

**Potiphar** gives his wife a look. She looks away then winks at **Joseph** who makes a confused grimacing face and looks away.

**Potiphar:** I'll take him.

**Potiphar** hands the **Ishmaelite Trader** a small sac of money and the **Ishmaelite Trader** exit. **Potiphar** leads **Joseph** to the side and "unties" him. **Potiphar's Wife** sits upstage watching.

**Counselor:** A man named Potiphar bought Joseph to be a slave in his house. Joseph was a good slave.

**Potiphar** shakes **Joseph's** hand and exits.

**Counselor:** He was strong, reliable and trustworthy.

**Pot Wife:** And cute!

**Counselor:** And Potiphar's wife thought he was *pretty special* too.

**Pot Wife:** Pretty special? He's sooooo cute!

**Counselor:** Joseph tried to stay away from Potiphar's wife, but she just wouldn't leave him alone.

**Pot Wife:** Leave him alone? How can I leave him alone? He's soooo cute!

**Potiphar's Wife** starts chasing **Joseph** around the stage saying "So cute! So cute! So cute!" over and over again. **Joseph** continues to avoid her and run from her until finally she gets so upset she starts to cry. **Potiphar** enters.

**Potiphar:** (Going to her to comfort her) Wife, what's wrong?

**Pot Wife:** (Still "crying" but intelligible) It's Joseph! He...He...he keeps trying to hug me!

**Pot & Joseph:** WHAAT?!?!?

**Pot Wife:** Yes! He keeps trying to hug me! And kiss me! He won't stop chasing me around the room! (She "cries" again)

**Potiphar:** Joseph! How dare you! Off to prison you go!

**Wife&Joseph:** WHAAT?!?!?!?

**Joseph:** But, I didn't do it!

**Pot Wife:** But, he's so cute.

Exit **Potiphar's Wife**, **Potiphar** "tying" **Joseph's** hands behind his back and pushing **Joseph** into "prison" downstage.

**Counselor:** Joseph was thrown into prison and lived there for *many* years.

**Reed:** Years?!

**Marigold:** But he didn't do anything wrong!

**Ivy:** All this bad stuff keeps happening to Joseph, and he seems like such a good guy! It seems unfair!

**Counselor:** But even locked up in jail God was *with* Joseph.

**Ivy:** How was God with Joseph in prison for years and years?

**Counselor:** Well, remember how Joseph used to have all those crazy dreams?  
*They nod and general ad lib that they remember.*

**Counselor:** Well, that gift of being able to tell what a dream meant was going to come in handy in about...3...2...1...

*Enter **Baker** and **Cup Bearer** who have just been "thrown" into prison from offstage. They enter and land with an "umph" and ad lib.*

**Baker:** *(Shouting offstage once he "lands")* You're going to hear from my lawyer, pal!

**Cup Bearer:** *(Getting up and shaking off)* Ouchie. I hurt my tushy. *(Looking around)* This is a far cry from palace accommodations.

**Joseph:** *(Reaching out to shake their hands. The **Cup Bearer** first, who shakes his hand)* I'm Joseph. Nice to meet you.

**Cup Bearer:** *(Shaking hands)* I'm Pharaoh's cup bearer.

***Joseph** reaches out to the **Baker** to shake his hand but the **Baker** refuses.*

**Cup Bearer:** *(To the **Baker**)* Might as well make nice. Who knows how long Pharaoh will keep us locked up here. *(To **Joseph**)* This is Pharaoh's baker.

***Joseph** waves hello from a distance which the **Baker** turns his nose to.*

***Joseph**, **Cup Bearer** and **Baker** lay down to sleep.*

**Dusty:** Did these two guys help him escape or something? Is that how he gets out?

**Counselor:** No. Not exactly.

**Marigold:** Then how does he get out? He does get out, doesn't he?

**Baker:** *(Suddenly sitting up and screaming at the top of his lungs. He's had a bad dream) Ahhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh!!!!!! (He pants hard because he's so startled awake from his dream)*

**Joseph and Cup Bearer** are startled up and awake too.

**Cup Bearer:** *(To Baker)* What is it?! What's wrong?!

**Baker:** I just had a horrible dream! It scared me so much! There was bread. And birds and more bread and more birds and birds pecking me and squawking and more birds -!

**Joseph:** *(Comforting Baker)* Calm down. You're awake now. There aren't any birds in here.

**Cup Bearer:** *(Remembering)* I had a strange dream too! No birds or anything like that, but Pharaoh was there and I was giving him a glass of his favorite drink and he was smiling at me like he used to.

**Joseph:** Tell me more about your dreams. I may be able to help you understand what they mean.

**Joseph, Cup Bearer and Baker** pantomime together as each quickly tells them their dream. **Joseph** nods and responds to them as he listens earnestly.

**Counselor:** See, God helped Joseph see the meaning in dreams and he was able to listen to their dreams and tell them what they meant.

**Cup Bearer:** So, what does it mean?

**Joseph:** *(To Cup Bearer)* Good news! Pharaoh isn't going to be mad at you much longer. In three days he'll send for you and give you your old job back.

**Cup Bearer:** That's awesome!

**Baker:** What about me? What does my dream mean? Is Pharaoh going to send for me too? Do I get *my* job back? A promotion? A raise?!

**Joseph:** *(Hesitant)* Um, well...no. In three days Pharaoh is *definitely* going send for you. But, no job. No raise. Definitely no promotion. Uh...he's going to have you killed. *(Very quickly)* Who's up for Yahtzee?

**Baker:** What?! I don't believe you. This is ridiculous. These dreams don't mean a thing. *(Lays down to go back to sleep)*



**Joseph and Cup Bearer** lay down to sleep too.

**Counselor:** Three days later Pharaoh sent for his Cup Bearer and Baker.

**Joseph:** *(To the Cup Bearer)* Hey, buddy. Don't forget about me down here. Tell Pharaoh about me and how I helped you.

Exit **Cup Bearer** who gives **Joseph** a thumbs up followed by the **Baker** who just gives **Joseph** a nasty look.

**Counselor:** Pharaoh gave the Cup Bearer his old job back. Just as Joseph said he would.

**Reed:** And the baker?

**Counselor:** Well...

**Baker:** *(Offstage)* Ahhhhhhhh!!!

**Counselor:** Things happened for him the way Joseph said they would too.

**Ivy:** Now does Joseph get out of prison?

Enter **Pharaoh** followed by the **Cup Bearer**. **Pharaoh** is pacing about nervously holding a teddy bear. **Cup Bearer** holds a baby bottle behind his back.

**Counselor:** Well, it turns out Pharaoh was having some pretty bad dreams too. But no one seemed to be able to tell him what they meant.

**Pharaoh:** Can *nobody* tell me what these cotton-pickin' dreams mean?! *(He reaches to the Cup Bearer who hands him the bottle and he begins to drink out of it)*

**Cup Bearer:** Um...sir?

**Pharaoh:** *(Curtly)* What?! *(Drinks bottle again)*

**Cup Bearer:** Um, remember that time you had me thrown in prison for a while? *(Quickly changing his tactic)* Scratch that...don't remember that. Just know that I met this guy who when I told him about a mysterious dream / had he told me exactly what it meant and he was right! He's probably still in prison here in Egypt. Maybe we should go get him.

**Pharaoh:** Bring him to me!

Enter **Joseph**. **Pharaoh** throws his teddy and bottle to the **Cup Bearer** who tucks them behind his back. Pantomime **Pharaoh** telling **Joseph** dreams)

**Counselor:** So Joseph was taken out of prison and brought before Pharaoh. Pharaoh told Joseph his mysterious dreams. It involved a bunch of cows and some wheat and other stuff like that and basically meant that seven years of great abundant harvest were coming Egypt's way followed by seven years of the worst famine and drought they had ever seen.

**Pharaoh:** You've done it! (*Arm around **Joseph***) You told me what my dreams meant!

**Joseph:** Actually, *God* told me what they meant and I told you. That's kind of how it works. He helps me. I help you. Badda bing badda boom.

**Pharaoh:** I need a guy just like you around to help me in Egypt. I'm giving you a job! You will be Governor over all of Egypt! How's that sound?

**Joseph:** Better than prison.

Exit **Pharaoh** and **Cup Bearer** who gives **Joseph** a "thumb's up" as he goes.

**Counselor:** So Joseph, once a slave, then a prisoner, was now Governor over all of Egypt. He helped the people collect and store enough food for the coming famine that would sweep the land near and far.

**Marigold:** I think it's very clear that God was with Joseph *now*.

**Dusty:** Yeah, but what about his family back home? His brothers? His Dad?

Enter **Brother 1**, **Brother 2** and **Jacob** who stand away from **Joseph** downstage as though in another land.

**Counselor:** I'm glad you asked.

**Brother 1:** I'm sooooo hungry.

**Brother 2:** (*Dramatically*) This famine is killing me. (*Matter of factly*) No really. It's *literally* killing me.

**Jacob:** My sons, there is nothing to eat here, but in Egypt there is plenty. I need you to go to Egypt and bring us back some food to eat.

**Counselor:** So off the brothers went to Egypt to get some food to feed their hungry bellies and starving families back home. And *who* do you think they had to ask for the food?

**Reed:** Who?

The **Brothers** enter and approach **Joseph** and bow down on their knees before him.

**Counselor:** Joseph! They had to beg Joseph, their brother, whom they had sold into slavery all those years ago, for food so they could live.

**Ivy:** Didn't they recognize that Joseph was their brother?

**Counselor:** No. It had been many, many, *many* years since they had seen Joseph. They thought he was probably long gone by now. *But* Joseph recognized *them!* And he wanted to figure out if his brothers were still the mean, selfish bullies they were all those years ago *or* if they had changed for the better.

**Joseph:** You are spies! You've come here to try and steal our food and destroy our country!

**Brother 1:** (*Standing*) No your excellency...your highness, your...uh...

**Brother 2:** (*Stopping his brother's babbling*) We are just hungry travelers who have come to buy food for our father and brother and the rest of our families back home.

**Joseph:** (*Excitedly*) Dad's still alive?! (*Then remembering to be more stern*) You say you're buying food for you and your father and other brother?

**Brother 1:** Yes. Our dad is too old to travel and he would never let our youngest brother, Benjamin, travel after what happened to...

**Brother 2:** You see, we had another brother who...uh...well...

**Brother 1:** He's not with us anymore and Dad would surely die if something happened to his youngest son, our brother Benjamin.

**Joseph:** Well, you are going to prove you are *not* spies by bringing your brother Benjamin to me. Then I'll believe your story. And just to make sure you return, one of you has to stay in prison until the other brothers come back.

The **Brothers** look at each other horrified for a moment then realize they have no choice and are resigned to the plan.

**Brother 1:** I'll stay. (To **Brother 2**) Go home. Tell Dad what has happened. Bring Benji.  
*Brother 2 starts to exit.*

**Brother 1:** (Shouting after him) And brother...*(a little scared)* hurry!

*Exit **Brother 2** leaving **Brother 1** who is placed in prison by moving downstage and having a seat. **Joseph** stands nearby.*

**Marigold:** And did they come back? Did they finally recognize Joseph? Were they all one big happy family again?

*Enter **Brother 2** and **Benjamin** and **Brother 1** comes out of prison, greeting them happy to see them and joins them bowing down again before **Joseph**.*

**Counselor:** It was hard to convince their father to let Benjamin go, but finally he did.

**Brother 2:** (To **Joseph** still on his knees) Your royalness, uh...I mean...your majesty...uh...that is...

**Brother 1:** (Still on knees) Your holiness high and mighty man of...uh, well...um...

**Benjamin:** (Standing up) I'm Benjamin. The youngest son of my father.

*Begin a pantomime of everything the **Counselor** narrates in the following speech. They sit and pretend to eat and are smiling and happy together.*

**Counselor:** Joseph was so happy to see his youngest brother again. He threw a great banquet for his brothers. They ate together and laughed together but they still didn't recognize their brother Joseph.

**Marigold:** Now did Joseph finally tell them who he was?

*Pantomime **Joseph** giving food bags and hiding the cup in **Benjamin's** food bag of which all the **Brothers** and **Benjamin** are unaware.*

**Counselor:** When the feast was over Joseph had *one more test* to see if his brothers were still the mean selfish men they had been all those years ago when they sold him off as a slave. He gave his brothers lots of food to take home with them to their father and the rest of the family, but in Benjamin's bag of food he hid a very expensive, very special silver cup that belonged to him. Then when the brothers were leaving and on their way back home...

The **Brothers** and **Benjamin** are walking away.

**Joseph:** Stop!!! Stop right this instant! One of you has stolen my favorite silver cup!

**Brother 2:** No! Your kingship...uh, I mean...your sirness, uh...I mean....

**Brother 1:** We would never dare to steal from you, your greatness! Search us! And you will find no cup! And if you do, you can throw the person who stole the cup into your prison to rot there for the rest of their life!

**Joseph** goes to **Brother 1's** bag...no cup...then **Brother 2's** bag, finding nothing again, then finally to **Benjamin's**. He reaches dramatically into the bag, fishes around and pulls out the missing silver cup!

All gasp!

**All:** (Except Benjamin and Counselor) Benjamin!

**Joseph:** Benjamin! You stole my favorite silver cup! You will rot in my prison for the rest of your life for what you have done!

**Brother 1:** (Very, very dramatically) Nooooooooooooooooooooooooooooo!!!! (Falling to his knees before **Joseph**, groveling) No, please, your lordy highnessship, no...you can't! Take me instead!

**Brother 2:** (Falling on his knees wrapping his arms around **Joseph's** legs) Anyone but Benjamin! Your majestic king-type-person! You can't have Benji! Our father would surely die if anything happened to Benjamin! Please! Take me instead!

**Counselor:** Joseph could finally see that his brothers had really changed. They were no longer the mean, selfish men they had been all those years ago when they were all younger. They were willing to sacrifice their own lives for the lives of their brothers. So, he decided it was time to reveal to them who he really was.

**Joseph:** Brothers! Brothers!!! Don't you recognize me?

They stop groveling for a moment and look up at **Joseph**.

**Joseph:** It's me! Look! Your brother, Joseph!

**Brother 1:** (Standing up and looking confused but realizing it's true) Joseph?!

**Brother 2:** *(Standing)* Could it be true?

**Joseph:** Guys! *(Embracing them all in one big group hug)* It's really me!

**Brother 1:** Are you going to have us *all* thrown in prison now for what we did to you all those years ago?

**Joseph:** No! No no no no no. It's water under the bridge, man! You guys wanted to hurt me but God used it to do good! I mean, look at me! I'm Governor of Egypt! Group hug!

*They group hug.*

**Joseph:** *(Remembering)* Dad! We gotta go get Dad! You guys should all move here! There's plenty of food, water, land! We could live here for like, four hundred years, easy!

**Joseph** remains behind with his arm around **Benjamin** as **Brothers 1** and **2** go off and get **Jacob** who then enters and limp/runs in to give **Joseph** a big hug. Another group hug then they all exit.

**Ivy:** God *really* was with Joseph the whole time.

**Marigold:** Through the good and the bad times.

**Counselor:** That's true.

**Reed:** What a great story.

**Dusty:** And it doesn't feel so cold out anymore.

**Counselor:** Well, this fire has been here with us the whole time keeping us warm and giving us light.

**Marigold:** Kind of like how God was with Joseph the whole time, even when things were dark and cold and scary.

**Counselor:** Yep. And it will feel even warmer when you're all tucked inside your cozy beds. So, off to sleep everyone!

*General ad lib of "goodnights" as they head off to their separate tents. Counselor picks up the blankets and folds them laying them across the seats nicely as they go, then turns back to the fire.*

**Counselor:** *(To God)* Help us to always know you're with us...even in the dark times. *(Exit into tent.)*

A script from



## “Camp Sunrise: The Wandering Israelites”

by  
Rebecca Wimmer

**What** The kids at Camp Sunrise have been wandering around the woods for what seems like days, even though it's only been a short time, making it a great time to hear a story about Israelites wandering in the desert and a lesson on being grateful during the tough times.

**Themes:** Protection, Provision, God Provides, Guidance, Gratefulness

**Who**

Counselor Henry/Harriet	Reed
Marigold	Israelite 1
Ivy	Israelite 2
Dusty	Israelite 3

**When** Present and Bible Times

**Wear (Props)** Setting is a campsite (i.e. tents, campfire, etc.)  
Campers should wear camping clothes  
Israelites wear biblical robes

**Why** Numbers 32:13

**How** Working with kids can be challenging. Make sure that they know to be still and quiet and listen to the person speaking when it's not their turn so that they do not distract from the story.

**Time** Approximately 6 minutes

**Counselor:** *(Offstage)* Left! Left! Left Right Left! Left! Left! Left Right Left!  
*Entering marching followed by Marigold, Ivy, Dusty and Reed marching behind.*

**Counselor:** Left! Left! Left Right Left! Left! Left! Left Right Left! STOOOOP!!!

*They all stop bumping into one another as they do.*

**Counselor:** I think this is the spot.

**Marigold:** *(Looking around confused)* This?

**Ivy:** But there's nothing here.

**Dusty:** Nothin' but trees.

**Counselor:** Yep. *This* is it. Come on over and have a seat.

*They all pull up a stump around a fire pit nearby.*

**Ivy:** I feel like we've been wandering for hours.

**Dusty:** I feel like we've been wandering for days! I'm so tired.

**Reed:** It's so dark out.

**Marigold:** And kinda scary.

**Ivy:** *(Jumping like she hears a noise)* Ahh! What was that?!

**Dusty:** It was just the wind. *(Then he suddenly jumps at a noise and hugs Reed)*  
Ahh! What was that?!

**Counselor:** It's just nature. Birds, wind, trees, animals. It's all around us.

**Marigold:** But it's all so strange.

**Counselor:** You're right, it *does* seem strange in the dark. But it's the same stuff that's there during the day.

**Dusty:** I think being in the dark just makes things scarier.

**Counselor:** I think you're right. That reminds me of a story. Would you like to hear it?

*They all ad lib that they do.*



**Counselor:** Ok. Well, we were all wandering together in the woods...trying to find this campsite and it felt like a long time that we were wandering, didn't it?

*They all ad lib in agreement.*

Enter **Israelites** tired and wandering looking around confused and distraught.

**Counselor:** Well, there was once a whole big group of people, they were called the Israelites, and they were wandering in a hot and sweltering desert for more than forty years!

**Campers:** Forty years?!

**Counselor:** Yes. Forty years. They spent a lot of nights wandering in the dark, not knowing which way to go or what some of the strange sights and sounds around them were.

**Israelite 1:** *(Jumping at a noise)* Ahh!! What was that?!

**Israelite 2:** It was just the wind. Don't be so- *(hearing a noise and jumping into the arms of Israelite 1)* Ahh!! What was that?!

**Israelite 3:** It's the same thing it always is. We've been wandering in this desert so long how can you possibly still be afraid?

**Israelite 2:** *(With a bit of a whine sitting down and putting face in hands)* I'm just so tired of wandering.

**Israelite 1:** *(Whining and sitting)* Me too.

**Israelite 3:** *(Whining and sitting)* Me three.

**Israelite 1:** Why doesn't God just show us the way home?

**Israelite 2:** *(Standing and pointing stage right)* I say we just go back to Egypt. There we had food. Shelter.

**Israelite 3:** Here we have nothin'. Just desert...desert...and more desert.

**Marigold:** Wait, they used to live in Egypt?

**Dusty:** With food and houses and stuff?

**Ivy:** Well then, they should definitely go back to Egypt and stop wandering all around in the desert.

**Counselor:** Now wait a second. Life wasn't great for them back in Egypt.

**Israelite 1:** *(Standing)* We can't go back to Egypt. Have you forgotten? We were slaves back in Egypt. Pharaoh wasn't a nice guy. We had to work hard building all those pyramids for him!

**Israelite 2:** It gave me terrible blisters.

**Ivy:** They were *slaves*?

**Counselor:** Yup.

**Dusty:** And now they were wandering around in the desert for forty years?

**Counselor:** Yup.

**Marigold:** Tough gig.

**Israelite 1:** You're telling me!

**Reed:** Why were they wandering for so long?

**Counselor:** Well, the Israelites were kind of pretty big whiners.

**Israelite 2:** *(Whining)* It is soooooo hot in the desert! I'm baking out here!  
*(Speaking to Heaven)* Ever heard of a community pool?

**Counselor:** And they were pretty ungrateful too.

**Israelite 3:** What's for dinner? And if you say quail or manna I'm going to scream.

**Israel1&2:** *(Very matter of fact)* Quail and manna.

**Israelite 3:** Ahhhhhhhh!!!!

**Counselor:** And they weren't very good listeners either.

**Israelite 2:** *(To Counselor holding hand up to ear)* What's that you say?

**Marigold:** Oh yeah...I remember this! God had saved the Israelites from being slaves in Egypt. He even parted the Red Sea to help them escape!

**Counselor:** And even after *everything* God had done for the Israelites they continued to whine and complain and they even forgot about God and decided to worship idols.

**Dusty:** Wandering around in the desert doesn't sound like any fun.

**Ivy:** Sort of like how we were wandering around the woods for so long. We were tired. Hungry. And confused by all the new sights and sounds around us.

**Counselor:** But eventually we stopped wandering, didn't we?

All the **Campers** ad lib that they did.

**Counselor:** And the Israelites eventually stopped wandering too and turned back to God and were thankful that he was always with them.

**Israelite 1:** *(Pointing offstage)* Look over there! Do you see what I see?!

**Israelite 2:** Could it be?!

**Israelite 3:** Yes! It is! It's....it's....

**Israelites:** The Promised Land!

The **Israelites** run offstage in a delighted frenzy ad libbing as they go: "I'm so excited! Milk and honey! No more manna! Etc.

**Counselor:** When you're wandering around and don't know where you are, it can be confusing and even a little scary. It can be lonely and hard to see the good things all around you and even harder to be thankful for the good things. The Israelites often chose to whine and complain about all the bad parts of wandering, but even while they were feeling so lost God was with them. He took care of them. *(Pause)* Just as he has taken care of us here in the woods. But, it's late. Time to sleep campers!

They all stand and make sleepy yawny stretchy motions and ad lib. that they are ready for bed and general "goodnights" to all as they disappear into their tents. Boys to one tent, girls to the other. The **Counselor** stands in the middle near the fire wishing them goodnight.

**Counselor:** *(Speaking to God)* Thanks...for helping us out while we *(using air quotes)* "wandered" in the woods. Help us to always look to you for help, knowing you are there every step of the way and be thankful for that. Goodnight.

The **Counselor** disappears into their tent.

End.

A script from



## **“Camp Sunrise: Rahab Helps the Lost”**

by  
Rebecca Wimmer

**What** The kids at Camp Sunrise have just finished a game to see who can make it back to the campsite first and learn that it's easier to find your way when a friend is helpful. This is a fun telling of the story of how Rahab helped two Israelite spies and because of that, God saved Rahab and her family.

**Themes:** VBS, Kid's Ministry, God's Protection, Mission, Purpose, Trust, Faith

**Who** Counselor Henry/Harriet      Rahab  
Marigold                              Spy1  
Ivy                                        Spy2  
Dusty                                    Jericho Guard  
Reed

**When** Present and Bible Times

**Wear** Setting is a campsite- tent, campfire, trees, etc.  
**(Props)** An idea is to use undecorated alpine trees you see during Christmas  
Campers should wear camping clothes  
Bible costumes for Rahab and Spies  
\*Optional- Mission Impossible theme music  
Water Bottles  
Red Rope

**Why** Joshua 2

**How** You can use the steps leading up to your stage to imply the spies climb out of Rahab's window.

**Time** Approximately 8 minutes

The **Counselor** stands in front of the campsite appearing to look over the woods for something.

**Marigold:** *(Enters and is the first to arrive back at the campsite)* I made it! I'm here! I found my way.

**Counselor:** Good job, Marigold. Now let's see if Dusty and Reed can make it too before Ivy catches them.

They look out from where **Marigold** entered but don't see anyone.

**Marigold:** Maybe they're lost.

Another pause as they continue to search for them.

**Marigold:** I'm going to go help them.

**Marigold** exits the way she came.

A long pause as **Counselor** waits then **Marigold** enters followed by **Dusty** and **Reed** quickly following. They enter ad libbing "we made it", "we're safe", "hooray".

Enter **Ivy** shortly behind them.

**Ivy:** Aw man! I was so close! But you guys got away. Good job.

The **Campers** high five "good" job to one another.

**Ivy:** That was fun. Can we play again?

**Counselor:** Sure, but why don't we sit down and take a little water break first.

The **Campers** grab their water bottles and have a seat.

**Dusty:** I'm glad Marigold came back to find us.

**Reed:** Yeah, we never would have made it without being caught if you didn't come help us.

**Marigold:** No problem guys. Just remember that for the next time we play. If I need help you can come and find me! Deal?

**Dusty&Reed:** Deal.

**Counselor:** You going to help your friends reminds me of how Rahab helped the spies escape Jericho.

**Ivy:** There are spies in the Bible?

**Counselor:** Yeah. Remember the Israelites that I told you about?

*They all ad lib that they do remember.*

**Counselor:** Well, the Israelites in their wandering came across a really big city called Jericho. The leaders of the Israelites sent two spies to go check out this great city.

**Spy 1 and Spy 2** enter humming/dum diddy umming the "Mission Impossible" theme or use a sound cue of the music. They are moving all stealth-like across the stage pretending to be spies and then end in a spy "tableau" position.

**Marigold:** Spies? Why would they need to send spies?

**Ivy:** Yeah, why couldn't they just walk into the city and be like, "yo...give me a tour of your big awesome city"?

Enter **Jericho Guard** using binoculars. Over the **Counselor's** next line as he looks through his binoculars, any time he looks toward the **Spies** they quickly drop to the ground and then get back up and then drop to the ground. They do this a couple times.

**Counselor:** Well, the Israelites and the people of Jericho weren't exactly friends. You see, God had promised the land where Jericho was to the people of Israel and the people in Jericho weren't too happy about that.

**Spy1:** *(Pointing in front of him)* There's Jericho!

**Spy2:** Let's go check it out.

*They again hum the "Mission Impossible" theme or sound cue as they move stealthily across the stage avoiding the watchful eye of the **Jericho Guard**. Finally they pass him and just as they are about to exit the **Jericho Guard** spots them.*

**Guard:** *(Spotting them and drawing his sword)* Hey! I see you Israelites!

**Spy1:** Run for it!

*"Mission Impossible" song as the **Spies** exit followed by **Jericho Guard**.*

**Dusty:** Did they escape?

**Counselor:** The spies managed to get into the city but now that the people of Jericho knew they were there they were having a hard time getting out.

Enter **Spy 1** and **Spy 2** looking cautiously about themselves.

**Spy2:** Great. Just great. All of Jericho is looking for us. How are we supposed to get out of this place?

**Spy1:** We need some serious help.

Enter **Rahab** who stands downstage.

**Rahab:** Are you two rather conspicuous Israelites looking for some help?

**Spy1:** Uh, we're not...um, Israelites!

**Spy2:** No! Of course not! We're from Jericho! We're Jerichonites...Jerichobians...Jerichones...

**Spy1:** We're your neighbors! We live right down the lane here.

**Spy2:** Yeah! Don't our kids go to the same school?

**Rahab:** Yeah, right. So...do you two Israelite spies want my help or not?

**Guard:** *(Offstage)* I know you're around here somewhere, you spies!

**Spy1:** *(To Rahab)* Help please.

**Rahab:** Come inside.

*They quickly move past her pantomiming entering her home.*

**Rahab:** Now...can we start over? My name is Rahab. This is my home. And you are...?

**Spy2:** We're Jerichonians...Jerichonibians...Jerichonimeesaneesiums?

**Rahab** is unconvinced and the **Spies** look at one another

**Guard:** *(Offstage teasing like in hide and seek)* Come out come out wherever you are!

**Spy1:** *(With urgency)* We're Israelite spies investigating your city and we're being chased by your guards and if they find us I'm sure they will do not very nice things to us so however you can help us, Rahab, we're willing to try.

**Rahab:** Quick. Head up to the roof. You can hide up there. They won't be able to find you up there.

**Spy1:** Thank you!

**Guard:** *(Entering and stopping before **Rahab's** door)* Knock knock!

**Rahab:** *(To the **Spies**)* Go!

*The **Spies** pantomime going upstairs and "hide" in tableau position on the "roof".*

**Guard:** Open up, Rahab! The jig is up.

**Rahab:** *(Moving to and addressing the **Jericho Guard** as though she just opened the door and speaking very familiarly with the **Jericho Guard**)* Hey Ernie. What jig is up?

**Guard:** *(Kid-like, whiney and looking around, wary someone heard her call him that)* Rahab! When I'm working you have to call me sir or something like that.

**Rahab:** Sorry, Ernie. I'll remember next time...Ernie. What can I help you with, Ernie?

**Guard:** Word on the street is those two spies made their way to your house. Know anything about it?

**Rahab:** *(Looking around)* Do you see anyone here?

**Guard:** *(Looking past her and around)* No, but...

**Rahab:** Then I guess they aren't here.

**Guard:** Yeah, but...

**Rahab:** Alright, Ernie...here's the truth. *(Pause as she moves to where the **Spies** were standing)* They were right here...but now they're not.

**Guard:** Well, where'd they go?

**Rahab:** *(Literally pushing him out the door)* That's for me to know and you to find out.

**Guard:** Oh, ok then...well, have a good day, Rahab. Hey, wait a minute...

**Rahab:** *(One final shove pushing him offstage)* Goodbye, Ernie! *(Waving goodbye to him)* Good luck!

**Spy1:** *(Coming out of hiding)* Whew! That was a close one!



**Spy2:** Too close.

**Rahab:** You two better lay low for awhile. *(Pointing offstage a bit)* See those woods over there? *(Grabbing a red rope)* You can climb out the window over there, down this rope and go hide in that woods...just until they stop looking for you. Then you can go back to your people and be safe and sound.

**Spy1:** *(Sincerely to her)* Thank you. For helping us. You didn't have to.

**Rahab:** Yes I did.

**Spy2:** Why? Why did you help us?

**Rahab:** I know that the God you serve is a good God. And that he is the one and only true God. I know he has promised you and your people all this land, including this city where I live, Jericho. I know that when the Israelites finally come to take Jericho for themselves that you will win because the God you serve is so great. *(Changing tones)* I was just thinking...that maybe when you do come back to take over Jericho...you will remember me, and how I helped you when you needed help...and you will keep me and all of my family safe.

**Spy1:** *(Looking at **Spy 2** then back to **Rahab**)* I'm sure we can do that. You've been so helpful to us and you didn't have to be.

**Spy2:** When we come back, we'll make sure you and all of your family are safe and sound with us.

**Rahab:** Thanks guys. Now, you better hurry.

*She hands them the rope and holds onto the end as they pantomime climbing down the rope. When they reach the bottom...*

**Spy1:** Hey! Keep that red rope hanging out of your window so we know where you and your family are when we come back!

**Rahab:** Ok!

**Spy2:** Thanks again!

***Spy 1** and **Spy 2** leave doing their whole "Mission Impossible" with sound cue or humming as they stealthily go. **Rahab** smiles and waves after them*

**Counselor:** The spies returned to their people and soon the Israelites all would return and march around Jericho and capture the city.

**Marigold:** Did the spies keep their word? When they came back? Did they make sure Rahab and all her family were safe?

Over the **Counselor's** next narrative **Spy 1** and **Spy 2** enter and pantomime going back to the red cord as they motion to **Rahab** to join them, she then climbs down. They reunite with a group hug and exit together all moving stealthily like spies.

**Counselor:** They did. When they came back they invited Rahab and all of her family to join the rest of the Israelites and live happily ever after with them.

**Marigold:** It's always easier to get something done when you have good friends helping you along the way.

**Ivy:** It's important to find good friends.

**Dusty:** It's important to be a good friend.

**Counselor:** You're all right. How about we make some s'mores for a snack?

*They all ad lib excitedly.*

**Counselor:** *(As though sending them on a "mission")* Let's go grab the stuff.

*They all exit acting like spies humming the "Mission Impossible" theme or with the sound cue.*

*Exit.*

A script from



## **“Camp Sunrise: Jesus is the Light”**

by  
Rebecca Wimmer

**What** The kids at Camp Sunrise are taking an evening hike, but are finding it hard to find their way in the dark. This is a fun telling of the birth of Christ and how Jesus came to be our light in the dark!

**Themes:** Kids Ministry, VBS, Christmas, Jesus Birth

**Who**

Counselor Henry/Harriet	Shepherd 1
Marigold	Shepherd 2
Ivy	Shepherd 3
Dusty	Magi 1
Reed	Magi 2
Mary	Magi 3
Joseph	
Gabriel	

**When** Present and Bible times

**Wear (Props)** Kids and Counselor are dressed in clothes for camping.  
Lantern  
Manger  
Doll for baby Jesus  
Costumes for Bible characters- Mary, Joseph, Gabriel, Shepherds, Magi

**Why** Luke 2

**How** Campers and Counselor are on one side of the stage and the Bible characters are on the other. Actors playing Shepherds can also play the Magi with a quick costume change.

**Time** Approximately 5 minutes

Offstage the **Campers** are speaking.

**Marigold:** Ouch!

**Dusty:** Sorry.

**Marigold:** It's dark. I'm scared.

**Ivy:** Where's my flashlight? I can't find it anywhere!

**Dusty:** Ouch!

**Ivy:** Sorry.

**Marigold:** I can't see a thing! How are we ever going to find our way in this dark?

**Ivy:** Ouch!

**Reed:** Sorry.

**Marigold:** This is impossible! We're never going to be able to make it to the top of this mountain if we can't see how to get there.

Entering slowly as it is dark and they can't see well is **Ivy, Marigold, Dusty and Reed.**

**Ivy:** It's no wonder we keep bumping into each other.

**Marigold:** It's pitch black!

**Ivy:** We need some light and soon.

**Dusty:** Look over there!

**Marigold:** A light!

**Reed:** Finally!

**Marigold:** Let's go!

The **Campers** move with a little more confidence toward the light. The light is actually a lantern being held by the **Counselor** on stage.

**Counselor:** There you are!

**Dusty:** It was so dark. We couldn't see a thing!

**Ivy:** But then we saw your light.

**Marigold:** I don't know what we would have done if it weren't for your lantern.

**Counselor:** It's amazing how even the smallest light can make the biggest darkness seem a lot smaller.

**Marigold:** And a lot less scary.

**Counselor:** Being in the dark can be scary and lonely. It can be confusing, and it's easy to lose our way when we can't see where we're supposed to be going. Y'know, that reminds me of one very important story in the Bible.

**Dusty:** Which one?

**Counselor:** The story of Jesus' birth. Wanna hear it?

**Campers:** Yeah!

**Counselor:** Ok, have a seat and I'll tell it. The Bible says that before Jesus was born it was kind of like all the people in the world were walking around in darkness. Remember this story?

Enter **Mary**.

**Ivy:** Yeah, I remember. Mary was a young woman who was faithful to God. Mary pleased God. She was honest and faithful. Kind and strong.

**Mary:** *(Shyly)* Gee, thanks.

**Marigold:** Wasn't she engaged to be married?

Enter **Joseph**.

**Counselor:** Yep, to a great guy. His name was Joseph.

**Joseph:** *(Waving a little shyly too)* Hi.

Enter **Gabriel**.

**Counselor:** God sent an angel, named Gabriel to give Mary some pretty big news.

**Gabriel:** Mary, God thinks you are one pretty awesome chick, and it's his plan to send his one and only Son to the earth and he wants you to help out with that. Can you dig it?

**Mary:** Sure...if that's what God wants.

**Gabriel:** That's my girl! Ok, here's how this is gonna go down: you are going to have a baby. That baby is going to be God's Son, and you're gonna name him Jesus which means "God saves" because that's exactly what this little dude is gonna do! He's going to rescue His people out of all this darkness!

**Mary:** Wow. That sounds like one pretty great plan.

**Gabriel:** I know!

**Gabriel, Joseph and Mary** all high five one another and **Gabriel** exits. **Joseph** reaches off stage to pick up manger and places it center stage where he and **Mary** kneel down next to it.

**Marigold:** Wasn't Jesus born in a barn or a stable or something like that?

**Counselor:** Yep. When the time came for Jesus to be born Mary and Joseph were on a road trip and so were a lot of other people. That's why when they got to their destination, a little town called Bethlehem, all the rooms were taken and the only place available was a dirty smelly stable where animals were kept.

**Reed:** Jesus was born in a stinky stable?

**Counselor:** That's right.

**Dusty:** There wasn't a crib or anything, so they made one of the feeding troughs into his bed.

**Marigold:** If God is so big and great and powerful, why would he come down to earth like an itty bitty little baby and be born in a barn?

**Counselor:** That's a good question. Why don't we keep listening to the story and maybe we'll understand a little better why God decided to send Jesus into the world this way.

Enter **Shepherds** in the back of the auditorium/sanctuary. The sound of sheep baaaaing.

**Counselor:** While Jesus was laying all bundled up in manger in Bethlehem, nearby on a hill that dark night a bunch of poor shepherds were looking after their sheep.

*The sound of sheep baaaaing again.*

**Counselor:** They were just hanging out, watching over their flocks when suddenly...

**Gabriel:** Hey! Dudes! Guess what?! Just over the hill over there in Bethlehem, God's Son has just been born! God sent him as a gift to all people!

*The **Shepherds** look at one another a little alarmed and in disbelief.*

**Gabriel:** I'm totally serious! It's awesome! Go check it out! Hurry up! Go! Run! Faster!

*The **Shepherds** run to the stage and stop in amazement at seeing Jesus. The **Shepherds** bow down before the manger as **Mary** and **Joseph** stand by proudly and in awe.*

**Counselor:** God sent angels to invite these poor poor shepherds to come meet the Savior of the World, Jesus.

**Marigold:** Wow! Lucky them.

*The **Shepherds** stand up and start to leave. They speak to each other as they go.*

**Shepherd 1:** That...

**Shepherd 2:** ...was...

**Shepherd 3:** ...awesome.

*Exit **Shepherds**.*

**Ivy:** Why would God invite these poor shepherds to come see Jesus? They don't seem very big or important.

**Counselor:** Hmm. Well, think about who else came to see Jesus after his birth.

**Reed:** Who else came to see Jesus?

*Enter **Magi** in the back of the auditorium/sanctuary.*

**Dusty:** I remember! The Magi came to see Jesus too!

**Marigold:** Magi?

**Dusty:** Yeah! They were these wise men who lived far away. When Jesus was born, a bright star was shining high in the sky over the stable. The Magi saw the star and followed the light and found Jesus!

*Mary picks up Baby Jesus as **Joseph** moves the manger offstage. They stand center stage holding Jesus and cooing over him.*

**Counselor:** That's right! These Magi knew that this baby was pretty special. He was the Prince of Peace. The King of all Kings. The Savior of the World. So special that they brought very special and very expensive gifts to give to him.

*The **Magi** lay down their gifts for Jesus at **Mary** and **Joseph's** feet and bow as they do. Then move to exit.*

*The **Magi** speak to each other as they go.*

**Magi 1:** That...

**Magi 2:** ...was...

**Magi 3:** ...awesome.

*Exit **Magi**.*

**Marigold:** So Jesus was visited by some poor shepherds and then these spiffy wise guys?

**Counselor:** Yep.

**Marigold:** Those guys don't look at all like the shepherds.

**Counselor:** What do you mean?

**Marigold:** Well, the shepherds were really poor, right? Kinda dirty and smelly and just like regular folks.

**Counselor:** Yeah.

**Marigold:** But then these wise men, these Magi guys, they are all like rich and powerful looking and stuff like that.

**Counselor:** Yeah. So...?

**Ivy:** It's like God is saying that Jesus is for all people. The rich and the poor. The big and the small.



**Marigold:** *(Like an epiphany)* Yeah! That's it! God came like a little bitty baby when he could have come like a conquering king!

**Dusty:** He came for the poor!

**Reed:** He came for the rich!

Exit **Mary and Joseph**

**Counselor:** He came for all people. He came for you and me. And that means all the people who were walking in darkness can now see the light!

**Marigold:** That's good news!

**Counselor:** That's good news for everyone! And we should want to share that good news with everyone! Jesus came like a light in a dark place. He came to show us how to live by living the way God wants us to live our lives. Generously. Courageously. Joyfully and loving all people. And that's why we should share the story of Jesus' life with others with our words but even more so, with how we live our lives every day. We can be like a light in the darkness. Just like Jesus.

**Ivy:** Let's not leave anyone in the dark.

**Marigold:** *(Standing up, and with great exuberance)* Let's shout it from every mountaintop! Jesus is the light of the world!

*They all laugh.*

**Counselor:** *(Standing)* Hey! Let's start with this mountain. *(Holding up lantern)* Now that we all have light to see, we know which way we're going. Who's with me?

**All:** Ad lib. Me! I'm excited! Let's go! We can make it to the top!

**Counselor:** Campers ready?

The **Campers** line up.

**Campers:** Ready!

**Counselor:** *(Holding up lantern they all march in place)* Left! Left! Left Right Left!

**All:** Left! Left! Left Right Left! Left! Left! Left Right Left!

**Counselor:** *(Singing)* Go tell it on the mountain!

**Campers:** *(Singing)* Over the hills and everywhere!

**Counselor:** *(Singing)* Go tell it on the mountain...

**All:** *(Singing)* That Jesus Christ is born!

*Marching and chanting/singing they exit.*

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## “Camp Sunrise: The Lost Sheep is Rescued”

by  
Rebecca Wimmer

**What** The kids at Camp Sunrise have quite a scare when a camper goes missing! Once found, they learn about how Jesus is the Good Shepherd and loves each of His sheep.

**Themes:** Kids Ministry, VBS, Lost, Found, Salvation, Parable of the Lost Sheep

**Who**

Counselor Henry/Harriet	Shepherd
Marigold	Sheep 98
Ivy	Sheep 99
Dusty	Sheep 100
Reed	

**When** Present

**Wear (Props)** Campers are dressed for camping  
Setting is a campout (i.e. tent, campfire, etc.)  
Sheep costumes  
Shepherd costume  
Sound effect of a thunderstorm

**Why** Luke 15:1-7

**How** Feel free to adjust the dialogue to fit your performance and your set (i.e. leave out the line about the Counselor having a cut on his/her head if there is no makeup available.)

Working with kids can sometimes be a challenge. Make sure that they are "listening to the story" while the narration is going on so as not to distract from the storytelling.

**Time** Approximately 8 minutes

The sound of a thunderstorm. The **Counselor** comes out of the tent and looks at the looming sky and shouts offstage.

**Counselor:** Marigold! Ivy! Dusty! Reed! Time to come back to the campsite before it rains.

The sound of rain starts.

Enter **Marigold, Ivy, Dusty**. They enter running in covering their heads from the rain. They huddle in the openings of their tents.

**Marigold:** It's raining cats and dogs!

**Ivy:** I'm soaked through!

**Counselor:** Stay inside your tents and you'll dry off. (Looking around) Hey, where's Reed?

**Dusty:** He was right behind me!

**Counselor:** (Shouting offstage) Reed! Reed!

**Marigold:** He's going to catch a cold.

**Counselor:** I have to go find him. You guys stay here. You know to stay in your tents and watch out for one another. I know exactly where you are, and I'll be back soon...once I find Reed.

Exit **Counselor**.

**Marigold:** She/He is going to get lost too!

**Ivy:** It's pouring outside, and getting darker.

**Dusty:** And scarier.

A long pause then a thunder boom. They all startle a little.

Another long pause.

**Marigold:** I hope they come back soon.

Another long pause then suddenly the **Counselor** appears carrying, if possible, **Reed**, or at least leading him. **Reed** is covered by the **Counselor's** coat and sheltered by them.

**Ivy:** They're back!

**Dusty:** She/He found him!

**Marigold:** I'll get a dry blanket.

**Ivy:** And some warm cocoa.

**Counselor** leads **Reed** to a warm spot by the fire and the other **Campers** all cover him with blankets and tend to him. The **Counselor** lets them tend to **Reed** and moves away slightly to take a breather, obviously tired and a little worn from finding **Reed** and bringing him back.

**Marigold:** At least the rain has stopped.

**Ivy:** We were so worried while you were lost.

**Dusty:** Are you ok?

**Reed:** Yeah, I'm ok. I just...I just got separated from you guys. I couldn't find my way. I was so lost. And scared. (To **Counselor**) Then I saw you. You found me.

**Marigold:** We were scared too.

**Counselor:** We're all safe now.

**Ivy:** (To **Counselor**) Are you ok? You're completely soaked!

**Marigold:** And your shirt is ripped.

**Dusty:** And you got a cut on your head.

**Reed:** You went through all that trouble just to come find me?

**Counselor:** Of course I did. I would have done more if I had to. I'm glad I didn't though.

**Reed:** Thank you.

**Counselor:** You're welcome. Y'know, this reminds me of one of my favorite stories from the Bible. Would you like to hear about it while we all dry off around the fire?

*They all ad lib that they would like to hear the story.*

**Counselor:** There was once a shepherd who had one hundred sheep.

**Shepherd** enters counting and checking off on his clipboard.

**Shepherd:** *(Voice offstage counting)* Ninety-Two, Ninety-Three, Ninety-Four. Check. Check. Check. *(Entering and turning to look offstage and counting sheep he sees offstage)* Ninety-five, Ninety-six...and...I see you over there! You can't hide from me! Ninety-Seven. *(Writing on clipboard)* Check, check and check! *(Turning to see **Sheep98** & **Sheep99**)* And here you two are. *(Patting their heads as he counts)* Ninety-Eight. Check. Ninety-Nine. Check. But...*(looking around and not finding who he's looking for)* Where's One Hundred?

**Sheep98:** Haven't seen him.

**Sheep99:** Yeah. He was with us but while we were grazing he must have wandered off.

**Shepherd:** Hmmm. I wonder where he could have gone. I really don't like when one of my sheep get lost.

**Sheep98:** He'll probably come back.

**Sheep99:** He might be lost and not know how to come back.

**Shepherd:** *(Starting to leave)* I have to go find him.

**Sheep98:** But, it's getting dark outside. And cold.

**Sheep99:** And there might be wolves, or bears or something out there that could hurt you.

**Shepherd:** That's exactly why I have to go. I don't want any of my sheep to be lost in the dark and cold and at the mercy of wild animals. You guys stay here and watch out for each other. It's safe here and I'll be back once I find my little lost sheep.

*Awkward long pause as they wait.*

**Sheep98:** Y'know, that sheep has probably just wandered off and forgot the time. He'll be back soon, I'm sure.

**Sheep99:** I hope so.

*Another long pause.*

**Sheep99:** I sure hope he's not hurt and feeling alone and scared being all by himself.

**Sheep98:** I'm glad we have such a kind shepherd who looks after us and will come and find us when we're lost.

*Another even longer pause. They are beginning to show signs of worry.*

**Sheep99:** What if something really bad happened to him like, he fell down a cliff and broke his fluffy tail, or he got chased by a wolf into a deep dark cave and can't escape, or he...

**Sheep98:** Or he was kidnapped by traveling circus folk and stuffed into a cage and forced to perform on a high wire wearing big shoes ten sizes too big for him, a red clown nose and dance the Macarena!

**Sheep99:** That's crazy. *(Pause. He's confused.)* What's the Macarena?

**Sheep99:** You know. *(Singing and doing the motions)* Dum dah dah dum diddy dum diddy doo dah! Dum dah dah dum diddy dum diddy doo dah! Heeeeee Maca-!

*He's cut short by **Sheep98's** exclamation and the entrance of the **Shepherd** carrying in, if possible, **Sheep100**.*

**Sheep98:** They're back!

*Rushing to them **Sheep98** and **Sheep99** hover next to them as the **Shepherd** puts **Sheep100** down and covers him in a warm blanket and tends to him.*

**Sheep99:** We were so worried about you!

**Sheep98:** Did you get trapped in a cave?

**Sheep99:** Did the dark make you scared?

**Sheep98:** Were you hurt?

**Sheep99:** Did you fall?

**Sheep98:** Were there wolves?

**Sheep99:** Were there snakes?

**Sheep98:** Were there bears?

**Sheep99:** Did they make you do the Macarena?

**Sheep100:** The what?

**Sheep98:** You know...

**Sheep98&99:** *(Singing and doing the motions together in perfect unison)* Dum dah dah dum diddy dum diddy doo dah! Dum dah dah dum diddy dum diddy doo dah! Heeeeee Maca-!

**Sheep100:** *(Cutting them off abruptly)* No. I just wandered too far. I got lost. I was scared. Scared of all kinds of things but then...then I heard our Shepherd calling for me. I knew I was going to be ok. *(Looking at the Shepherd)* You came for me. I was lost and you found me. I was so scared and alone and couldn't find my way back by myself and you rescued me. How can I ever thank you for saving me?

**Sheep98:** *(Looking at the Shepherd, noticing the toll it has taken)* Hey, you're hurt. Are you ok?

**Shepherd:** I'll be ok.

**Sheep99:** But your clothes are all torn, and you're dirty and sweaty.

**Sheep98:** And you have cuts all over you.

**Sheep100:** *(To the Shepherd)* You had to go through a lot to come get me, didn't you?

**Shepherd:** I would go through much worse to save any of my sheep. *(Wrapping his arms around all the sheep in a big group hug)* I love you guys. I would do whatever I have to do to bring you safely home. That's why I'm here. I'm your Shepherd. I'll always watch out for you and fight to keep you safe with me.

**Sheep98:** Well, now that we're all safe, maybe we should celebrate!

**Sheep99:** Yeah!

**Shepherd:** What did you have in mind?

**Sheep98, Sheep99 and Sheep100** look at one another with a knowing glance and then bust out singing and doing the motions in perfect unison to the Macarena.

**All Sheep:** Dum dah dah dum diddy dum diddy doo dah! Dum dah dah dum diddy dum diddy doo dah! Heeeeee Macarena!

*They continue to sing the song as they exit offstage. The Shepherd joins them in their singing and dancing.*



**Marigold:** I've heard that story before.

**Dusty:** That Shepherd sure did go through a lot to bring just one sheep back home.

**Ivy:** He must really care for all his sheep.

**Reed:** I know that lost sheep was probably forever grateful to have such a wonderful Shepherd watching out for him.

**Counselor:** And we have a pretty wonderful Shepherd watching out for us too!

**Marigold:** Whattya mean? We're not sheep!

**Dusty:** Baaaaaa! Baaaaaaaaaaaaa!

**Counselor:** In the Bible Jesus is called the Good Shepherd. And we're like his sheep that he loves very much. And we know, because of what Jesus has done for us, that he will do whatever it takes to bring us home if we ever get lost. He loves us so much, he was willing to give everything he had to save us...even his own life.

**Marigold:** Is that why Jesus died on a cross? For us?

**Counselor:** That's right.

**Ivy:** Jesus loves us so much that he gave up his life for our lives! Wow. That is one Good Shepherd we have!

**Campers:** Baaaa! Baaaaaaaa!!!

*They all laugh together.*

**Dusty:** Maybe we should celebrate Jesus' great love for us, his sheep, in a special way.

**Counselor:** How do you want to do that?

*Dusty looks at the other **Campers** and then breaks out into singing and dancing the Macarena. He is quickly joined by the others and they all sing and dance offstage.*

*Exit*