

A script from



Vines University

A 12-part series for Children's Ministry
by
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SYNOPSIS

How do tomatoes and peppers and flowers learn how to grow? They attend Vine University of course! Great for Sunday school or VBS programs, these scripts creatively teach John 15's theme of abiding in Christ. These scripts follow four college students as they navigate their freshman year at VU and learn how to grow as healthy vines.

Themes: Abiding in Christ, Growing, Rooted in Christ, Children's Drama.

Vine University (aka VU) - A private institution that was founded in 1808. Its dedication to learning has ranked it as the top higher education academy in the United States for all things that grow on a vine. This university prides itself on being a school with deep roots.

Colors: Green & White

Mascot: Cornucopia

Day 1 Themes: Abiding in Christ, Growing, Rooted in Christ, Children's Drama.

Day 2 Themes: Abiding in Christ, Growing, Connecting to Christ, Children's Drama.

Day 3 Themes: Abiding in Christ, Growing, Listening, Resting, and Children's Drama.

Day 4 Themes: Abiding in Christ, Growing, Pruning, and Children's Drama.

Day 5 Themes: Abiding in Christ, Growing, Harvest, Community, and Children's Drama.

Day 6 Themes: Abiding in Christ, Growing, Staying Connected, and Children's Drama.

CAST

Main Characters:

English Ivy "Ivy" - A college freshman who is eager to learn. She is roommates with Mandy.

Cayenne pepper "Cay" - A college freshman. He is roommates with Tom.

Thomas Beef Steak "Tom" - A college freshman with a knack for trouble. He is roommates with Cay.

Mandeville "Mandy" - A ditzy college freshman. She is roommates with Ivy.

Professor Pumpkin - Professor at Vine University. (female)

Dean Gourd - Dean of students at Vine University. (male)

Other Characters:

Black-Eyed Susan - A female student at Vine.

Jasmine - A female student at Vine.

Climbing Hydrangea - A female student at Vine.

Watermelon - A female student at Vine.

Boston Ivy - A male student at Vine.

Grape 1 - A male student at Vine.

Grape 2 - A male student at Vine.

Honeydew - Librarian at Vine.

Cafeteria Worker - Employee of Vine (Can be any fruit, vegetable or flower that grows on a vine, ex: squash)

Bob - Alum of Vine University. He is Tom's older brother.

Alum 1 - Alum of Vine University. (Can be any fruit, vegetable or flower that grows on a vine, ex: squash)

Various Students - Students at vine. These characters are optional, however, if you have extra actors it would make sense to have more students in the classroom, cafeteria, and library scenes. (Can be any fruit, vegetable or flower that grows on a vine, ex: squash.)

COSTUME SUGGESTIONS

English Ivy "Ivy" – She should be in all green (dress or pants) with plastic vines weaved around her arms, legs, and in her hair.

Cayenne Pepper "Cay" – He should be in all green with red streaks in his hair.

Thomas Beef Steak "Tom" – He should be in a red 'jock' outfit, ideally a red football jersey and red pants.

Mandeville "Mandy" – She should have a green skirt with a pink top. Her makeup should be fun, sparkly, and can mimic a flower. Her hair should also have streaks of pink.

Professor Pumpkin – She should be in orange (dress or pants), with big, circular-styled hair.

Dean Gourd– He should be dressed in bright yellow pants, a white shirt, and a bright yellow tie.

Black-Eyed Susan– She should be in a black skirt with a black and yellow pock-a-dotted top.

Climbing Hydrangea– She should be dressed in all green with a vine of pink flowers weaving around one arm and the opposite leg. (A Pink Flower-ed Hawaiian Lei would work nicely for this costume).

Jasmine– She should be in a light purple dress.

Grape 1 & 2– They should be dressed in dark purple.

Boston Ivy– He should be in all green with plastic vines weaving around his arms and legs.

Bob– He should be dressed in a red suit with a black tie.

All other characters should be dressed in the color of their vegetable, fruit, or flower.

Be creative!!! Have fun with hair coloring and makeup.

SETTING AND PROPS

Lecture hall scenes - Books, Papers, Pencils, Book Bags, Desks & Chairs, and Clipboard for Professor Pumpkin, Extra tables for alumni (Scene 12)

Dorm room scenes - Beds, Suitcases, Picture Frame, Pom Poms, Posters, and Anything that would be hanging in a girl's room.

Library scenes - Tables & Chairs, Bookshelves, Books, Papers, Book Bags, Dean Gourd's Note, etc.

Office scene - Desk, Chairs, Books, Papers, etc.

Coffee Shop- Tables, Chairs, Couches, Drinks, Coffee Bar – can consist of one medium size table (optional)

Hallway scene - Community Board, Anything that would be in a college hallway wall (Posters, etc.)

Cafeteria scene - Table for Cafeteria Line, 2 Aprons (for Cafeteria Worker & Dean Gourd), Cake & Other Food for the Fight Food (These foods can be real or fake. Feel free to be creative. It is not necessary to have real food and make a mess of the stage; actors can simply mime being covered in food. However silly string, whip cream, anything messy would work well and be lots of fun.)

These are some ideas for the various settings. Feel free to be creative and make these settings work for your space.

Lecture hall - This should be set as a college classroom. Ideally the professor would be angled upstage, so that the students would be seated on an angle from upstage left to downstage right. This would enable the audience to see the student's faces, while still having the illusion that the students are facing the professor.

Dorm room - This should be set like a normal college dorm room with two beds, preferably at least one desk, and anything else that would make up a freshman girl's dorm.

Library - This should consist of a help desk upstage in a corner, one table center stage surrounded by chairs, and bookshelves on both sides of the stage.

Office - There should be one large desk with a chair behind it. There should also be a couple of chairs in front of the desk for students. Other 'office' items should clutter the room. (books/ possible bookshelf / etc.)

Coffee shop - There should be tables with chairs along with some couches to create a college coffee shop feel. Upstage right there should be a coffee bar.

Hallway - There should be doors on either side of the stage representing entrances to dorm rooms. There can be posters, community boards, etc., on display.

Cafeteria - This scene takes place in the cafeteria line. Therefore, there should be a buffet of sorts with real or plastic food on display. There should also be a place for a cafeteria worker to be behind the food, so that it can be served to each student.

SCRIPT BREAKDOWN

Script 1: Rooted

Setting: lecture hall

Characters: Professor Pumpkin, Dean Gourd, Black-Eyed Susan, Jasmine, Hydrangea, Boston Ivy, Ivy, Cay, Tom, Mandy, Grape 1, Grape 2, Various Students

Script 2: Old and New

Setting: Dorm Room

Characters: Ivy, Mandy, Hydrangea

Script 3: Exam Day

Setting: Lecture Hall

Characters: Tom, Cay, Professor Pumpkin, Ivy, Mandy, Various Students

Script 4: What Test?

Setting: Library

Characters: Honeydew, Mandy, Ivy, Jasmine

Script 5: Listening and Hearing
Setting: Lecture Hall
Characters: Professor Pumpkin, Tom, Cay, Ivy, Mandy, Various Students

Script 6: Spring Break
Setting: Library
Characters: Ivy, Dean Gourd

Script 7: Cut
Setting: Lecture Hall
Characters: Professor Pumpkin, Mandy

Script 8: The Dean's List
Setting: Coffee Shop
Characters: Mandy, Ivy, Cay, Tom

Script 9: Pizza and Professors
Setting: Hallway
Characters: Cay, Tom, Ivy, Mandy, Professor Pumpkin

Script 10: Food Fight
Setting: Cafeteria
Characters: Tom, Cay, Mandy, Ivy, Grape 1, Hydrangea, Cafeteria Worker, Dean Gourd, Various Students

Script 11: Goodbye
Setting: Coffee Shop
Characters: Mandy, Ivy, Jasmine, Hydrangea, Cay, Tom

Script 12: Alum
Setting: Lecture Hall
Characters: Dean Gourd, Mandy, Ivy, Cay, Tom, Alum 1, Bob, Various Students

TIME

5 minutes per script for a totally of 60 minutes (12 scripts)

HOW

The Vine University Series was originally written for a Kid's Camp, with 2 scripts being performed per day. However, there are several options for using these scripts. Here are a few ideas.

- Have a 12-part series for Kid's Church. Hello, Fall, Spring or Summer Series!
- Use them for VBS. You may not be able to fit all 12 into your week, but feel free to pick and choose! Or use more than one a day, performing one in the opening session and one in the closing session, depending on how many days your VBS is.
- Use them for Kid's Summer Camp or Day Camp where the theme is "Rooted in Christ". You can have activity stations that include planting vegetables or plants that the kids can take home. Include a fun science lesson about growing things.
- If this is done at your church, think outside the box and create Vines University in the rooms up and down your Kid's Ministry hallway. The kids can move from one station to the next as the actors perform their scripts each day.
- Divide the kids into groups and have them make up cheers for Vines University. Give a prize to the group with the best cheer.
- Homeschoolers or Christian Academies, this is perfect for a week on a spiritual focus. You can incorporate several different subjects into being Rooted in Christ.
- Use single scripts. Each script will be available for purchase individually on SkitGuys.com.
- Get your youth group involved! Teenagers are a great fit for these characters. Almost every church has theatre kids and/or students that really love to act and be involved. You might even grab some of your college kids to be in the cast.

"Rooted"

Script 1

What The fall semester has begun, and VU has a new freshman class! Meet the new students, hear about where they were previously rooted and why they decided to attend Vine University! This VU episode reminds us that as we move forward, it's helpful to remember the faithful generations that have gone before us.
Themes: Abiding in Christ, Growing, Rooted in Christ, Children's Drama.

Who

English Ivy "Ivy"	Jasmine
Cayenne pepper "Cay"	Climbing Hydrangea
Thomas Beef Steak "Tom"	Watermelon
Mandeville "Mandy"	Boston Ivy
Professor Pumpkin	Grape 1
Dean Gourd	Grape 2
Black-eyed Susan	Various students

When Present

Wear (Props)

- Books
- Papers
- Pencils
- Book Bags
- Desks & Chairs
- Clipboard for Professor Pumpkin

Why Joshua 4:1-9

How The setting is a lecture hall. Ideally the professor would be angled upstage, so that the students would be seated on an angle from upstage left to downstage right. This would enable the audience to see the student's faces, while still having the illusion that the students are facing the professor.

Time Approximately 5 minutes

Students are seated in various desks. They are talking and mingling with each other. Professor Pumpkin enters with a clipboard. Dean Gourd enters right behind her.

Professor: Students. Students, can I please have your attention?

Students quiet down.

Professor: Please answer when you hear your name.

She looks down at her clipboard.

Professor: Susan, Black-Eyed Susan?

Susan: Here.

Professor: Jasmine?

Jasmine: Here.

Professor: Hydrangea, Climbing Hydrangea?

Hydra: Here.

Professor: Melon, Watermelon?

Watermelon: Here.

Professor: Mandeville?

Mandy: Mandy. I go by Mandy.

Professor looks down at her sheet and continues.

Professor: Pepper, Cayenne Pepper?

Cay: I go by Cay.

Professor: Very good.

She looks down at her sheet and continues.

Professor: Ivy? Boston—

Ivy quickly stands.

Ivy: *(Interrupting)* Here.

Professor: *(to Ivy)* Boston Ivy?

Ivy sits down.

Ivy: No.

Boston: I'm Boston Ivy.

Professor: *(to Ivy)* You are?

Tom: Poison. She's Poison Ivy.

Other students laugh.

Professor: You must be Tom.

Tom: Beef Steak.

Professor: Excuse me?

Tom: I go by Beef Steak.

Professor: Thomas, you are a beefsteak tomato.

Tom: Yes, Ma'am.

Professor: But Thomas is your name, and that is what I will call you. I have had a long line of beefsteak tomatoes in my class—

Tom: *(interrupting)* My father, my grandfather, my great grandfather, my great-great-grandfather—

Professor: *(interrupting)* If you are suggesting that I am old enough to teach your grandfathers I can assure you that I am not. And if you were hoping to get off to a good start, I don't mind telling you that you better start over.

Tom: I just meant, Mrs.—

Professor: Pumpkin. I'm Professor Pumpkin.

Tom: Professor Pumpkin, that you must have had a number of my cousins.

Professor: I have. You beef steak tomatoes just keep on coming.

Tom: Our family has deep roots here at Vine University.

Professor: And every teacher here knows all about your family's—

Tom: *(interrupting)* Athletic ability? Good looks? Academic success?

Professor: I was going to say your family's unique ability to find trouble.

Tom: That too.

Professor: *(to Ivy)* I'm sorry. What was your name?

Ivy: *(clearly Embarrassed)* I'm English Ivy. But please, just call me Ivy.

Tom: English, huh?

Professor: You've traveled far to be here.

Mandy: *(to Tom)* Hi. I'm Mandy. I couldn't help but overhear that your family has gone here for years. Mine has too, my mother, her mother, her mother's mother. And she met my father here at University. Isn't that so exciting, to be in a place where you could meet the one you're going to marry?

Awkward pause.

Mandy: Anyway, you're a beefsteak tomato; and I just love beefsteak tomatoes, and we're both wearing shades of red. Although, technically, I'm in pink. We have so much in common!

Tom: Right.

Professor: Students, thank you all for being on time. I would like to welcome you to Vine University. I am Professor Pumpkin and this is Mr. Gourd, the Dean of Students.

Applause.

Dean: Thank you Professor. Freshman, welcome. Let me assure you that you are not in high school anymore. Vine University is a private institution that was founded in 1808. Our dedication to learning has ranked us as the top higher education academy in the United States for all things that grow on a vine. We pride ourselves on being a school with deep roots. You are here to learn,

Grape 1: *(interrupting)* Go VU!

Grape 2: Green and white!

Students laugh.

Dean: *(quieting students)* Very good. *(Continuing)* We hope you have a little fun, but most importantly you are here to grow. Growth cannot begin without roots. Therefore, I would encourage you to plant yourself. Become familiar with the campus, your professors, and your fellow students. Determine that your time here will be well spent, growing

and learning how to grow. I look forward to getting to know each and every one of you.

Applause.

Dean: Classes begin tomorrow. I suggest that everyone make their way back to their dormitory and get a good night sleep. I wish you the best of luck in the upcoming year.

Applause.

Students stand, begin to mingle and exit.

Tom approaches Ivy.

Tom: *(to Ivy)* Hey, Poison.

Ivy: It's just Ivy.

Tom: Got it. Itchy— I mean Ivy.

Ivy: Ha. Funny. I've never heard that one before.

Tom: Seriously, why did you come across the ocean to go here?

Ivy: Why did you walk across the *cornfield* to come?

Tom: I'm a beefsteak. My whole family has come here. We've had a tomato in every graduating class since this place opened.

Mandy: Really? My family's been coming here a long time, but not that long.

Cay: I'm a 5th generation pepper.

Ivy: And all of you wanted to come here? Why not pick something different? Something new?

Cay: My roots are here.

Mandy: My family's grown here.

Tom: This is the place where we learn how to be successful vines. Why would we go anywhere else?

Cay: *(to Tom)* Your family has really had a tomato in every graduating class?

Mandy: *(Swooning)* That's amazing.

Tom: And we've all been captain of the football team.
He strikes a muscle pose.

Ivy: *(reluctantly)* I guess that is kinda cool.

Tom strikes another muscle pose, thinking Ivy is impressed.

Ivy: *(she rolls her eyes)* To follow in the footsteps of other generations, I mean.

Cay: *(to Ivy)* Has any of your family come here before?

Ivy: I'm the first in my family to go to University. I hope that I can grow here and establish roots for future generations too.

Tom: Well, if you want a quick tour of campus, I do know this place inside and out.

Mandy: Great. I'm in.

Ivy: *(Cautiously)* Yeah. Ok. Me too.

Cay: Can I tag along?

Tom: Let's go.

All characters exit.

Lights down.

"Old and New"

Script 2

What Join Ivy as she steps foot on the VU campus for the first time and meets her lively roommate! Eager for a quiet start to the year, Ivy quickly realizes VU may not be what she was expecting. Mandy helps Ivy understand that although we need to remember where we came from and the work God has previously done in our lives, it's good to embrace new and exciting God-given opportunities.

Themes: Abiding in Christ, Growing, Rooted in Christ, Children's Drama

Who English Ivy "Ivy"
Mandeville "Mandy"
Climbing Hydrangea

When Modern Day

Wear (Props) Beds
Suitcases
Picture Frame
Pom Poms
Posters
Anything that would be hanging in a girl's room

Why Joshua 4:1-9 One way we can learn to grow is to follow in the footsteps of the faithful believers that have gone before us. Before we decisively put down new roots and move forward, it is good to remember what has brought us to this point.

How Dorm room - This should be set like a normal college dorm room with two beds, preferably at least one desk, and anything else that would make up a freshman girl's dorm.

Time Approximately 5 minutes

Ivy enters with a small suitcase.

Ivy: *(excited, but cautious)* Room 219. Here it is. My college dorm room.

She looks around and puts her bags down.

Mandy enters with three suitcases.

Mandy: *(dramatically)* Room 219. Here it is! My college dorm room!

Mandy spins around and puts her bags down.

Mandy: *(to Ivy)* And here you are...my college roommate.

Ivy: Actually—

Mandy: We're going to be best of friends! We're gonna laugh and cry and stay up all night talking about all kinds of things. We'll probably be in each other's weddings and have kids at the same time, and I'm sure our grandkids will be best friends. It's so good to finally meet you!

Ivy: I think there's been a mistake. I'm not your roommate.

Hydrangea enters.

Hydra: Hi.

Mandy: Oh. Sorry! *(To Hydrangea. Clearly this speech has been rehearsed.)*

We're going to be best of friends! We're gonna laugh and cry and stay up all night talking about all kinds of things. We'll probably be in each other's weddings and have kids at the same time, and I'm sure our grandkids will be best friends. It's so good to finally meet you!

Hydrangea: I was just wondering if either of you knew how to get to the cafeteria.

Mandy: Where are your bags?

Hydra: In my room. I'll be living next door.

Mandy: Wait. I'm confused. Which one of you is going to be my best friend?

Pause.

Mandy: Which one of you is my college roommate?

Ivy: There must be some mistake. I asked for a single room.

Mandy: Oh! I got a single room too. But I was so devastated that I called the Dean and asked if there was anyone else who had been put in a single that he could change to a double with me.

Ivy: But—

Mandy: No, need to thank me. Who wants to be in a single room in college! I'm Mandy, part of the Mandeville family. We've been coming to Vine University for generations and generations. Our roots are literally rooted here. Ha!

She spins around the room.

Mandy: So, this is it. What a great space. The place we'll learn, study, and become inseparable.

Pause.

Hydrangea and Ivy just look at each other.

Hydra: I think I can find the cafe on my own. I'll see you guys at dinner.

Hydrangea exits.

Mandy: So, I think I've already told you all about me. I'm Mandy, 16th generation Mandeville to come to Vine. I'm from California. And my favorite color is pink!

Mandy dramatically sits on the bed, waiting for Ivy to speak.

Pause.

Mandy: What's your name?

Ivy: Ivy.

Pause.

Mandy: Where are you from?

Ivy: England. I'm part of the English Ivy family.

Pause.

Mandy: *(trying to get Ivy to talk more)* And how many generations of your family have come to VU?

Ivy: Actually, I'm the first.

Mandy: The first what? First girl? First granddaughter?

Ivy: No. Just the first. The first English Ivy to ever attend Vine University.

Mandy: Oh.

Ivy begins to unpack.

Mandy starts to unpack but notices Ivy's pictures.

Mandy: *(referring to picture that Ivy has unpacked)* Is this your family?

Ivy picks up the picture and shows it to Mandy.

Ivy: Yeah. That's my house and my mom and dad and sister. I wanted to bring something with me to remind me of home. I know that we're here to put down new roots, to learn how to grow, but I just needed something to remind me of what's brought me to this point.

Mandy: It's good to remember where you came from.

Mandy pulls pom-poms out of her suitcase.

Mandy: I brought my mom's pink pom-poms. Want to hear my new cheer? I just came up with it on my way here.

Pause.

Mandy: *(rethinking what she just said)* New cheer. Just came up with it on my way here. That rhymed! I'm so good at this.

Mandy strikes a cheer position.

Mandy: Go green!

She punches her right hand up.

Mandy: Go white!

She punches her left hand up.

Mandy: Come on Vine—

Both hands come down to her side.

Mandy: Fight! Fight! Score!

She kicks her leg.

Ivy: Don't you mean, fight, fight, fight?

Mandy: *(mumbling to herself as she reviews the cheer)* Go green. Go white. Come on team, fight, fight, fight. *(To Ivy)* You're really good at this too!

Ivy: Thanks.

Mandy: Are you a cheerleader?

Ivy: No.

Mandy: Do you like pink?

Ivy: It's not my favorite.

Pause.

Mandy: And you didn't really want a roommate, did you?

Ivy: I didn't.

Mandy: We don't have anything in common.

Ivy: Sorry.

Pause.

Mandy, deflated, puts her pom-poms back in her suitcase.

Mandy: Listen, I'm sorry I made you be my roommate. We can call the Dean in the morning and switch you back to your old single room.

Ivy: Well—

Mandy: I don't know what I was thinking.

Ivy: I—

Mandy: We're completely different. This would never work.

Ivy: I don't know about that. *(Picking up the pom-poms)* We don't really have anything in common, but I guess that means we could learn a lot from each other.

Mandy: You think so?

Ivy: Yeah. I think I could get use to a roommate.

Mandy: 219 is a great space.

Ivy: Maybe this is a great place to make some new memories and put down some new roots.

Mandy: That would be fun. I could even teach you a few things about cheerleading if you want.

Ivy: Maybe.

Mandy: I spent all summer writing new cheers for Vine. Listen to this one.

As she recites the cheer she also performs it with various 'cheerleading' moves.

Mandy: Cornucopia, that's our mascot, we're the team that wins a whole lot.

Ivy: Wow. That's really—

Mandy: Great! Right?

Ivy: *(not sure what to say)* Yeah.

Mandy: We're going to have the best time.

Ivy: *(starting to be convinced)* Yeah. I think we will.

Girls continue to unpack.

Lights down.

"Exam Day"

Script 3

What	It's Professor Pumpkin's first BIG exam and Tom sleeps right through it! Will he ever pass his freshman year? Join Tom as he realizes the importance of staying connected and committing to continual growth. Themes: Abiding in Christ, Growing, Connecting to Christ, Children's Drama	
Who	English Ivy "Ivy" Cayenne Pepper "Cay" Thomas Beef Steak "Tom"	Mandeville "Mandy" Professor Pumpkin Various students
When	Modern Day	
Wear (Props)	Books Papers Pencils Book Bags Desks & Chairs	
Why	John 15: 1-11 If we want our faith to grow, we must commit to growing daily. And if we want to bear fruit, we must stay connected to the vine.	
How	The setting is a lecture hall. Ideally the professor would be angled upstage, so that the students would be seated on an angle from upstage left to downstage right. This would enable the audience to see the student's faces, while still having the illusion that the students are facing the professor.	
Time	Approximately 5 minutes	

Upstage center, students are seated in desks. The lights are down and they remain frozen.

Tom and Cay enter from behind the audience and walk up the center aisle towards the stage.

Tom: It feels so good to cut loose.

Cay: I don't know. I'm having second thoughts about going to this party.

Tom: It'll be fun to just break away from the norm of college life.

Cay: I thought putting roots down and learning to grow on a vine was all about staying connected, not cutting lose or breaking away.

Tom: We can always reconnect tomorrow.

Cay: I don't know. I think I should head back. Our study group is meeting in the library. We have our first exam tomorrow.

Tom: Don't be such a shaky leaf. It's just one night. Who needs a study group anyway?

Cay: I think I do.

Tom: One party. Come on.

Cay: I really can't.

Cay exits downstage left while Tom shakes his head and exits downstage right.

Lights up upstage center.

Students are hard at work finishing an exam. Tom sits with his head down on a desk, asleep.

Professor: Times up. Please hand in your exam sheets.

Students stand and form a line as they hand Professor Pumpkin their exams.

Tom remains sleeping.

Ivy: When will the grades be posted?

Professor: Tomorrow afternoon.

Students exit.

Cay and Ivy exit down the center aisle as they finish their dialogue.

Ivy: How do you think it went?

Cay: Harder than I originally thought.

Ivy: Me too.

Cay: I'm glad we took that extra time to study.

Professor approaches Tom's desk.

Professor: Thomas.

Tom: *(still half asleep)* Huh.

Professor: Thomas.

Tom: *(startled)* What?

Professor: You slept through the exam.

Tom: What exam?

Professor: Your first exam here at Vine University. I hope this isn't a sign of what's to come.

Tom starts to stand. He yawns, stretches, and reaches for his book bag.

Tom: It's just one exam. I'll make it up on the next one.

Professor: Thomas, you're not in high school anymore. If you want to learn how to best grow on a vine, you are going to have to make a decisive decision to learn. You are either committed to your education or you are not.

Tom: Ok. Ok. It's just one test. Can't you just give me some extra credit assignment to do?

Professor: At University, we expect continual growth. If you failed this test after you did your best, I may be inclined to give you extra credit. However, your behavior reflects that you are not dedicated nor devoted to your growth here at Vine. If this behavior continues, I'll be forced to go to the Dean.

Tom: *(recognizing that she's serious)* No. Please don't do that. Dean Gourd might not let me play football if you do that.

Professor: You should have thought about that before you decided to party all night and then sleep through my exam.

Tom: *(anxiously)* I'll do anything.

Professor: Like study?

Tom: *(reluctantly)* Ummm—

Professor: I see. Perhaps Dean Gourd would like to hear about—

Tom: No. No. I'll absolutely study. I'll even pay attention in class.

Professor: I don't just want your attention. I want you to participate in class, even join a study group.

Tom: I will. I will.

Professor: I hope so.

Tom begins to exit.

Professor: Thomas.

Tom turns back towards Professor Pumpkin.

Tom: Yeah.

Professor: You are a very bright student. You have the chance to do well here if you apply yourself and make a determined choice to grow.

Tom: Yes Ma'am.

Professor: I'll see you tomorrow in class.

Tom: I'll be in the front row.

Professor: Not sleeping, I hope.

Professor exits stage left.

Tom exits down the center aisle.

Lights down.

"What Test?"

Script 4

What Who likes to sit in class and listen to lectures? Not Jasmine! But will she ever pass Professor Pumpkin's test if she continually stays disconnected from her class? Join Ivy and Mandy as they help Jasmine understand not only the importance of staying connected but also the significance of dedicated growth.
Themes: Abiding in Christ, Growing, Connecting to Christ, Children's Drama

Who English Ivy "Ivy"
Mandeville "Mandy"
Honeydew
Jasmine

When Modern Day

**Wear
(Props)** Tables & Chairs
Bookshelves
Books
Papers
Book Bags, etc.

Why John 15: 1-11 If we want our faith to grow, we must commit to growing daily. And if we want to bear fruit, we must stay connected to the vine.

How The setting is a library. This should consist of a help desk upstage in a corner, one table center stage surrounded by chairs, and bookshelves on both sides of the stage.

Time Approximately 4 minutes

Ivy and Mandy sit center stage at a table that is covered with open books. They are reading, taking notes, clearly studying hard.

Jasmine is upstage, reading the back of a few books. She looks as if she is browsing for fun.

Librarian Honeydew enters and addresses Ivy and Mandy.

Honeydew: Ladies, the library is about to close.

Ivy: Can we have just a few more minutes?

Honeydew: Professor Pumpkin's first big exam?

Mandy: It's tomorrow.

Jasmine, who has overheard the above dialogue, looks startled.

Jasmine: *(to herself)* Tomorrow? The exam is tomorrow?

Honeydew: *(to Ivy and Mandy)* Just hit the lights when you're done.

Ivy: Thanks.

Honeydew exits.

Jasmine approaches Ivy and Mandy's table.

Jasmine: Hey, can I borrow that book when you're done?

Mandy: Sure.

Jasmine: Great.

Ivy and Mandy continue to frantically study. They slowly begin to realize that

Jasmine is not leaving. They look up at her.

Mandy: I don't think I'll be done with it for a while.

Jasmine: I can wait.

Jasmine sits at the table.

Ivy: I'm sorry, I don't think we've met.

Jasmine: I'm jasmine. I'm in Professor Pumpkin's class with you.

Ivy: Are you sure? I don't think you're in our class.

Mandy: We've never seen you at any of Professor Pumpkin's lectures.

Jasmine: Because I've never been to one.

Mandy: You've never come to class?

Jasmine: No.

Mandy: Why not?

Jasmine: It just sounded boring.

Ivy: So, exactly how do you plan on passing the exam without—

Jasmine: *(interrupting)* Studying on my own.

Ivy: Let me get this straight— you're planning on passing the exam without ever coming to class?

Mandy: Without being part of group discussion.

Ivy: Or being part of a study group.

Mandy: You just think you can pass it on your own?

Jasmine: That was the plan.

Ivy: How's it going?

Jasmine: Well, I just found out about the exam when you asked the librarian to stay late. So, I guess I'm a little behind.

Mandy: A little?

Jasmine: Do you think you could tell me what the exam is going to be on?

Mandy: Abiding.

Jasmine: What does that mean?

Ivy: The chapter on abiding talks about how we need each other to grow.

Mandy: We have to stay connected to the vine and commit ourselves to continual growth if we want to see any fruit.

Ivy: Trying to go it alone, will always lead to fruitless vines.

Jasmine: Sounds like I have a lot to study.

Mandy: You're welcome to study with us.

Jasmine: Really?

Ivy: Absolutely.

Jasmine: Thanks. So, where do we start?

Ivy: Connecting to the vine, chapter 11.

Ivy opens a book and starts to help Jasmine.

Lights down.

"Listening and Hearing"

Script 5

What	Is there a difference between hearing and listening? Tom's about to find out. Join the VU students as they learn the importance of silencing their voices and listening. Themes: Abiding in Christ, Growing, Listening, Resting, and Children's Drama	
Who	English Ivy "Ivy" Cayenne pepper "Cay" Thomas Beef Steak "Tom"	Mandeville "Mandy" Professor Pumpkin Various students
When	Modern Day	
Wear (Props)	Books Papers Pencils Book Bags Desks & Chairs	
Why	Proverbs 19:20, I Kings 19:11-13, Isaiah 30:15 Like vines need to go through a period of dormancy to sustain long-term growth, there are times in our faith walk when we need to be quiet before the Lord and simply listen and rest.	
How	The setting is a lecture hall. Ideally the professor would be angled upstage, so that the students would be seated on an angle from upstage left to downstage right. This would enable the audience to see the student's faces, while still having the illusion that the students are facing the professor.	
Time	Approximately 5 minutes	

Various students are sitting at desks. Professor Pumpkin is upstage and Tom, Cay, Mandy, and Ivy are seated downstage. As they interact with each other they turn towards the audience.

Professor: I was not impressed with last week's tests scores. Therefore, I will be requiring each of you to review last week's material and write a five-page essay addressing the following topic.

She fades out, but mimes still teaching.

The following dialogues takes place in a stage whisper.

Tom: Hey, Poison,

Ivy ignores him.

Tom: Poison!

Ivy is clearly annoyed that he is interrupting the lecture.

Ivy: It's Ivy. My name is just Ivy. English Ivy is fine, if you feel the need to get specific but—

Tom: *(not listening to her, he interrupts)* Some of us are going to a movie tonight. Want to come?

Ivy: I think I'm going to be working on our essay.

Ivy goes back to listening to Professor. She is intently listening and taking notes.

Mandy: *(to Tom)* Can I come?

Tom: Sure. We're leaving right after dinner.

Cay: It'll be good to get off campus for a bit.

Tom: Poison, are you sure you have to study? Our exam isn't for another week.

Ivy: *(without taking her eyes off Professor)* I won't be studying; I'll be working on our essay.

Cay: What essay?

Ivy points to Professor Pumpkin.

Ivy: That essay. Aren't you listening?

Tom: This is so boring.

Cay: Tell me about it.

Tom: These lectures are a waste of our time.

Mandy: We already know all this stuff.

Tom: I've been living on a vine since I was a seedling. How much more can I learn?

Ivy: She's talking about how we didn't do well on the last exam.

Tom: Are you really getting anything out of this?

Mandy: She just says the same thing over and over and over.

Cay: I've heard this all before. Haven't you?

Mandy: I've read the textbooks.

Tom: Watched the videos.

Cay: Done my homework.

Mandy: She sounds like a broken record.

Tom: What else do I need to learn?

Ivy: So you know all about growing on a vine?

Tom: Sure do.

Professor: Thomas?

Tom: Yes, ma'am.

Professor: Do you have the answer?

Tom: To what?

Professor: The question I just asked the class.

Tom looks to Ivy for help.

Ivy: *(she whispers to Tom)* In order to sustain long-term growth a vine must go through a period of rest and regeneration. We call this time what?

Silence.

Tom shrugs.

Ivy: *(whispering to Tom)* Dormancy. Vines go through a time of dormancy.

Tom: Dormancy.

Professor: That is correct.

Professor Pumpkin continues to mime teaching.

Ivy goes back to paying attention.

Tom: Poison.

Ivy ignores him.

Tom: Hey, Poison.

Ivy: *(frustrated that he is once again interrupting the lecture)* It's Ivy. Just Ivy.

Tom: I've heard—

Ivy: *(interrupting)* I'm not talking about just hearing. You don't listen, really listen. There's a difference, you know.

Tom: Between hearing and listening?

Ivy: Yup.

Tom: Like what?

Ivy: My name for example.

Tom: Isn't Poison. I get it.

Ivy: Do you? You hear me correct you, but if you truly listened, you'd know how much it bothers me.

Tom: Sorry.

Ivy: *(getting more frustrated)* I'm not here at University just for fun. I want to learn this stuff.

Cay: So do I.

Mandy: Me too.

Ivy: Well, it's not enough to sit in class and just hear things. You have to listen to what you're hearing.

Ivy determinedly turns away from the conversation and listens to Professor Pumpkin.

Professor: Thomas?

Tom: Yes?

Professor: The answer?

Tom: I didn't hear the question.

Professor: I don't think there is anything wrong with your ears, Thomas. You can hear me just fine. The question is whether or not you are listening.

Ivy raises her hand. Professor Pumpkin motions for her to answer.

Ivy: Long-term growth.

Professor: That is correct. Rest and regeneration, also known as a time of dormancy, sustains long-term growth. Now, turn to page 29 in your textbooks. Let's review how each vine can best utilize this time of rest.

Professor Pumpkin looks over at Tom's desk.

Professor: Thomas.

Tom: I'm listening. I'm listening.

Professor: Good. I'll be expecting you to answer one question during this class time without Ivy's help.

Professor Pumpkin looks back down at her book.

Professor: Mandy, can you start reading on page 29, the second paragraph.

Mandy opens her book and begins reading aloud.

Mandy: Many perennial plants, including the grapevine enter a time of dormancy each year in order to sustain long term growth.

Lights down.

"Spring Break" Script 6

What	It's Spring Break on the VU campus and everyone is ready for a vacation! That is, everyone except Ivy. In this VU episode Dean Gourd helps Ivy realize the significance of quietness and rest. Themes: Abiding in Christ, Growing, Listening, Resting, and Children's Drama
Who	English Ivy "Ivy" Dean Gourd
When	Modern Day
Wear (Props)	Tables & Chairs, Bookshelves Books, Papers Book Bags, etc.
Why	Proverbs 19:20, I Kings 19:11-13, Isaiah 30:15 Like vines need to go through a period of dormancy to sustain long-term growth, there are times in our faith walk when we need to be quiet before the Lord and simply listen and rest.
How	The setting is a library. This should consist of a help desk upstage in a corner, one table center stage surrounded by chairs, and bookshelves on both sides of the stage.
Time	Approximately 5 minutes

Dean Gourd is upstage browsing through a book.

*Ivy enters carrying a number of books. She is unaware that **Dean Gourd** is in the library.*

Ivy: Hello. Is anyone here? *(Clearly annoyed)* Perfect. No librarian. There wasn't anyone in the lecture halls or at the tutoring desk, and now there's no one in the library. I thought this was a University.

Dean: It is.

Ivy: Oh. Mr. Gourd. I mean Dean Gourd. I didn't see you there.

Dean: You seem to be confused.

Ivy: I do?

Dean: There's no one in the lecture halls or at the tutoring desk or in the library because the University is on spring break.

Ivy: I know that.

Dean: Then what are you doing here?

Ivy: Well, I didn't go home for break. I decided that I needed a little extra time to focus on my studies. So, I collected a number of extra credit assignments for myself and decided to spend the entire week working here in the library.

Dean: That sounds ambitious.

Ivy: Thank you, sir.

Dean: But don't you think that you might want a break?

Ivy: Of course I want a break, but it's not what I need. What I need is to study and work a little harder.

Ivy sits at the table and opens her books.

Dean Gourd watches her, then sits down as well.

Dean: You know, there was once a petition to forgo spring break and let the semester end one week earlier.

Ivy: That sounds like a great idea.

Dean: I didn't think so.

Ivy: Why not? We don't need spring break. Actually, we don't need fall break or winter break. And if you think about it, what does summer break really accomplish? We should just study year-round.

Dean: Have you studied the vineyard's dormant season yet?

Ivy: Only a little. I'm still in vineyard 101, but I'll be studying dormancy in more depth next semester.

Dean: In the dormant season, a healthy vine rests.

Ivy: Rests and...does what?

Dean: Nothing. It rests.

Ivy: Why? What's the point of that?

Dean: Dormancy sustains long-term growth. If you want to be successful and grow, you need to learn how to take a break.

Ivy: But we have finals in just 5 weeks, and what about all this extra credit work? I can't just sit and do nothing.

Dean: You can take time to be quiet, rest, and regenerate. The reason I chose to keep spring break was so that as vines we could take time to rest.

Ivy: I don't mean to be disrespectful, but I just don't see how that encourages sustainable growth.

Dean Gourd stands.

Dean: Maybe that's because you've never tried it.

Ivy: Maybe.

Ivy continues to study.

Dean Gourd starts to leave, but then changes his mind. He takes a sheet of paper, writes on it, and folds it.

Dean: Ivy, since you're such a dedicated student, I am willing to give you an extra credit assignment.

Ivy: Really?

Dean: Really. And it will take the place of all the rest of your extra credit work.

Ivy: Ok. Thank you so much.

He starts to hand her the note but then pauses.

Dean: But I'll only give it to you under one condition.

Ivy: What's that?

Dean: You have to promise me that you'll do it.

Ivy: Absolutely.

Dean: Good.

He hands her the note and exits.

Dean: I'll see you next week.

Ivy: Great thanks!

Ivy excitedly opens the note.

Ivy: *(reading)* Write an essay on the effectiveness of rest after you have taken one week off of studying.

She laughs to herself and closes her books.

Ivy: Well, spring break here I come.

Lights down.

"Cut Day" Script 7

What	Cheerleading tryouts didn't go the way Mandy had planned. Being cut from a squad is painful; like pruning it can either discourage us or help us grow. Join Professor Pumpkin as she explains to Mandy the necessity of pruning. Themes: Abiding in Christ, Growing, Pruning, and Children's Drama
Who	Mandeville "Mandy" Professor Pumpkin
When	Modern Day
Wear (Props)	Desk Chairs Books Papers, etc.
Why	John 15:2, Luke 15:11-32 Times of pruning encourage us to return to our loving heavenly Father who welcomes repentant hearts.
How	The setting is an office. There should be one large desk with a chair behind it. There should also be a couple of chairs in front of the desk for students. Other 'office' items should clutter the room. (Books/ possible bookshelf / etc.)
Time	Approximately 5 minutes

Professor Pumpkin sits at her desk grading papers.

Mandy sheepishly enters.

Mandy: Hello, Professor Pumpkin.

Professor: Hello, Mandy.

Mandy: Can I talk to you for a minute?

Professor: Students are always welcome in my office. How can I help you?

Mandy: I wanted to talk to you about my grade.

Pause.

Mandy is clearly uncomfortable.

Mandy: The grade on my mid-term paper.

Professor: Yes.

Mandy: It wasn't what I was hoping for.

Professor: No? And what were you hoping for?

Mandy: A passing grade.

Professor: Well, Mandy your paper was 3 days late.

Mandy: I know.

Professor: And it was poorly written.

Mandy: *(Admittedly)* It wasn't my best.

Professor: And I recall a post-it note attached to the paper.

Mandy: *(Cringing)* Please don't re-read that.

Professor: *(Reading from a post-it-note)* Dear Professor, please take into consideration while grading this that you scheduled a mid-term paper during the week of cheerleading tryouts. Seeing as how my spot on the squad is vitally important to the success of my college career, I trust that any minor failings in this paper will be overlooked.

Pause.

Professor Pumpkin looks up from the post-it note and looks at Mandy who is cringing and shutting her eyes.

Mandy thinks the worst is over and begins to regain composure.

Professor continues reading as Mandy sits and hangs her head, embarrassed.

Professor: P.S. Seeing as how there are multiple squads I plan on joining, please check the cheerleading tryout calendar before scheduling the final exam.

Mandy: That was a little—

Professor: *(Interrupting)* Inappropriate? Arrogant?

Mandy: I was going to say wrong.

Professor: Well, I was unable to overlook the minor failings. Thus, you did not receive a passing grade.

Mandy: I'm sorry.

Professor: For the note or for barely putting any effort into this paper let alone this class?

Mandy: Both.

Professor: Mandy, can I ask how your cheerleading squad is helping the success of your college career?

Mandy: It's not.

Professor: *(surprised to hear her response)* Well, I'm glad that you figured that out.

Mandy: It's not, because I didn't make the squad.

Professor: I'm sorry to hear that.

Mandy: Really? I thought you'd be glad.

Professor: Why would you think that?

Mandy: It means I'm going to have more time to focus on my grades.

Professor: Well, I am happy about that. But I'm not happy that you're upset. Getting cut from the squad had to be very difficult for you.

Mandy: I've never been cut from anything before. And I've never failed a midterm before either.

Professor: College life is full of a lot of firsts.

Mandy: I'll say.

Pause.

Professor: Sometimes getting cut, or as we were learning in class today, getting pruned isn't always a bad thing.

Mandy: I don't understand. How can failing a final be good for me?

Professor: Well, that's just it; you didn't fail a final, did you? You failed a midterm.

Mandy: What's the difference?

Professor: The difference is a matter of passing or failing this class. By failing the midterm, you can recognize your mistake of not taking this class seriously. If you learn from this time of failing, it may very well keep you from failing the final exam and this entire class.

Mandy: I guess you're right.

Mandy nods and stands, preparing to leave.

Professor Pumpkin returns to grading papers.

Mandy: Professor?

Professor: Yes.

Mandy: If I really study hard, and do well on the final exam, do I at least have a chance of a B?

Professor: I don't see how. Even if you aced the rest of the semester, I think the best you're looking at is a C+.

Mandy nods, and turns to leave.

Professor: But—

Mandy turns back towards Professor Pumpkin.

Professor: If you are interested in some extra credit work, I may be able to come up with something.

Mandy: Yes. Absolutely.

Professor: Come to my office tomorrow after class and we'll discuss some extra assignments.

Mandy: Thank you so much.

Mandy exits.

Lights down.

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"The Dean's List"

Script 8

What	The Dean's List has officially been posted, but one name is missing! Ivy has spent the last few weeks bragging about her grades, and now she has to eat some humble pie. In this VU episode the students learn the painful but necessary act of pruning. Themes: Abiding in Christ, Growing, Pruning, and Children's Drama.
Who	English Ivy "Ivy" Cayenne pepper "Cay" Thomas Beef Steak "Tom" Mandeville "Mandy"
When	Modern Day
Wear (Props)	Beds Posters and anything that would be hanging in a girl's room
Why	John 15:2, Luke 15:11-32 Times of pruning encourage us to return to our loving heavenly Father who welcomes repentant hearts.
How	The setting is a coffee shop. There should be tables with chairs along with some couches to create a college coffee shop feel. Upstage Right there should be a coffee bar.
Time	Approximately 5 minutes

Mandy is sitting on a couch reading and sipping a drink.

Ivy enters, carrying a sheet of paper.

Ivy: This isn't happening. This isn't happening.

Mandy: What's not happening?

Mandy stares at Ivy.

Ivy sits deflated.

Mandy: It's happening, isn't it? Oh no! It's happening. *(To Ivy)* What's happening?

Ivy: I didn't make the dean's list.

Mandy: *(Thinking she's not being serious)* No, really, you can tell me.

Pause.

Mandy: *(Guessing)* Boston Ivy likes someone else, doesn't he? Darn it! I really thought he had his eye on you in class.

Ivy: Mandy, it's not about Boston.

Mandy: Are you sure, because—

Ivy: *(Ivy puts her head in her hands)* Mandy, I didn't make the dean's list. My first semester at Vine was supposed to prove my academic proficiency, and I'm not even on the dean's list.

Mandy: You've been bragging about being on the dean's list for weeks, ever since the second semester began.

Ivy: I know. I was so sure I would be on it.

Mandy: You really didn't make it?

Ivy: I don't understand. How did this happen?

Mandy: Well, the dean's list is like an honor roll. Usually the people who are on the dean's list have a GPA of 3.5 or above, so that means you must have gotten a grade—

Ivy: I know. I know. It's pruning class. I got a C instead of a B.

Tom and Cay enter.

Tom: Anyone hungry? On our way to the cafeteria.

Mandy jumps up and joins Tom.

Mandy: Good. I'm starving.

Cay: What's up, ivy?

Ivy: Nothing.

Cay sits next to her.

Mandy: She didn't make the dean's list.

Tom: What? Poison didn't make the list? You've been bragging about that for weeks.

Ivy: I know.

Tom: Well, I didn't make it either. Didn't even come close.

Pause.

Tom: Dinnertime?

Cay: *(To Ivy)* You seem really upset about this.

Ivy: It's not that big of a deal to everyone else, but it's a big deal to me.

Tom: How is that possible? You study more than anyone I know.

Ivy: Well, not for Pruning class.

Mandy: What do you mean?

Ivy: I didn't study for the final exam in pruning class. I didn't think I needed to. *(Sheepishly)* I got over confident. The exam was really hard, and I guess I didn't do as well as I thought I would.

Cay: I'm sorry.

Ivy: It's not your fault. It's mine. I was boasting and bragging when I should have been studying.

Cay: Listen, maybe this is a good thing.

Ivy: How?

Cay: Remember how Professor Pumpkin was talking about how hard times actually help us grow?

Ivy: Yeah. So?

Cay: The second semester just started. You could try for the dean's list again, but this time you know not to become...to become—

As he searches for the right word, Tom interrupts.

Tom: *(Interrupting)* This time you know not to become too self-absorbed and overly confident.

Cay: I was going to say—

Ivy: *(Admittedly)* No. He's right. I did tell everyone that I was going to make it. I bragged and bragged about how I was going to make the dean's list my first semester. I'm sorry. That had to be annoying.

Cay: It wasn't—

Tom: *(Interrupting)* It was a little annoying.

Ivy: You guys have every right to tease me. I deserve it.

Cay: We're not going to tease you.

Ivy: Why not?

Cay: That's not what friends are for.

Ivy: Thanks.

She stands.

Ivy: Let's get dinner.

They begin to exit.

Tom: Poison, if the dean's list means that much to you, I might be able to tutor you.

Ivy: I said I wanted to get better grades, not failing ones.

Tom: Me and Professor Pumpkin just have different opinions on what makes up a good essay.

Ivy: She tends to like essays that are actually finished.

Tom: I finish most of them.
Lights down.

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"Pizza and Professors"

Script 9

What	Classes are done! It's time to celebrate the year's end! But should Professors be invited to the party? Listen as Ivy tries to convince her classmates that Professor Pumpkin is a vital part of the VU community and should be included in the celebration. Themes: Abiding in Christ, Growing, Harvest, Community, and Children's Drama
Who	English Ivy "Ivy" Cayenne pepper "Cay" Thomas Beef Steak "Tom" Mandeville "Mandy" Professor Pumpkin
When	Modern Day
Wear (Props)	Community Board and anything that would be in a college hallway wall (Posters, etc.)
Why	John 1:12-13, 1 Corinthians 11:33 Harvest is a time of celebration and should be shared by all. Similarly, God's family is for all who would accept His free gift of salvation.
How	The setting is a hallway. There should be doors on either side of the stage representing entrances to classrooms. There can be posters, community boards, etc., on display.
Time	Approximately 5 minutes

Tom and Cay are center stage talking.

Ivy enters from behind the audience down the center aisle.

Ivy: I thought this day would never come!

Cay: Are you done?

Ivy: Just walked out of my last class five minutes ago. You?

Cay: Finished this morning.

Tom: My 9 o'clock was my last class.

Cay: Where's Mandy?

Ivy: She had one more lab to finish.

Mandy enters behind Ivy.

Mandy: Finished at last! Summer break here we come.

All characters congregate center stage.

Ivy: Not so fast. We still have to make it thru finals week.

Tom, Cay, and Mandy groan.

Ivy: Let the studying begin.

Tom: Not so fast. We're done with classes; this calls for a celebration.

Cay: I ordered pizza. We're having a party!

Tom: Pizza? I thought we decided on subs.

As Ivy starts to say her next line, she opens the stage right door that leads to her dorm room.

Ivy: I don't know about a party—

As she opens the door we hear the noises of a party.

She shuts the door and looks at Tom.

Tom: We're celebrating in your room, of course.

Ivy: (annoyed) Of course.

Cay: You can't see the floor in our room. Who wants a party in there?

Mandy: Gross.

Tom: *(trying to convince Ivy)* Come on. We've just finished classes.

Cay: We've earned a party.

Ivy: Fine. But studying starts first thing in the morning.

Cay: Agreed.

Professor Pumpkin enters from behind the audience.

Professor: *(calling to Ivy)* Ivy. Ivy!

Professor Pumpkin hurries up the center aisle.

Ivy: Professor Pumpkin, hi.

Professor: I didn't get a chance to talk with you after class today, and I wasn't sure I'd run into you during finals week.

Ivy: Is something wrong?

Professor: No. Not at all. I just wanted to let you know that I will be nominating you for an academic scholarship. It will be awarded at the end of finals week to a freshman that has demonstrated an extraordinary talent for growth and an ambitious work ethic.

Ivy: Wow. Thank you. Thank you so much.

Professor: You've proven to be a wonderful student, and you should be proud of what you've accomplished this year. I'm expecting very fruitful work from you in the fall.

Tom: *(to Professor Pumpkin)* Did I get nominated too?

Professor: An ambitious work ethic was one of the requirements, Thomas.

Tom: Darn.

Professor: Yes. *(To all students)* Good luck with finals. I hope to see you all next semester.

Professor Pumpkin starts to leave.

Ivy: Professor, we're just celebrating the last day of class. Would you like to join us?

Tom pulls Ivy aside.

Tom: Um hang on there, Poison.

Cay: Yeah wait a second.

Mandy: We're celebrating our freedom from Professors.

Tom: Why would we invite her to a college party?

Ivy: We're celebrating the end of the semester, the end of our freshman year.

Tom: Exactly. What does Professor Pumpkin have to do with that?

Ivy: Without her, none of us would have made it here.

Tom: Because of her, I almost didn't.

Mandy: She did give me that extra credit assignment. Without it I wouldn't have gotten a B in her class.

Cay: And she tutored me for that one exam. I thought I was going to fail for sure.

Ivy: Really, we're all celebrating the same thing, a fruitful year.

Tom: But she's a professor.

Ivy: This is my room, and all are welcome. Would you care for some pizza, Professor?

Professor: Thank you, Ivy. But I am on my way to the faculty party. *(To Tom, teasingly)* We have a party every time one of the beefsteaks goes home for the summer.

Mandy: Just come in for a few minutes.

Cay: We'd love to celebrate with you.

Ivy nudges Tom.

Tom: *(reluctantly)* Yeah. It could be fun.

Ivy: Please?

Professor: I would love to celebrate with you for a little bit. Thank you.

All characters exit into Mandy and Ivy's dorm room.

Lights down.

"Food Fight!"

Script 10

What It's time to celebrate the end of the year! But a food fight is inevitable if Tom's not going to share the cake! In this VU episode, Tom is reminded of the importance of community and sharing the celebration of achievements.
Themes: Abiding in Christ, Growing, Harvest, Community, and Children's Drama

Who

English Ivy "Ivy"	Cafeteria Worker
Cayenne pepper "Cay"	Dean Gourd
Thomas Beef Steak "Tom"	Climbing Hydrangea (Hydra)
Mandeville "Mandy"	Grape 1

When Modern Day

Wear (Props) Table for Cafeteria Line,
2 Aprons (for Cafeteria Worker & Dean Gourd)
Cake & Other Food for the Fight Food
*These foods can be real or fake. Feel free to be creative. It is not necessary to have real food and make a mess of the stage; actors can simply mime being covered in food. However silly string, whip cream, anything messy would work well and be lots of fun.

Why John 1:12-13, 1 Corinthians 11:33 Harvest is a time of celebration and should be shared by all. Similarly, God's family is for all who would accept His free gift of salvation.

How This scene takes place in the cafeteria line. Therefore, there should be a buffet of sorts with real or plastic food on display. There should also be a place for a cafeteria worker to be behind the food, so that it can be served to each student.

Time Approximately 5 minutes

Students are in a single file line, holding plates. As they progress through the line, they put food on their plates.

Tom is at the front of the line.

Mandy: I'm starving.

Ivy: Me too.

Tom: Why isn't the cafe open all day?

Cay: It is.

Tom: What are you talking about?

Ivy: The cafe is open all day.

Tom: All day?

Cay: Haven't you been going here all year?

Ivy: We're at finals week and you're just discovering the fact that the cafe is always open?

Tom: The hours of food that I have missed out on! That's it. I have to make up for lost time.

He takes a whole cake and puts it on his tray.

Mandy: Um, I wanted some cake.

Hydra: Me too.

Grape 1: Yeah, so did I.

Tom: Sorry. I'm hungry.

Cay: Wait a minute. You can't just take the whole thing.

Hydra: Yeah. What about the rest of us?

Tom: I was here first. It's mine.

Mandy takes her finger and dips it into the cake's frosting.

Mandy: I just wanted a taste.

Grape 1: Me too.

Grape 1 sticks his finger in the frosting as well.

Hydra: So do I.

Hydrangea starts towards the cake.

They all start to surround Tom. Tom tries to guard his cake, but a food fight soon erupts.

Cafeteria Worker enters.

Worker: Hold on. Wait a minute.

Dean Gourd enters and gets some frosting right in the face.

Everyone freezes.

Dean: What is going on here?

All at once, everyone starts talking on top of each other. These next lines are said at the same time. Ad-lib through with your line, keep talking until the Dean quiets everyone.

Cay: He started it.

Hydra: He took the whole thing.

Grape 1: I just wanted a taste.

Mandy: How many calories are in the frosting?

After a few seconds...

Dean: Just one minute.

All students stop talking.

Dean: *(wiping his face)* I came to the cafeteria because I had an announcement to make. This cake— *(referring to the food on his face)* was supposed to be part of a celebration to congratulate you on a fruitful year. It has, instead, proven to be a reminder that you freshman still have lots of growing to do as well as three more years of schooling.

Worker: I made an extra cake, sir. Should I bring it out?

Dean: Yes. Thank you.

Cafeteria Worker exits.

Dean: Thomas, this celebration is for everyone. And I will be standing right here to make sure that everyone, and I mean everyone, gets a piece.

Tom: How about a double portion for the extra hard-working students?

Dean: Mr. Beefsteak do you mean to imply that you've worked harder than the rest of these students this year?

Tom: Maybe worked out harder?

He strikes a muscle pose.

Dean: Perhaps you're right. You shouldn't have cake if you're on a strict work out regiment. We wouldn't want to ruin your football physique.

Tom: Well, what I meant to say was—

Dean: That we should all celebrate together.

Tom: Exactly.

Dean: That's what I thought.

Cafeteria Worker enters with a new cake.

Worker: Here you go.

Cafeteria Worker steps behind the table and prepares to serve the students.

Dean: Congratulations on a fruitful year! Enjoy.

Dean Gourd steps back and allows the students to form a line.

Tom steps in the way of the first student.

Tom: Wait a minute.

Dean: Thomas, this cake is for everyone.

Tom: I know. I know. And it's delicious. At least the first one was. *(To Cafeteria Worker)* Did you make this?

Worker: Yes.

Tom: Well, if this celebration is for everyone, then I think you should go first.

Worker: Oh, but I'm not a student.

Tom: But you're part of Vine University.

Cay: And we're all celebrating.

Mandy: If you haven't tried it yet, the frosting is amazing.

Worker: Well—

Dean: The students are right.

Dean Gourd moves to the back of the table and puts on an apron.

Dean: I insist. We all need to celebrate today.

Dean Gourd cuts the cake and gives the first piece to Cafeteria Worker and then continues to serve the students. As everyone is being served, ad lib through this until the lights go down.

Lights down.

"Goodbye" Script 11

What	It's time to say goodbye for the summer and Mandy is afraid of losing touch with all her friends. This episode of VU reminds the students of the importance of staying connected to the Vine. Themes: Abiding in Christ, Growing, Staying Connected, and Children's Drama
Who	English Ivy "Ivy" Cayenne pepper "Cay" Thomas Beef Steak "Tom" Mandeville "Mandy" Jasmine Climbing Hydrangea (Hydra)
When	Modern Day
Wear (Props)	Café tables and chairs Couch Coffee mug Tissue for Mandy
Why	John 15:5, Hebrews 10:25 As we continue to grow, we need to remember that no matter how painful the pruning or how difficult the season, it is important to continually stay connected to the one true vine. It is also important to stay connected to God's family.
How	The setting is a coffee shop. There should be tables with chairs along with some couches to create a college coffee shop feel. Upstage Right there should be a coffee bar.
Time	Approximately 5 minutes

Lights up. Mandy and Ivy enter together with drinks and sit on a couch.

Ivy: I can't believe the year is really over.

Mandy: I've been crying all day.

Ivy: Mandy, we're only going home for the summer.

Mandy: Only the summer? May, June, July, not to mention August.

Ivy: Part of August.

Mandy breaks down crying.

Ivy sits and puts her arm around Mandy.

Ivy: I'm going to miss you, too. Listen, we can talk on the phone.

Mandy: I'm never on my phone.

Ivy: You're always on your phone.

Mandy cries louder.

Ivy: We can email, Skype—

Mandy: So, we're just Skype friends, now?

She loudly blows her nose.

Mandy: What if I forget everything I've learned? My study group will be scattered. How am I supposed to remember anything?

Ivy: You're not going to forget everything.

Mandy: I don't even remember what I learned in class yesterday.

Ivy: You didn't go to class yesterday.

Mandy: See, I'm already falling behind.

Ivy: We didn't have class yesterday because it's finals week.

Mandy: What if everyone forgets about me. I'll have no friends next year.

Pause.

Ivy thinks for a moment.

Ivy: I have an idea.

Mandy stops crying and looks at her skeptically.

Ivy: About how we can stay connected.

Mandy: Ok.

Ivy: Let's plan a phone date once a week.

Mandy: *(Starting to smile)* It'll be like we're talking, just over the phone.

Ivy: Right.

Pause.

Ivy: Ok. So, I can call you every Saturday. How does that work?

Mandy: I can tell you all about my summer vacations.

Ivy: Exactly—

Mandy: And about all the exciting things I'm going to do. I can tell you what I'm eating and drinking, and I can recite all the new cheers that I'm going to come up with. And by August it'll be like you never left.

Ivy: *(Hesitantly)* Great.

Mandy: This is going to be the best summer ever.

Jasmine and Hydrangea enter.

Jasmine: Hey guys.

Hydra: All packed and ready to go?

Mandy: Almost.

Jasmine: I can't believe our first year is already over.

Mandy: Ivy and I were just planning a weekly phone date, so that she doesn't have to wonder what I'm doing all summer. I'll tell her all about my vacations and what hair style I'm wearing and the different lip stick colors I buy—

Ivy: We just want to make sure we stay connected. Do you want to join in on our phone dates?

Jasmine: Sure.

Hydra: That sounds like fun.

Ivy: We can help each other remember what we've learned, remember how much we've grown, and help each other to keep growing throughout the summer. Maybe we could even get some extra studying done.

Jasmine: Umm—

Hydra: Maybe.

Mandy: It is summer break.

Jasmine: I don't know about the extra studying, but I'm all about staying in touch.

Tom and Cay enter.

Tom: Hey, ladies.

Cay: You guys going to the party in the commons?

Jasmine: I almost forgot! There's an end of the semester pizza party in the commons.

Mandy: I'm in.

They all start to exit.

Tom: Wait. It's a pizza party?

Ivy: What's wrong with that?

Cay: I love pizza.

Tom: Does no one else find the thought of eating tomato sauce offensive?

Lights down.

"Alum" Script 12

What As the students end their final day on campus they run into some Alumni of VU. Join these freshman as they close their year out by being reminded that they will always be connected to the VU community.

Themes: Abiding in Christ, Growing, Staying Connected, and Children's Drama

Who English Ivy "Ivy" Dean
Cayenne pepper "Cay" Bob
Thomas Beef Steak "Tom" Alum 1
Mandeville "Mandy" Various students

When Modern Day

**Wear
(Props)** Books
Papers
Pencils
Book Bags
Desks & Chairs
Alumni Tables

Why John 15:5, Hebrews 10:25 As we continue to grow, we need to remember that no matter how painful the pruning or how difficult the season, it is important to continually stay connected to the one true vine. It is also important to stay connected to God's family.

How The setting is a lecture hall. Ideally the professor would be angled upstage, so that the students would be seated on an angle from upstage left to downstage right. This would enable the audience to see the student's faces, while still having the illusion that the students are facing the professor. Downstage right and left there are also alumni tables, set with various papers and bulletins.

Time Approximately 5 minutes

Students are seated as Dean Gourd addresses them.

Alumni are standing behind the tables ready to answer students' questions.

Dean: In closing, I'd like to address you one last time before you return home for the summer because I want to emphasize how proud I am, and how proud you should be, at the close of a successful and fruitful year. This freshman class has shown tremendous promise for the future of Vine. Have a wonderful summer, and I speak for all the faculty when I say that we anticipate your return in the fall.

Applause.

Dean: As you leave, please be sure stop by the alumni tables. There are many jobs and internships available this summer.

Students disperse. Some students go to the downstage right table. Cay, Tom, Mandy and Ivy head to the downstage left table.

Bob and Alumni 1 stand behind the downstage left table.

Cay: Is this a craft fair?

Mandy: I don't think so.

Ivy: This is a job fair.

Mandy: What does that mean?

Bob: Are you looking for summer jobs?

Alum 1: Or maybe a summer internship?

Mandy: Why would I do that? I just got done with school.

Ivy: *(to Alum 1)* I'm headed to England, but I'd be interested in an online internship.

Mandy: *(to Bob)* Do you work here? I feel like I've seen you before.

Tom: *(referring to Bob)* This is my older brother.

Cay: *(to Bob)* I thought you looked familiar.

Bob: I'm an alumnus of Vine.

Mandy: Uh huh. *(To Ivy)* What does that mean?

Ivy: It means he use to go here.

Mandy: Oh. But didn't graduate? That's too bad. *(To Tom)* A tomato in every graduating class, huh? I don't think it counts if—

Tom: *(interrupting)* No, he graduated. He was part of last year's graduating class.

Mandy: Then why is he here? Are you sure he graduated?

Bob: Alumni often come back to their Alma Mater.

Mandy: Aluma what?

Alum 1: Alma Mater. It's another way of saying the university you graduated from.

Cay: Why come back?

Alum 1: My vineyard decided to offer some summer internships. I thought it was a good time to come back and help some of the new students by offering them the jobs.

Bob: Not to mention, coming back is a great way to just stay connected to our old professors and friends.

Cay: So, once you're a student of Vine, you're always a student of Vine.

Alum 1: That's right.

Bob: Even after you graduate, you can still stay connected.

Alum 1: *(teasing Bob)* Coming back is also one way to get more homework.

Mandy: Homework? They give you homework if you come back and visit?

Alum 1: Bob is not only an alumnus, he's a graduate student.

Tom: *(teasing)* Which basically means that he's still choosing to be a student even though he's done with school.

Mandy: That sounds...awful.

Bob: I'm only done with my first degree. Now I'm studying for my Master's degree at VU.

Tom: Just another 3 years and we'll be alum.

Cay: And maybe graduate students.

Tom: I think I'm going to just be an alum.

Mandy: We'll only be alum if we can pass our sophomore year.

Ivy: We still have to take Professor Pumpkin's Pruning 202 class.

Alum 1: We might be able to help with that too.

Mandy: What do you mean?

Bob: Well, we were once sophomores.

Ivy: Did you pass pruning 202?

Cay: Do you have the answers to the tests? Or papers I can copy?

Mandy: Or better yet Professor Pumpkin's favorite cookies so we can butter her up the day of the exams?

Alum 1: Or we could help tutor you.

Ivy: What a great idea.

Bob: *(to Mandy)* I can tell you that my favorite cookies are chocolate chip.

Mandy: How is that going to help us?

Bob: Part of my graduate work includes helping assist professors. I'll be the TA or the teacher's assistant in pruning 202.

Mandy: So you'll be our teacher?

Bob: Yup.

Alum 1: Assistant to the teacher.

Bob: But just as good as the teacher.

Alum 1 rolls his eyes.

Cay: Good to know.

Bob: As I was saying, I like chocolate chip cookies.

Alum 1 nudges Bob disapprovingly.

Bob: *(shrugs)* I'm staying connected and helping the new students.

Bob gathers some papers and begins to exit with Cay, Tom, and Mandy close behind him.

Mandy: (to **Bob** as she grabs a paper and pen to take notes) Wait. Wait. What else? Chocolate chip cookies and—

Bob: Well, that's if you want to pass. If you want to get an A, I also enjoy homemade cinnamon rolls.

Ivy and Alum 1 also begin to exit.

Ivy: Well, Pruning 202 sounds like it's going to be breeze.

Alum 1: Professor Pumpkin will make them work for a passing grade, don't worry about that. But it does look like Bob's going to really enjoy his graduate work.

Their conversation fades.

Lights down.