



Bill & Ted Drama (day four)

JESUS: CRIMINAL OR RESCUER?
LUKE 23:32-49

Secret Agents Holiday Club

Aim: To understand that Jesus died for me. I have a certain future.

Props: Bubbles, two cups, squirty cream, doughnut, range of disguises, loo roll

DRAMA AT THE START OF THE SESSION

Intro music. Ted is as excited to be there as usual.

Bill & Ted enter.

Ted: This is it. Our training is almost complete. I am ready! Skills honed. Lessons learnt. Meet the Secret Agent.

Bill: Really?

Ted: I've got everything I need. I've got my gadgets. I've got my disguises.

Bill: Oh no. This isn't going to be your Australian disguise is it?

Ted: No. I'm way beyond that. Even with gadgets and disguises, I could still be stuck deep undercover, out-of-reach of all friendly forces. How will I survive on my own? Provisions. I need food. I need to be able to survive for months. Completely self-sufficient. No shops. No parachute drops. Not even berries gathered from the forest. I need to be able to survive with nothing..

Bill: Nothing? How? How?

Ted: *Produce a doughnut from pocket.* Doughnuts!

Bill: Ted, Ted, Ted. You think you can survive for months on just doughnuts?

Ted: No. I don't

Bill: What a relief. How will you survive?

- Ted:** *Dipping his doughnut into his other pocket which is full of squirty cream. Doughnuts and squirty cream. Takes a massive bite.*
- Bill:** Ted, you can't live on doughnuts and squirty cream for months.
- Ted:** I can. It's practically what I live on at the moment. This is just the logical next step in my experiment to train my body for survival undercover for months.
- Bill:** Ted. I despair. I honestly think you have squirty cream for brains. So you think you're ready? Gadgets...
- Ted:** ...and disguises and... Doughnuts! *Long silence* Bill, *whispers* I'm a little bit scared.
- Bill:** *whispers* What of?
- Ted:** *whispers* I don't really want to leave the Secret Agent Academy.
- Bill:** *whispers* Why?
- Ted:** *whispers* Because I don't know how it will end?
- Bill:** *normal volume* Of course you do. You always come out on top Ted. James Bond always beats the bad guy. Ben 10 always ... does 10... things... Mr Tumble always... tumbles.
- Ted:** Bill, this is real life. I don't know how it ends. I'm going out there, *remembers his self blind belief*, as the very best Secret Agent, the world has ever seen, *then confidence crumbles again*....but I don't know how my story ends.
- Bill:** You know one thing about your story. We'll do it together Ted. You and me. Together forever. *Puts arm around Ted, sneaking a doughnut out of his Ted's pocket and takes a bite.*
- Telephone ring sound effect. Bill picks up the phone, and the children can hear (but not see) M.*
- M:** This is a message for agents Double-0-B and Double-0-T. Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to find out the truth: *pause* Jesus Christ: *Pause* Criminal or Rescuer?

We have it on good authority that Jesus has been arrested. If he is convicted of the charges against him, he will face the death penalty. Suddenly everything is in doubt. If he is a criminal, then he can't be God's promised King. But if it's not a criminal, then why is he dying? With all of his power, why is he allowing this? Could this be a rescue?

This is your toughest assignment yet. We need answers. Jesus Christ: Criminal or Rescuer?

As always, the answers to this Mission are in the Bible. It's in your drawer. *Ted takes out a loo roll. He starts unravelling it looking for answers.* It's been proven to be the truth. If there are answers out there, you'll find them in the Bible. *Ted is delighted with his loo roll and is lost in it. Bill despairs and gets out the Bible from another desk drawer.*

Good luck Agents.

Bill hangs up.

Dr G theme tune. Dr G makes an entrance with the day's gadget. Ted gets over-excited and faints.

Ted: Dr G. Go on. Gadget me. Load me up. And set me off.

Dr G: Well let me try agent Double-0-T. Now I'm feeling nervous about this. It's my most amazing gadget yet.

Imagine the scene. *Bill follows these instructions.* You're on the telephone *Bill picks up the telephone receiver.* And you fear that the enemy are listening in on your conversation. They know you as the ultimate secret agent, and so to hide your true identity, you use the ... voice changer.

Presents a box to Ted, that we can't see into and Bill doesn't look.

Agent Double-O-B, please have a normal, everyday conversation. *Bill has a dull Secret Agent conversation.*

As Bill speaks Dr G jams a sharp object into his bottom. Suddenly his voice becomes high pitched.

Ted: Wow, that is amazing, he sounds completely different. Let me try.

Ted takes the phone and continues with the conversation. Dr G stuffs some marshmallows into his mouth, and Ted struggles to continue to speak, without swallowing them.

Bill: Oh that is simply fantastic. You would never know that was Ted. Dr G you're terrific. You are a genius.

Dr G: I have one more.

Ted: Ooh let me try. *Continues with his conversation.*

Dr G inflates a whoopee cushion behind Ted and lets it off near to Ted. Ted bursts into hysterical laughter, while continuing to try to talk.

Bill: His voice is suddenly different. This is sure to fool even the most dangerous criminal mind.

Dr G: All in a day's work, agents. I'm just pleased to be of assistance.

Bill: Thank you Dr G.

Say thank you's. Big joy. Dr G leaves.

Sketch comes on and starts drawing Sketch 1, Day 4. Sketch theme is turned down, but audible throughout.

Bill & Ted keep muttering, "he never speaks, he only draws", "Who is he?", "He's so mysterious.", etc.

As he's drawing, Bill & Ted say some of the following. Intersperse with nonsense to fill time. Ted say some of the following. Intersperse with nonsense to fill time.

Secret Agent Agent

- *Some silly guesses as to what he is drawing. The children know who to expect now.*
- *Secret agent! He's cool. One of us is cool. One of us.*
- *He's doing his thinking thing. Big thoughts. Clever thoughts.*
- *I once had a clever thought, but then I realised it was just wind.*
- *No, he's thinking about our Mission.*

Handcuffs

- *Rings. Hula Hoops. Bracelets. Wheels.*
- *Chained together. Handcuffs..*
- *Ooh! A Criminal. Was Jesus really a criminal? How could he be?*
- *But he is treated like a criminal. Maybe he is a criminal? Maybe we've got him wrong.*

Life ring

- *Another ring. A podgy one.*
- *It's a big circular balloon. You know when you hold the end of a balloon and let all the air out, it sounds like a fart?*
- *It's not. A life raft. Life ring. Saving thing.*
- *Is Jesus a rescuer. With a life ring?*
- *A pool life guard? What kind of rescuer? That's our mission.*

When Sketch finishes, he leaves, and the music stops

Bill: Now Ted, the question is clear.

Ted: It is. *Pointing to the Sketch.* Hula Hoops or Big Balloon?

Bill: Oh, Ted! Come on, Ted! Come on.

Bill & Ted leave

DRAMA AT THE END OF THE SESSION.

Bill & Ted come on playing with one of the activities the children have just been doing. A moment of dialogue about the activity.

Secret Agent or Double Agent music. Turn off music when leader seated

Go walking amongst the children and drag up a leader you've prepared. Put them in the hot seat. Mock interrogation.

Ted: *To suspect.* What is your name? *Suspect gives their name.* Ha! I got you there! You didn't expect that!

Bill & Ted come up with a fiendish strategy for forcing the truth from the suspect.

- Bill:** *Ted chats to the suspect casually and then Bill suddenly interrupts.* Are you a Secret Agent or a Double Agent?
- Suspect:** I'm a Secret Agent because I follow Jesus Christ
- Ted:** *Continuing to be very casual.* I'd like to be your friend. I just have one question, I'd love you to answer super truthfully. Is that alright.... If you really are a Secret Agent, tell me why you first decided to trust and obey Jesus? *Looks smug, as if he's caught him/her out.*
- Suspect:** *Give real reason, in three or four slow sentences, why they first decided to become a Christian.*
- Bill:** *Making a hideously silly face to put him off.* Finally, what is the best thing about following Jesus?
- Suspect:** *Give real, personal highlight of being a Christian. In three or four sentences.*
- Ted:** Bill, we've got a Secret Agent. We're safe
- Give a round of applause to the Suspect.*
- Bill:** In the hot seat Ted. I'm going to ask you the same question I always ask you.
- Ted:** How did you get a brother like me? *Bill shakes his head.* Can I have just one of your 12 doughnuts? *Bill shakes his head.* Do I have a brain, or is my head completely empty?
- Bill:** What is the big thing you've learnt today?
- Ted:** Oh right. Yes. To be truly ready for a lifetime of being a spy - my pockets will never be big enough for the amount of cream I'll need. So I thought I could sew an extra bag on the side, that would be this big, and would keep...
- Bill:** Ted, what's the
- Ted:** ... I know, I know, *Imitating Bill.* "what's the mission?" *Back to normal...* Jesus: Criminal or rescuer? He can't be a criminal because... *pause...* he'd never done anything wrong
- Bill:** So he's a

- Ted:** rescuer! *Goes to get up. Bill pushes him back into his chair.*
- Bill:** Being killed isn't a normal way of rescuing! So what's going on?
- Ted:** He had a special... *mime having something in your pocket...* or perhaps when he..... *make laser beam zaps come out of your eyes....* or when he was there..... *mime disappearing with wobbly lines and shimmering....* giving up. Oh Bill! I have no idea! This is so difficult. I don't know how he rescued anyone by dying.
- Bill:** Let me give you a clue. How is it that a really bad criminal who was being punished next to Jesus got to be promised Heaven?
- Ted:** By swapping... *Gives Bill most of a doughnut, and holds the tiny bit...* Which is when... you take what someone else has. *Taking the big bit from Bill.* And they get what you have. *Gives the tiny bit to Bill.* There! *Takes a big bite.* Good deal!
- Bill:** Is that what you think Jesus was doing on the cross? Swapping doughnuts?
- Ted:** He could have been. *Pause to think and see Bill looking disappointed.* It's a different kind of swap, isn't it? *slow...* the sin of.... everyone who trusts him.
- Bill:** And the criminal got ...
- Ted:** *quick* A doughnut! No, Silly Ted! A pair of brand new... No... Jesus took the criminal's life and the criminal got Jesus' perfect life. So he could be with Jesus forever. *Ted looks glum.*
- Bill:** Great. So why so glum?
- Ted:** Because I don't know for sure how it's going to end. That was all then. What about now? How can I be so sure Jesus will keep me safe forever in Heaven?
- Bill:** Listen Ted. It is true that some things we can't be sure of. I did say earlier that we'd do everything together. Together forever. But probably that isn't quite true. I can't promise I'll be there forever. Something might happen to me. I might forget.
- Ted:** See!

Bill: But with Jesus it's completely different. He always keeps his promises. Remember what he said to the criminal, "Today you will be with me in Paradise." Do you believe Jesus' promise? Do you believe that, on that very day, he was with Jesus in Paradise?

Ted: Absolutely! Jesus keeps his promises. Every time. He's the King. We've seen that. He can't break a promise.

Bill: So with Jesus, if you trust in his swap for you, do you know how your story will end?

Ted: You bet! *Pause. Realises what he's just said.* Crumbs! I do know how my story will end. He will rescue me. I know how he rescued me by dying. He has rescued me!

Bill: Well done Ted.

Sketch theme tune

Secret Agent Agent

- *He's our man. Nice hat. our man. Nice hat.*
- *No legs.*
- *He's lost his legs. That's serious.*
- *In something. Squirty cream. Imagine that. Up to your waist in squirty cream. Swimming in it. Gulping it down. Back stroke. Diving down. Lost in a sea of...*

Quick sand

- *Here's a sign telling us what it is.*
- *Quicksand. Euurgh.*
- *Sin. Stuck in it. No way out.*
- *Can't get himself out. No way. No-one can.*
- *No-one can get themselves out of sin. We all need help.*

Big Hand

- *I'm loving the big hand. Big enough to wrap us up on it.*
- *He's coming to help him out.*
- *Why has his hand stopped there?*
- *That's not close enough. Grab him! Don't leave him.*

Cross

- *What's this?*
- *It's a massive reaching pole.*
- *With lumps. Why the lumps?*
- *It's a cross.*
- *That's how Jesus rescues us from sin.*
- *He did it on the cross.*
- *Isn't that great? The cross is the rescue for us stuck in sin. Loving that!*

Sketch leaves, music stops.

Bill: Jesus: Criminal or Rescuer?

Ted: Rescuer. What a rescue! Cross Rescuer? My rescuer.

Bill: Mission accomplished.

Ted: But one more Mission left!

Bill: You bet Ted. I'll see you on Sunday.

Exit



Bible Drama (day four)

LUKE 23:32-49

Secret Agents
Holiday Club

Props: Chain or rope. Hammer. Sign saying 'King of the Jews'. Torch.

Bill & Ted arrive with their Bible open.

Ted: Look Bill, I just don't get it. Yesterday, it was all lovely. Jesus walks into Jericho, the crowds are everywhere. He can't move for people. Cheering. Listening. Making him cups of tea and giving him cake. *Aside to Bill.* I know it doesn't say that in the Bible, but I'm sure that's what Mum would have done if she'd met Jesus. *Back to normal.* Anyway, suddenly you've brought me to this horrible spot where murderers are punished with death. *Folds his arms in irritation.*

Bill: Ted, I agree, but I can't change what the Bible says. Jesus was arrested by the religious leaders of his day, he was tried in a law court. Many people told lies about him. The religious leaders were jealous. They hated that wherever he went there were crowds, who loved him. They hated that he said he was God's King. In fact, everything we've learnt this week; they hated. So they took him to the Roman Governor, called Pilate; the big boss round there. And they told Pilate to have Jesus killed on a cross. Pilate should never have given in. He didn't think Jesus deserved death when he'd done nothing wrong. But Pilate did nothing. And the crowd wanted Jesus dead.

Ted: There he is, it's alright. *Ted sees Jesus coming.*

Jesus comes out first, followed by two criminals, who are chained together, led out by a centurion.

Oh. It's not alright. Who are the others?

Bill: *Reading.* There were also two criminals led out with Jesus to be killed. Jesus and the two criminals were taken to a place called, "the Skull".

Explaining to Ted. Unlike Jesus, they were guilty, they had committed some very serious crimes. Things like murder. They would all be punished together.

Reading. There the soldiers nailed Jesus to his cross. They also nailed the criminals to their crosses, one beside Jesus on the right and the other beside Jesus on the left.

Jesus and criminals “crucified”, perhaps by lying Jesus on the floor, hammering the floor and lifting him up. The three stand in a row, hands behind their backs. Aim for a sober atmosphere without dwelling on the gory details.

Jesus: Father, forgive them, they don’t know what they are doing.

Crowd 1: If he is God’s Chosen One, the Christ, then let him save himself. He saved other people, didn’t he?

Centurion: If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!

Centurion carries a sign sayin, “The King of the Jews”

Ted: But they don’t think he’s really, “the King of the Jews” do they?

Pause

Criminal 1: Aren’t you the Christ, God’s promised King? Then save yourself. And save us too!

Criminal 2: *To criminal 1.* You should fear God! You are getting the same punishment as he is. We are punished justly; we should die. But this man has done nothing wrong!”

To Jesus. Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom!

Jesus: Listen! What I say is true: Today you will be with me in paradise.

Lights out

Ted: Who switched the lights out?

Bill: We’re outside, remember? *Turn on a torch to read the Bible.* It was about noon in the middle of the day and the whole land went dark until three o’clock in the afternoon. There was no sun!

Ted: The sun got switched off in the middle of the day!

Bill: *Reading with torch.* The curtain in the temple was torn into two pieces.
Turn off torch. To Ted. The darkness is showing God's anger, and God tore the temple curtain because Jesus' death had made it possible for us to be friends with God.

Jesus: Aaarrgghhhh. Father God, I give you my life. *Head bowed.*

Lights back on.

Centurion: I think he was who he said he was. I think he really was the perfect man.