

VBS 2024, Feature Presentation - 252 Movie, Day 1

Original Script by Donny Joiner

Start the Party: Celebrate the good news!

BL: Jesus is a good reason to have a party

BS: Matthew's Party (Luke 5:27-32)

Cast: Jon/Jon's Phone  
Brandon  
Storyteller  
Three Clowns (non-speaking)

**SO AND SO SHOW INTRO PACKAGE**

**INT. THE STUDIO - MAIN DESK**

*Jon and Brandon are both sitting behind the main desk, dressed normally. They both have a nervous energy about them. Jon's phone is on the desk.*

BRANDON

Hey, everybody! I'm Brandon!

JON

I'm Jon! And welcome to *The So & So Show!*

BRANDON

This is a show where we hang out, have fun, and learn about the Bible together! Not necessarily in that order.

JON

Sometimes we do them all at the same time. Just like patting your head, rubbing your belly, and singing a Michael W. Smith song.

*Brandon and Jon both Pat their head, rub their bellies and sing...*

BRANDON & JON

*(High vibrato)*

My place in this world  
My place in this world!!!!

BRANDON

*(talking)*

One of the reasons we're here is so we can learn what it means to...

JON & BRANDON  
...Start the party!

SFX - Party music, not unlike 'Gangnam Style' by Psy

*They both dance... When the music stops, they continue as if nothing has happened.*

JON  
That's right. When you learn who Jesus is and decide to put your trust in him, we think that's a good reason to have a celebration filled with joy. A party!

BRANDON  
Yeah, we're celebrating the good news of Jesus during our whole time together!

JON  
Start the Party!

SFX - Party music, not unlike 'Gangnam Style' by Psy

*They both dance...*

*Jon's phone, which has been sitting on the desk, rings.*

JON'S PHONE (V.O.)  
Phone call! Phone call! Phone call!

*The music stops.*

*Jon grabs it and looks at it quickly.*

JON  
*(As if caught)*  
Oh..Ummm... Sorry, I need to take this.

BRANDON  
But we just started?

JON  
I know, I know. SO SORRY! It will only take a second.

Jon picks up his phone and runs off Camera.... Brandon watches him go and then lowers his voice and talks directly into the camera.

BRANDON

*(to camera, quietly)*

Okay, real quick while Jon's gone... Since we're going to be talking about parties, I decided to throw a surprise party for Jon... Now, he has NO IDEA and I want to keep it that way.

*Brandon picks up a handful of deflated balloons and puts them on the desk. He stretches one out.*

BRANDON (CONT'D)

*(while stretching)*

I've already blown up a ton of balloons, but I feel like we need more...

*Brandon blows the balloon up. Before he ties it...*

BRANDON (CONT'D)

He's gonna love these!

JON (O.C.)

Be right there.

*Brandon throws the deflated balloons off the desk and looks this way and that frantically trying to figure out what to do with the inflated balloon..*

*He decides to just suck-up the air as Jon walks in...*

JON (CONT'D)

Yeah, sorry about that. (Sits) It was...my mom...She just wanted to say... Hello.

*BRANDON swallows his mouthful of air.*

BRANDON

That is so nice of your mom to say hello.

JON

Umm... Yeah it is nice.

BRANDON

Excuse me... (Stands Up) I need to go blow... my nose.

JON

Oh..Yeah--Sure.

*Brandon gathers up the balloons from the floor and hurries out.*

*Jon watches Brandon exit, before quickly turning to the Camera and speaking low.*

JON (CONT'D)

Now that he's gone. That was NOT my mom on the phone. Since we're gonna be trying to 'Start The Party,' I've decided to throw a surprise party for Brandon. He has no idea and I want to keep it that way. Now, when you think of parties, what do YOU think of? ... Shout it out! ... Cake - Good, Music - Nice... Balloons??!! No, no, no. Not balloons. NEVER BALLOONS! I can't stand balloons, the way they squeak when they rub together - And if THEY POP! (Shutters) They scare me so much! So NO balloons! BUT what you DO have at parties, are CLOWNS! And that's who was on the phone just now. The clowns should be here in a few minutes. Oooooo, I'm so excited.

*Brandon enters.*

BRANDON

What are you so excited about?

JON

*(Winks at the camera)*

Uh... What we're gonna be talking about. You know, parties, celebrating the good news.

BRANDON

Oh yeah, ME TOO! I am pumped!

JON

So I was just discussing with them *(Points to camera)* things you have at a party. Like cake and music and dancing -

BRANDON

That's perfect! I'm good with ANYTHING. ... As long as there's no clowns.

JON  
*(Eyes wide)*  
 What?

BRANDON  
 Clowns. Clowns are the worst. I've been scared of clowns since I was seven. My dad surprised me for my birthday by waking me up dressed like a clown. I ran and hid in the pantry for three days. I survived on nothing but Funyuns, Smurfberry Crunch, and Yoo-hoo. ... Actually that part wasn't so bad.

JON  
 Uhhh... Y.y.y. you don't like clowns?

BRANDON  
 Nope. Terrified.

JON  
 Really.

SFX - Knock at the door

*Jon goes rigid as Brandon looks towards the door.*

BRANDON  
 Are we expecting someone?

JON  
 Uhhh... No... Maybe they'll just go away...

SFX - Knock at the door

BRANDON  
 Doesn't sound like it.

SFX - Knock at the door

BRANDON (CONT'D)  
 Maybe it's a special delivery.  
 (Yelling towards door) COME IN!

JON  
 No!

\*\* The next few minutes are total pandemonium and should be underscored. The movements are in that sped-up, jerky style\*\*

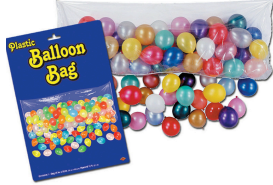
SFX - Underscore of something akin to Benny Hill Theme.

At least three (More if you can swing it) fully dressed clowns burst in. They are blowing horns and swinging ratchet noise makers.

Brandon screams and jumps up to run and is chased by the clowns. (Not in a menacing way... In a goofy slapstick way.)

Jon puts his face in his hands.. His surprise is ruined.

At this point, the clowns shoot a confetti popper into the air, which causes a balloon drop of dozens of balloons.



Jon raises his head just in time to see all of the balloons falling towards him. He flails as they fall all over him.

JON (CONT'D)

\*screaming\* NO! BALLOOOOONS!  
NOOOOO!!!!

He jumps up as the clowns pick up the balloons and begin to chase Jon around as well.

- . They run around the desk
- . They run over the desk
- . They run out one door
- . They run back in from another way.
- . They ride across on the tandem bicycle
- . They run in from two different directions, both having clowns chasing them...They run out in separate directions.
- . They back in slowly from both sides of the studio... No one is chasing them.
- . They get about halfway, before turning to run and slam into each other, falling over behind the desk

*\*\*Action and underscore stops.\*\**

*They both poke their heads up from behind the desk*

BRANDON & JON

Surprise.

JON & BRANDON

Thanks.

BRANDON

Should we just go to the-?

JON

-I think so.

BRANDON & JON

It's Bible Story time.

*A clown holding a balloon pops up between them.*

BRANDON AND JON

\*scream\*

CUT TO:

**CG - BIBLE STORY TIME GRAPHICS PACKAGE**

**INT. STORYTELLER'S SPACE**

**\*\*The following will be shots of Storyteller in his/her area. We will randomly cut to GIF's (of our own making) to help highlight the story. The image grabs below, are ALL from istock video clips. The location of the clips are listed below each image\*\***

STORYTELLER

Hey, everybody! My name's *Storyteller's Name*, and I am thrilled to talk to you about some amazing stories that happened in the life of Jesus.

Jesus was God's Son. You know, God, the Creator of the universe and everything in it. Well, one of the reasons God sent Jesus down to earth is so Jesus could show us the best way to live. And Jesus showed us with his words and his actions.

While Jesus was here, he chose 12 friends to be his disciples, or his closest followers. Now, you would think the Son of God would choose the smartest, most important, most popular, and most holy people to be friends with. But Jesus had a different plan.

(MORE)

## STORYTELLER (CONT'D)

One day, when Jesus was teaching people and healing the sick, he saw a man named Levi, who was also called Matthew. Matthew was a tax collector. And he was probably sitting at his tax booth like....

CUT TO:

## GIF #1 - CAT LAYING ON 100'S.



SFX - "Godfather type music"

CG - Show Me the Money

<https://www.istockphoto.com/video/big-grey-cat-guarding-money-on-office-desk-gm1007681696-271869539>

CUT BACK TO:

## INT. STORYTELLER'S AREA

## STORYTELLER

Now people did not like tax collectors. Tax collectors were seen as cheaters, thieves, and traitors. They often took more money from people than they were supposed to. But when Jesus saw Matthew, sitting there at his tax booth, he said to him... "Follow. Me."

*CG - Follow. Me. - The words appear one after the other*

## STORYTELLER (CONT'D)

Who knows what Matthew must've been thinking? Maybe he was, like-



**GIF #2 - WHO? ME?**



CG - *Who? Me?*

SFX - *Someone saying 'Uhhhhhhhhhh'*

<https://www.istockphoto.com/video/child-expressing-different-emotions-gm1253389537-366001365>

STORYTELLER

Matthew didn't know Jesus was the Son of God yet. But he knew Jesus was important. And now Jesus wanted him to be a follower.

So Matthew got up, left everything, and followed Jesus.

CUT TO:

**GIF #3 - GIRL WAVING**



CG - *"Bye!"*

SFX - *Something like 'Bye Bye Bye' by NSYNC*

<https://www.istockphoto.com/video/bye-gesture-air-kiss-girl-waving-goodbye-gif-loop-gm1340843473-420784537>

CUT BACK TO:

**INT. STORYTELLER'S AREA**

STORYTELLER

Matthew was so happy! Jesus chose him. He felt included. Accepted. He felt so good, he started the party!

(MORE)

STORYTELLER (CONT'D)

Matthew gave a huge banquet for Jesus at his house. A bunch of other people were eating with them, including more tax collectors. It was jumping!

CUT TO:

**GIF #4 - BOYS PARTYING**



SFX - House dance music

<https://www.istockphoto.com/video/boys-handstand-during-christmas-dance-gm527918120-93255175>

CUT BACK TO:

**INT. STORYTELLER'S AREA**

STORYTELLER  
Or maybe it was like-

CUT TO:

**GIF #5 - OLD MAN DANCING**



SFX - Polka music

<https://www.istockphoto.com/video/4k-video-footage-of-a-senior-man-dancing-against-an-urban-background-gm1388899474->

446379313

CUT BACK TO:

**INT. STORYTELLER'S AREA**

STORYTELLER

Or even-

CUT TO:

**GIF #6 - OLD MAN DANCING**



SFX - Country Music

<https://www.istockphoto.com/video/australian-shepherd-and-chihuahua-sitting-at-their-birthday-table-gm472747859-13770382>

CUT BACK TO:

**INT. STORYTELLER'S AREA**

STORYTELLER

Whatever kind of party it was, the religious leaders of the time showed up complaining. Asking -

CG - "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?" Luke 5:30, NIRV.

STORYTELLER (CONT'D)

"Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?"

CUT TO:

**GIF #7 - EMOJI WAGGING FINGER**

SFX - FUNNY-Low-pitched-VOICE - "No-no-no-no-no"

<https://www.istockphoto.com/video/no-emoticon-animation-gml191282411-338019847>

CUT BACK TO:

**INT. STORYTELLER'S AREA**

STORYTELLER  
Jesus answered them,

CG - "Healthy people don't need a doctor. Sick people do. I have not come to get those who think they are right with God to follow me. I have come to get sinners to turn away from their sins." Luke 5:30, NIRV.

STORYTELLER (CONT'D)  
"Healthy people don't need a doctor. Sick people do. I have not come to get those who think they are right with God to follow me. I have come to get sinners to turn away from their sins."

Boom.

CUT TO:

**GIF #8 - MIC DROP**

CG - "Boom!!"

SFX - Sound of a microphone dropping

<https://www.istockphoto.com/video/bye-for-now-gm1267315711-371794562>

CUT BACK TO:

**INT. STORYTELLER'S AREA**

STORYTELLER

Matthew wasn't the most important. He wasn't the most popular. Or the most holy. He'd even done things that were dishonest and wrong. But Matthew's life was changed forever when Jesus said those two words to him.

*CG - Follow. Me.*

STORYTELLER (CONT'D)

Follow. Me. And then Matthew chose to follow Jesus. Matthew was one of Jesus' closest 12 friends. And he would go on to write the first book of the New Testament in the Bible.

Even though Matthew may have felt like he didn't deserve Jesus' love, he threw a party because Jesus had invited him to be one of His followers.

And we can follow Jesus, just like Matthew did. We can live a life of joy and celebration because we know that Jesus loves us. WE...can start the party!

**GIF #9 - SCREEN FULL OF PARTIERS**



SFX - Generic Dance Beat

<https://www.istockphoto.com/video/lifes-as-groovy-as-you-make-it-gm1131100668-299381228>

STORYTELLER

Well, that's all I got. So, until next time...See ya!

Storyteller smiles and waves.

CG - Some sort of brief Bible Story Time Outro

CG - So & So Show Logo

**INT. THE STUDIO - MAIN DESK**

*Jon and Brandon are once again seated behind the desk.*

JON

There have definitely been times in my life where I felt like Matthew. Where I felt like I didn't belong or wasn't worthy.

BRANDON

Me too... I think most of us have felt that way at some point, but that's what's so amazing... Jesus came for people like us.

JON

That's definitely a reason to celebrate.

BRANDON

So...here's the one thing to remember.

*Jon and Brandon shoot off confetti poppers as the Bottom Line drops.*

CG - Jesus is a good reason to have a party - Bottom line rises from the bottom being carried by balloons.

BRANDON (CONT'D)

"Jesus is a good reason to have a party. "

JON

That's right. There are days we set aside to celebrate things.

BRANDON

Like Christmas or your birthday.

JON  
Or Buy New Socks Day!

BRANDON  
...yeah.

JON  
It's a thing.

BRANDON  
But knowing that Jesus loves you no matter who you are or what you've done in the past, is a reason we can celebrate no matter what day it is.

JON  
Oh! Is that why you were throwing me a surprise party?

BRANDON  
It sure was! Is that why you were throwing me a surprise party?

JON  
No. That was for Buy New Socks Day.

BRANDON  
Oh.

JON  
It's a thing. Here's your present!

*A clown enters holding out two new pairs of socks with designs on them.*

BRANDON  
CLOWN!

*BRANDON hides.*

JON  
Oh, right. The clown thing. That will be all, Sprinkles.

*The clown exits sadly.*

JON (CONT'D)  
(to camera)  
...That's all we have for today on *The So & So Show!*

BRANDON  
*(popping up, recovered  
completely)*  
Join us next time so we can...

BRANDON AND JON  
Start the Party!

SFX - Party music, not unlike 'Gangnam Style' by Psy

*They both dance...*

FADE TO BLACK