

VBS 2024, Feature Presentation - 252 Movie, Day 3

Original Script by Brandon O'Dell

Start the Party: Celebrate the good news!

BL: Celebrate the good news.

BS: Jesus' Parable of the Lost Son (Luke 15:11-32)

Cast: Jon

Brandon

Storyteller

Renee Soiree (or Jay)

Laundry Voices (V.O.)

### SO AND SO SHOW INTRO PACKAGE

INT. THE STUDIO

The studio is decorated for a party, streamers, balloons, etc... (or however its decorated on previous days). BRANDON and JON are at the desk. BRANDON is very excited about something.

JON

Hello, party people! What is happening? I am Jon.

BRANDON

And I am excited, delighted, and in all ways jubilant!

JON

(to camera)

That's Brandon. And this is *The So & So Show*.

(to Brandon)

Wow! What's got you in a tizzy?

BRANDON

Well, Jon, you know how we've been talking about parties?

JON

(looking around at party decor)

Has a ring to it.

BRANDON

Well, today, I've invited a guest onto the show who is going to show us how to REALLY party.

JON

(joining in on the excitement, rapid-fire)  
Really? Who is it? WHO? Who'd you get? Who's gonna be on the show? Who is it?

BRANDON pulls out a colorful flyer. It has pictures of balloons, horses, bounce houses, a llama, stars, princesses, basically an explosion of things you'd find at a party. In the middle it reads: RENEE SOIREE: PARTY PLANNER! CALL Northampton 861 today! There is a picture of Renee on there as well. She looks zany with frizzy hair and a huge smile on her face. [Note: For audition purposes, I think this character can be male or female. If male, we'll change the name to JAY.]

BRANDON

Renee. Soiree. [pronounced Ruh-NAY Swah-RAY]

JON

No way!

BRANDON

Way!

JON

You got Renee?

BRANDON

Yep!

JON

And she'll be here today?

BRANDON

YEP!

JON

YAY!

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

BRANDON and JON get up and dance.

Then they stop dancing abruptly along with the music.

JON (CONT'D)

Wow. Renee Soiree coming here. Her parties are legendary. She threw a party back on Arbor Day of 2018 that people are still talking about. They planted so many trees.

BRANDON

I remember.

JON

I heard the bounce house she brought to Long Beard Carl's birthday party was the size of two football fields.

BRANDON

I heard three.

JON

(super fast, emotional  
whirlwind)

And she's here! We're going to have so much fun! Best show ever! I think I'm going to cry. No, I'm not! But I might.

(grabbing Brandon)

Bring her out!

BRANDON

Okay. Please-

JON

Please welcome Someone Who Knows Stuff!

RENEE SOIREE opens the door. She doesn't look at all like her picture or what one might imagine. She's dressed in bland business attire, very strait-laced, no nonsense. She has glasses either on her head or around her neck. She carries a clipboard with papers on it, which includes her new flyer.

CG - Someone Who Knows Stuff

JON (CONT'D)

(before he focuses on her  
completely)

Welcome to the shooooooooo-

(noticing, a little  
confused)

-ooo oh.

RENEE  
(properly)  
Thank you for the invitation.

BRANDON  
Renee?

RENEE  
Yes.

JON  
Soiree?

RENEE  
That is correct.

JON  
Oh.

BRANDON  
(recovering)  
Come in. Come in. Have a seat.

She comes in without closing the door. JON gets up to close the door for her.

JON  
Let me get the door for you.

As he does so, he looks out the door to see if there might be someone else out there. Someone more... fun.

JON (CONT'D)  
And...

Nope. He closes the door.

JON (CONT'D)  
...the door is closed.

He returns to his seat.

BRANDON  
I just want to tell you that we are so excited to have you on the show. We're big fans of your work.

RENEE  
How kind of you to say.

BRANDON  
For our viewers, though, can you tell us who you are and what you know?

RENEE

Certainly. My name is Renee Soiree.  
And my occupation at present is  
event coordinator for various  
festive occasions across this and  
neighboring counties.

JON

So you put on parties?

RENEE

I have been known to assist in the  
enhancement of social gatherings  
now and then.

JON

...so you put on parties?

BRANDON

(jumping in quickly)  
So, Renee, I can't help noticing  
that you look a little different  
from the picture on your flyer.

BRANDON holds up the flyer. RENEE puts on her glasses and  
glances at it.

RENEE

Oh. That's an old flyer. I have one  
that's more up to date. Would you  
like to see it?

BRANDON

Yes, please.

RENEE flips through some pages on her clipboard and removes  
her new flyer. It is two tone, boring. It reads 'RENEE SOIREE  
- EVENT COORDINATOR - Call Northampton 861 at your  
convenience.' There is a picture of her the way she looks  
right now, proper. And a quote next to her 'My motto is -  
Stick to the plan.' She holds the flyer out to camera.

RENEE

There you are.

BRANDON and JON peek around at it.

BRANDON

(reading)  
"Renee Soiree. Event Coordinator."

JON

"My motto is - Stick to the plan."

RENEE

Very important.

(putting the flyer back in  
her clipboard as she  
talks)

A good plan keeps your event safe,  
structured, and without any  
surprises.

JON

Aren't surprises good at a party?

BRANDON

(jumping in quick again)

We're talking about how we should  
take time to celebrate. We were  
hoping you could give us some  
pointers on ways we can celebrate.  
Maybe some party games?

RENEE

Oh, yes. Of course. That would be  
worthwhile. Which game would you  
like to play?

JON

Ooh! Something classic. How  
about... BOBBING FOR APPLES!

JON pushes a button.

JUMP CUT TO:

They are standing in front of the ping pong wall. There is a  
high top table in front of them.

RENEE

Now you may have played Bob for  
Apples when you were younger-

JON

(excited)

Yeah! You put a bunch of apples in  
a tub of water and then you dip  
your face in and see how many you  
can pick up. I was the king! Bring  
out the tub!

RENEE

Actually, I've refined the rules a  
bit. I find that submerging your  
face in water can be unpredictable  
at best and at worst... deadly.

JON

...Ah.

RENEE

So...

(putting three apples on  
the table in front of  
them, while speaking)

...I've eliminated the water  
entirely.

JON

Not a lot of bobbing. But okay.

JON, hands behind his back, leans down to get an apple with  
his mouth.

RENEE

(interrupting)

Actually...

JON stops, mouth agape, turning his head.

RENEE (CONT'D)

...don't you think it would be more  
practical if we use our hands? Try  
it.

JON, mouth still agape, reaches up and picks up an apple.

RENEE (CONT'D)

There, you see.

(picking up an apple)

Now we each have a treat for later.

BRANDON picks up the last apple.

BRANDON

Fun. Maybe let's try something  
else. Pin the Tail on the Donkey?

JON

YES!

Jon exits quickly as we...

JUMP CUT TO:

There is a bare bulletin board set up on an easel. RENEE has  
a box of thumbtacks. She wears gloves. BRANDON and JON are  
skeptical.

BRANDON

Uh... where's the donkey?

RENEE

Good observation, Brandon. There is no donkey in my interpretation of this game. Were you to pin a tail on a donkey, it would hurt. Plus, as you know, donkeys already have tails so the idea is absurd. So I've devised a more sensible alternative. Pin the Thumbtack to the Bulletin Board.

JON

Should we wear blindfolds?

RENEE

(laughing at the ridiculousness of the suggestion)

Ha ha ha ha. Oh, Jon.

RENEE removes a thumbtack from the box and pins it the bulletin board.

RENEE (CONT'D)

I win.

She continues to play.

JON

Yeah...

(looks at Brandon, sotto voce)

Hey. Brandon. Psst.

BRANDON

What?

JON gestures with his head for BRANDON to follow him into the foreground. In the background, RENEE continues to play Pin the Thumbtack to the Bulletin Board. She reacts with restrained joy with every successful stick.

BRANDON (CONT'D)

What is it?

JON

Brandon. I think Renee has lost her way.

BRANDON

You don't say.

JON

She's forgotten how to play.



BRANDON  
Then let's save the day.

JON  
How?

BRANDON  
With Bible Story Time!

JON  
Hooray!

RENEE  
Yes!  
(looking at them)  
Ten in a row.

BRANDON and JON smile wild-eyed at camera as we...

CUT TO:

**CG - BIBLE STORY TIME GRAPHICS PACKAGE**

INT. STORYTELLER'S SPACE

STORYTELLER  
Hello again, everybody. I'm  
*Storyteller's Name*, and I'm here to  
remind you of another amazing  
reason we have to celebrate. Maybe  
the best reason.

You're going to love this  
incredible story Jesus told about a  
father and his two sons. But listen  
closely, because when Jesus told a  
story, the story always had a  
deeper, more important meaning. And  
we're going to reenact the story  
with Laundry Theatre.

**CG - LAUNDRY THEATRE GRAPHICS PACKAGE**

**Characters:**

Father - Tan slacks, solid button down shirt, bowler hat

Younger Son - At first, trendy jeans, colorful button down  
shirt, ball cap backwards

Older Son - jeans, a plaid shirt, ball cap forwards

Servants - Slacks, White button down shirts

[Feel free to switch up the costumes to what works best.]

INT. LAUNDRY FLOOR

STORYTELLER (V.O.)

Jesus told the story of a father...  
who had two sons. The older son...  
was loyal and good. The younger son  
was...well, a little wild.

**Action:** The father pops magically posing proudly in the middle.

FATHER (V.O.)

\*proud mm-hmm\*

The older son pops in on his father's left and strikes the same pose as his father.

OLDER SON (V.O.)

\*proud mm-hmm at a higher pitch\*

The younger son pops in on his father's right, facing him. His father turns to face him.

He holds out his hand to his father.

YOUNGER SON (V.O.)

\*utterance that could be 'gimme five'\*

The father slaps his younger son's hand.

SFX - hands clapping together

The younger son raises his hand high in the air.

YOUNGER SON (V.O.)

\*'up high'\*

The father gives his younger son a high five.

SFX - hands clapping together

The younger son holds his hand down low.

YOUNGER SON (V.O.)

\*'down low'\*

The father tries to slap his hand down low, but the younger son moves his hand out of the way quickly.

YOUNGER SON (V.O.)  
 \*'too slow'\*

The younger son holds a hand to his belly, laughing. The father shakes a knowing hand at his son. The older son just shakes his head.

YOUNGER SON (V.O.)  
 \*laughing\*

FATHER (V.O.)  
 \*you got me again\*

OLDER SON (V.O.)  
 \*oh, brother\*

INT. STORYTELLER'S SPACE

STORYTELLER  
 The custom in those days was when a father died, all of his money and property would be given to his children. But the younger son had an idea. He asked his father to give him his share while he was still alive!

INT. LAUNDRY FLOOR

STORYTELLER (V.O.)  
 And even though it wasn't really the way things were done, the father decided to divide up his property and give it to his two sons.

**Action:** The three of them are standing there, the father in the middle. There are two big laundry bags one on either side of the father. There is a dollar sign written on the bags or it's spelled out with black socks. The father picks up one bag and hands it to his older son. The older son nods, reverent.

OLDER SON (V.O.)  
 \*thank you\*

The father picks up the other bag and hands it to his younger son. The younger son holds it in one arm and throws his other in the air.

YOUNGER SON (V.O.)  
 \*woo-hoo!\*

INT. STORYTELLER'S SPACE

STORYTELLER

After that, the younger son packed up everything he had and left for a country far away.

INT. LAUNDRY FLOOR

STORYTELLER (V.O.)

The younger son had all that money and he couldn't wait to spend it. He spent it on food... Clothes... Wild parties... In fact, he spent every last cent that he had.

SFX - Rock music

**Action:** The younger son is center, holding the laundry bag. As he 'spends' the money, the laundry bag rolls up or gets smaller. For 'food,' the younger son reaches out of frame and brings on a rolled up brown sock that could be a turkey leg and bites it. Or the turkey leg appears magically in his hand and he bites it.

YOUNGER SON (V.O.)

\*yummy noise, chewing\*

When Storyteller says 'Clothes,' younger son freezes and we...

JUMP CUT TO:

SFX - Magic transition chime

...younger son in the same position, now wearing a powder blue tuxedo.

YOUNGER SON (V.O.)

\*righteous!\*

For 'parties,' a party hat falls from the sky and lands on his head. Or it magically appears. He reaches out and grabs a party favor and brings it to his mouth and blows. [I'd love for it to be one of those party favors that's coiled up and shoots out if you think it can be done quickly and effectively.]

SFX - party favor

The bag has shrunk down to size. He holds the bag upside down and shakes it. He 'looks' at camera.

YOUNGER SON (V.O.)

\*uh-oh\*

INT. STORYTELLER'S SPACE

STORYTELLER

The younger son was completely broke. And if that wasn't bad enough, the entire country was running low on food, so he was starting to get hungry.

INT. LAUNDRY FLOOR

STORYTELLER (V.O.)

He needed money, so he went to work for someone who hired him to feed pigs. He was so hungry, he was willing to eat the same food the pigs were eating. But no one would give him anything.

**Action:** The younger son, still wearing the powder blue tuxedo, but maybe there are patches on it, or holes, holds a bucket, made out of a towel. He walks up to a muddy patch of land, maybe piles of brown clothes and towels. There are two pigs in the mud, made out of pink clothing items. He reaches in to the bucket and tosses food. Banana peels made of yellow socks or actual banana peels. The pigs dig in. He reaches down to grab a banana, but the big bumps him. The younger son falls into the mud and splashes of brown socks cover him.

YOUNGER SON (V.O.)

\*uggggggh\*

STORYTELLER (V.O.)

Then, when things couldn't get any worse, the younger son had an idea. He would return to his father and beg his forgiveness. And offer to work for him as his servant. So he got up... and made his way home.

**Action:** The younger son looks straight ahead. A thought bubble rises up above his head, two or three white socks for the dots and an unraveling white towel for the big bubble. two black socks form an exclamation point. Or maybe three exclamation points.

SFX - idea ding

The younger son stands, brushes some of the mud from his suit and trudges on.

INT. STORYTELLER'S SPACE

STORYTELLER

Meanwhile, back home, the father had been waiting and watching, hoping his son would return. And then one day, off in the distance, he saw him.

INT. LAUNDRY FLOOR

STORYTELLER (V.O.)

As soon as he saw his son, the father was filled with love. He ran to him. He ran as fast as he could. At long last, his son had returned.

**Action:** The father is sitting in a chair off to one side. I'm not sure what the chair is made of, so I'm open to suggestions. He sees something in the distance. He stands and runs. The chair slides off as the father runs in place. He jumps over a fence and a shrub and a cow. Or clouds float by in the distance as father runs in place.

FATHER (V.O.)

\*running noises\*

SFX - Cow mooing

Finally, the father meets his son and they stand there arms at their sides. The younger son should still have mud stains and patches on his tuxedo.

STORYTELLER (V.O.)

The father threw his arms around his son and kissed him, but the son had something to say first. He said, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer fit to be called your son.'

**Action:** The father reaches out and embraces his son. The younger son pulls away and falls to his knees, head bowed, penitent.

YOUNGER SON (V.O.)

\*an approximation of the line above\*

STORYTELLER (V.O.)

But the father called his servants together and told them to throw a huge party. 'This son of mine was dead,' he said, 'And now he is alive again. He was lost. And now he is found.'

**Action:** The father gestures off frame and two servants enter.

FATHER (V.O.)

\*approximation of the line above\*

The servants exit promptly. The father reaches down and pulls his son to his feet.

INT. STORYTELLER'S SPACE

STORYTELLER

So they began to celebrate. But that wasn't the end. Remember, there was another brother in this story. The one who had stayed by his father's side and hadn't wasted all of his father's money. When he found out his father was throwing a party for his wasteful younger brother, he was very jealous.

INT. LAUNDRY FLOOR

STORYTELLER (V.O.)

He refused to attend the party. When his father came to beg him to come, the older son said, 'Look! I've always worked for you. I've always obeyed. Why haven't you thrown a party for me?'

**Action:** The older son is standing with his arms crossed and shoulders hunched, sulking, if such a thing can be done. The father comes in and kneels on one knee, hands pleading. The father is now wearing a party hat.

FATHER (V.O.)

\*please\*

The older son begins gesturing wildly at his father.

OLDER SON (V.O.)

\*approximation of the line above\*

The older son turns away from his father in a huff.

OLDER SON (V.O.)

\*harumph\*

STORYTELLER (V.O.)

'My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me. Everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate! The brother of yours was dead. And now he is alive again. He was lost and now he is found!'

**Action:** The father stands and puts his hand on his son's shoulder. He gestures with his other hand and he talks. The older son turns to listen.

FATHER (V.O.)

\*approximation of the line above\*

STORYTELLER (V.O.)

The end.

**Action:** The clothes form THE END

INT. STORYTELLER'S SPACE

STORYTELLER

Yep. That's where Jesus' story ended. It ended with a father reminding his son how much he loves all his children. No matter who they are or how many times they've messed up.

Did you catch what the deeper meaning of the story was? Well, I believe the father in the story is like God. And like the father loved his sons, God loves you. God loves everyone no matter who they are or how many times they've messed up.

And God's love was on full display when God sent Jesus. Jesus died on a cross to pay for the sins of the whole world. The most amazing reason we have to celebrate is that Jesus lived, died, and in three days, came back to life to prove that he is the Son of God.

(MORE)



## STORYTELLER (CONT'D)

And when you put your faith in  
Jesus, you can have a relationship  
with him that will last forever.

That's when the party really gets  
started. I'll see you next time.

Storyteller smiles and waves.

CG - Some sort of brief Bible Story Time Outro

CG - So & So Show Logo

INT. THE STUDIO

BRANDON, JON and RENEE at the desk. RENEE has clearly been  
effected.

BRANDON

Wow! What a story!

JON

I know! God loves us no matter  
what! Even when we've been  
disrespectful and wasteful like the  
younger brother.

BRANDON

Or when we're jealous and stubborn  
like the older brother.

JON

You should always try to make wise  
choices. But when you mess up-

BRANDON

And you will.

JON

-God is waiting patiently to  
welcome you back.

RENEE

You know... that's the best news  
I've heard all week.

JON

Isn't it!

RENEE

You were right. I had lost my way.  
I'd forgotten one of the best  
reasons in the world to celebrate.

(MORE)

RENEE (CONT'D)

God sent Jesus to save us. And we don't have to do anything to earn it. God loves us that much!

BRANDON

That is good news!

RENEE

Well, what are we sitting around here for? We've got a party to celebrate!

RENEE gets up and leaves quickly.

JON

Um, okay! So here's the one thing to remember!

BRANDON pulls out a vuvuzela horn and blows it.

CG - Celebrate the good news!

JON (CONT'D)

Celebrate the good news!

BRANDON

God sent Jesus to die for our sins and then brought him back to life, all because God loves us so much! That's the greatest reason to celebrate.

JON

Because of Jesus, we get to live a life forever with God. That's a party I don't want to miss!

RENEE enters. She's dressed more festive. Her hair a bit more frazzled. Party hat.

RENEE

Did somebody say, 'party?'

She pops a confetti popper. The biggest one we can get away with safely and affordably.

RENEE (CONT'D)

Who wants to play giant beach volleyball in the backyard?

JON

How do you play?

RENEE

With a giant beach ball, of course?

RENEE exits and rolls in a 6-foot tall beach ball. [I know Orange has one, but you could also get one here - [https://www.amazon.com/GoFloats-Giant-Inflatable-Beach-Included/dp/B01IN60QM4/ref=sr\\_1\\_7?crid=40YSOY2D7PWB&keywords=Giant+beach+ball&qid=1690738323&srefix=giant+beach+ball%2Cap s%2C109&sr=8-7](https://www.amazon.com/GoFloats-Giant-Inflatable-Beach-Included/dp/B01IN60QM4/ref=sr_1_7?crid=40YSOY2D7PWB&keywords=Giant+beach+ball&qid=1690738323&srefix=giant+beach+ball%2Cap s%2C109&sr=8-7)] When BRANDON and JON see her coming back, they roll the desk back, giving her room.

BRANDON AND JON

Wow!

BRANDON

Thanks for watching *The So & So Show*, everybody! Welcome back, Renee!

JON

I'll say!

RENEE

Let's par-TAY!

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

They dance and party on their way out, trying impossibly to get the beach volleyball out the door, but having fun anyway.