



GOOD news

**A VIRTUAL
EASTER
PAGEANT
SCRIPT**

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SCENE 1: THE NEWS

SETTING: Kitchen

DESCRIPTION: GROWN-UP is absorbed reading something on a device or newspaper; they have a grim expression. In their free hand they are holding a mug that they keep raising to drink, only to lower it without drinking as they see something else upsetting. CHILD, possibly playing dress-up or at least wearing a silly, colorful/festive hat, enters in the background, passing behind the GROWN-UP and exits on the other side of the screen. CHILD immediately re-enters now in the foreground beside the GROWN-UP.

CHILD

Whatcha doin'?

GROWN-UP

(absentmindedly, without
looking up)

Hmm? Oh, uh, reading some news.

CHILD

(hopeful)

Good news?

GROWN-UP

(not looking up)

Well...not so much. Mostly bad
news.

CHILD

(disappointed)

What happened now?

GROWN-UP

Fires, lawsuits, arrests, climate
change.

CHILD

That's a lot.

GROWN-UP

There's a lot of problems.

CHILD
(frustrated)
Is the news always bad?

GROWN-UP looks up and comprehends CHILD's hat or outfit and smiles.

GROWN-UP
(smiling; then reflecting
on what CHILD said)
It kinda feels like that, doesn't
it?

CHILD
Yeah. Is there ever any good news?

GROWN-UP sets or tosses aside the device or newspaper.

GROWN-UP
(reassuring)
Oh yeah. Good things happen in the
world every day, all around us.
Things with our family, our
friends, our community. But
sometimes, it feels like nothing
good is happening anywhere. And
that's when I think about-

CHILD
(interrupting)
Jesus, right?

GROWN-UP
(impressed)
That's right. Ha! How did you know
what I was thinking?

CHILD shrugs.

GROWN-UP (CONT'D)
Yeah, I think about the story of
Jesus. And new life. And Easter.

CHILD

But Jesus' story wasn't all good news, was it?

GROWN-UP

No, you're right. Jesus faced a lot of bad news. But his story is about good news overcoming the bad news.

CHILD

What was Jesus' good news? The Sermon on the Mount? We learned about that at Sunday School.

GROWN-UP

That's a great place to start. Jesus went up on a mountainside and shared good news with a bunch of people who came to listen.

CHILD

(with distaste)

That sounds like a sermon. Sermons are boring.

GROWN-UP

(excited)

Not for the people who came to listen to Jesus. They didn't just like what he said, they felt inspired to go live out their scriptures. Jesus taught that people who are poor, lonely, sad, hungry, or sick would be blessed. Jesus wanted everyone to understand that God's kingdom was different – different from all the kingdoms and governments on earth.

CHILD

That does sound like good news!

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SCENE 2: HEARING GOOD NEWS

SETTING: The Mount

DESCRIPTION: JESUS, preferably standing, is in the middle of his Sermon on the Mount, specifically Matthew 7:7-12. The CROWD roles may be consolidated or expanded depending upon the size of the cast. This scene can take place outside with a mountain/hill background or using The Mount (Jesus) image background for JESUS and The Mount (Crowd) image background for CROWD MEMBERS. Alternatively, CROWD MEMBERS can have paper cut-out people or stuffed animals behind them to create a "crowd effect."

CROWD MEMBER 1

Tell us more, Jesus!

CROWD MEMBER 2

Tell us about the kingdom of
heaven!

CROWD MEMBER 3

How do we get into this kingdom?

CROWD MEMBER 4

What do we do? Do we have to offer
sacrifices?

CROWD MEMBER 5

Is there an entry fee? Is it
invitation only?

JESUS

(smiles warmly)

Ask and it will be given to you;
seek and you will find; knock and
the door will be opened to you. For
everyone who asks receives; the one
who seeks finds; and to the one who
knocks, the door will be opened.

CROWD MEMBER 5

Uh, ask for what exactly?

CROWD MEMBER 3

And where do we knock? Is it a big door?

CROWD MEMBER 4

Where is this door?

CROWD MEMBER 1

Are you saying we just ask and God will give things to us?

CROWD MEMBER 2

I want a puppy!

CROWD MEMBER 5

I need a new tunic.

CROWD MEMBER 2

And a camel!

CROWD MEMBER 5

Does God know my size?

CROWD MEMBER 4

(looking all around and behind themselves)

Where are these things God's giving us? Behind the door?

JESUS, with a patient smile, raises up his hands to quiet the crowd.

CROWD MEMBER 3

Shhhh! Let Jesus explain!

JESUS

(thoughtful, trying to come at it from another angle)

Alright, let me ask you this. Which of you, if your child asks for bread, will give them a stone?

(MORE)

JESUS (CONT'D)

Or if they ask for a fish, will you give them a snake?

CROWD MEMBER 2

What!? NO!

CROWD MEMBER 4

Never! Who does that?

CROWD MEMBER 3

That's just mean!

JESUS gestures out to the camera affirmingly.

JESUS

(affirming)

Exactly! You know how to give good gifts to your children, so just imagine how good God's gifts will be to those who ask!

CROWD MEMBER 5

Ohhhh, I see what you did there.

CROWD MEMBER 1

Nice. Nice.

JESUS

(passionate, loving)

God loves you just like a loving parent. God's kingdom is a kingdom of love. Share that love! In everything you do, treat others how you want to be treated. That's the kingdom of God!

ALL CROWD MEMBERS

Ohhhhhhhhhhhhh!

CROWD MEMBER 4

That's a good rule.

CROWD MEMBER 3

That is golden.

CROWD MEMBER 5

So wise!

CROWD MEMBER 2

I could listen to this guy forever!

JESUS

(enthusiastic, moving on)

Now, let me tell you about the
narrow gate and the wide gate...

CROWD MEMBER 1

(beat; confused)

Wait, there's a gate now?

SCENE 3: BORING NEWS?

SETTING: Living Room

DESCRIPTION: GROWN-UP and CHILD continue their conversation. The CHILD now has their own mug with hot chocolate and marshmallows.

GROWN-UP

The Sermon on the Mount is one of my favorite Bible passages.

CHILD

Does anything else happen?

GROWN-UP

Yeah, Jesus taught the people a lot.

CHILD

(unimpressed)

More talking? That seems kind of boring, like boring news.

GROWN-UP

Well, that can be true. Good news isn't really good news if it's all talk.

CHILD

(matter of fact)

Sometimes people talk too much.

GROWN-UP

That's very true.

CHILD sips hot chocolate.

GROWN-UP (CONT'D)

How's your hot chocolate?

CHILD

Good! How's your coffee?

GROWN-UP tips their mug to show it's empty.

GROWN-UP
(admitting)
I'm all out.

CHILD
You should have some of this!

GROWN-UP
It does look good.

CHILD
It's reeeeeeally good!

GROWN-UP
(having an idea)
Hey, can you think of a time when
Jesus not only said something good,
but did something good?

CHILD sets down their mug.

CHILD
Hmmm...he was nice to Mary
Magdalene when everyone else was
mean to her.

GROWN-UP
That's a good one!

CHILD
(getting excited)
Or Zacchaeus. Nobody liked
Zacchaeus, and Jesus came over and
ate at his house. That was a
(gesturing big)
Big deal!

GROWN-UP
It was!

CHILD

(really into it)

Or when the grown-ups wanted the kids to leave Jesus alone and Jesus was like, "Kids! Get over here!" And gave them all hugs and candy-

GROWN-UP

(lighthearted)

Well, maybe not the candy-

CHILD

OOOOOH! What about when Jesus fed five gazillion hungry people?

GROWN-UP

The feeding of the thousands?

CHILD

Yeah!

GROWN-UP

(pleased)

That's a really great example. Jesus fed all those people even when his own disciples thought there wasn't enough food.

CHILD picks up the mug again with satisfaction.

CHILD

Food is good news.

CHILD sips.

GROWN-UP

(smiling)

Food IS good news.

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SCENE 4: A GOOD NEWS MIRACLE

SETTING: Outdoors

DESCRIPTION: JESUS has had a long day of grieving for John the Baptist and also healing people. The CROWD MEMBER and DISCIPLE roles can be consolidated or expanded depending upon the size of the cast. This scene could take place outdoors with a tree as a background. Or you can use the Rolling Hills (Jesus) image background for JESUS and his DISCIPLES and the Rolling Hills (Crowd) image background for the CROWD MEMBERS.

JESUS

(looking a bit tired)

You are healed.

JESUS removes his hand from CROWD MEMBER 2's head or arm (depending on the consent of the casted person). On a video-call recording it could be anyone's arm or a mannequin arm just lowered into the frame on JESUS' side and CROWD MEMBER 2 sticking their arm off-screen on their side.

CROWD MEMBER 2

I am? I am! I'm healed! Thank you
Jesus!

THADDEUS breaks in on the moment, clapping and rubbing his hands together. He's ready to be done.

THADDEUS

(ready to be done)

Alright, alright, thank you. I
believe that was the last one.

JESUS

(weary but resolved)

Are you sure?

ANDREW

(concerned)

Jesus, we're in the middle of
nowhere and it's getting late.

(MORE)

ANDREW (CONT'D)

We should send the crowd away so they can get themselves food in the village.

JESUS

(as if it's obvious)

Why would we send them away? Just give them something to eat.

JAMES 1 takes inventory of their food, perhaps in a burlap sack.

JAMES 1

(awkward)

Right. Umm...sooooo, we only have five loaves of bread and...two fish.

JESUS

What's the problem?

JAMES 1

Well...mathematically speaking-

PETER

There's thousands of people, Jesus. We couldn't possibly-

JESUS

(with authority)

Bring the food to me.

THADDEUS

But we're hungry too!

JESUS gives Thaddeus a stern look.

THADDEUS (CONT'D)

Coming right up.

JESUS
(announcing)
Everyone! Please sit down on the
grass.

JESUS is handed the five loaves and the two fish. JESUS looks
up to heaven and he gives thanks.

JESUS (CONT'D)
Holy God, thank you for these
loaves of bread and these fish. You
are a loving God who gives us good
gifts. Amen.

JESUS breaks the loaves and then hands them off-screen to the
DISCIPLES. The DISCIPLES give them to the CROWD MEMBERS. This
should be played up with a lot of hands going off-screen and
hands coming on-screen from different directions passing the
bread and fish (left/right/up/down). (Note: The next series
of lines from the DISCIPLES should accelerate and build in
excitement.)

PETER
All right, we got a little bit of
food here; everyone needs to share.

JAMES 1
Please don't take too much.

THADDEUS
There's only so much to go around.

ANDREW
That's it. Pass it around. Don't
spill it.

ALL CROWD MEMBERS
(with above; quietly
interjected; ad lib)
Oh, thank you. Bless you!
Wonderful!

More and more bread and fish are passed around. It becomes apparent to the audience there is more of it than when they started. CROWD MEMBERS and DISCIPLES start to have bread and fish entering from both sides of the screen.

ANDREW

I need some over here. Is there any left?

JAMES 1

Uh, yeah, here's some over here.

PETER

Who still needs some?

THADDEUS

There's a *bunch* more over here.

ANDREW

Who hasn't had any? Have you already had some?

ALL CROWD MEMBERS

(with above; quietly
interjected; ad lib)

Very good! MMMMM! Tasty! That hits the spot! Yum.

Bread and fish start flying into frame on all sides of the DISCIPLES while the CROWD MEMBERS all eat.

ANDREW

Here's some more!

JAMES 1

Here's a LOT more!

PETER

Who wants seconds?

THADDEUS

Or thirds?

JAMES 1

Here, take some more!

ANDREW

There's even more over here!

ALL CROWD MEMBERS

(with above; quietly
interjected; ad lib)

I'm good! Thank you, no. I'm full!
Couldn't eat another bite!

The DISCIPLES are now nearly buried in bread and fish.

THADDEUS

Everyone says they're full.

PETER

(looking at all the bread)
They're all full? But, where
did...how did...?

JAMES 1

(out of breath)
I think...I think we've just
witnessed a miracle.

The DISCIPLES all look at JESUS. JESUS smiles playfully and
takes a small bite of bread.

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SCENE 5: BAD NEWS FOR THE POWERFUL

SETTING: Kitchen

DESCRIPTION: CHILD and GROWN-UP continue their conversation. They are now making sandwiches together. This scene functions as a transition to the last days of Jesus.

CHILD

Wow! Jesus was like a good news machine!

GROWN-UP

Totally!

CHILD

Good news for everybody!

GROWN-UP

Well...

CHILD

What?

GROWN-UP

Not everybody saw it that way.

CHILD

But you said Jesus was all about good news.

GROWN-UP

Sometimes good news for some is bad news for others. When Jesus told the people who didn't have a lot of power that they were blessed, that made community and religious leaders, kings, and even the emperor angry and fearful. They were scared Jesus' message would make them lose their power.

CHILD

And they didn't want that!

GROWN-UP

No, they did not.

CHILD

That happens a lot!

GROWN-UP

Where do you see that happen?

CHILD

Well, when people think they're better or more important than others. It makes them feel powerful, in control. Like a bully.

GROWN-UP

But power isn't the most important thing, is it?

CHILD

Nope!

(with flair)

Love is!

GROWN-UP

You know it! Jesus lived a life of love for the people, teaching and showing that God loved them no matter who they were. And that's why people in power made a plan to arrest Jesus the same night he and his disciples were having a special meal.

SCENE 6: BAD NEWS IS COMING

SETTING: First Century Home

DESCRIPTION: JESUS and his DISCIPLES are gathered for a meal. Food is being passed from screen to screen, much like in Scene 4. This scene takes place in a home. You may consider using the First Century Home image background. In order to capture the intimate friendships of this scene, we recommend you avoid a "Da Vinci's Last Supper" placement of the cast. The scene should be relaxed and reclined, capturing an event that lasts for hours, full of singing and storytelling. While scholars disagree on whether or not the meal was a Seder meal, singing and storytelling were traditional parts of any Jewish meal. The roles for the DISCIPLES may be consolidated or expanded depending upon the size of the cast. The lines for the DISCIPLES may be improvised for expansion.

BARTHOLOMEW sings the closing of a song. He sings well.

THOMAS

Oh Bartholomew, I love when you
sing. More lamb?

THOMAS extends the lamb off-screen. BARTHOLOMEW reaches and takes it from off-screen.

BARTHOLOMEW

I believe I will.

JAMES 1

Who needs some bread?

JAMES 2

Over here, James!

JAMES 1 extends some bread off-screen. JAMES 2 reaches and takes it from off-screen.

JAMES 1

There you are, James.

JAMES 2

Thank you, James!

PETER
Wine anyone?

JUDAS
(stressed)
Uh, yes please.

PETER passes the wine to JUDAS. JUDAS pours himself a glass.

PETER
Here you go, Judas!

JOHN
Teacher, would you tell us that
funny story again, the one about
your parents losing you for three
days?

ANDREW
(laughing)
I love that one!
(imitating a parent)
'Where have you been? We were
worried sick.' And then you said-

ALL DISCIPLES
'Where else would I be but my
Father's house?'

DISCIPLES laugh. Except for JUDAS, who takes a drink.

JESUS
(gives a small smile)
I do love that story.
(growing serious)
But tonight, there's something else
I need to share with you. Something
serious.

The tone shifts. Everyone is silent, listening intently.

JESUS (CONT'D)

This meal is more special than you know. I need you here with me because soon I will suffer greatly.

JESUS takes a cup, takes a deep breath.

JESUS (CONT'D)

God, thank you for this cup of wine.

JESUS looks at the DISCIPLES.

JESUS (CONT'D)

Take this cup and take a drink, each of you. I am not going to drink again until God's kingdom comes.

JESUS sets down the cup and takes a loaf of bread.

JESUS (CONT'D)

God, thank you for this bread.

JESUS breaks the bread and passes it.

JESUS (CONT'D)

This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me.

JESUS lifts the cup.

JESUS (CONT'D)

This cup poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. Friends, I always knew I was going to suffer. No one can change that. And one of you is going to betray me.

JUDAS, with a guilty expression, very slowly ducks under the table, out of sight, while the other DISCIPLES react.

BARTHOLOMEW

Who?! Not I!

JAMES 1

Nor me!

JAMES 2

I would never.

JOHN

No way. I'm your number one fan!

MATTHEW

No! I'M his number one fan. You know that, John.

THADDEUS

He loves Peter more than you, Matthew.

JESUS

(speaking over them)

You will all desert me!

The DISCIPLES all go silent.

JESUS (CONT'D)

You will all scatter and hide at the time of my suffering. But I have prayed that your faith will not fail you. That you will come back together to serve and strengthen one another.

PETER

Jesus, you know I would go to jail for you! I would die for you!

JESUS

(hard truth)

Peter, before the sun rises tomorrow you will pretend you don't know me...three times.

PETER opens his mouth but nothing comes out. He looks stricken with surprise and grief.

JESUS (CONT'D)

These are difficult times. Come,
put on your sandals and let us go
where we can pray.

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SCENE 7: JESUS PRAYS IN THE GARDEN

SETTING: Garden of Gethsemane

DESCRIPTION: JESUS and the DISCIPLES have walked to the Garden of Gethsemane, which can be represented by a cluster of trees, potted plants, or the Garden of Gethsemane image background. JUDAS is not with them. The camera should follow the action of JESUS.

JESUS

(holding in his sadness)

I'm going to pray alone. Stay here
and pray with me.

ANDREW

Yes, teacher.

PETER

Of course, Jesus.

JESUS walks a few steps away to create some distance between himself and the DISCIPLES. JESUS sits or kneels in a natural, comfortable way, as if he's about to have a conversation. Don't try to recreate artwork of Jesus in the garden. Make it relatable.

JESUS

(slow, deliberate, his
anguish gradually flowing
out)

Father, if it is possible, take
this cup of suffering away from me.
Yet, not what I want, but what you
want.

JESUS prays in silence for a few more moments.

DISCIPLES

(snoring)

JESUS returns to the DISCIPLES shaking his head.

JESUS

Why are you sleeping?

The DISCIPLES awaken awkwardly, returning to prayer postures.

JESUS (CONT'D)

Stay up and pray with me in the
face of these hard times!

(SFX: MARCHING SOUNDS)

DISCIPLES look off camera, then sit up or jump to standing.

PETER

Look, it's Judas!

MATTHEW

He's come with armed men!

JESUS

(looking in the direction
of the crowd off camera)

They come here with their weapons
drawn, as if I were an armed
robber. I was with the people day
after day in the temple, and they
did not lay a hand on me then. But
they are going to do what they are
going to do. This is a troubling
time, a time of suffering.

SCENE 8: GOOD NEWS DOES NOT DIE

SETTING: Living Room

DESCRIPTION: GROWN-UP and CHILD continue their conversation. They can be making a simple Easter-themed craft together. Check out Illustrated Ministry's Illustrated Resurrection Set, or make an Easter diorama with popsicle stick crosses and a papier-mâché tomb.

CHILD

Then they arrested him? He didn't even do anything wrong!

GROWN-UP

He was innocent. But that didn't matter to the people in power.

CHILD

(frustrated)

Why?

GROWN-UP

People with power often don't want their world to change. And Jesus' message of love and justice was changing everything. So they wanted to silence him.

CHILD

Talk about bad news.

GROWN-UP

Bad news for Jesus and all of his followers. When Jesus was arrested, some of his disciples were so frightened they ran away and hid.

CHILD

I would too. I'd hide under my bed.

GROWN-UP

Bad news is hard to face. Especially when it's scary bad.

CHILD

But the 'power people' didn't win?
Did they?

GROWN-UP

What do you think?

CHILD

(thoughtful)

Well, they did kill Jesus. But
first, they tried to embarrass and
hurt him.

GROWN-UP

Yes, they did.

CHILD

And then they killed him.

GROWN-UP

They did...it's a sad, horrible
story.

CHILD

That's the worst news!

GROWN-UP

It really was.

(beat)

But it wasn't the end, was it?

CHILD

Nope!

GROWN-UP

There was good news to come!

CHILD throws arms out wide.

CHILD

HUGE good news!

GROWN-UP

Easter news!

CHILD

Yeah!

GROWN-UP

Do you know who were the very first
preachers of that good Easter news?

(beat)

Women!

CHILD

Of course they were!

(beat)

Which ones?

GROWN-UP

(chuckles)

We're not sure who all was there,
but we know it was a group of women
who went out to visit the tomb
where Jesus' body had been buried.

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SCENE 9: GOOD NEWS FOR EVERYONE

SETTING: Tomb of Jesus

DESCRIPTION: The WOMEN approach the tomb, speaking to one another. You may choose to use names (MARY MAGDALENE, JOANNA, MARY, etc.), but these roles are expandable. The Bible does not specify the exact number of women who came to the tomb. If necessary, one person can say all of the ANGEL lines. This scene can take place outside or you can use the Empty Tomb image background. You may also want to use the Angel Wings image background for the ANGELS.

MARY MAGDALENE

(sniffling)

Joanna, I have not stopped crying
for two days...I miss him so much.

JOANNA

(grieving)

How can he be gone? Our beloved
teacher and friend.

(Pause)

Remember when he healed my son's
hand? On the Sabbath?!

MARY MAGDALENE

Or when he stood up to the
religious leaders accusing me of
sin.

MARY

He was always there for us, serving
everyone.

JOANNA

And challenging everyone.

MARY MAGDALENE

(chuckling through tears)

Oh, he never let you off the hook,
that's for sure.

MARY

Remember the scripture he read in the temple? He said, "God has sent me to proclaim release to the captives." The people in charge didn't like that.

MARY MAGDALENE

No, they didn't.
(becoming upset again)
And they took him away from us.

MARY points off camera.

MARY

(alarmed)
Look at the tomb! The stone, it's been removed!

JOANNA

(indignant)
Someone has stolen his body!

Two people dressed in dazzling clothes appear (ANGELS 1 and 2). The WOMEN cower in terror, shielding their eyes.

ANGEL 1

Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here. He has risen!

MARY MAGDALENE

WHAT?!

ANGEL 2

Jesus is risen!

MARY

No way!

ANGEL 1

Yes way!

JOANNA

You can't be serious?

ANGEL 2

Did you miss our super glittery outfits? It doesn't get more serious than this!

ANGEL 1

(jogging their memory)

Remember what Jesus said in Galilee. He told you that he would be killed and then rise again...on the third day.

JOANNA

(agog)

He did!

MARY MAGDALENE

(ecstatic)

He totally did!

ANGEL 2

Go tell the other disciples that Jesus is going ahead of you to Galilee.

ANGEL 1

There you will see him. Just as he told you!

ANGELS 1 and 2 vanish in a flash of white.

MARY MAGDALENE

This is actually happening!

JOANNA

This is incredible, this is...is-

MARY

So Jesus!

MARY MAGDALENE

Come on! We have to tell the others!

JOANNA

Right!

MARY

But they'll never believe us.

JOANNA

It doesn't matter! God wants us to share the good news with everyone whether they believe us or not!

MARY MAGDALENE

Hallelujah, sister! Let's go!!!

SCENE 10: JESUS IS GOOD NEWS

SETTING: CHILD'S Bedroom

DESCRIPTION: CHILD is in pajamas, sitting up in bed, and holding a stuffed animal. GROWN-UP is sitting on the end of the bed.

CHILD

So did anyone believe the women?

GROWN-UP

Not at first. Their news seemed too good to be true. The other disciples eventually figured it out.

CHILD

They had to see the empty tomb for themselves!

GROWN-UP

That's right! And later on, Jesus even appeared to many of them. He was risen! The disciples began to realize that Jesus saved his biggest news for last.

CHILD

The super good news!

GROWN-UP

The good news that death – the biggest, baddest news – doesn't have the last word. That there is new life, hope, and possibility in the power of the resurrection!

CHILD absently plays with their stuffed animal a bit.

CHILD

But how come there's still bad news? Like, a lot.

GROWN-UP

There's always bad news. And sometimes, like the disciples, we feel like hiding and giving up. But after Jesus' resurrection, his disciples stopped hiding. They went out and continued Jesus' ministry. They reached out to all kinds of people who were used to hearing only bad news and taught them about love, forgiveness, and acceptance of outsiders. They cared for the sick, fed the poor, visited people in prison, and shared everything they had! They weren't just telling the good news of Jesus, they lived it!

CHILD

(amazed)

They did all of that?

GROWN-UP

They did. And you know what?

CHILD

What?

GROWN-UP

It's good news for you and me too. Because we can also live and share the good news of Jesus today.

CUT TO:

SLIDESHOW MONTAGE

Along with the GROWN-UP's voice-over, here's where you can play a slideshow of various representations of outreach your congregation or community is doing. Adapt language in parentheses below as needed to fit your context.

If you do not wish to do a slideshow montage, the GROWN-UP can simply say these lines and invite other cast members to recite and echo the verses from Luke 4:18-19.

GROWN-UP

Followers of Jesus still bring good news to ourselves, our families, our friends, and our neighbors. Our church congregation follows in the way of Jesus when we *(collect donations for the food pantry), (welcome our unhoused neighbors into our space for rest), and (advocate justice for those who have been oppressed or excluded)*. When we do these things, we are responding to Jesus' call to live out the scripture of Luke 4.

GROWN-UP OR MULTIPLE INDIVIDUALS

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because God has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. God has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

CUT TO:

INTERIOR CHILD'S BEDROOM

GROWN-UP is still sitting on the end of bed. CHILD is now laying down under the covers and hugging their stuffed animal. The lights may have been lowered.

GROWN-UP

(excited)

When the bad news of our world
feels overwhelming, we can reach
out to one another, support and
strengthen each other, and remind
each other that the message of
Jesus lives on, in us and through
us.

CHILD

That's the best news!

GROWN-UP

(warm/supportive)

And you know, if you're ever
feeling discouraged by bad news, I
want you to come to me and I'll
remind you of the good news Jesus
is still bringing into the world.

CHILD

And if you forget, I'll remind you!

GROWN-UP

You always do! We all need to be
reminded there is good news.

CHILD

Every day!

FADE OUT:

THE END.