

THE REST OF US

by Scott Crain

GENRE: Comedy/Light Drama

SYNOPSIS: Three of the lesser-known disciples—Simon the Zealot; James, son of Alphaeus; and Judas (not Iscariot)—tell their side of the story.

DIRECTOR'S TIP: The dynamic and timing between the three disciples is crucial—the irritation of James and the embarrassed perplexity of Simon and Judas should be played with comedic effect in mind, not genuine angst.

TIME: Under 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 3

TOPIC: Biblical Times

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Matthew 10:1-4

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

SUGGESTED USE: Worship Service

CHARACTERS:

SIMON the Zealot
JAMES, son of Alphaeus
JUDAS (not Iscariot)

PROPS: A Bible

COSTUMES: Biblical attire

SOUND: Three wireless microphones

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: General stage

Drama Ministry

service@DramaMinistry.com
www.DramaMinistry.com
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Executive Editor: **Kimberlee Crisafulli** / Assistant Editor: **Scott Crain**

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Lights up on the three disciples. SIMON stands in the middle, holding a Bible in his hand, his finger marking a place in the book of Matthew. JAMES stands with his arms crossed, his jaw set, clearly a bit irritated. They speak directly to the audience.

SIMON: Hi. I'm Simon the Zealot.

JAMES: I'm James, son of Alphaeus.

JUDAS: And I'm Thaddaeus, also called Judas.

SIMON: We were three of the twelve disciples of Jesus. And, uh... *(Exchanges an uncertain glance with the others; JAMES just stares ahead, and JUDAS looks at the ground)*...well, we just got finished reading the Gospel of Matthew for the first time.

He holds the Bible up and then opens it to the passage he's holding with his finger.

I'm pretty sure we read all of it.

JAMES: *(Nodding)* Every word.

SIMON: And, uh... *(Frowning down at the page)*...well—I guess you can understand our surprise...

JUDAS: Our dismay.

JAMES: Our abject horror.

SIMON: ...when we discovered that we aren't really...in it.

Beat.

I mean, we're barely mentioned. Look, like... *(Scanning the page)*...right here...in chapter ten, it says, "Now the names of the twelve apostles are these: The first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; and James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother. Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector,

JAMES: *(loudly)* JAMES THE SON OF ALPHEUS,

JUDAS: and THADDAEUS,

SIMON: SIMON THE ZEALOT, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him. *(Beat)* And that's...really about it.

Flips ahead as he speaks: