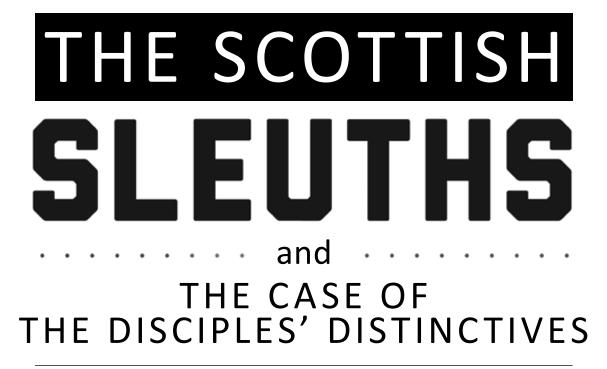


THE SCOTTISH SLEUTHS and

THE CASE OF THE DISCIPLES' DISTINCTIVES

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL CURRICULUM SKIT MANUAL





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THE CASE OF THE DISCIPLES' DISTINCTIVES SKIT MANUAL

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O INTRODUCTION

Welcome to *The Scottish Sleuths* Vacation Bible School series. Each year, our Scottish Super Bible Sleuths, Angus McTavish and Professor Dabney Thornwell, are called in to solve a Biblical "case" with the help of our VBS children. The detective characters symbolically portray the message that we want the students to learn to be competent investigators of Biblical truth.

This year, our case answers the important question: "What is a disciple of Jesus Christ?" From a study of key passages from the Gospels and the Book of Acts, our children should come away with a better understanding of what it means to be one of Jesus' disciples. We want all of our children to become followers of King Jesus!

THE PROPS

Sleuth outfits Maid outfit Telephone on a small table Fishing pole; small fishing net Money bag filled with coins Notepad for the Professor to write on Five large stuffed black garbage bags Short length of sturdy rope Two sets of small dumbbells Box of "Bold" laundry detergent World map Magnifying glass Large Bible Posters for daily themes

THE PLAYERS

Narrator

Introduces and concludes the skit. Also moves props as necessary.

Penelope, the English Maid

Maid uniform. Serves the sleuths and delivers the clues.

Super Sleuth Angus McTavish

Scottish accent required. Dressed in a long trenchcoat. Often holding an old-fashioned pipe.

Professor Dabney Thornwell

Also Scottish. Wears a tweed jacket and knickers. Holds a large magnifying glass.

THE SET

This year's setting is McTavish's Super Sleuth Study (in his home). The backdrop should include bookcases full of books, a grandfather clock, various paintings or portraits, and anything else that makes the set look like an English study. On the stage, place two wing-backed chairs, a desk, an antique lamp, a small table, an easel for a large open Bible, the world map, etc.

There should also be a door to the "outside" and a closet door that can be opened.

The large, open Bible is a vital prop. From time to time, the sleuths will peer into it, searching for clues.



DAY ONE

TODAY'S THEME:

Disciples are **called** to follow

Day One Props

Telephone on a small table Fishing pole Small fishing net Money bags filled with coins

Day One Setup

The telephone and small table should be set up on the stage. The other props are to be placed behind the "outside door."

Enter McTavish and Thornwell. They walk around acting as if they are in deep thought. Penelope, the English Maid, is dusting.

Narrator

Look! If it isn't our Intrepid Investigators, those Highland Heroes who solve 99.9% of all their cases—Angus McTavish and Professor Dabney Thornwell! If they have been called in on this case, it must be a very important AND challenging one. McTavish and his faithful sidekick, Professor Thornwell, are THE experts in solving tough Bible questions.

McTavish looks up from his investigating and addresses Thornwell.

McTavish

Thornwell, my good man, have we found any clues yet?

Thornwell

Uhm...Hmmm...Ahhh...what exactly are we looking for?

McTavish

With finger pointed in the air. We are trying to solve...my Forgetful Friend...the Case of the Disciples' Distinctives!

Thornwell

Of course! We're searching for those... disciples' distinctives. *Pausing, looking around.* And what exactly is a distinctive?

McTavish

A distinctive, my Inquisitive Inculcator, is something which sets a person apart, makes him or her different from everyone else. For instance, OUR distinctives are that we're Scottish, we're good looking, and most importantly, we are fantastic Bible Sleuths.

There is a knock at the door. Penelope walks over and opens the door, as the sleuths watch. Penelope picks up the fishing pole, fishing net, and the money bag—and walks over to Thornwell.

Penelope

For you, professor.

Thornwell

Our first clues! *He examines the clues.* It looks to me like disciples enjoy...fishing and...shopping!

McTavish

Nice try, my Perplexed Professor. But I think these clues are telling us that a disciple is an ORDINARY person who has an ORDINARY life.



Penelope

Piping in while still dusting. Like being a fisherman and tax collector?

McTavish

Exactly!

Thornwell

Interesting...

Just then, the telephone begins to ring (the narrator may just say, "ring—ring, ring—ring.") Penelope walks over to answer the phone.

McTavish

I think that may be another clue! But, be careful Penelope, it may be dangerous.

Penelope

Answers the phone. McTavish residence, Penelope speaking. Ok...alright...mmhmm.. Say that again? Really? Okay. Goodbye.

Thornwell

Who was it? What was the message? Is it another clue?

Penelope

Slowly. The voice said: "I CALL those I choose to CALL. Those who CALL me were actually CALLED first.

McTavish

Interesting...

Thornwell

So, disciples enjoy talking on the telephone?

McTavish

Not even close, my Postulating Professor! But, I will need more time to properly ascertain what this clue means...

Penelope

And I'll put on the kettle for morning tea!

Thornwell

Don't forget my favorite biscuits. They are fabulous brain food!

Penelope walks off stage. McTavish and Thornwell hold their positions.

Narrator

Well, boys and girls, do you think you can help McTavish and Thornwell understand today's clues? How are ordinary people turned into disciples? And what does that strange phone message mean? Make sure to study hard, and join us tomorrow for more of the *Case of the Disciples' Distinctives*!

End Day One