Acts 11-12

CHARACTERS: Peter, Angel, Rhoda, A, Soldiers, Leader, chorus
COSTUMES: Biblical
PROPS: none specified
SETTING: split bare stage
RUN TIME: 2 minutes
SCRIPTURE/BASED ON: Acts 11 and 12
FK reading level: 3.7

At rise: Lights dim. Stage right, Peter is sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains. Sentries stand guard at the entrance. Stage left, CHORAL READERS stand.

LEADER: Those who had been scattered by the persecution traveled

ALL: spreading the word

LEADER: Barnabas and Saul met with the church and taught great numbers of people.

ALL: The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch.

As dialogue continues pantomime SOLDIERS arresting Peter and putting him in a cell stage right

LEADER: King Herod arrested some who belonged to the church,

ALL: intending to persecute them.

LEADER: He had James, the brother of John, put to death with the sword and Peter arrested.

ALL: but the church was earnestly praying to God for him.

CHORAL READERS kneel and sit in prayer. Lights down stage left. Lights up full stage right. ANGEL enters, taps Peter awake.

ANGEL: Quick, get up! (*chains fall off Peter's wrists)* Put on your clothes and sandals. *(Peter does)* Wrap your cloak around you and follow me. *PETER follows ANGEL to group stage left. ANGEL exits.*

PETER: *(to audience)* Now I know without a doubt that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from Herod's clutches and from everything the Jewish people were hoping would happen. *PETER knocks on imaginary door. RHODA peeks through an imaginary slot and runs back to GROUP without opening door.*

RHODA: Peter is at the door!

LEADER: You're out of your mind.

RHODA: No, I'm sure of it. It's Peter!

A: It must be his angel.

RHODA: It is Peter! It is!

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LEADER: Someone is knocking. *A answers the door. PETER enters. Ad lib praising God and hugging PETER.*

PETER: An angel of the Lord freed me. Tell James and the other brothers and sisters about this. *PETER exits.*

LEADER: Instead of Peter, Herod died.

ALL: The word of God continued to spread and flourish.

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