

ANANIAS

CHARACTERS: VOG, Ananias, Saul, Satan, Narrator

PROPS: seat, scroll

SETTING: bear stage

RUN TIME: 3 minutes

SCRIPTURE/BASED ON: Acts 9, 26:16-18; 2 Timothy 1:7

NOTE TO DIRECTORS: During the somewhat lengthy monologues it is imperative SAUL (and even SATAN) reacts to the words he is hearing. Feel free to change the scripted reaction but be sure to substitute something that compels audience attention.

At rise: ANANIAS is seated, studying a scroll. He is interrupted by a voice from above.

VOG: Ananias!

ANANIAS: *(falling to his knees)* Yes, Lord.

VOG: Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying. In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come and place his hands on him to restore his sight.

ANANIAS: *(Raising his face to VOG)* Lord, I have heard many reports about this man and all the harm he has done to your holy people in Jerusalem. *SATAN enters and stands close to ANANIAS stage whispering to him.*

SATAN: He held the cloaks of those who stoned Stephen. He breathes out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples.

ANANIAS: *(TO VOG)* Saul has come here with authority from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name.

SATAN: whether men or women, he'll take them as prisoners to Jerusalem.

VOG: Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel. I will show him how much he must suffer for my name.

ANANIAS: *(To SATAN)* Get behind me Satan, for God has not given us a spirit of fearfulness, but one of power, love, and sound judgment. *(to VOG)* Yes, Lord. I will obey. I will speak your words.

SATAN exits halfway then turns to watch. SAUL blindly gropes his way on stage on his hands and knees. ANANIAS goes to SAUL, kneels beside him and lays his hands on him

NARRATOR: Ananias went to Saul and restored his sight.

ANANIAS: (*Kneeling beside SAUL*) Brother Saul, the Lord—Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here—has sent me so that you may see again (*SAUL blinks and reacts to the return of his vision*) and be filled with the Holy Spirit.

Jesus has appeared to you to appoint you as a servant and as a witness of what you have seen and will see. (*SAUL nods slowly, unsure of what is happening*) He will rescue you from your own people and from the Gentiles. (*ANANIAS helps SAUL to his feet. SAUL nods in agreement*) God sends you to them to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, (*SAUL and ANANIAS both look at SATAN. SATAN balls up his fists in anger and stalks off stage*) so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in God.

SAUL: I will obey

NARRATOR: Saul was baptized and became a speaker, missionary and writer for God.