Theme: Faith, Joy
Season: General

Scripture: ESTHER 1 -10
Duration: 45 min
Scenes: 10
Participants: 6–10
Memorization: Yes

ESTHER

PURPOSE: Set in the 1950s, a young girl's life is changed when she chooses to trust God with what seems impossible. As she seeks a better future, she is faced with a decision to speak up or stay silent. Her choice to speak brings change in leadership and blessing to those she loves. This is a dramatic retelling of Esther's story in the Bible, showing how God uses ordinary people to accomplish His extraordinary plans.

Care Home Performance (40-45 minutes)

CHARACTERS:

- **Mike – Humble, sacrificial**
- **Esther – faithful courage**, **humble, sincere, compassionate**
- **Harold – Vice president; prideful, controlled, threatened**
- **David – Steady, kind, wealthy, learning discernment**
- ****Sarah – humble, supportive** (David's wife)
- ****Katrina – Subtle, manipulative, admiring of Harold** (Harold's wife)
- ***Ralph – thief**
- ***Charlie – thief**
- ***Servant – Obedient, respectful**
- ***Narrator**
  - */****If there are fewer participants than needed, some roles may be combined. Sarah and Katrina may be played by the same person. Ralph and Charlie may also be combined into one character, and that person may additionally perform the roles of the Servant and Narrator.**

PERFORMANCE NOTES:

- **Cast members may dance freely to the 1950s music between scenes and during stage transitions. Residents often enjoy watching the youth dance, as it can bring back fond memories of their own younger years and the joy and freedom of movement they once experienced.**
- **Use pauses intentionally — especially during faith statements.**

- **Avoid rushing confrontation scenes.**

Scene 1 – Trusting in the Cold

PROPS FOR SCENE 1

- Small table (TV Tray or small table from Nursing Home)
- Stack of unpaid bills (loose papers)
- Mended pair of pants
- Old jacket
- Newspaper
- Pocket watch (Grandpa's watch)
- Simple chair(s)
- Optional: thin blanket or shawl

MUSIC CUES

Opening Song:
"Sixteen Tons" (first part) by Tennessee Ernie Ford

Scene Change Song:
"Sixteen Tons" (second part) by Tennessee Ernie Ford

SCENE 1

(Music begins — first part of "Sixteen Tons." Mike may sing live; lip singing or track may play.)

Song: Mike sings "Sixteen Tons" (first part) by Tennessee Ernie Ford

The room is simple. Uncle Mike sits at a small table covered with unpaid bills. Esther enters carrying mended pants.)

Esther: Here, Uncle Mike. Your pants are like new again.
(She studies his face.) What's the matter?

Mike: I don't need another pair of pants.

(He pushes the bills away in frustration.) Bills. Bills. Bills. I can't even pay the oil bill. It's freezing in here. I've knocked on every door I can think of. I've prayed… and still, I have not been able to find work.

(He looks over at Esther, curled up trying to stay warm. He removes his jacket and places it around her shoulders.)
I'm so sorry, Esther. A man should be able to provide. Sometimes I feel like I'm failing you.

Esther: You're not failing. You're fighting. There's a difference.

You taught me that trusting God doesn't mean everything feels easy. It means we believe He is working even when we can't see it

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Mike: You listen better than I thought. *(gentle smile.)*

Esther: When Mom and Dad died, you taught me to pray and talk to God about everything.

God is still good… even when life hurts. *(A pause. Let memory sit.)*

Mike: I wanted more for you. An education. Opportunities. Not… this.

Esther: *(Firm, loving)* Uncle Mike, you gave me what matters most.

Mike: *(Mike slowly returns to the table and picks up the newspaper.)* Yes, and God opens the right doors in His timing. Listen to this!

(He reads.) "Home available for youth. Private room, education, and lots of love. Anyone interested, meet in the courtyard at 7:00 Saturday evening. 101 Terrace Avenue."

Esther: Terrace Avenue? Who lives there?

Mike: A wealthy man named David. Years ago, when your father had no work, David gave him a job. David told your father that God had blessed him so he could bless others.

(He lowers the paper slowly.) Maybe… this is God's answer.

Esther: *(Realizing)* So, you're thinking I should go?

Mike: I'm thinking… loving someone sometimes means letting them step into something bigger than you can give them.

Esther:*(Silence at the realization of leaving)* But I don't want to leave you.

Mike: *(Honest)* And I don't want to let you go.

(He kneels beside her.) Trusting God isn't only believing He will provide. It's placing what you love most into His hands.

Esther: What if they don't choose me?

Mike: Then God has something better. And if they do… it won't be because we are lucky. It will be because He is faithful.

Esther: *(Pause. Thinks quietly)* It would be nice… to have my own room. To go to school. Maybe even college.

Mike: Yes. And if that door opens, we will walk through it and thank God.

(He looks around the room for something of value. His eyes land on a watch. He picks it up.) We'll need a new dress for you. I know someone who will give me good money for this.

Esther: *(Quickly)* Not Grandpa's watch! It's the only thing you have left from him.

Mike: Exactly. *(He studies it, then closes his hand around it.)*

Some things we hold onto because they are precious. But sometimes we let go… because someone else is more precious. *(He takes Esther's hands.)*

Esther:*(Eyes begin to well up with tears.)* Then we'll both trust Him. Together.

Mike: Together.

(They stand. He places the watch carefully in his pocket.) Come on. Let's go buy you a dress — and place the rest in God's hands.

(Mike stops before exiting. He gently takes Esther's hands.)
Wait, before we go… let's pray. (They bow their heads.)

(Simple, sincere)
Dear God… It is cold.
We are worried.
But You are good.*(Pause.)*

You have helped us before. And we are asking for your help again. *(Pause.)*

We trust You. In Jesus name, Amen

Esther: Amen.

SCENE CHANGE: Music resumes: "Sixteen Tons" (second part) by Tennessee Ernie Ford

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Scene 2 – The Courtyard

PROPS FOR SCENE 2

- Small table with tablecloth
- Light decorative greenery or simple potted plant
- Esther's scarf (important prop)
- Live pet dog (If using your pet dog for this scene, be sure to get approval with the Nursing Home. Or Small stuffed dog with loosely wrapped bandage)

MUSIC CUES

Scene Change Song: "Stay" by Maurice Williams & the Zodiacs

SCENE 2

Harold stands beside David — polished, observant, controlled. Esther and Uncle Mike enter quietly and remain off to the side.)

Narrator: In the courtyard, David and Sarah welcome the youth who responded to their invitation. Harold, David's trusted friend and vice president, stands nearby — carefully observing.

Mike: *(Esther and Uncle Mike enter quietly to one side.) Remember, Esther… just be yourself.*

Esther: I will.

Mike: Whatever happens… God is still good.

Esther: Always.

(Mike exits.)

(Esther notices a small, injured dog nearby. She kneels and gently wraps her scarf around its leg.)

Sarah: *(David and Sarah enter. Harold stands nearby, watchful)*

(To David) Look at that.

David: *(They approach.)* Hello. I'm David. This is my wife, Sarah. And this is Harold — my vice president.

Harold: *(measured smile)* Good evening.

(He extends his hand, notices the dog, pulls it back subtly, wipes it on his coat.) You're not afraid of getting your hands dirty, I see.

Esther: No, sir. He was hurting.

David: Would you join us for dinner tonight?

Harold: *(quickly, before Esther answers)* David, perhaps we should finish meeting the others first. There are several promising candidates this evening.

("Promising" hangs in the air — suggesting status, polish, qualifications.)

David: There's time.

(He keeps his eyes on Esther.) What is your name?

Esther: Esther.

Harold: And what skills do you have, Esther? Education? Experience?

Esther: I… I help at home. I sew. I cook some. I'd like to go to school.

Harold: Ambition is admirable, but preparation is better.

Sarah: *(Sarah gives Harold a gentle but warning glance.)* Kindness is preparation of the heart, Harold.

Harold: *(Forces a polite smile but says nothing.)*

David: Esther, where are you from?

Esther: From here. My parents passed away when I was young.

Sarah: And you've been living with…?

Esther:*(Hesitates briefly, honoring Mike's request.)* Family.

Harold: So no financial backing. No formal schooling. No connections.

David:*(David turns slowly toward Harold.)* Not everything of value is written on paper.

Harold:*(Steps back slightly, masking irritation.)* Of course. But we are running a household — not a charity experiment.

(That line is important. It shows fear of disorder, loss of control.)

Sarah: *(calm but firm)* Compassion is never an experiment.

David:*(A beat of silence.)* Esther, would you like to stay here for a while and see how you like it?

Harold: You're certain, David? I mean there are others…

David: *(Cuts him off)* I am.

(He looks at Esther.) If you are willing.

Esther: Yes… I would love to stay.

Sarah:*(Embraces her.)* We have plenty of room. And much love to give.

Scene Change: "Stay" by Maurice Williams & the Zodiacs

(Cast may enjoy the music and dance together, while shifting the props to scene 3)

Scene 3 – Living Room

PROPS FOR SCENE 3

- Three chairs
- Small table with tablecloth
- Teacups or decorative plates
- Simple birthday planning notebook or invitation list
- Comfy blanket
- Book

MUSIC CUES

Scene Change Song: "At the Hop" by Danny and the Juniors

SCENE 3

(The living room of David and Sarah's home. The space is warm and comfortable. Esther is seated with a blanket and book, as David and Sarah enter, excited.)

Narrator:
Esther moved in with David and Sarah. Over time, love grew naturally between them. What began as kindness became family.

David: Esther, your sixteenth birthday is coming up.

Sarah: And we would love to throw a party for you. A big one.

David: We want our friends to meet the young woman who has brought so much joy into our home.

Sarah: Would that be alright with you?

Esther: *(Visibly moved.)* Alright? Oh… yes. More than alright.

Sarah: We have come to love you as our daughter.

Esther: You don't know what this means to me. I feel the same way about you both. You've given me a home… and a future. I don't know how to thank you.

(She hugs Sarah, then David. They return the embrace warmly.)

Sarah: *(lightly, already planning)* We'll invite Debbie… Donna… Sheila…

David: And Harold, of course.

(They continue chatting excitedly as they slowly exit.)

(Esther remains alone on stage. She steps slightly forward, thoughtful.)

Esther: *(to the audience, softly)*
Uncle Mike was right.

There were nights we had nothing but prayer.
And now… look what God has done.

He didn’t just answer.
He provided more than we imagined.

(She smiles gently.)

I didn’t see the plan right away. But when I look back… I realize God was guiding every step.

Thank You, Lord.

Scene Change: “At the Hop” by Danny and the Juniors

Scene 4 – “The Birthday Party”

CAST FOR SCENE 4

Narrator
David – Steady, gracious, spiritually grounded
Sarah – Warm, observant
Harold – Controlled, protective, pride beneath the surface
Esther – Joyful, sincere
Uncle Mike – Humble, sacrificial
Ralph – Thief
Charlie – Thief
Party Guests – As needed

PROPS FOR SCENE 4

Party Setting

- Paper plates and cups
- Streamers or simple decorations
- Balloons
- Wrapped gift boxes

Uncle Mike

- Worn jacket
- Modest hat (optional)

Thieves

- Folded paper “floor plan” with visible markings
- Optional small flashlight (not used, but tucked in pocket)

MUSIC CUES

Mid Scene Song Cue: “The Great Pretender” – The Platters *(Mike to sing, lip sing or play track)*

Scene Change Song: “Rock Around the Clock” by Bill Haley & His Comets

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SCENE 4

Setting: The birthday party is underway. Uncle Mike stands just outside the door, peeking in quietly, trying not to be noticed. (Right Side) On the left side, Esther laughs joyfully with Sarah. (There will be frequent entrances and exits throughout this scene. The performance space may be small, however; Establish two entrances/exits—one on each side of the “stage” —to help prevent cast members from running into one another.)

Narrator:
On the night of the party, Uncle Mike comes just to make sure Esther is happy. He doesn’t intend to stay — only to see her smile.

David: *(Notices Mike lingering.)* Hello there! Please, come in.

Mike: Oh — no, thank you. I was just passing by and—

David: Nonsense. I’m David.

Mike: Mike. Nice to meet you.

David: Well, Mike, you must meet our daughter, Esther—

Harold: *(Enters on left. Interrupts, slightly irritated.)* David, who are all these people? Do you even know everyone here?

David: Excuse me, Mike. Please, make yourself at home.

(Turns to Harold.) No, I don’t know everyone. But I want them to have the chance to know Esther.

Mike: *(Walks toward center, looking around for Esther)*

Harold: Some of them hardly belong here! *(Glancing over at Mike)*

David: *(firm but calm)* Harold, we are not at the office. Relax. Tonight is about celebration. *(Joins, Sarah and Esther.)*

Harold: *Watches the room, disapproving, then exits.*

Esther: *(Spots Mike standing alone.)* Uncle Mike! You came!

(Hugs him tightly.) I've missed you!

Mike: I've missed you too. I just wanted to see that you were alright. David invited me in.

Esther: Maybe you could stay here with us. I'm sure Father would allow it. You were right, Uncle Mike — they are wonderful people.

Mike: *(gently)* I'm happy for you, Esther. That's all I ever wanted.

(Lowering his voice.) But remember… no mention of me. I want you taken care of. Don't worry about me. I'm fine. (Forces a small smile — we sense he's pretending.)

Esther: At least stay and eat something.

Mike: Alright. Just for a little while.

(Esther exits. Mike remains behind. Music shifts.)

Music Cue:

Song: "The Great Pretender" by The Platters

(Mike sings live, lip sing, or track may play.) (He sings alone, revealing the truth behind his "I'm fine." The performance should feel vulnerable — not flashy.)

(After the song, Mike overhears two men speaking near the edge of the audience, on one side. To open up both entrance and exits on stage, Ralph and Charlie is positioned with their backs towards entrance/exits and close to the audience.)

Ralph: The downstairs window is unlocked. We'll come back later tonight.

Charlie: You sure about the layout?

Ralph: It's all right here. The map of the house, and the plan. *(Taps his shirt pocket.)*

(Ralph & Charlie continue talking quietly while pointing and planning.)

Mike: *(Freezes. He sees the paper.)*
(Quickly looks for Esther.) Where is Esther?

Esther: *(Enters opposite side Charlie and Ralph.)* Uncle Mike, is there something wrong?

Mike: Esther — listen carefully. Two men here are planning to break in later tonight. I heard them. They are right over there. *(Pointing)*. They have a map of the house.

Esther: Are you sure?

Mike: I saw the paper myself in their shirt pocket. You need to tell David. *(Exits)*

David: *(Enters with Harold, talking quietly.)*

Esther: *(Goes immediately to David and pulls him aside.)* Father — there are two men here planning to rob you tonight. They have a map in their shirt pocket.

David: That's a serious accusation. Are you certain?

Esther: Yes. They're right over there. *(Exits)*

David: I'll take care of it.

Esther: Okay, be careful. *(Exits)*

David:*(Nods calmly and walks to Harold.)* Harold, you may have been right to be cautious.

Harold: Of course I am!

David: Would you check something for me? There are two men over there. They may be carrying a floor plan of the house, and making plans to come back later tonight.

Harold: I'll handle it.

David: Thanks Harold. *(Exits.)*

Harold: *(Harold approaches the men confidently. He notices paper sticking out of Ralph's pocket. He deliberately bumps into him, pulling the paper free.)*

What's this? (He unfolds it. It is clearly a floor plan with entry markings.)

Ralph: Hey! Give that back!

Harold: I don't think so. You're coming with me. *(He escorts them firmly stage right.)*

(David and Esther enter stage left.)

Harold:*(Returns to David.)* You were right. It was exactly as you said, but don't worry David, it is all taken care of!

David: Thank you, Harold.

Harold: *(Exits.)*

David: *(Turns to Esther.)* Esther… you may have just saved us from great loss. I am so proud of you.

Esther: It wasn't me. A man named Mike overheard them and told me.

David: Mike? The gentleman at the door? *(Pause)* He has helped me, how can I help him?

Esther: I know he's been looking for work.

Sarah: *(Sarah enters to speak with David and they converse quietly.)*

Mike: *(Opposite side, Mike is preparing to slip away quietly.)*

Esther: Uncle Mike, don't leave. Father wants to speak with you.

Mike: About what?

David: *(David and Sarah approach.)* Mike, I understand you were the one who warned us about the thieves in our house. Thank you. You may have saved more than possessions tonight.

Mike: I'm just glad I heard them in time. That's all. *(He begins to step away again.)*

David: I also hear you've been searching for work.

Mike: *(Hesitates.)*

David: I can offer you a position with my company. It's janitorial work — honest work — with benefits and vacation. Would you be interested?

Mike: *(Stunned)* I… I don’t know what to say.

Esther: Say yes.

Mike: *(Smiles at her)* Yes. I would be honored. When should I begin?

David: Tomorrow.

(They shake hands firmly.) (Sarah smiles warmly.)

Scene Change

Song: “Rock Around the Clock” by Bill Haley & His Comets

(Celebration resumes — this time with deeper joy. Cast may use this time to dance with each other or toss balloons back and forth with residents.)

Scene 5 – The Office

PROPS FOR SCENE 5

- Small Table
- Chairs (2)
- Broom and dustpan
- Stack of papers/files
- Coffee mug
- Breakfast tray (plate, napkin, cup)
- File folder labeled “Reports” (optional)

MUSIC CUES:

Scene Change Song: “Yakety Yak” – The Coasters

SCENE 5

Setting: *Office setting. Harold sits at his desk with his feet up. The moment he hears footsteps, he quickly drops them and straightens as David enters.)*

David: Harold, I hired a new janitor this morning. His name is Mike.

Harold: What? I thought I was in charge of hiring.

David: You are — usually. This was different.

Harold: And what if I don't approve of him?

David: You will. He's an honest man. He's the one who warned us about the thieves last night. Make him feel welcome. *(David exits.)*

Mike: *(Enters almost immediately, quietly, sweeping the floor.)*

Harold: *(under his breath)* Welcome? Oh, I'll make him feel welcome.

Donna: *(Enters, carrying papers.)*

Harold: (*snaps his fingers sharply.)*I need a cup of coffee right now!

Donna: *(quickly brings it.)*Yes, sir.

Harold: You see how things work here, Mike? When I speak, people move.

(Mike continues sweeping calmly, not engaging.)

Harold: Where is my breakfast? I ordered it fifteen minutes ago.

Donna: *(Enters with a tray.)* I'm sorry, sir. I was finishing the reports you requested.

Harold: *(Takes the tray.)* From now on, Mike will bring my breakfast.

Mike: *(stops sweeping, looks up calmly)* I was hired to clean the office. Nothing was said about serving meals.

Donna: *(Looks stunned that someone dared answer back.)*

Harold: David isn't here. I am in charge. You will do whatever I say.

Mike: *(Pause. Holds his ground.)* I will do my job well, Sir. But I won't do "whatever" without gratitude.

(He resumes sweeping and then quietly exits with dignity.)

Harold: (Fumes. Snaps his fingers for Donna again.) What do you know about this Mike?

Donna: Only that he's honest. I heard him praying this morning before work.

Harold: Praying, is he? He respects God — but not me. *(He leans forward.)* I'll teach him who deserves respect.

(Donna lowers her eyes, uncomfortable.)

Scene Change

Song: "Yakety Yak" by The Coasters *(Music plays briefly as the stage transitions)*

(The music should feel ironic — upbeat while tension underneath continues to grow.)

Scene 6 – The Checker Game

CAST FOR SCENE 6

- David
- Esther

- Harold

PROPS FOR SCENE 6

- Small table with checkerboard
- Checker pieces
- Two chairs
- Side table with Decorative lamp (optional practical prop)

MUSIC CUES:

Scene Change Song: “Get a Job” – The Silhouettes

SCENE 6

Setting: *Living room at David and Sarah’s home. David and Esther sit playing checkers. The mood is relaxed.*

(Esther moves a piece carefully.) (Harold enters briskly, tense.)

Harold: *(entering, pacing)* I’m sorry to interrupt your evening, but this cannot wait.

David: *(focused on the game)* Of course, Harold. What is it?

Harold: David, you are like a brother to me. I would never keep something from you. There is a man in your company who does not respect you — or your authority.

Esther: (Glances up.)

David: That’s concerning.

Harold: He refuses to follow my direction. He answers back. He acts as though someone else outranks me. I request permission to fire him!

David: *(David studies the board calmly.)* Harold, I’ve trusted you with hiring and firing for years. You’ve never failed me. If you believe it’s necessary, do what you think is right.

(He moves a checker piece.) King me again.

Harold: *(Allows himself a small smile-quiet victory.)* Don't worry, David. I'll handle it.

(As he exits, his tone hardens.) We'll see who he prays to when his job is on the line. I'll teach Mike to respect me!

Esther: Father… are you really going to let Harold fire him without asking questions?

David: Esther, Harold manages the office well. I cannot oversee everything.

Esther: But shouldn't you know if a man is honest? If he works hard? Doesn't that matter?

David: *(Pauses briefly – but shrugs it off.)* Harold has earned my trust.

(Moves another piece.) Your turn.

Esther: (Stands slowly.) Sometimes trusting someone means making sure they're still worthy of it.

(She exits quietly.)

(David watches her go, slightly unsettled. Then he exhales and dismisses the thought.)

Scene Change: "Get a Job" – The Silhouettes

Scene 7 – The Kitchen

CAST FOR SCENE 7

- Esther
- Sarah

PROPS FOR SCENE 7

- Table
- Mixing bowl and spoon
- Dish towel
- Plates
- Simple bread basket or vegetables (Optional)

- Apron for Sarah

MUSIC CUES:

Scene Change Song: “It’s My Party” – Lesley Gore

SCENE 7

***Setting**: David and Sarah’s kitchen. Sarah is preparing dinner at the table. The atmosphere is calm and warm. Esther enters slowly, thoughtful.*

Esther: Mother… may I speak with you?

Sarah: *(looking up gently)* Of course. What’s troubling you?

Esther: There’s a man at the office. His name is Mike. He doesn’t bow to Harold the way everyone else does. Harold is furious with him. He wants Father to fire him.

(She swallows.) And Father told Harold to do whatever he thinks is right.

Sarah: *(concerned)* That worries me.

Esther: Harold doesn’t think about what is right. He thinks about what benefits him.

Sarah: Pride can disguise itself as leadership.

Esther: How can I help Father see the truth? He trusts Harold completely. If I speak against him… I could lose Father’s trust. I could lose everything here.

But if I stay silent, Harold will keep mistreating people.

Sarah: *(Steps closer, placing a steady hand on Esther’s shoulder.)* Doing what is right often feels risky. But silence carries a cost too.

(Pause.) What are you thinking?

Esther: How about if I invite them both over for diner? If they're in the same room, Father will see how Harold treats him.

Sarah: *(Sarah considers it carefully.)* That is wise — not confrontational, but revealing.

(She nods.) Yes, that's a good idea.

Esther: I'm afraid.

Sarah: Courage isn't the absence of fear. It's choosing what is right despite feeling afraid.

Esther: *(They take hands.)* I am going to pray. If I lose everything… then I lose everything. I will trust God. *(She embraces Sarah.)*

Sarah: You won't lose what God has given you by honoring Him.

(They hold hands quietly for a moment.)

Scene Change: "It's My Party" by Lesley Gore

Scene 8 – Harold's House

CAST FOR SCENE 8

- Harold
- Katrina

PROPS FOR SCENE 8

- Small side table
- Decorative drink glass (optional)
- Newspaper or business ledger
- Pocket watch or wristwatch (to show time awareness)
- Mirror (optional prop Harold can glance into)

- Decorative framed “business award” or plaque (optional symbol of ego)

MUSIC CUES:

Scene Change Song: “Splish Splash” – Bobby Darin

SCENE 8

Setting: *Harold’s house. Harold paces confidently, speaking aloud. Katrina sits nearby, listening and egging him on.*

Harold: David trusts me with his entire business! You should see how everyone in the office respects me.

(He straightens his jacket and gestures proudly around the room.) He’s handed over everything — even this house!

(Looking at his reflection if a mirror is available.) Look at me! Look how great I am!

Katrina: He *should* trust you! You’re smart… and very handsome.

Harold: *(Smiles, soaking it all in.)* Exactly. That’s why I’m the only one invited to Esther’s dinner tomorrow night.

Katrina: I hear Mike is invited too.

Harold: *(snaps)* What?! That Mike? I can’t stand him! He refuses to show me the respect I deserve!

Wait until tomorrow morning. David has given me permission to fire him. *(Rubbing hands together.)* That will be… satisfying.

Katrina: *(Leaning forward, intrigued.)* Even better — wait until dinner. Let him sit in the same room as you, then fire him.

(A Pause.) Let him feel secure first.

Harold: *(He considers this. His eyes light up.)* Yes… yes!

(Snaps fingers.) Brilliant! I’m glad I thought of it myself.

I’ll make it clear to David. Everyone will see what a low-life fool Mike really is. *(Spreads his arms wide in triumph.)*

By the time dinner is over, David will remember exactly who runs his company.

Katrina: *(Rises and lightly applauds.)* That's the Harold I admire.

Harold: *(Laughs – self-satisfied, unaware of his own pride.) (Picks up his watch and checks the time.)* Tomorrow night… everything changes.

Scene Change: "Splish Splash" by Bobby Darin

Scene 9 – Split Stage: Harold's House & David's House

CAST FOR SCENE 9

- David
- Harold
- Katrina
- Servant

PROPS FOR SCENE 9

David's House:

- Bed with blankets (2 Chairs pushed together to make a bed)
- Small side table with lamp
- Books (2–3, large enough to hide papers)
- Piece of paper/floor plan of house (stage prop)
- Phone (landline style or cell phone)

Harold's House:

- Chair (1)
- Small side table
- Phone (same style as David's side for split-stage effect)
- Newspaper or ledger (optional)

MUSIC CUES:

Scene Change Song: "Tossin' and Turnin'" by Bobby Lewis

SCENE 9

Setting: *Split Stage: Harold's house on one side, David's house on the other.*

David's House

(Evening. David tosses and turns in bed. He calls for a servant.)

David: *(In the evening. David tosses and turns in bed. He calls for a servant.)* Servant!

Servant: Yes, Sir? What troubles you at this hour?

David: I can't sleep. Could you bring me some books to read, please?

Servant: Of course, David.

(Servant brings books. David opens one, and a piece of paper falls out.)

(examining it) What's this? A floor plan… showing the weapons the thieves intended to use the night of Esther's party.

(Pauses.) And what recognition has Mike received for alerting me of this plan?

Servant: You hired him… to clean the office floors and bathrooms. Other than that, I don't know.

David: Call Harold for me, please.

Harold's House

Harold: *(Lounging. Phone rings. He picks up.)* Hello?

David: *(voice through phone)* Harold, this is David. I need your advice on something.

Harold: *(holding phone away, to Katrina)* David wants my advice? Sure… what is it this time?

David: What should I do to honor someone who acted bravely but received little recognition?

Harold: *(holding phone away, muttering)* Brave? He wants me to be honored for bravery? Uh… well, David, for this person you wish to honor, I'd make a gold plaque. Display it for everyone to see. Let them know what a wonderful man… I am or I mean "he" really is.

David: Perfect. Make sure the plaque is exactly as you described. *(He hangs up.)*

Katrina: Wait… what does he want you to do? Make a gold plaque… with your name on it?

Harold: *(blank stare)* Yes! Now I know why I was invited to dinner. He wants to honor me for catching those thieves the night of Esther's party.

Katrina: Now David will see what a low-life fool Mike really is, and how brave and wise you are!

Harold: Perfect! *(Dark laugh, rubbing hands together.)*

Scene Change: "Tossin' and Turnin'" by Bobby Lewis

Scene 10 – The Dinner Showdown

CAST FOR SCENE 10

- Narrator
- David
- Sarah
- Esther
- Mike
- Harold
- Katrina
- Dinner Guests (optional ensemble)

PROPS FOR SCENE 10

- Dining table with full place settings (Plastic, reusable)
- Gold (Plastic gold type) plaque

- Serving dishes / food trays
- Drinking glasses
- Napkins
- Chair for each character
- Folded cloth napkin for Harold (used nervously)

MUSIC CUES:

Mid Scene: Na Na Hey Hey Kiss Him Goodbye" by Steam

Closing Song: "Let's Twist Again" by Chubby Checker

SCENE 10

Setting: *David and Sarah's dining room. The table is set. Esther sits near the center. Harold sits arrogantly at one side, Mike at the other. David and Sarah stand at the head of the table, welcoming guests. The mood is polite but tense.*

Narrator: The night of dinner had arrived. Esther had invited Harold and Mike together, hoping that David would see the truth — and that humility, courage, and honesty would be honored.

David: Welcome, everyone! Thank you for joining us tonight. This dinner is very special to me.

(Gestures to Esther.) And especially to those who have shown extraordinary courage and character.

Esther: *(To David)* Father… just watch.

Harold: *(to Katrina, scoffing)* Just wait. Mike will see who the real hero is.

Katrina: Yes… make him squirm.

David: *(Lifts his glass.)* There is one person here who acted with bravery, honesty, and selflessness. Would you please stand..

Harold: *(Stands with a proud smile.)*

David: *(Continues.)* ..please stand Mike.

Harold: *(Sits. Jaw tightening.)*

Mike: *(Looks surprised.)*

David: Last week, Mike overheard thieves planning to break into my home. He didn't hesitate. He came to warn us, putting himself at risk.

(Everyone Murmur's.) Because of Mike, our family and home were safe.

(He turns to Harold.) And this is why I want to honor him properly. Harold… please present the plaque.

Harold: (Harold freezes.) Wait… *for Mike?*

David: Yes. A gold plaque, just as we discussed. Let everyone see the character and courage we value.

(Harold slowly, reluctantly holds the plaque and hands it to Mike. Mike accepts humbly, barely smiling. Harold fumes silently.)

Esther: *(to Harold, gently but firmly)* You see, Harold… respect isn't earned by fear or power. It's earned by honesty, courage, and doing the right thing.

(Harold fidgets.)

David: Let this be a reminder… leadership is not about control, but about guiding with integrity.

Sarah: And sometimes the, humblest person shows the greatest courage.

Mike: *(Holds the plaque, smiles and not to David, Sarah and Esther.)* I… I don't know what to say. Thank you.

David:
You don't need to say anything. You've already done enough.

(Harold glares, realizing he has been publicly humbled. Katrina sighs.)

Harold: *(Fuming.)* Wait! Do you know this man refuses to do as I say? He has time to pray — but not time to bring me my breakfast! Explain that!

David: *(rising anger, deeply disappointed)* What? This time, Harold… you have gone too far.

(David exits briefly, visibly upset.)

(A tense silence fills the room.)

Harold: *(panic replacing arrogance)* Wait! David, let me explain.

(David ignores him, and continues to exit.)

(Turns to Esther) Esther, please… talk to your father. Tell him you misunderstood. Don't let him remove me. I was only trying to maintain order, and help David see…

Sarah: *(firm, protective)* He has seen enough, Harold.

David: *(Reenters, decisive and composed.)* Now I hear you are pressuring my daughter as well?

That settles it.

Harold — you are dismissed from this company.

Effective immediately.

(Pause. Let the words land.)

You may leave.

Song Cue (Audience Participation):
Chorus of "Na Na Hey Hey Kiss Him Goodbye" by Steam
("Na na na na… hey hey hey… goodbye." Repeat twice.)

This moment can be playful and celebratory — especially effective to encourage residents to participate.

(Harold and Katrina exit humbly. Energy settles. Tone shifts from justice to restoration.)

Esther *(leans toward David and Sarah, softly conversing.)* Father… there's more you should know.

David: *(Pause, listening to Esther.) (Turning toward Mike)*
Mike, Esther has told us everything you've done — not just tonight, but all along.

You warned us of danger.
You have worked faithfully.
You have shown integrity when others have not.

I would like to offer you Harold's position. And the home he was living in belongs to me.
If you will accept it, it is now yours.

You are welcome in this house anytime — as family.

Mike: *(overwhelmed, humble)* Sir… I don't know what to say. Thank you. *(Pause)* I will serve you faithfully.

Esther: *(to the audience, softly)* God works through the humble. When we trust Him, the truth always shines.

David: *(final moral statement — calm authority)*
Character matters.
Integrity matters.
And no one is overlooked by God.

Closing Prompt for Narrator

Pause before speaking.

"Thank you for sharing this story with us. May we remember that humility, integrity, and faith always rise above pride."

Introduce cast clearly and warmly.

- **The cast gives a flower to each resident when introduced. Ensure each resident receives a flower at the end of the introductions.**

Optional Closing Song: "Let's Twist Again" Chubby Checker

- I**nform the residents that the cast would like to do the twist with them while they are sitting (Unless they are mobile and desire to get up.)**
- As an introduction to this remaining time together, you can read the verse below.
- ***"For the Lord your God is living among you. He is a mighty savior. He will take delight in you with gladness. With his love, he will calm all your fears. He will rejoice over you with joyful songs." Zephaniah 3:17***

Final Song Cue:
"Let's Twist Again" by Chubby Checker

Music is a great way to connect. Play the song and let the kids mingle and dance with the residents.

- *While the residents are sitting, put your hands out to dance, allowing the residents to see your eyes and bright smile.*
- *Gently move hands back and forth.*
- *Some may not want to participate, and that's okay!*
- *Many of the residents will enjoy connecting, dancing, and praising God together.*

Benefits of mingle/dance connecting:

- *Increases movement, which leads to greater attentiveness and confidence in the residents' physical abilities.*
- *Connects the residents with God's Joy as you sing over them.*