

Welcome to Drama Team 2017! We are excited that you are with us this year and that you have answered some kind of calling. Many of you are here for different reasons, some including because you have seen how cool the drama team is :D, because your friends have done it and recommended it to you, because you've done it before and you want to do it again, because you have nothing better to do over the summer, because you want to make friends. But regardless of the reason, we are all here for one main purpose and that is to glorify God through the spreading of His gospel.

Through the drama team, the leaders hope to give you the platform (literally and figuratively) through which you can explore your faith, develop in maturity, and offer you the resources and tools to expand your view of the gospel and the riches of God's grace. We look forward to serving alongside you, and beyond what we have to offer you, if there is anything you ever need (legit. We will feed you if you are hungry), please do not hesitate to ask.

We have no doubt that you will experience many wonderful things this year. Wherever the spirit of God resides, that is where miracles happen. Expect God to work through each member and through the team as a whole and every person we reach and every situation we are in. God has this great big plan for the entire world and all of eternity, and you have chosen to participate in that. I would like to go through a short lesson to start us off.

**Lesson:** How much is God's responsibility and how much is our responsibility?

With God being sovereign and all powerful and all knowing and all wise, what place do we have in kingdom building? Fact is, God will accomplish His will whether or not we choose to serve Him. As an honest examination of ourselves, we do not have much to offer Him. We have warranted nothing of His grace and favor, and it wasn't even ourselves that brought us to Him. If that is the case, what purpose do we serve then in His plan if He is going to ultimately fulfill it with or without us?

Let's look at the story of Lazarus. Read Chapter 11: 1-44 as a squad and answer the following questions.

- Who are the parties involved?
- How did they participate in the resurrection of Lazarus?

From this story, we see Jesus and Mary/Martha involved in ministry work. Jesus himself could have easily called upon his heaven super powers and moved the stone himself, however he didn't. He called for Mary and Martha to participate in his work. In the same way, God doesn't necessarily need to us, but He sure as anything WANTS to use us. This is truly a wonderful thing. How many of us here want to be involved in seeing resurrection of the dead, to see souls cross over from death to life, to experience miracles first hand? From this story, we also see that it is not our responsibility to give people life. Only Jesus can do that. So there shouldn't be any pressure from our side to make people believe. Instead, we are called to pray and obey; to roll away the stone. What prayers are needed in your life and what stones are you called to roll away?

We can also see from this story that they did not work alone. They removed the stone together. One of the most powerful things available to us is the fact we are a team. You are not alone. You have your fellow brothers and sisters in the trenches with you, your leader's alongside and supporting you, Jesus as our Captain and Commander, the Holy Spirit as the power house for our soul, and the Father with His divine will and protection.

So application. Let's do this