

The Scottish Sleuths

and

The Case of

The Mystifying Miracles

Skit Manual

**Vacation Bible School
Curriculum**

Introduction

Welcome to *The Scottish Sleuth* Vacation Bible School series. Each year, our Scottish Super 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 case takes us into the Gospels with a study of some of the miracles of our Lord Jesus Christ. While we should be amazed at the miracles themselves, they are most important because of what they show us about Jesus. The children will learn that Jesus is the bread of life, the light of the world, the Lord over nature, the victor over sin and Satan, and the resurrection and the life. The miracles truly show us Jesus!

In our skit this year, McTavish and Thornwell are called to Paris, France for their case. They are summoned by Jeanetta Calvinoux, a French Bible “sleuthette” who needs help understanding the meaning of the strange events going on in her beloved city. Our super sleuths are thrilled to help solve the “Case of the Mystifying Miracles.”

The Players

Narrator

Introduces and concludes the story. Also becomes the “living statue” in Day Five.

Sleuthette Jeanetta Calvinoux

Dressed in sleuth outfit. French accent required.

Super Sleuth Angus McTavish

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

Professor Dabney Thornwell

Also Scottish. Wears a tweed jacket. Also has a magnifying glass in his possession.

The Props

Sleuth and sleuthette outfits
Loaf of French bread
Chairs outside café
A handrail
Two flashlights
Poster size picture of a gargoyle
Magnifying glasses for sleuths
Classic Italian Paintings

The Set

This year’s skit takes place in Paris, France. In the background, pictures of the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame and The Louvre must be present. A café front is also required. See each day for set specifics.

Day One

Today's Theme:
Jesus is the **Bread of Life**

Day One Props

Loaf of French bread

Day One Setup

Chairs outside of a French cafe

The Scottish Sleuths are sitting in chairs outside of a French café.

Narrator

Ahh, the beautiful city of Paris—full of history and charm. The Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame, The Louvre...such sites fill one with amazement and wonder. So why, you may ask, are our fearless Scottish Bible Sleuths in the City of Light? Let's listen in and find out...

Thornwell

So, why exactly are we here, McTavish? Is this a paid vacation in exchange for all of our hard work?

McTavish

Of course not, my continental companion. You know that true Bible super sleuths never take a holiday! (*Thornwell shakes his head*) We have been summoned by one of our junior colleagues in order to assist in the solution of a challenging mystery. She should be here any moment.

Jeanetta Calvinoux, Bible sleuthette, walks up to the sleuths. She is clutching a sack with a long loaf of French bread in it.

Thornwell

Motioning to Jeanetta. I'll take another large café latte, mademoiselle.

Jeanetta

Ignoring Thornwell. Bonjour, bonjour. I am so delighted that you consented to come to Paris. I desperately need your assistance.

McTavish

Only too happy to help a damsel in distress, my dear lady. What did you say your name was again?

Jeanetta

Jeanetta Calvinoux, at your service!

Thornwell

Your name is very familiar—have we met before, maybe at a super sleuth convention or something?

Jeanetta

Non, non. I just recently graduated from the Bible Sleuth Institute in Cologne. This is my first major Bible case!

McTavish

So...tell me, Miss Calvinoux, what clues have you discovered so far?

Jeanetta

Actually, I have observed FIVE mystifying occurrences over the past few weeks, mon amis. And this is the first one! *She pulls the loaf of bread out of her sack.*

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Day One (continued)

Thornwell

That *is* mystifying! How *do* the French get their bread so crunchy on the outside, yet soft and scrumptious on the inside? That has always amazed me!

McTavish

Oh my famished friend, I don't think *that* is what mystifies our young lady here, is it mademoiselle Calvinoux?

Jeanetta

Not exactly. The *true* mystery is the fact that this is the LAST LOAF OF FRENCH BREAD IN ALL OF PARIS!

The sleuths jump up, looking at each other in shock and horror.

Thornwell

You must be mistaken, my dear lady. How can this be?

Jeanetta

I wish I were, Professor Thornwell, I wish I were. But all my investigations have come to this conclusion. And this city of 2.5 million people is in quite a panic.

McTavish

This is quite a mystifying development, my superlative sleuthette. But, if you use all of the detective skills you have undoubtedly learned, this should remind you of a certain set of Biblical miracles.

Thornwell

Pacing. But what will all of the Frenchman eat? It would cost us millions of dollars to import some good Scottish shortbread. And, it's not nearly as tasty...

We can't let this happen! They must have their French bread!

Jeanetta

Pensively. Or, maybe they need something more satisfying than bread... more everlasting...

McTavish

Very interesting...

Narrator

How can the French live without French bread? Will Professor Thornwell have to dip into his piggy bank to provide dinner for everyone? Can our young sleuthette start putting this puzzle together? Come back tomorrow, young detectives, to answer these questions *and more* in the Case of the Mystifying Miracles!

End Day One

Day Two

Today's Theme:
Jesus is **Lord over Nature**

Day Two Props

A rail (overlooking the imaginary Seine River)

Day Two Setup

The Paris background

The sleuths are walking with Jeanetta by the Seine River.

Jeanetta

Addressing McTavish. You were right, McTavish, our French bread famine did remind me of a mystifying miracle done by the Lord Jesus. If I remember correctly, that particular miracle was a SIGN to point people to their spiritual hunger that could only be satisfied by the Bread of Life.

McTavish

Exactly! Quite impressive, wouldn't you say so, professor?

Thornwell

Indubitably. And I'm thankful that I don't have to max out my credit cards to supply food for the multitudes...

Jeanetta

Then we must quickly move on to the next occurrence, mon amis. Come over here, to this rail overlooking our beautiful Seine River.

The sleuths follow Jeanetta to the side of the platform, looking over into the Seine River.

Thornwell

What exactly are we looking for?

McTavish

Be still, my pondering professor. *Turning to Jeanetta.* Your Seine River is quite majestic, Miss Calvinoux. It is stunningly peaceful, that's for certain.

Jeanetta

Actually, Super Sleuth McTavish, that *was* the case—until just about a week ago. Then some troubling things started to happen.

Thornwell

Did you happen to have a spotting of the Loch Ness monster?

Jeanetta

Your sense of humor is priceless, professor. Let's just say...I would advise you both to brace yourselves—immediately!

The trio begins to sway like they have suddenly been hit by a big windstorm. It grows in intensity, dumping (pretend) buckets of water on them from the river

Jeanetta

Pointing out to the audience and shouting through the storm. Do you see it?

McTavish

Defending himself from the wind and rain. Amazing! It looks like a major hurricane, or a waterspout. Look how it's moving so fast and demolishing those tour boats.

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Day Two (continued)

Thornwell

Also trying to see through the wind and rain. But that's impossible! It's a freak of nature! How can huge waterspouts form on a river? This isn't the Seine River—its the "in-seine" river!

McTavish

Does this remind you of anything, my soaking-wet sleuthette?

The storm dies down. The group stops swaying and straighten themselves up.

Jeanetta

I've contemplated it every time one of these mystifying storms comes out of the blue. I have some thoughts, but I need your help...

Thornwell

All I know is I'm definitely going to pass on any invitation to take the world famous boat tour of Paris.

McTavish

So...this storm that comes out of nowhere scares you, my fearless friend? Maybe it's just a SIGN that points us to another group of people who were frightened by some strange weather conditions.

Thornwell

Looking nervous. Who said anything about being scared?

Jeanetta

If only we could figure out what could stop these storms and calm the waves.

McTavish

Maybe not "what." Maybe who...

The group freezes in place.

Narrator

Will our sleuthette-in-training see through the stormy weather and read the signs? Can our intrepid investigators ever stand on the banks of the Seine River again? As our drenched detectives dry off, work hard and study more of the Case of the Mystifying Miracles.

End Day Two