

# **The Scottish Sleuths**

**and**

# **The Case of The Hidden Hero**

# **Skit Manual**

**Vacation Bible School  
Curriculum**

# **The Scottish Sleuths and the Case of the Hidden Hero Skit Manual**

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# 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 year, our case involves an in-depth study of the entire Book of Esther. This Old Testament book presents an amazing story of God’s providential protection of His people. The overall goal of this study is to lead your children into a knowledge and a love for God, the “Hidden Hero” of the story of Esther.

This year’s skit follows McTavish and Thornwell as they interview five heroic “suspects” from the Bible. Our sleuths are searching for the secret identity of the Hidden Hero!

## The Players

### Narrator

*Introduces and concludes the story. Also moves props when necessary.*

### Hero “Suspects”

*Dressed in different outfits each day. Four male personas, one female. Can be played by two actors or more.*

### 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 and holds a large magnifying glass.*

## The Props

Sleuth outfits, including pipe and magnifying glass  
 Raincoat and umbrella  
 Set of blueprints  
 Royal Egyptian-style robe  
 Sack of grain  
 Large, open Bible  
 “Moses” outfit; beard; sandals  
 Long “rod”  
 “Joshua” outfit; no beard  
 A small wagon filled with a few bricks  
 “Queen Esther” outfit; crown  
 Hangman’s noose

## The Set

This year’s set is McTavish’s drawing room. The background can be any furniture and decor that make up a parlor or living room. A chair must be located on the stage for the suspect to sit in.

A large, open Bible should be on the set for the Sleuths to peer into as they are searching for clues.

Make sure that the set allows the characters enough room to walk around as they interview the suspects.

# Day One

**Today's Theme:**  
*God has a **Perfect Plan** for His people*

**Day One Props**

Raincoat and umbrella  
 Set of blueprints

**Day One Setup**

Have a chair set up for the suspect

*McTavish and Thornwell are standing—frozen in position as the scene opens.*

**Narrator**

Good day, boys and girls! Are you ready to begin a new and exciting Bible mystery? Excellent! Our super sleuths, Angus McTavish and Professor Dabney Thornwell are here to lead the way. They have been able to solve 99.8% of all their Bible cases. But this one just may be their toughest one yet! Will they discover the identity of the Hidden Hero? Or, will they become mired in confusing conundrums? Let's find out...

*McTavish addresses Thornwell.*

**McTavish**

Thornwell, have you assembled all of our suspects in the library as I requested?

**Thornwell**

The last person arrived just moments ago. Do you really think one of them is our *hidden hero*?

**McTavish**

That is our mystery, my pondering

professor! If, in fact, the hidden hero isn't among these suspects, we may at least gain some vital clues. Bring in our first hero!

*Thornwell escorts in a raincoat wearing, umbrella holding suspect from off-stage. McTavish motions for the suspect to sit down.*

**McTavish**

*Addressing the suspect.* Hmm. It appears to me that you have managed to stay perfectly dry when so many others did not. How did you manage that, sir?

**Hero Suspect**

*Pulling a set of blueprints out of his jacket, he shows it to the sleuths.* I just followed these plans—and built the very big boat.

**Thornwell**

*Frantic.* Are you telling us that you designed this **perfect plan** to save yourself and your family? Is that what you're saying? Is that what you would have us to believe?

**Hero Suspect**

*Agitated.* No, no, no, it wasn't me...I...I'm just the obedient boat builder. Never in a million years could I have thought up this plan!

**McTavish**

Fascinating! Even though it would seem that you could be called a HERO for saving your family from the most horrible flood in all of history...you say it wasn't even your plan...

*(Continued on page 5)*

# Day One (continued)

**Thornwell**

I find that hard to believe!

**Hero Suspect**

*Emphatically.* Well, it's true! It wasn't me! Honest! I am NOT the hidden hero!

**McTavish**

Alright, alright...you may return to the library. But give me those blueprints...and don't leave town. We may have more questions for you...

*Suspect gives McTavish the blueprints and exits the room.*

**Thornwell**

Well, one down, four to go, right McTavish?

**McTavish**

*Stroking his chin.* It seems that way, my conclusive co-conspirator, it seems that way.

**Narrator**

Is our first suspect *really* off the hook? Will our super Bible sleuths discover who designed that **perfect plan**? Study hard today, junior detectives—and come back tomorrow for more of the Case of the Hidden Hero.

*End Day One*



# Day Two

**Today's Theme:**  
*God's people are **Persecuted** by  
God's enemies*

## **Day Two Props**

Royal Egyptian-style robe  
Sack of grain  
Large, open Bible

## **Day Two Setup**

Have a chair set up for the suspect

*Enter McTavish and Thornwell. They are busy contemplating the case.*

## **Thornwell**

Our last suspect certainly looked like a hero to me. He also seemed a bit too nervous. Do you think he was lying to us, McTavish? Do you?

## **McTavish**

No, my suspicious sophist. He may have been one dry boat captain, but he was certainly not a Divine draftsman. Bring in our next suspect, my good man.

*Thornwell retrieves the next suspect from off-stage. The suspect, wearing royal Egyptian robes, sits in the chair, holding a large sack of grain.*

## **Thornwell**

*Suspiciously.* You sir...are you an Egyptian...or maybe a cast member of an off-Broadway play?

## **Hero Suspect**

Well, I am sort of an Egyptian prince, but only because of several twists and turns in

my life. My true identity is Hebrew by birth.

## **McTavish**

*Peering at the open Bible, and then to the suspect, and back again.* Ahh, yes...I've done some checking into your very interesting background. It seems as though you are quite the world traveler...and someone who gets into a lot of trouble.

## **Hero Suspect**

*Defensively.* Hey! None of those situations were my fault. I was framed, I tell you. I was framed!

## **Thornwell**

Are you trying to tell us, kind sir, that it wasn't your fault that your brothers sold you into slavery, or that your boss had you thrown into jail? Were you just a victim of unrighteous persecution?

## **Hero Suspect**

Yes, that's it exactly! I was **persecuted** for sure. But, I will say that someone had big plans for my life, and worked out even those persecutions and plights for my good—and the good of other people.

## **McTavish**

Aha! *(Finger pointed in air)* So, you admit that you accomplished some very HEROIC deeds in your lifetime. It was YOU who predicted that there would be a great famine for seven years. It was YOU who saved an entire nation from starvation, as well as your own family. Is this not true?

*(Continued on page 8)*

# Day Two (continued)

## **Hero Suspect**

Well, yes...I mean...NO! Yes, I predicted the famine, but do you really think I can foretell the future on my own? Yes, we were all saved from starvation, but do you actually believe that I can save anyone myself? I am NOT a HERO!

## **Thornwell**

*Angrily.* Now don't deny it—you are our Hidden Hero! You saved all those people. And, you've always been daddy's favorite...

## **McTavish**

Whoa, professor! I think you are taking this a bit too personally. Escort this Hebrew...this Egyptian back to the library. He's not our man.

## **Thornwell**

*Reluctantly.* Yes, McTavish.

*Thornwell takes the sack of grain as evidence.*

## **Narrator**

It looks like our Super Sleuths have struck out again. They need your help more than ever before, junior detectives. Keep studying your Bible lessons and maybe you will be the one who finds the key to the Case of the Hidden Hero!

*End Day Two*



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