Good Friend Barnabas

<u>Cast</u>

Paul Matthew
Barnabas Jew 1
Peter Jew 2
Andrew

Scene 1 – Paul is walking down the road

<u>Paul</u>: That was some way to leave Damascus – lowered over the wall in a basket. I went to Damascus to persecute the Christians there, but God showed me that they were right and I was wrong. So I became a Christian. Now I am going to Jerusalem to meet the other Christians there. I bet they'll be surprised by how much I've changed.

Scene 2 – In Jerusalem

<u>Matthew</u>: Things sure are quiet here in Jerusalem since Paul drove most of the Christians away. We apostles are the only Christians left in town.

<u>Peter</u>: Do you know what I heard? I heard that dirty rat Paul went to Damascus to persecute the Christians there.

Andrew: Cheer up. Maybe God will strike him dead.

(Somebody knocks on the door.)

<u>Peter</u>: There's somebody at the door. Andrew, see who it is. But be careful, a lot of people don't like us Christians.

(Andrew gets up and opens the door just a little.)

Andrew: It's Paul. He's come to get us!! Let me out of here!!

Paul: No, wait. Let me explain. I'm on your side now.

Peter: Out the back way. Quick!!

(They run out leaving Paul alone.)

Paul: I guess they were surprised all right.

Scene 3 – On a street in Jerusalem

(Matthew and Andrew are standing there talking. Paul walks up to them.)

Paul: Hi, guys. I've got to talk to you.

(Andrew sees Paul and tries to hide behind Matthew.)

<u>Paul</u>: Hey, no – I want to be your friend.

Matthew: A likely story. I'm not falling for that one!!

(Barnabas walks up.)

Barnabas: What's going on? Andrew, why are you hiding behind Matthew?

Paul: They won't believe I'm a Christian. They're still afraid of me.

<u>Barnabas</u>: You guys are behind the times. Come over here. You too, Peter.

(Andrew and Matthew come over. Peter joins them.)

<u>Barnabas</u>: Paul here saw Jesus when he was going to Damascus to persecute the Christians there. He switched sides then and there. Matter of fact, he spent his time in Damascus telling people that Jesus is the Son of God.

Peter: Quite a story. But if you say so, Barnabas, I believe it.

(They all come up to Paul and shake his hand.)

Paul: Thanks, Barnabas. You are a good friend.