Biblical Drama based on Acts 6:1-15
Character Parts: Narrators 1-9, Peter, Widow, Caretaker, Mary, Stephen, Gossips 1-2

Narrator 1: After Pentecost, the disciples continued to tell people about all that Jesus had done. Day after day, they broke bread in different homes and shared their food freely, praising God all the while.

Peter: Welcome! Come on in! We were all about to have dinner together.

Widow: But I have no money…

Peter: You don't need money. All of us are sharing what we brought. We are thankful for all that Jesus has done for us. We want to share his love with others.

Narrator 2: Many people were now becoming followers of the Lord. But some who spoke Greek began complaining about the ones who spoke the Jewish language. They thought the Greek-speaking widows were not being given their share in the distribution of food.

Caretaker: Hey! That lady got more bread than my aunt did. She has extra olives, too. Not fair!

Widow: Don't worry about me. I'm just an old lady. It doesn't matter what happens to me.

Mary: Don't be silly. Everyone is important here. You are part of Jesus' family now, too.

Narrator 3: So, the twelve apostles called the whole group together to solve the problem.

Peter: Friends, I've got an idea: Let's choose seven people who are faithful and wise. We'll put them in charge of passing out food to those in need. Then the rest of the Apostles can spend time praying and serving God by preaching.

Mary: That sounds like a good idea!

Narrator 4: This suggestion pleased everyone, and they began by choosing a man named Stephen. Stephen had great faith and was filled with the Holy Spirit.

Mary: We think you would do a good and honest job.

Stephen: Thank you. I'll try to be fair and make sure that everyone is taken care of.

Narrator 5: Next, they chose six other people who had a Greek background and were well-respected by the Jewish people, as well.

Peter: We call Stephen and these other workers "deacons" *(DEE-cuns)*, since they are servants of God.

Narrator 6: The apostles prayed and placed their hands on the deacons to show that they had been chosen to do this work. God's message continued to spread, and many more people in Jerusalem became followers.

Narrator 7: But even as this was happening, others in town who did not believe in Jesus were getting upset. They knew that Stephen was doing great wonders, and they wanted him stopped. So they began saying bad things about Stephen in secret.

Gossip 1: Who does that Stephen think he is? Mr. Goody-Two-Shoes!

Gossip 2: Yes, I know. My sister's friend's cousin heard that Stephen is saying all sorts of crazy stuff about Moses and God! He even believes in that bad man Jesus!

Narrator 8: This false gossip about Stephen upset the authorities. One day, they grabbed him and brought him before the council.

Stephen: Yes. I do believe in Jesus! I want to serve others just as Jesus served all people.

Narrator 9: Everyone who gazed at Stephen could see that he was a good man, filled with the Holy Spirit. He looked honest and kind — and, indeed, he was.

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