

Biblical Drama based on Romans 3:10-28 (quoting Psalm 14:1)
Character Parts: Narrators 1-2, Paul, Gaius, Lucius, Phoebe, Jason

Narrator 1: The Apostle Paul traveled from town to town, telling people the good news about Jesus and what Jesus has done for us. He would also use the Bible to show what he said came from God's Word.

Narrator 2: One day, when Paul was studying the Bible with a group of believers, they were reading from Psalm 14.

Paul: Gaius, this is your house. Why don't you have the honor of reading our Scripture lesson for today.

Gaius: I would be glad to. This is from Psalm 14, verses 1 to 3:

*The fool says in his heart, 'There is no God.'
They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds;
there is none who does good.*

*The Lord looks down from heaven on the
children of man, to see if there are any who
understand, who seek after God.*

*They have all turned aside; together they
have become corrupt; there is none who does
good, not even one.*

Paul: This is the Word of the Lord.

Lucius: Is it just me, or is that a little depressing?

Phoebe: What do you mean?

Lucius: God says that nobody is good? Everyone has turned aside and no one seeks after God?

Jason: How can that be? We all believe in God. We try to do good. Doesn't being a Christian mean that we are better than other people?

Phoebe: All of us sin and do things wrong.

Paul: That's true. We are all sinners.

Lucius: But I thought that if we go to church, are nice to each other, and do good deeds, we can make ourselves into good people, so that God will love us!

Paul: You think God can't love you if you're a sinner?

Jason: But we need to be right in the eyes of God!

Gaius: Isn't that why God gave us his rules? So we can show how good we are?

Paul: No. You've got it wrong. God gave us his rules to show us that we need him. The law shows us that none of us can be good on our own! God gave us his commandments so that we would see that we have nothing to brag about. We are all accountable to God.

Phoebe: I remember what you wrote, Paul: "By works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin."

Paul: That's right. We do not make ourselves right in God's eyes. Only God himself can do that. The whole Bible tells us so. That's why we trust and believe in Jesus!

Lucius: You mean we are the same as everyone else? No one can earn their way to heaven?

Paul: There is no distinction: all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. But the good news is that God has justified us by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

Jason: How did he do that?

Paul: God sent Jesus to give his life as a sacrifice on the cross so that we could be forgiven. Trusting in this promise is what faith is all about!

Phoebe: But what about all the bad things we have done in our life? God doesn't count them?

Paul: That's what it means to be forgiven. God has decided to pass over our former sins. He did this to show that *he* is good and right. *He* makes things right by giving us faith in Jesus.

Jason: So you mean, we can't brag about being better than other people?

Paul: Not if we think we did it ourselves.

Phoebe: "For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law" — right, Paul?

Paul: We believe it's not about what *we* have done for Jesus; it's about what *Jesus* has done for us!