

**Acts 17** (Narrated story with 3 re-acting actors dressed as ancient greeks)

*Props: A big sign saying ATHENS-with all these idols around (soccer ball, football, teddy, lightning mcqueen))*

**Narrator:** One day Paul was walking around Athens... in Greece... there were a lot of people bowing down to all these silly things... they treated them like gods... they thought there was a god of sport and a god of toys and even a god of other stuff just in case they missed anything.

Paul said to them: 'it's so silly that you guys treat these things like god's... that's so silly'

**Paul:** it's so silly that you guys treat these things like gods... that's so silly

**Narrator:** The first person was confused. He said 'What is this babbler trying to say?'

**P1:** What is this babbler trying to say?

**Narrator:** The second person said 'He doesn't seem to like our gods – seems to be trying to sell his own'

**P2:** He doesn't seem to like our gods – seems to be trying to sell his own

**Narrator:** She picked up her favourite god and said '.... I'm sure his god can't be as good as mine'

**P2:** I'm sure his god can't be as good as mine (holds up teddy)

**Narrator:** Paul started telling them that Jesus rose from the dead

**Paul:** Hey don't you guys know Jesus rose from the dead?

**Narrator:** The first person said 'What on earth are you talking about mate...'

**P1:** What on earth are you talking about mate...

**Narrator:** But these guys loved sitting around talking and doing nothing all day so the second person said 'tell us more about this Jesus guy'

**P2:** tell us more about this Jesus guy

**Narrator:** Paul then stood up and said:

"Men of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious people.

For as I walked around I saw you worshipped all kinds of things you  
thought were gods  
You've even got one with out a name

But can I help you out a bit

God made us  
And he made us to be friends with him  
Not these silly things we've made

It's silly for us to think these things are more important than God  
They're just stuff

God doesn't want us to think these things are more important than him

He wants us to stop worshipping these silly things and turn to him

He's actually gonna get us in trouble if we don't

He's even made Jesus, who rose from the dead, our judge

If we are friends with Jesus we can be friends with God and not be judged  
for all the naughty things we do

but if we keep following these silly things instead of God then we can't be  
friends with God...we will be judged"

The first person thought that all sounded a bit silly so he said 'That's silly...  
nobody can rise from the dead... judge smudge'

**P1:** That's silly... nobody can rise from the dead... judge smudge

**Narrator:** But the second person wanted to learn more. She said ' Hang on... tell  
me more...'

**P2:** Hang on... tell me more...

**Narrator:** She said 'I think I believe Jesus rose from the dead... and if he's  
gonna be the judge I want to be his friend.'

**P2:**I think I believe Jesus rose from the dead... and if he's gonna be the judge I  
want to be his friend.

**Narrator:** Paul left Athens. Some people believed him and wanted to follow  
Jesus and be friends with him

**P2:** (P2 steps forward)

**Narrator:** Some people thought Paul was silly... and so was Jesus

**P1:** (P1 steps forward arms crossed shaking head or doing crazy hand movement)

**Narrator:** What do you think kids... is Paul a bit silly?  
Did God really raise Jesus from the dead?

You know I think Jesus did rise from the dead...  
and if he's gonna be the judge

I wanna be his friend... let's pray that God would help us to be friends with  
Jesus

Dear God,  
You are the only God.  
Thanks that you want to be friends with us.  
Help us to be friends with Jesus so that we can be your friend  
Amen