Spreading the Truth!

(The person playing the part of the Holy Spirit is behind the sheet, while the Prophet, Saul, Barnabas, and members of the church pretend to be worshiping.)

Narrator: Imagine your church today worshipping and fasting together. When we worship and fast, God speaks to us. Today, we are going to visit the town of Antioch. The church here is filled with many prophets and teachers who are praying and fasting.

Holy Spirit: (From behind the sheet and using hands like a megaphone to speak.) Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul. I have called them to do the work of the Lord.

Prophet: Thank you God for speaking to us. Let’s finish our fasting and praying to prepare ourselves for spiritual battle. Then we will lay hands on Saul and Barnabas before we send them off.

Church Members: Praise God!

Saul: Lord, thank You for speaking clearly. Now, prepare us for battle. Holy Spirit, fill us with boldness to go and preach the Gospel.

(The Prophet and other church members gather around Saul and Barnabas, put their hands on their shoulders, and bow heads to pray.)

Prophet: Lord, please protect Saul and Barnabas and let the Power of God be with them.

Narrator: Being sent by the Holy Spirit, and prepared for spiritual battle, Saul and Barnabas left on their journey to proclaim the Truth.

(Saul and Barnabas walk to the other side of the room.)

Saul & Barnabas: (Waving) Goodbye!

Church Members: (Waving) Goodbye! The Lord be with you!

(Prophet and church members leave. Proconsul and Bar-Jesus enter.)

Saul: Hey Barnabas, I heard that the proconsul wants to see us. He must be seeking the Truth!

Barnabas: Halleluiah! Let’s go see him and speak the Word of God.

Saul: That sounds great to me. I can’t believe that we have gone through the whole island already, all the way to Paphos, proclaiming the Word of God.

(Proconsul and Bar-Jesus walk towards Saul and Barnabas.)

Barnabas: Look Saul! Who is that? (Pointing to Bar-Jesus.)

Saul: That’s some magician. He is a Jewish false prophet they call Bar-Jesus. Be careful of him.

Bar-Jesus: (Talking to the proconsul) Sir, let’s leave this place. Let me show you my magic and help you learn the truth. These men will just waste your time.

Proconsul: No. I want to hear what these men have to say.
Saul: *(Taking a deep breath and looking at Bar-Jesus.*) You son of the devil and enemy of all righteousness. You are filled with deceit. You tell lies about the way of the Lord. Behold, the Hand of the Lord is upon you. You will be blind and unable to see the sun for quite some time.

Bar-Jesus: *(Covering eyes with hands stumbling about.*) Yikes! I can't see. Help! Sir, help me.

Proconsul: *(Looking at Saul and Barnabas.*) This shows me your God is real. I believe you are speaking the truth. I am astonished at the teaching of the Lord, and want to know more.

Narrator: After Saul and Barnabas shared the Good News with the proconsul, they continued on their journey wherever the Holy Spirit led them. Imagine what could have happened if Paul and Barnabas did not prepare for this spiritual battle with prayer and fasting. Would they have been so bold? Would they have known what to say? What do you think would have happened? *(Allow children to respond.*)