



## OVERVIEW

**T**he *Egypt File* drama is a major part of the VBS program and is presented during the closing assembly each day. It is a continuing story with each day's installment designed to entertain and touch upon the theme of the day.

### Why Live Drama?

At a time when kids are so accustomed to watching videos, live drama can be a treat. Not only do kids love to watch it, but chances are there are teens and adults in your church who love to act and are looking for opportunities to use their gifts.

As an alternative, you might consider partnering with another area church which is also hosting *The Egypt File*. The same drama team could perform at both places. Or check with your local school drama teams (public school, Christian school, or homeschool). If given enough time to prepare, they may be interested in taking on the project to gain experience. If you're really short on volunteers, consider having your drama team film the drama the week before VBS begins so that they're still able to help with your program.

In any case, just try it and see if it isn't one of the best things about your VBS program and one of the main reasons why kids want to come back the next day!

### Setting

The drama takes place in the present day city of Cairo, Egypt, inside a building that has been renovated to be a museum.

### Characters

#### CLAIRE SEDGWICK (GRANDDAUGHTER/MUSEUM DIRECTOR)

Claire is the 26-year-old granddaughter of Sir Jamison Sedgwick, the namesake of the Sedgwick Museum. She's lived in London since she was 12 and has always shared her grandfather's love of ancient artifacts. So, naturally, she has taken on the directorship of the Sedgwick Museum. She's competent, responsible, and hardworking, but her relationship with God is almost nonexistent.

#### MACKENZIE ROSS (COLLEGE INTERN)

An American college student, Mackenzie accepted an internship at the Sedgwick Museum for the summer and is excited to be in Cairo for the first time. She's a mature Christian, sharp, and very disciplined. She loves to solve mysteries and thinks it would be fun to be a private detective someday.

#### PERCY SEDGWICK (GRANDSON/SECURITY GUARD)

Percy is the 23-year-old grandson of Sir Sedgwick and Claire's younger brother. He's lived in London since he was 9 and hasn't accomplished much since he got there. He attended college but never finished, and he's never held a job nor done any manual labor of any kind. What he loves to do is play practical jokes on people, and his favorite victim, by far, is Albert.

#### ALBERT PEACOCK (BUTLER)

Albert is the classic English butler and has served the Sedgwick family for many years. He much prefers his life in London, however, and is having great difficulty adapting to his new surroundings in Cairo.

#### CARSON HUGHES (POLICE DETECTIVE)

Carson is the local police detective. He conducts himself in a professional manner and appears to be very experienced and competent at his job. He's cordial with the Sedgwicks but isn't very impressed with Albert.

# Drama

## JOE JOHNSON (JANITOR)

No one really knows where Joe came from. He just showed up one day and took over the janitorial responsibilities at the Sedgwick Museum and the orphanage next door. He's cold and unfriendly, and most people are a bit scared of him.

## EMMA BROWN (ORPHANAGE DIRECTOR)

Miss Brown has been the director of the orphanage next door for many years. She's a mature believer in Christ and loves children. She considers each of the orphans to be her own.

## ORPHAN

A timid young child who loves Miss Emma but longs for a family to belong to.

## Premise

Sir Jamison Sedgwick, a wealthy English gentleman, had a dream to someday have a museum in Egypt to display his enormous collection of ancient artifacts. Due to his sudden death, however, his grandchildren, Claire and Percy, are left to carry out his dream.

The drama begins with Claire, Percy, and Albert, the butler, at the recently purchased museum building in Cairo. The museum exhibits are almost complete, but most of the artifacts have yet to be unpacked and displayed.

Soon, a police detective stops by to introduce himself. What they don't know is that he's really the head of an international artifacts smuggling ring and that he's searching for a legendary treasure thought to be hidden somewhere in the Sedgwick's building. The very next day a money box is stolen from the museum, and the detective is called to investigate.

As the drama unfolds, Mackenzie Ross arrives to begin her internship, Percy tries his hand at being a security guard, and Joe, the custodian, convinces everyone that he is the real villain in this story. In addition, we watch Albert try to endure his new surroundings as he frets about this and complains about that.

Finally, the treasure is found, the villain is apprehended, and Claire has been led back to Christ. As a result, she immediately ends any involvement with evolutionary organizations. She also has a change of heart toward the orphanage next door and gains a vision of ministry for the Sedgwick Museum—to glorify the Creator and promote the value and purpose of human life.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** So the mystery isn't spoiled for the kids, be very careful, while discussing VBS or practicing the dramas, to keep the true identities of Carson Hughes (police detective) and Joe Johnson (janitor) top secret!

## Theme Tie-In

The spiritual theme of *The Egypt File: Decoding the Mystery of Life* is the value of human life. On the first day, we'll learn that man did not evolve from some ape-like creature but was specially created by God. On the second day, we'll discover some of the amazing features of the human body. On the third day, we'll be confronted with the gospel—that God loves us so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to die for us so that we can become part of His family. On the fourth day, we'll learn that all human life is precious no matter how young or old, healthy or sick, rich or poor. And on the fifth day, we'll see that God has saved us for a purpose, to serve Him wholeheartedly! To help reinforce some of what has been taught each day, the dramas will briefly touch upon these principles.

# Drama

## Venue Diagram

The following diagram shows a typical venue (church sanctuary or auditorium) with the location of certain aspects of the story in relation to the stage, the audience, and the exits. You may need to adapt the stage directions to your particular setting.

