IN THE BIG INNING

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Running Time: 44:00

(music begins to "In the Big Inning")

(Sam is side stage, daydreaming, tossing an imaginary ball into the air and swinging his bat. When he finishes, he sits down to thumb through a stack of baseball cards.)

SAM: And now, introducing the newest member of the baseball Hall of Fame ... Fame ... Fame, Sam Cunningham ... ham ... ham! (bows, makes crowd cheering noises) Thank you! Thank you! Today, I consider myself, the luckiest man, on the face of the earth!

SONG: "IN THE BIG INNING"

chorus

This is gonna be
This is gonna be the best
D-A-Y day
Big fun, let's play
Come on, let's go
Come on, let's go and get this
D-A-Y day going
Cause this triple play, big day is big fun in the big inning

verse

What do we need?

A home run

Say what?

A grand slam

Hey, batter batter, swing for the fences

Swing and a miss

Strike one

Missed again

Strike two

Here goes the wind up

It's outta here

chorus

This is gonna be

This is gonna be the best

D-A-Y day

Big fun, let's play

Come on, let's go

Come on, let's go and get this

D-A-Y day going

Cause this triple play, big day is big fun in the big inning

(dialog at measure 47)

(Mille runs up to Sam, then they move to center stage to meet the rest of the crew.)

MILLIE: (excited) Sam, let's go! Mom says we can head to the church now.

SAM: But it's only Saturday.

MILLIE: Not go to church ... go to the field beside the church. We're

playing baseball today.

SAM: (coming around) Yeah!

MILLIE: Put down your baseball cards, and let's get in the game! (tosses

him a glove and they take off)

SAM & KIDS: Charge!

chorus

This is gonna be

This is gonna be the best

D-A-Y day

Big fun, let's play

Come on, let's go

Come on, let's go and get this

D-A-Y day going

Cause this triple play, big day is big fun, home run

Let's play in the big inning

Charge!

Scene 1

(Kids are gathered around to play ball at the old lot by the church.)

MILLIE: Alright you guys, we have about an hour and a half to practice

before the Knights get here.

KIDS: (ad lib. Alright! Can't wait. Great! etc.)

LUCAS: The Knights?

MILLIE: Lucas, I knew you weren't paying attention! I told you, this is

not our regular Saturday morning pick-up game. My cousin Zeke plays for the Knights ... you know, the Knights who just

won the Kid League World Series? I told him that our

neighborhood crew could beat them any day!

LUCAS: You told him what?!

MILLIE: In fact, I guaranteed it!

RYAN: What did you do that for?

MILLIE: Come on guys, I've told you before ... Jake is the best home run

hitter I've ever seen, and "even though I'm a girl," I know baseball! His slugging ability and his nasty knuckleball could

take him to the Hall of Fame!

LUCAS: Except that he isn't really that interested in baseball ...

SAM: I know, I can't believe that! I'd give anything to have his talent.

RYAN: Where is Jake, by the way?

MILLIE: He'll be here ... he was just finishing his violin lesson.

LUCAS: Well, let's hope all that finger-work doesn't foul up his

knuckleball!

MILLIE: And it isn't just Jake. The Johnson sisters are the best shortstop,

second base combination anywhere. Have you ever seen so many

double plays?

JENNA: I guess we're just on the same wavelength. Some people say

we're always ...

JAMIE: ... finishing each other's sentences. (both shrug, in unison)

JENNA: But I don't really ...

JAMIE: ... think that's true.

MILLIE: Well, I do know this ... if the Knights weren't "boys-only," you'd

both be starters.

KIDS: (ad lib. That's right! That's true! Yeah, etc.)

SAM: Alright! Here's Jake!

LUCAS: Perfect timing. Let's play ball.

MILLIE: Jake, take a few practice swings.

(Jake saunters up to the plate, his mind still seemingly elsewhere. Someone hands him the bat. He swings a few times, then tucks the

end under his chin and starts making violin motions.)

JENNA: Come on, Jake. We need some flight on the home run ball ...

JAMIE: ... not the "Flight of the Bumblebee!"

LUCAS: Okay Jake, just a little batting practice.

(The ball is thrown, hit, and everyone watches it fly up in the air and

out of the ball park, then we hear glass shatter.)

5/47 SFX 1: "Window Breaking"

RYAN: Ohhhh boy, Jake, I think you hit that all the way to the church!

MILLIE: I think that's right about where my Sunday School room is.

JENNA: That's our only ball ...

JAMIE: ... and we gotta get it back.

LUCAS: Plus, we need to see if we broke a window.

SAM: (eagerly) I'll go check!

LUCAS: I'll go with you.

(they run off stage)

MILLIE: See ... I told you, Jake is the best around! No way we lose to the

Knights!

RYAN: Okay, he's an awesome player, but we'll never beat the Knights.

They're world champs!

MILLIE: Oh, come on Ryan, you gotta have faith! Besides, could there be

any better way to spend a Saturday than playing the greatest

game ever?!

(music begins to "There's Just Nothing Like This Game")

SONG: "THERE'S JUST NOTHING LIKE THIS GAME"

intro

It's true what they say about America
It's apple pie and baseball
And what a way to waste all summer long
I feel like I have it all with a hat, a bat, a glove, a ball
Man, there's just nothing like this game

kids

Oh, woah-oh-oh Oh, woah-oh-oh-oh

chorus 1

There's just nothing like this game
Oh, woah-oh-oh-oh We can play all night, we can play all day
Oh, woah-oh-oh-oh
If I go down swinging, I don't care
Three out of ten will get me there
And hold my place in the Hall of Fame
Yes, there's just nothing like this game

(dialog at measure 26)

KID 1: So what's the big deal? It's baseball. We've been playing it for 200 years!

KID 2: Alright. Explain this ... It's a game, right?

KID 1: Yeah.

KID 2: So you can't cheat.

KID 1: Of course you can't cheat. That's un-American!

KID 2: You can't cheat but you can steal.

KID 1: Uh, well, you can steal as long as you don't get caught.

KID 2: What kind of game teaches kids they can steal?!

KID 1: **Aww, you're out in left field.**

KID 2: Well, thank you, usually you stick me out in right!

chorus 2

There's just nothing like this game

Oh, woah-oh-oh We can play all night, we can play all day

Oh, woah-oh-oh

In little league I'm the MVP

Padding my stats for the major leagues With my next stop in the Hall of Fame Yes, there's just nothing like this game

(dialog at measure 49)

KID 3: **I've got a question.**

KID 4: **Shoot.**

KID 3: As a lover of the culinary arts, I can't help but be aware of the

multitude of gratuitous food references in this game.

KID 4: I don't understand what you just said.

(rapid fire)

KID 3: Can of corn.

KID 4: Easy catch.

KID 3: **Meatball.**

KID 4: **Easy pitch to hit.**

KID 3: **Pickle.**

KID 4: Rundown.

KID 3: **Hot dog.**

KID 4: **Show off.**

KID 3: Mustard.

KID 4: **High velocity. Listen, I'm getting hungry!**

KID 3: And I don't get this game.

KID 4: Come on, it's baseball! There's nothing like this game!

tag

Game after game it's another test I'll take my team against the best

If they don't win, I'll tell you it's a shame So it's one, two, three strikes you're out

At the old ballgame Oh, woah-oh-oh-oh

There's just nothing like this game!

Scene 2

(The kids return with the ball and an old wooden box.)

MILLIE: Here they come!

LUCAS: First of all, yes that home run ball went all the way to the

church, and second of all, yes it did break a window!

JENNA: Oh no, now we're ...

JAMIE: ... in trouble!

MILLIE: Oh, I don't think so. We go to church there, and the pastor is a

cool guy. In fact, he talks about how he was a big baseball player when he was young. And his daughter, Miss Sherry, is my

Consider Calculations and mis daughter, was sherry, is

Sunday School teacher.

SAM: And third of all, the ball went in the window, and landed right

... on top ... of this box!

RYAN: What is it?

SAM: I don't know, but it looks old, and it says "Hall of Fame" on it!

SHERRY: Excuse me, but did somebody just put a baseball through the

church window?

MILLIE: Oh, we're so sorry, Miss Sherry ... we're getting ready for a big

game, and ...

SHERRY: (interrupting) Don't worry, Millie, that window already had a

hole in it, and we've needed to replace it anyway. I just want to

know who hit the ball all that way!

JAKE: Uh, sorry, that was me. I'm Jake.

SHERRY: Well Jake, that was quite a smash. When my Dad put in this

field and the backstop years ago next to the church, he put home plate far enough away that even he couldn't hit the church from here ... and he was actually a big-league player years ago! I think the church has only been hit once before, and that was by a

Hall of Famer!

(Kids look amazed at each other)

SAM: Your ... Dad ... was a ...

SHERRY: (interrupting) So, I see you also found that very special box.

SAM: Oh, yes ... I'm sorry, I wasn't stealing it ... I just wanted to show

everybody. I saw that it said "Hall of Fame" on it, and I got

really excited.

SHERRY: (laughing warmly) **Don't worry** ... (as Mrs. Pastor appears) **Oh**,

this is my Mom, we all call her Mrs. Pastor.

MRS. PASTOR: Hello, kids. Great to see you out playing ball.

SHERRY: Now, you say you have a big game coming up here today?

JENNA: That's right, we're ...

JAMIE: ... playing the Knights!

SHERRY: The Knights, who just won the Kid League World Series? That

is big!

RYAN: I don't think we have a chance.

MRS. PASTOR: Now why would you say that? Maybe you could use one more player?

SAM: (incredulous) Mrs. Pastor, you're not wanting to play, are you?

MRS. PASTOR: Well, I'm tempted, but I've got to practice the organ right now, otherwise our music Sunday might sound a little off key! But Sherry never misses a chance to play her favorite sport.

(she walks off smiling)

SHERRY: Don't worry ... you don't need me on your team. But, you really might want to take a closer look at that box.

MILLIE: The "Hall of Fame" box? You think we can pick up some tips from it that will help us beat the Knights?

SAM: (opens the box) There are old baseball cards in here. Cool!

LUCAS: I don't recognize any of those guys. They must be older than the Babe!

JAKE: Those guys don't even have last names!

MILLIE: Miss Sherry, are you sure they'll help us win?

SHERRY: Now what if I told you that the people on those cards could tell you about a secret of life that is a million times better than winning that game ... in fact, greater even than making it into the Hall of Fame.

KIDS: (ad lib. Yeah, That would be incredible! Cool, etc.)

SHERRY: Take a closer look at what it says on the outside.

RYAN: Hall of ... Faith? Not Hall of Fame?

SHERRY: That's right. Now, take out that piece of paper on top and read what it says.

RYAN: (takes a piece of paper out and reads) "Because of their faith they took over kingdoms. They ruled fairly. They received the blessings God had promised. They shut the mouths of lions. They put out great fires. They escaped being killed by the

sword. Their weakness was turned to strength. They became powerful in battle. They beat back armies from other countries."

SHERRY: Sounds interesting, doesn't it?

RYAN: It does! I think I'd like to be on that team!

KIDS: (ad lib. Yeah, Me too, etc.)

(music begins to "By Faith")

SONG: "BY FAITH"

verse 1

Abel sacrificed
Enoch walked with God
Noah built the ark
Abraham obeyed
Sarah conceived
Isaac blessed
And Jacob worshipped
And Joseph prophesied
By faith, by faith

chorus

By faith we can believe God's promise By faith we can believe it's true Faith is a never-failing, rock-solid Forever and always truth That all God said, He will do And that all He promised is true

verse 2

Moses led God's people from slavery Rahab safely hid the spies Samson, Gideon, Barak, Jepthah judged And David ruled And Samuel prophesied By faith, by faith

chorus

By faith we can believe God's promise

By faith we can believe it's true Faith is a never-failing, rock-solid Forever and always truth That all God said, He will do And that all He promised is true

bridge

When I'm weak, He is strong
When I fail, He will follow through
I put my faith in God alone
And what He promises, He will do, that's the truth

chorus

By faith we can believe God's promise By faith we can believe it's true Faith is a never-failing, rock-solid Forever and always truth That all God said, He will do And that all He promised is true Yes, all He promised is true

Scene 3

SHERRY: (she rolls up her sleeves, picks up the ball) So kids, what do you

think made those people worthy of being put in God's Hall of

Faith?

SAM: They were super heroes of the Bible?

JENNA: They were heavy hitters ...

JAMIE: ... that never struck out.

MILLIE: I would guess they were people that had "All-Star" quality.

SHERRY: Yes, I guess you could say they were "All Stars," but they all

were just ordinary people that God used in a mighty way. In the Bible, in Hebrews 11, they were all singled out for their faith. Do

you know what faith is?

RYAN: Well, Millie says that I should have faith that we can beat the

Knights, so I guess faith is believing in the impossible!

SHERRY: Well actually, the kind of faith that all of these Hall of Faithers had was really this: they listened to what God told them, they took Him at His Word, and they obeyed what He told them to do. Want to take a look? Jake, why don't you take out a card.

JAKE: (taking out a card) Let's see ... it's Noah.

RYAN: Who's he?

Who is it?

LUCAS: I got this one ... big boat, lots of animals, rain. That guy?

SHERRY: Yes, when Noah stepped on the scene, something very big happened. I know, you guys have a seat. Maybe I can explain this to a bunch of baseball lovers in a way that will make this a bit more interesting ... there it was, the top of the first inning, and the game started out like a walk in the park ...

14/ 56 SFX 2: "Shall We Gather at the River & Charge"

... quickly, the game turned ugly. But God wouldn't give up on His game plan, and He began to work through regular people. He called them to believe Him, to have faith, and then stand back and watch what He would do!

KIDS: Charge!

(As the organ music segues into the lead up to "Charge," we are now in the imagination phase.)

(Two Announcers appear on stage in "Baseball Biblical Garb." A character comes up in rain jacket and baseball hat, warming up at the plate.)

ANNOUNCER 1: Next up to the plate, batting cleanup, is Noah.

ANNOUNCER 2: Apparently he does have to do a lot of cleanup.

ANNOUNCER 1: Well, Noah is a rare player these days ... even though every other player in the league has decided to go free-agent, he's stayed committed to the One who drafted him.

ANNOUNCER 2: You'd think that would make him more popular with the fans, but I hear there are some neighbors unhappy with his

growing collection of exotic animals. Apparently he's got two of everything. (crowd boos) He's viewed as a little bit strange.

- ANNOUNCER 1: I asked him about that before the game and Noah said you can't please everybody, and he's decided that he and his family will please God.
- ANNOUNCER 2: I know one thing, this player can really swing the lumber, so the outfielders might want to play him deep.
- ANNOUNCER 1: Say, I think we're seeing a few raindrops starting to hit the field.
- ANNOUNCER 2: The forecast is for just a slight sprinkle.
- ANNOUNCER 1: Well, the pitcher looks back at the runner on first, and ...

15/ 57 SFX 3: "Thunder & Rain"

(players start scrambling for cover)

- ANNOUNCER 2: Whoa, those sprinkles are suddenly a downpour! The players are scrambling for the dugout, but it looks like Noah is seeking shelter in that big boat of his.
- ANNOUNCER 1: Ah, fans, it's just a light mist ... it's not the end of the world!

(The Program Vendor steps up front and reads out of the program.)

PROGRAM VENDOR: Hebrews 11: 6 and 7. "Without faith, it is impossible to please God. Those who come to God must believe that He exists. And they must believe that he rewards those who look to him. Noah had faith. So he built an ark to save his family. He built it because of his great respect for God. God had warned him about things that could not yet be seen. Because of his faith he showed the world that it was guilty. Because of his faith, he was considered right with God."

(music begins to "I Choose to Trust")

SONG: "I CHOOSE TO TRUST"

chorus

Sometimes it rains, sometimes it pours
Sometimes it's all part of this plan of Yours
I may wonder for years if I'll ever see
All You've planned for me
Just how good that will be
When it might seem confusing to all of us
I choose to trust
Woah, I choose to trust

verse

God's call to Noah was clear
Build that boat for many years
Finally out of nowhere the rains appeared
God came through when it seemed
Impossible, too hard to believe
God can do the same through us
I choose to trust

chorus

Sometimes it rains, sometimes it pours
Sometimes it's all part of this plan of Yours
I may wonder for years if I'll ever see
All You've planned for me
Just how good that will be
When it might seem confusing to all of us
I choose to trust
Woah, I choose to trust

bridge

Trust in God with all your heart Don't try to go your own way In everything, look to Him And He will come through, always

chorus

Sometimes it rains, sometimes it pours Sometimes it's all part of this plan of Yours I may wonder for years if I'll ever see All You've planned for me Just how good that will be
When it might seem confusing to all of us
I choose to trust
Woah, I choose to trust, woah
I choose to trust

Scene 4

- ANNOUNCER 1: Well fans, here we are at the bottom of the third inning and there's a man on third, with one out. We've got a close one here.
- ANNOUNCER 2: Now, this is an interesting situation. When Abram first started out in the league, he was always on the move. Now, he's getting a bit up there in years, and he's coaching at third base. Looks like a misprint in the program, though ... it actually lists him as Ab-ra-ham instead of Abram.
- ANNOUNCER 1: Actually, he says that God changed his name, because he promised that Abraham would be the father of many nations.
- ANNOUNCER 2: And that sounds like quite a promise for a guy of his age.

 Well, coming up to the plate right now is his own son, the young rookie Isaac.
- ANNOUNCER 1: Yes, and Abraham is in a tough situation here. If I'm not mistaken, the manager is calling for a sacrifice, and that would leave Abraham no choice but to give that sign to his own son.
- ANNOUNCER 2: Tensions are rising as the pitcher looks to the plate ... wait there's been a time out called. Looks like they're bringing in a pinch hitter. At the last minute, Isaac has been replaced! In comes the pinch hitter ... oh, it's the perfect replacement, they call him "The Ram." He's fast too, hardly ever gets caught.
- ANNOUNCER 1: Now here's the pitch, he swings ... oh my, the crowd is going wild. (*Kids are cheering*) It's a deep fly ball, caught for an out at the warning track, but the runner on third is safe at home.
- PROGRAM VENDOR: Hebrews 11:9, 17 and 19. "Abraham had faith. So he obeyed God. God called him to go to a place he would later receive as his own. So he went. He did it even though he didn't

know where he was going. Abraham had faith. So he offered Isaac as a sacrifice. That happened when God put him to the test. Abraham believed that God could raise the dead. In a way he did receive Isaac back from death."

(music begins to "He Will Always Make a Way")

SONG: "HE WILL ALWAYS MAKE A WAY"

verse 1

To another land he wandered day and night God made a way for Abraham He provided a ram for the sacrifice God made a way for Abraham I know what He asks of me He will provide faithfully I don't have to be afraid My God will make a way

chorus

My God is greater
Than all I'm facing and
He will always make a way
He will always make a way
I am trusting fully
I will believe Him only and
He will always make a way
He will always make a way

verse 2

I walk by faith and not by sight
My God will make a way for me
Your truth will always be my guide
My God will make a way for me
I know what He asks of me
He will provide faithfully
I don't have to be afraid
My God will make a way

chorus

My God is greater
Than all I'm facing and
He will always make a way
He will always make a way
I am trusting fully

I will believe Him only and He will always make a way He will always make a way

bridge

My thoughts are not Your thoughts My ways are not Your ways And Your ways are much Higher, greater, wiser, safer And You are forever faithful

chorus

My God is greater
Than all I'm facing and
He will always make a way
He will always make a way
I am trusting fully
I will believe Him only and
He will always make a way
He will always make a way
He will always make a way

Scene 5

- ANNOUNCER 2: Next up to bat is a real journeyman player ... none other than Moses. You know, he got his big break in the Bush Leagues, and that's when things really caught fire for him.
- ANNOUNCER 1: That's right. At a very young age he was drafted by the Pharaohs.
- ANNOUNCER 2: But he eventually did something unheard of ... he demanded to be sent back down to the minors to join his former teammates.
- ANNOUNCER 1: He led his team on the longest road trip I've ever heard of.

 The very first game went into extra innings and lasted 40 years!
- ANNOUNCER 2: Rumor has it he was guaranteed a contract with the **Promised Landers**, one of the richest franchises in history.
- ANNOUNCER 1: However, as I understand it, he won't be able to join his

team on their home field, which must be a real disappointment after wandering around the league for so long.

ANNOUNCER 2: But I must say, he looks pretty good for one hundred and twenty!

ANNOUNCER 1: As a matter of fact, it appears that for his first at-bat against the Amalekites today, two of his teammates are going to have to help him hold up his bat.

ANNOUNCER 2: That bat is legendary; it's frightened many a player and I hear he takes it everywhere he goes. He calls it the "Rod of God"!

ANNOUNCER 1: Who are those two teammates? Are they on the roster? I don't see them.

(the two players turn around)

AARON: I'm Aaron and that's Hur.

ANNOUNCER 2: (looking at the roster sheet) Okay, it is Aaron and ...

AARON: Hur.

ANNOUNCER 1: What we mean is that we caught your name, Aaron, but not hers.

HUR: That is my name.

ANNOUNCER 2: No, we're asking whaaaat's your name?

HUR: (not quite hearing) Lot's my name? No, Lot lived ages ago.

ANNOUNCER 2: I didn't say "Lot's" your name, I said "what's" your name?

HUR: And I told you.

ANNOUNCER 1: (exasperated) Mr. Aaron, could you please tell us the name of your teammate so that we can announce it properly?

AARON: Hur.

ANNOUNCER 2: Yes ... her, but ... isn't she a he? You're not saying, he's really ... she?

AARON: No, I'm saying he's really ... "Hur"!

ANNOUNCER 1 & 2: We give up!

ANNOUNCER 1: Well, this is really interesting. While we've been trying to figure out "him and her" down there, it looks like they're going to give an intentional walk.

ANNOUNCER 2: Yep ... looks like they're going to pass over Moses.

(Kids are chanting, "Moses, Moses, Moses, Moses," Aaron and Hur lift up Moses' arms really high and he holds his bat straight out.)

PROGRAM VENDOR: Hebrews 11:24 through 26. "Moses had faith. So he refused to be called the son of Pharoah's daughter. That happened after he had grown up. He chose to be treated badly together with the people of God. He chose that instead of enjoying sin's pleasures for a short time. He suffered shame because of Christ."

(As we go back to "reality," Miss Sherry is speaking.)

MILLIE: Wait a minute! Did you just say "he suffered shame because of *Christ*"? Isn't Moses close to the beginning of the Bible, and Jesus close to the end?

SHERRY: Great question, Millie! The Bible is God's Word ... His Story. Who knows what the very first words of the Bible are?

SAM: I do ... "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth."

SHERRY: That's right, and He created everything perfect. Adam and Eve were the first people and right off the bat they sinned against God. They believed the lies of the enemy. As a result everyone after them dealt with heartache and suffering.

RYAN: So they messed it up for everyone!

LUCAS: Kinda like giving up a huge lead in the top of the first inning!

SHERRY: Well in a way, but you see God was already putting His game

plan in motion, a plan to destroy the enemy and build up a nation of people that would be His people. His chosen team so to speak.

JENNA: And are those the Hall of Faith people ...

JAMIE: ... in that box?

SHERRY: That's right. You see all of those people and many, many more

have said, "yes" to God. They've listened to Him, believed Him

and they did what He told them to do.

JAKE: Oh, they knocked it out of the ballpark with their faith! Which

reminds me, was your dad really in the Hall of Fame? He was the first one who knocked the ball through the church window,

right?

SAM: Jake, come on, Miss Sherry is talking about God's Hall of Faith,

now.

SHERRY: Well, yes, all of these people were pointing ahead to Jesus,

because only He could finally win the victory.

MILLIE: He was their designated hitter!

SHERRY: Yes, He was God's plan from the beginning, to come in at that

big moment, of the big inning, of the biggest game, and do what

only He could do!

(music begins to "Jesus at the Cross")

SONG: "JESUS AT THE CROSS"

verse 1

The outlook wasn't brilliant as the crowds shouted His name Just days ago they cheered Him, now they jeer Him, they cast blame Disciples, followers, friends who knew Him best Disappeared into the shadows, ran to hide, afraid, distressed

verse 2

Struggling and climbing, He carries His cross
In deep despair, His mother there as the crowd declares
Crucify Him, crucify Him, their insults were hurled
Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world

chorus

Praise the Father, praise the Son Glory and honor and thanks For the great work You've done From the beginning You knew what redemption cost And You paid it once for all with Jesus at the cross

verse 3

The temple vale, torn in two, as darkness covered the earth Sour drops of liquid spilled to quench our Savior's thirst It is finished! He cried out in pain Fully man, fully God, our debt fully paid

chorus

Praise the Father, praise the Son Glory and honor and thanks For the great work You've done From the beginning You knew what redemption cost And You paid it once for all with Jesus at the cross

verse 4

Three days in the grave, His followers wait Until the morning when news finally came I've just seen Jesus, alive again Our Savior is risen, just as He said Death is defeated, the grave holds no power Jesus took our sin and His righteousness is ours

chorus

Praise the Father, praise the Son Glory and honor and thanks For the great work You've done From the beginning You knew what redemption cost And You paid it once for all with Jesus at the cross From the beginning You knew what redemption cost And You paid it once for all with Jesus at the cross

Scene 6

SHERRY: Jesus came from heaven, became a man, lived a perfect life, then died on the cross to pay for all of our sins. Then, He rose again from the dead, so that all who trust in Him can be made alive forever.

LUCAS: But we'll never be Hall of Faithers, right? That's just the superstars of the Bible.

SHERRY: Didn't you tell me that Jake is the best hitter and best pitcher

around? And the Johnson sisters the best shortstop, second base

tandem anywhere?

LUCAS: They sure are!

SHERRY: So, even though they don't play for the Knights, they're still

awesome, right?

MILLIE: Yeah!

SHERRY: Well, the Hall of Faithers in Hebrews 11 were just regular

people, but what made them special is that when they had faith in God, God used them to do amazing things. The thing is, God isn't finished with His game plan. He's still looking for players who will take Him at His Word, do what He says, then stand

back and watch Him do amazing things.

SAM: Are you saying we could be Hall of Faithers?

SHERRY: I think the game is still on! From "in the beginning" to "in the

big inning" with Jesus at the cross, God has been keeping His promises and turning regular people into Hall of Faithers.

RYAN: This sounds like a team I want to be on. How can I "sign up"?

(music begins to "For All Who Call upon His Name")

SHERRY: Ryan, we need to listen to God, believe His Word, and respond

to Him. It's like this ...

SONG: "FOR ALL WHO CALL UPON HIS NAME"

verse

All of us have sinned
And fall short of the glory of God
We are all in need of a Savior
But God has made a way
To bring all of us back to Him
This gift freely given by His grace

chorus

Believe in your heart, Jesus is Lord Confess with your mouth, God raised Him from the dead And you will be saved Believe in your heart, Jesus is Lord Confess with your mouth, God raised Him from the dead And you will be saved There is grace for all who call upon His name

scripture

Reader 1: "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast." Ephesians 2:8-9

Reader 2: "Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace that we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God."

Romans 5:1-2

chorus

Believe in your heart, Jesus is Lord
Confess with your mouth, God raised Him from the dead
And you will be saved
Believe in your heart, Jesus is Lord
Confess with your mouth, God raised Him from the dead
And you will be saved
There is grace for all who call upon His name
There is grace for all who call upon His name

Scene 7

JAKE: Miss Sherry, are you going to stick around for our game against

the Knights?

JENNA: Yeah ...

JAMIE: ... you should.

MILLIE: We're going to need all the "faith" we can get. You can cheer us

on.

SHERRY: I think you guys will do great. Remember, it isn't always the superstars that God uses to amazing things! Who knows?

MRS. PASTOR: It seems awfully quiet out here. Is it the seventh inning stretch or what?

SAM: Oh no, we've been talking about the "Big Inning."

MILLIE: And, the people in the Hall of Faith!

LUCAS: And Jesus, who never struck out!

SHERRY: You know, you guys need to come on Sundays. There are so

many more cards in that box, and I'd love to show them to you ... there's David, boy could he swing it, and Rahab who helped bring them home safe, and Joshua who had the dream job ...

MRS. PASTOR: And, did you kids read what I wrote underneath the lid for Sherry? That's my favorite part!

SHERRY: I saved that for last, Mom.

RYAN: What does it say on the lid?

SHERRY: Read it to us, Millie.

MILLIE: Hebrews 12:1 and 2. Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run the bases (Miss Sherry and Mrs. Pastor look quizzically at each other at the mention of "the bases") with perseverance on the base path marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and

perfecter of faith.

(music begins to "Suit Up, Get in the Game, Don't Quit")

SONG: "SUIT UP, GET IN THE GAME, DON'T QUIT"

chorus

Suit up, get in the game, don't quit
Keep your eyes on Christ, live as He lived
Throw off the sin that so easily binds
Run with the strength our God provides
Hear the crowd that's gone before
Cheer us on with a mighty roar

Our God is faithful to the end, so Suit up, get in the game, don't quit

verse

We know our God is on our side
So who can be against us
Who can be against us
We know He rules with power and might
So who can be against us
Who can be against us
We are more than champions
Through Jesus Christ, Who'll always love us
And we'll never be separated from His love

chorus

Suit up, get in the game, don't quit
Keep your eyes on Christ, live as He lived
Throw off the sin that so easily binds
Run with the strength our God provides
Hear the crowd that's gone before
Cheer us on with a mighty roar
Our God is faithful to the end, so
Suit up, get in the game, don't quit

bridge

Our God has not given us a spirit of fear But a spirit of pow'r and love, woah Don't be ashamed, don't be afraid Be bold, be brave Our God is faithful to the end, so Suit up, get in the game, don't quit

chorus (and bridge)

Suit up, get in the game, don't quit
Keep your eyes on Christ, live as He lived
Throw off the sin that so easily binds
Run with the strength our God provides
Hear the crowd that's gone before
Cheer us on with a mighty roar
Our God is faithful to the end, so

Suit up, get in the game, don't quit

tag

Our God is a constant friend Forgiving again and again His love and grace never ends, so Suit up, get in the game, don't quit

Scene 8

MILLIE: Alright, we better get ready. The Knights will be here any time

now. And, Ryan, don't say it!

RYAN: I know, I know. Have some faith! I gotta say, if God can do such

amazing things through some normal people who have faith in

Him, maybe we can pull a miracle and beat the Knights.

SAM: I know! Miss Sherry, can your dad still play? Maybe we'd have a

prayer if he joined our team!

SHERRY: (laughs) Well, he doesn't play much any more. But you'll be fine.

I have faith in you guys.

MRS. PASTOR: It really is wonderful to see you kids out here playing ball on our lot. I think I see a lot of future Hall of Faithers in this group! Before we go, maybe I'll just take a little swing at that

ball.

(she wobbles over to home plate)

SAM: **Really? But you're so ...** (Millie covers his mouth)

JAKE: I'll pitch to you, Mrs. Pastor.

(He throws an imaginary ball and she swings and there is a loud thwack as they watch the ball fly up and away. All the kids are shocked—they gasp, mouths open as they follow the shot, then they hear a crash. Satisfied, she drops the bat.)

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SFX 4: "Window Breaking"

KIDS: (ad lib. What? Did you see? I don't believe it!, etc.)

SHERRY: Oh, by the way, it isn't my Dad who's the Hall of Famer ... my

Mom is. She led the Women's Professional Baseball league in

homers when she was 18!

RYAN: Uh, Mrs. Pastor, are you busy for the next hour or so?

SHERRY: Mom, I think they want you to suit up!

KIDS: (ad lib. Yeah! All Right! Definitely! Let's Go!, etc.)

(music begins to "In the Big Inning Curtain Calls")

SONG: "IN THE BIG INNING CURTAIN CALLS"

"Suit Up, Get in the Game, Don't Quit"

chorus (and bridge)

Suit up, get in the game, don't quit
Keep your eyes on Christ, live as He lived
Throw off the sin that so easily binds
Run with the strength our God provides
Hear the crowd that's gone before
Cheer us on with a mighty roar
Our God is faithful to the end, so
Suit up, get in the game, don't quit

tag

Our God is a constant friend Forgiving again and again His love and grace never ends, so Suit up, get in the game, don't quit

"By Faith"

chorus

By faith we can believe God's promise By faith we can believe it's true Faith is a never-failing, rock-solid Forever and always truth That all God said, He will do And that all He promised is true

bridge

When I'm weak, He is strong When I fail, He will follow through I put my faith in God alone And what He promises, He will do, that's the truth

chorus

By faith we can believe God's promise By faith we can believe it's true Faith is a never-failing, rock-solid Forever and always truth That all God said, He will do And that all He promised is true Yes, all He promised is true

THE END.