

7th Grade Chapel
Oct 26, 2023

Marty: Hey, Lisa! Did you do your Martin Luther report for Mr. Sterling? I forgot all about it.

Lisa: Sure I did. You forgot ?! It's due in 20 minutes! What are you going to do?

Marty: I don't know...I'm in BIG trouble.

Lisa: Aren't you named after Martin Luther?

Marty: Yea. My real name is Martin but everyone calls me Marty.

Lisa: Well then, you know all about him, right?!

Marty: I wish! All I know is that he was named after the Lutheran church and he nailed 95 Reeses Pieces to a church door on some castle and translated the Catechism into Greek or something.

Lisa: You ARE in big trouble!

Marty: I wish I could go back in time and interview him.

Lisa: Hey... Steve Nerdman was talking about building a time machine. You should go talk to him!

Marty: Great, I think I will !

ENTER STEVE NERDMAN WITH TIME MACHINE

Marty: Hey. Steve! I really need you man!

Steve: You can't copy my homework again.

Marty: No, it's not that. I want to use your time machine and go talk to Martin Luther so I can finish my report.

Steve: You mean the one that's due today?

Marty: Yes!

Steve: You are in trouble!

Marty: Can you help me out ?

Steve: Well, the Nerdmatic 2000 has not been tested yet, but if you want to be my Guinea Pig I'm all for it. Let's go!

Let's get in...set the dial for Martin Luther...

THEY ENTER THE MACHINE

-SOUND-

EXIT MACHINE

MLK: "I have a dream today. I have a dream that one day black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics will all join hands (fades off).

Marty: Not THAT Martin Luther.

Steve: Oops. "Did I do that?"

Back in we go. Where do you want to start?

Marty: At the very beginning.

Steve: OK, the beginning, November, 1483.

-SOUND-

EXIT MACHINE

OFF STAGE- BABY CRIES

Doc: Well, Mr. and Mrs. Luther, you are now proud parents of a bouncing baby boy. What will you call him?

Mrs. L: We will call him Martin after St. Martin of Tours.

Marty: NOT the very beginning!

Steve: Sorry. OK, back in.

Let's try 1502 (turns dial).

Marty: What's with this thunderstorm?!

Steve: There is Luther! He looks frightened.

Luther: Oh, Saint Anne, St. Anne, save me and I will become a monk!

Marty: Can you make deals like that with God?

Steve: I don't think so.

Marty: So, that's why he became a priest...Show me something a few years later.

Steve: How about the year 1510 (enter time machine, turn dial).

EXIT- LUTHER BEATING HIMSELF

Marty: Why is he doing that?

Steve: I read that he felt he was a sinner and needed to PAY for his sins.

Marty: But Jesus ALREADY paid for all of our sins!

Steve: That's right! But Luther doesn't know that yet. The Roman Catholic church has taught him that he has to EARN his salvation.

Marty: Bimmer. Let's try another year. This is 'bad news' (enter machine, set dial).

Steve: 1514, here we come!

EXIT MACHINE

Marty: Look, Luther is reading a Bible.

LUTHER READING--A FRIEND IS NEARBY

Luther: Look, Hans, here in Ephesians 2:8-9...

It says..."For by GRACE you have been saved through FAITH, and this not your own doing; it is the GIFT OF GOD. Not a result of WORKS, so that no one may boast."

Hans: So we don't have to do good works, or punish ourselves to gain forgiveness?

Luther: No, it is a FREE GIFT from God, through Jesus' blood on the cross.

Hans: What if we don't deserve salvation?

Luther: It's called GRACE, Hans. Undeserved love, a FREE gift.

Marty: He figured it out!

Steve: Good for him! Let's go, there's more (enter machine, set dial).

OK, 1517, here we go.

EXIT MACHINE

Tetzel: (Walks down center aisle)

INDULGENCES FOR SALE! Total forgiveness for a small fee.

Person 1: What is that you say, father?

Tetzel: Pardon of ALL YOUR SINS, or the sins of a loved one in Purgatory, for a very reasonable price. Indulgences you see.

Person 2: I can get my father who passed away two years ago out of the punishment of purgatory?!

Tetzel: "When a coin in the coffer rings, a soul from Purgatory springs."

Person 1: I will buy an indulgence!

Person 2: Two for me!

Pope: He is going great, isn't he? St. Peter's Basilica in Rome will be completed on time with all this money from these indulgences.

Luther: Don't they see! That's not FORGIVENESS! The Scriptures tell us that it is FREE! I must tell the people.

Marty: What's he going to do?

Steve: Let's find out, set dial to October 31, 1517.

EXIT

Marty: What's he doing?

Luther: With these 95 theses I will challenge the Church to explain what they are doing, and maybe the people will see that this is NOT the way to salvation.

Marty: Is he going to get in trouble?!

Steve: Come on, we'll see.

ENTER/EXIT

Marty: Where are we?

Steve: The Diet at Worms

Marty: Why would they eat worms ? Gross !

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Steve: Not a diet OF worms...The Diet AT Worms, a debate Luther vs. The Pope. This is what Luther wanted!...To begin a debate about the false teachings.

Cardinal: You MUST take back all that you have said and written against the Church!

Luther: I CANNOT take back what the Bible tells me is true! I cannot recant,
Here I stand,, I can do no other, God help me !!

Steve: He IS in trouble now!

Marty: What will they do?

Steve: He could be put to death!

Marty: Let's see what happens next!

ENTER/EXIT

LUTHER IS CAPTURED WHILE WALKING BY PRINCE FREDERICK, A FRIEND

Captor: Come with us Martin.Luther !

Luther: What is the meaning of this?!

Captor: Our Prince Frederick told us to bring you to Wartburg Castle for your own protection.

Luther: I must NOT be silent!

Captor: If you do not come you may be silenced for good—by the Church. (slash throat)

Marty: So, is that the end of it?

Steve: I don't know. let's see.

ENTER/EXIT

Marty: Wartburg Castle! There is Luther! What is he doing?

Steve: Writing.

Marty: Writing what?

Steve: Luther, what are you writing?

Luther: I must translate the New Testament into German, so my people can read for themselves the Good News of grace and forgiveness. If you will excuse me, please.

Marty: Luther's busy, let's go. What do you think will happen now?

Steve: I think I know someone who could tell us.

ENTER/EXIT

Steve: This is Johann Gutenberg's Printing Shop. He invented the printing press.

Marty: Mr. Gutenberg, what is that you are printing?

Johann: The first German language Bible. Luther's Reformation will not die as long as Christians can read about Jesus and the forgiveness he has won for us.

Marty Very cool. I sure am glad Martin Luther was BOLD and COURAGEOUS enough to challenge the false teachings and get our church back on the right track.

Steve: Got to get to school, Marty! It's your turn to give your report.

Marty: It's gonna be a piece of cake, Steve.

EXIT MARTY & STEVE