JESUS: Now, do not suppose that I have come to abolish the Law and the prophets. I did not come to abolish but to complete. I tell you this: So long as heaven and earth endure not a letter, not a stroke will disappear from the Law until all that must happen has happened. If any man, therefore, sets aside even the least of the Law s demands he will have the lowest place in the kingdom of Heaven.

(A disappointed reaction from all.)

But he who keeps the law and teaches others so, he will have the highest place in the kingdom of Heaven.

(A joyous reaction from all.)

There once was a judge...

(JESUS selects a CAST MEMBER to play the JUDGE.)

...Who cared nothing for God nor man... And in the same town there was a widow...

(JESUS now selects another CAST MEMBER to play the WIDOW.)

...who constantly came before him demanding justice against her rival. For a long time he refused, but in the end he said to himself...

JUDGE: True. I care nothing for God nor man. But this widow is so great a nuisance, I will see her righted before she wears me out with her persistence.

JESUS: You hear what the unjust judge says: and will not God vindicate his chosen, who cry out to him day and night while he sits listening patiently to them?

OTHERS: Will he, Jesus? Will he, will he? (et al)

JESUS: I tell you, he will vindicate them, soon enough.

OTHERS: Yay!

SIDE 2

FIRST NARRATOR: (the following story is enacted by the others)

Once upon a time there was a man who had two sons, and the younger said to his father: Father, give me my share of the property. So, he divided his estate between them. A few days later, the younger son turned the whole of his share into cash and left home for a distant country, where he squandered it in reckless living. He had spent it all, when a severe famine fell upon the country, and he began to feel the pinch. (Ouch!) So he decided to attach himself to one of the local landowners...

(The SON attaches himself with a sucking sound to the LANDOWNER.)

...Who sent him on the farm to mind the swine.

LANDOWNER: (ordering the SON) Swine!

SON: Swine?

PIGS: Pigs!

FIRST NARRATOR: He would have been glad to have filled his belly with the pods that the pigs were eating...

(The SON gets down to try to eat with the PIGS, but they shoo him off.)

PIGS: Oink, oink, buster!

FIRST NARRATOR: ...But no one gave him anything. Then he came to his senses (BOING!) and said: How many of my father s paid servants have more food than they can eat, and here I am starving to death? I will set off and I will go to my father and I will say to him: Father, I have sinned against God and against you; I am no longer fit to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants. So he set out for his father s house, but while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and his heart went out to him. (Lub-dub, lub-dub, lub-dub, lub-dub) The son ran to meet his father, threw his arms around him, and kissed him, saying: Father, I have sinned against God and against you; I am no longer fit to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants. But the father called to one of his servants: Quick, fetch me my robe, my best one. Put a ring on his finger and shoes on his feet and bring the fatted calf and kill it. And let us have a feast to celebrate the day, for this son of mine was lost and is found. And the festivities began!

(All begin enacting festivities. The ELDER SON joins the action as a SECOND NARRATOR takes over the dialogue.)