

SESSION THREE:

Read a Story Script

R O A D T R I P

READER 1: Holiday time is road trip time. Ever since the wise men packed their bags for Bethlehem, the birth of Jesus has caused people to hit the road.

READER 2: We might not have to ride in a slow caravan for months, but six hours in a minivan with three siblings might have made the wise men thankful for those camels.

READER 1: Yes, it's not always ho ho ho on the high, high highway. A long time in the close quarters of a car can bring out our worst.

READER 2: Think about traveling with your big sister. She can be perfectly civil to you until you're on a road trip with her. You could say, "I like that song," and at any other time your sister might say,

READER 1: "I like it too."

READER 2: But on a road trip, she'll say,

READER 1: "It stinks and so do your feet." Then there's that thing that happens no matter how many times your mother reminds everyone to go to the bathroom before you leave.

READER 2: Five minutes down the road your little brother says, "I gotta go!" You get to see the inside of every public restroom between home and Grandma's house when you're on a road trip with your siblings.

READER 1: But traveling with your parents is no picnic either. Why is it, for instance that dads refuse to stop? Perhaps they had ancestors who were pioneers . . .

READER 2: “My great-great-great-grandfather crossed the prairies and never once stopped at a McDonald’s. Why should we?”

READER 1: And what is it about a road trip that prompts your parents to sing all of their favorite songs from the nineties . . . at the tops of their voices . . . with the windows down?

READER 2: My advice to you is to deploy that great survival strategy that kids everywhere have done down through the ages to live through road trips with their families: pull your baseball cap down over your face and slump down. You want no one, absolutely no one, to see you in the car with these people, okay?¹

1 Adapted from Max Lucado, *Because of Bethlehem* (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2016), page 60.