

Heart remix

Written by Dave Strehler

Cast

Characters:

Joe (Dad, and owner of a small bakery)

Alec (Son, who is in his final year at school)

Liz (Daughter in middle school)

Luigy (Chief Baker)

Candy (Friend of Liz, who comes to help)

Tony (Customer)

The Inspector (A health and safety Inspector)

A young boy (Customer)

Extras: Customers (ad lib)

Day 1
Relationship with parents

Opening scene. *A small bakery – The shop front includes a counter and a worktable. There is an oven behind the counter.*

Alec and Liz enter the bakery

Alec: Good morning Luigi, how are things going?

Luigy: Oh Alec, I haven't seen you for months! And Lizzy! Nice to see you again. What brings you here this morning?

Liz: Hi Luigy. It's school holiday so we decided to come and help you and dad here at the bakery.

Luigy: Oh, that's wonderful! I need all the help I can get. We are very busy at the moment and we have some extra orders this week.

Alec: Is my dad here?

Luigy: Yes he's in the back; busy with accounts. I will tell him you are here. Help yourselves to a bread roll or something—you must be hungry.

Liz: Thanks Luigy!

Liz and Alec take a roll each and start eating it while Luigy goes to the back.

Luigy: Mr Joe, your kids are here... they have come to help us.

Joe and Luigy come in to the front of the shop

Joe: Hallo, you two. What a pleasant surprise. I thought you'd still be sleeping.

Kids give dad a hug

Joe: What made you come down here so early?

Liz:	Well, last night I was having my devotions and I read this verse in the Bible that says children should honor their father and mother. So I chatted to Alec and we decided to come help you at the bakery during the holiday.
Joe:	Are you sure? What about your friends, Liz? And don't you have assignments to finish, Alec?
Alec:	I do, dad. But I'll work on them in the evenings.
Liz:	And I can see my friends on weekends. Or maybe Tina could come and help us as well.
Joe:	We sure need the extra hands this week. Luigi can get you started.
Luigy:	Right away, Mr Joe. I have plenty for them to do.
	<i>Dad gives the kids a hug.</i>
Joe:	Okay, then. If you'll excuse me. I have some urgent business to attend to.
Luigy:	Right, kids! I need you to roll out this dough and make ginger bread men. Here is the rolling pin and here is the cookie cutter. Put them on this baking tray, but make sure they are not too close to each other. Then bake them in the oven for 10 minutes.
Liz:	Got it!
Alec:	Just leave it to us.
	<i>The two get going, and soon they are laying out ginger bread men on the tray. Alec is rolling out the dough—Liz is placing them on the tray.</i>
Liz:	You're making these too fat – look at this one.
Alec:	What! I'm making them look like you.
Liz:	Ha, ha, funny! By the way, they are ginger bread MEN, not ginger bread girls!
Alec:	Some red lips, and who would know the difference?

Liz:	Alec! ... Just make them thinner!
Alec:	Ooh... okay. <i>They carry on filling the baking tray.</i>
Liz:	Alec, these are still too fat. We're not making ginger bread hippos.
Alec:	Don't worry – the customers will love them because they're bigger. Anyway, this is the last one so it's a bit fatter than the others. <i>Alec takes the tray and puts it in the oven.</i>
Liz:	This is such fun. It almost feels like I've created a whole lot of little people. People who will go to different families.
Alec:	And be eaten by kids.
Liz:	Yes, I know. But they are special because we shaped them from a lump of dough. I wonder if God had fun like this when He created man.
Alec:	I'm sure He did, Liz. The Bible says that when God had finished creating everything, He saw that it was very good.
Liz:	Well I'm glad God made each of us different—not like gingerbread men... and not fat like yours!! <i>They both laugh. A short while later the timer sounds. Just then, Luigi comes in.</i>
Luigi:	Aah! Just in time to see the... oh no! What did you do? They are joined in rows! Remember, I told you to put enough space between them. When they bake they get bigger.
Alec:	Liz was the one who put them on the tray.
Liz:	Yes, but it was you who made them so fat in the first place. If they were the normal size they would have been fine.

Luigy:	<p>Never mind, who did what. <i>(Picking up a row of gingerbread men.)</i></p> <p>They actually make me think of a family—just like your family... all holding hands. When you came in this morning and offered your help, it showed me how important a family is, and how much we need each other. You two coming to help your father is a wonderful example of what a family is.</p>
Luigy:	<p>Go ahead and decorate them... and we'll advertise them as gingerbread families.</p> <p><i>They all laugh and Luigy takes their hands. They stand in a row, with Luigy in the middle, who exclaims...</i></p>
Luigy:	<p>We are a gingerbread family.</p>

	<p style="text-align: center;">Day 2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Relationship with siblings</p> <p>Opening scene</p>
Luigy:	Well, yesterday's gingerbread men—or should I say gingerbread families—turned out better than I thought.
Liz:	What do you mean Luigy?
Luigy:	They sold out yesterday afternoon! Those gingerbread families put a smile on everyone's face.
Liz:	Does that mean we can make more of those today?
Luigy:	Today we have an order to prepare for a very important customer. He wants us to bake him two dozen special biscuits. If he likes them, he will place a huge order from us, and that will bring in lots of money.
Alec:	That's good. I'm sure dad will be pleased if we get the order.
Luigy:	He knows about it and he said that we must take special care with this order. The thing is that I have to get all the bread trays into the oven. So, if I could give you the ingredients to mix in the meantime, that will help.
Alec:	Sure thing! Leave it to us...
Luigy:	<p>Okay, here is the list of ingredients with the quantities of each. And here is a mixing bowl. Lizzy, keep an eye on your brother!</p> <p><i>Luigy heads to the room at the back (where he bakes the bread)</i></p>
Liz:	I hate being called Lizzy—my name is Liz or Elizabeth.
Alec:	Okay frizzy-lizzy, don't get so uptight. Luigy always calls you Lizzy.
Liz:	I know. But it makes me sound like a little kid.
Alec:	You are a kid!

Liz:	Oh, like you're so grown up. You are only two years older than me.
Alec:	Two years makes a big difference when you're in high school. It separates the seniors from the juniors.
Liz:	Big deal! In that case you can mix the ingredients... seeing you are SO responsible!
Alec:	Yes, I am responsible, and that's why I'm going to own dad's business one day.
Liz:	That's what <i>you</i> think. We'll see about that.
Alec:	Yes we will. I may as well get used to bossing people around. So, Lizzy dear, please hand me the flour. <i>Liz grabs a packet of flour from the shelf and thumps it on the table.</i>
Liz:	Ooh... having a bad hair day today, are we?
Liz:	My hair is just fine! You're the problem! Everybody at school thinks you're so great. Mom and dad think you're perfect.
Alec:	Oh, I'm not perfect yet—I still make small mistakes. That's why I need you to pass me everything. Let's see... what's next. We need some baking powder. <i>Alec holds out his open hand while Liz looks for the baking powder and puts it in his hand. Alec measures off the baking powder and mixes it in.</i>
Alec:	Okay, now we need three cups of sugar. <i>Liz picks up the container clearly marked "Sugar" then sees the container next to it marked "Salt." She hesitates for a moment; puts the sugar container back and starts handing Alec three cups of salt. Alec doesn't see what Liz has done and mixes in the salt. Moments later, Luigi walks in.</i>
Luigy:	Thank you for helping me like this. I might just get used to having extra helpers like you.

Alec:	Oh that's alright. We like helping. Liz did most of the work.
Liz:	Not really.
Alec:	Well, Liz did the important part. Getting all the ingredients. All I did was mix the stuff.
Luigy:	Okay, I will go and roll out the dough and bake these. The customer is coming in an hour. <i>Luigy walks to the back with the mixing bowl.</i>
Liz:	And why are you so nice to me all of a sudden?
Alec:	What do you mean?
Liz:	Saying that I did all the important work.
Alec:	Well, I guess I feel bad about being so mean to you just now. I'm sorry. You are actually a wonderful sister.
Liz:	Now I feel bad.
Alec:	<i>You</i> don't need to feel bad, Liz. I was the one at fault.
Liz:	It's not that.
Alec:	What is it Liz... you can tell me.
Liz:	I did something terrible.
Alec:	Come on—it can't be that bad. Girls can't even think of bad things to do.
Liz:	Well, I did. Instead of passing you three cups of sugar for the cookie dough I gave you three cups of salt.
Alec:	You what?
Liz:	I've only just realized what I actually did. I am going to be in such BIG trouble. These cookies are for that special customer.

Alec:	<p>And, he'll be here any minute.</p> <p><i>Just then Luigi walks in with the tray of cookies and starts unpacking them.</i></p>
Luigy:	Perfect!
Alec:	<p>No, Luigy! They're not perfect... something has gone terribly...</p> <p><i>Just then, the customer walks in and greets Luigi like a long lost friend.</i></p>
Luigy:	Hallo Tony—so good to see you. I am going to make you very happy today. These are hot out the oven. Here... let me give you one to taste.
Alec:	<p>No... Luigi those...</p> <p><i>Liz, clearly nervous, is biting her nails. Tony takes a bite of the cookie, and chews it. Slowly his face changes. He stops chewing and spits out the crumbs.</i></p>
Tony	What is this? ... Are these dog biscuits? Why do you insult me like this—am I a dog? I will take my business elsewhere! See if your dog likes these.
Alec:	Please! Please, let me explain.
Tony:	You'd better have a very good explanation.
Luigy:	Yes, what's going on?
Alec:	I was responsible for the ingredients, and I messed up. Please give us another chance and we'll make you the best cookies ever. And we'll even pay for them ourselves.
Tony:	Who are these kids anyway?
Luigy:	They are Mr Joe's kids who have come to help me... they are still learning.
Tony:	Oh, alright then! Nice of you to help you dad like this. In future, rather let your sister be in charge of the ingredients.
Alec:	Okay, Mr Tony. I will certainly do that.

	<i>Tony walks out</i>
Tony:	Okay, see you tomorrow then.
Liz and Alec:	Bye, Mr Tony.

Day 3
Relationship with friends

Luigy and the kids are in the shop front. Joe—father of the kids and owner of the bakery—comes in from the back of the shop.

Joe: I have just had a phone call from Mr Tony. He told me what happened yesterday.

Liz: Dad, it was my fault, I'm...

Joe: Don't worry about a thing. What happened yesterday has given him an idea. He wants a thousand cookies, but each one must be different. He is having a big party and wants to impress the guests. He said that you must do whatever you like, as long as they don't look like they've come from a packet.

Alec and Liz look at each other with surprise and excitement.

Alec and
Liz: We can do that!

Luigy puts his hand on his forehead, and shakes his head.

Luigy: Oh boy! My shop will never be the same.

Liz: Don't worry, Luigy, we'll clean up afterwards.

Luigy: I hope so... the shop is yours. I'm going to work at the back.

Luigy and Joe walk out to the back of the shop. Then Joe comes back and says...

Luigy: Oh, by the way, Mr Tony wants the cookies by tomorrow.

Liz: What are we going to do... a thousand cookies by tomorrow?

Alec: Yes, and all different. How are we ever come up with ideas to make them all different?

Liz: I know what. Candy would help.

Alec: How will candy help? You can't sprinkle candy on cookies.

Liz:	No, silly! Candy! She's my friend. Her name is Candice.
Alec:	Well, why didn't you say so?
Liz:	I did.
Alec:	But you said... oh, never mind.
Liz:	She is so creative... I'm going to phone her right now.
	<i>Liz phones Candy. From the one sided conversation one gathers that Candy is willing to help and will be there shortly.</i>
Liz:	Candy is on her way... her mom will drop her off. She is such a good friend—always willing to help others.
Alec:	Well. Let's get started in the meantime. Pass me the flour.
Liz:	D'you mean you trust me after what I did yesterday?
Alec:	Of course, Liz, I would probably have done the same.
Liz:	Thank you for being so understanding... and for covering for me.
Alec:	That's what we do for family.
	<i>They carry on mixing the ingredients, and moments later, Candy comes in to the shop.</i>
Liz:	Candy! You are such a good friend. Thanks for coming. Meet my brother, Alec.
	<i>They introduce themselves and finish mixing the dough.</i>
Alec:	Okay, I've done my part. Now it's up to you girls to be creative.
Candy:	I've been thinking of a whole lot of ideas already. What's the occasion?
Liz:	I heard Mr Tony say that this is for his wedding anniversary. They are having some or other fancy tea.

Candy:	Weddings and marriage are about love. So let's make heart-shaped cookies.
Alec:	But they'll all look the same and Mr Tony wants them to look homemade.
Liz:	You leave it to us girls... In the meantime you can start mixing the next batch. <i>Alec starts the tedious work of mixing another big batch.</i>
Alec:	I wonder if I shouldn't hire a concrete mixer to do this.
Liz:	Oh, don't be silly!
Alec:	It would be a lot faster.
Liz:	Well we're not baking stepping stones... we're baking cookies! <i>The three get to work shaping the hearts, baking them and decorating them. They have a lot of fun (The actors should feel free to improvise here—for example, the girls start decorating their faces with icing and Alec sprinkles flour in their hair). Luigi pops in occasionally; shakes his head, and retreats again.</i>
Alec:	Look at the time! It's almost five o'clock. How many have we made?
Liz:	Nine hundred and thirty five... unless you've eaten some.
Alec:	The last batch is in the oven now, so we'll make it. <i>The timer goes off and Candy reaches for the oven glove. But as she takes the tray out, she burns her hand and drops the tray.</i>
Candy:	Ouch! Oh, no.. look what I've done.
Liz:	Are you alright? What happened?
Candy:	I burned my arm on the oven... but I'm okay. Look, it's nothing.
Liz:	It's not nothing. There's a red mark.
Candy:	I'll be okay... it's the cookies I'm worried about.

Liz:	<p>Come, we've got to get some water on it.</p> <p><i>Liz takes Candy to a bowl of water and dabs her arm with a damp cloth. In the meantime, Alec picks up the pieces, and sings:</i></p>
Alec:	How can I mend a broken heart?
Liz:	It's not funny!
Candy:	It is actually... the singing, I mean. But look at all those broken hearts lying there.
Alec:	I guess that's life—not without its broken hearts... <i>(he laughs)</i> .
Liz:	You are so insensitive. Many people do have broken hearts.
Alec:	Then this is for them.
Liz:	That will make them feel worse! We've got to make another batch.
Alec:	We don't have time. The shop closes in half an hour.
Liz:	We certainly don't have time if <i>you</i> mix the batch. You take forever, and you eat half the stuff.
Alec:	No I don't. I just do a quality check on the dough... you know; make sure it's not too salty.
Liz:	Just drop it, will you!
Alec:	I'll leave that to Candy.
Liz:	You are so mean!!!
Candy:	It's okay, Liz. We could all help mix the next batch. It will be fun!
Liz:	Oh Candy, You're such a friend. I wish you were my sister.
Alec:	Don't give her any ideas... one sister is enough.

Liz:	<p><i>All three help mix the next batch, which is ready in record time.</i></p> <p>This is what you call a heart remix.</p>
Candy:	You're right. It's a bit like what Jesus does for us when he gives us a new heart.
Liz:	<p>That is so true! The Bible says that the Lord heals the broken-hearted.</p> <p><i>They roll out the dough and shape the cookies. Alec puts the tray in the oven and sets the timer. He looks at his watch.</i></p>
Alec:	<p>I think we'll make it.</p> <p><i>Just then, Luigi walks in and sees the mess in the kitchen.</i></p>
Luigy:	Is this my shop? Oh... I don't feel well. Maybe I should just go home and pretend this is only a dream.
Alec:	We've finished decorating the hearts.
Luigy:	And the whole shop!
Alec:	<p>Don't worry Mr Luigi, we'll have this place spotless in no time.</p> <p><i>But Luigi doesn't listen and walks out the front door muttering something about his shop. The kids look at each other and shrug their shoulders.</i></p>
Alec:	Is it something I said?

Day 4
Relationship with those in authority

Joe and his children Alec and Liz gather in the shop front to discuss the day.

Liz: I wonder where Luigi is this morning.

Joe: Luigi won't be coming in today. He's not well—he phoned earlier.

Liz: Oh dear! I hope it's not something we did yesterday.

Joe: No... (*chuckles*)... I don't think so. He said something about terrible nightmares.

But you kids did great yesterday. And the idea of making those heart cookies for Mr Tony was just perfect. He will be here shortly to pick them up.

So, I'm going to get you going; then I have a meeting with my banker later on.

Liz: Ok dad, no problem... just tell us what to do. We are so ready!

Joe: Well, for a start, I need you to carry on cleaning up yesterday's mess. It looks like a cookie-dough crime scene.

Liz: As I said, no problem... so here's the broom, Alec. You can sweep the floor.

Alec: And seeing you're the mixing queen, you can pack away all the things and wipe the countertops.

Everyone gets busy with their tasks. Joe puts on his apron, and just as he gets his hands sticky with dough, the phone rings.

Joe: Good morning, this is Joe's Bakery; Joe speaking.

Who? Oh, oh yes of course... Today? Well it's... sure, I understand. We'll be ready. Yes everything is in order. Good bye then.

Oh dear... of all days!

Liz: What, dad?

Joe:	They're sending someone to come and inspect the shop.
Alec:	What inspection?
Joe:	It's the routine health and safety check. They issue a certificate of approval that allows us to run this shop.
	That means, it has to be spotless! And the inspector is coming today. So kids, get going.
Alec:	We're on it dad. You leave everything to us.
	<i>Everyone scurries around to get the shop spick and span. Suddenly, Joe looks at his watch.</i>
Joe:	Wow, look at the time. I've got to be at the bank in fifteen minutes. Just keep things going here.
Alec:	But what about the inspector?
Joe:	They usually take their time—he probably won't be here before lunch. If he does come, just ask him to wait a few minutes till I'm back.
Alec:	Okay, dad.
	<i>Joe grabs his car keys and some papers and rushes out the front door.</i>
Liz:	Listen, Alec. I have a bad feeling about this. What happens if the inspector does come? What are you going to say to him? He may be grumpy and shout at us. What if we fail the inspection and dad loses his business?
Alec:	I must say, I am a bit nervous about all this. Anyway, what makes <i>him</i> so special that he has the power to close us down?
Liz:	It's his job to inspect places like ours. Adults are responsible for a lot of stuff, and it is quite understandable that they sound bossy sometimes.
Alec:	So how come you're taking the inspector's side all of a sudden?

Liz:	I know a bit about how adults think.
Alec:	Oh you do? Is that because you're always in trouble with your teachers at school?
Liz:	<p>I am NOT always in trouble! But I have seen that when you show them respect, you take the wind out of their sails. It's like they feel bad to shout at someone who is courteous and friendly.</p> <p>Besides, the Bible says we should respect those in authority, and the inspector is someone in authority.</p>
Alec:	I guess you're right. I'll be Mr Nice-guy if that's what it takes. Come on, we've got work to do.
Liz:	<p>Right! Now don't worry. The Inspector will probably only come this afternoon, and dad will be back by then.</p> <p><i>Alec and Liz are busy cleaning and have their backs turned to the front. The inspector walks in unannounced and stands at the counter. Alec and Liz have not noticed him.</i></p>
Alec:	With my luck, the Inspector will be standing behind us any minute.
Inspector:	Indeed.
Alec:	<p>What! <i>(Alec jumps up and whips around)</i></p> <p>Oh, good morning Mr Expecter. We were inspecting you... I mean, expecting you.</p>
Inspector:	I'd like to speak with the owner of this shop.
Alec:	Well, that's a bit of a problem.
Inspector:	What do you mean, a problem?
Alec:	Well I am the owner at the moment.
Inspector:	That is a problem.

Alec:	Well I am the kind-of owner—the future owner.
Inspector:	In other words, we are talking about joint liability, which means that you bear equal responsibility and you may be prosecuted together with the owner.
Alec:	Can't you just wait a while, till my father comes back... <i>(Liz clicks Alec on the ankle.)</i> Sir?
Inspector:	I am a busy man! I cannot wait for everyone! You were notified of this inspection, and I am here NOW.
Alec:	Okay, sir. I think we are ready.
Inspector:	Ready or not, I shall start right here. <i>The inspector takes a white paper towel and wipes the surfaces, and even the floor. He looks at the brown speck on the towel.</i> Dirt! Why isn't there a lid on this container?
Alec:	I'm sorry, Sir. It's my fault. I should have put it back straight away.
Inspector:	I have a good mind to close the shop down, right now. <i>Just then, Tony comes in and overhears the conversation.</i>
Tony:	You can't do that! Who is going to bake for me?
Inspector:	Oh, hallo Tony... just doing my job, you know.
Tony:	Let me tell you something. You come in here once a year—I come in here once a week. I know quality when I see it... or should I say, taste it. Let me show you. Where are my cookies, kids?
Liz:	Here they are Mr Tony. <i>Liz and Alec hand Tony two big paper packets.</i>
Tony:	Just look at these... fantastic. This bakery is more like a confectionary! Here.. try one.
Inspector:	I'm not allowed to eat on duty.

Tony:	Oh, come on! All those rules of yours rule your life. Cut yourself some slack.
Inspector:	<p>Okay then. <i>The Inspector takes one, eats it and looks very pleased.</i></p> <p>How much did you say these are per dozen? <i>They all start laughing, which breaks the tension. Then the Inspector looks down at the tick-sheet on his clipboard.</i></p>
Inspector:	<p>Let me see... cleanliness, neatness, storage, safety.. yes, yes. Well, this doesn't look too bad after all.</p> <p>I must go, but... could I perhaps have another of those hearts for the road?</p> <p><i>As Tony and the inspector head for the door, Tony says...</i></p> <p>Sure, just take this packet. I've got all of these—I placed big order.</p>

	<p style="text-align: center;">Day 5 Relationship with the Lord</p> <p><i>Joe, Luigi, Alec and Liz are in the shop.</i></p> <p>Joe: What a week it has been—good, bad, and exciting. The good being that you kids came to help us here in the shop.</p> <p>Luigy: And the bad being...the gingerbread men, Mr Tony's flop cookies, the mess in the kitchen, the...</p> <p>Joe: Hold on Luigy. Good came out of all those things: The gingerbread men turned into gingerbread families and sold out that day. Tony loved the idea of those heart cookies, and the shop passed the inspection yesterday.</p> <p>Luigy: True. There are a few things in life one cannot explain.</p> <p>Liz: Life isn't always perfect, Luigy. I know you want things to be just right, but sometimes people are more important than things.</p> <p>Alec: Liz is right. No one is perfect; but when we help one another, we put people first and the job still gets done.</p> <p>Luigy: You both have the wisdom of your father. So, come; let us help each other get today's job done.</p> <p><i>Everyone gets busy with their chores. Joe and Luigi are in the back</i></p> <p>Liz: Do you think Luigy knows that God loves him?</p> <p>Alec: Dad says that Luigy is very proud. He doesn't want to be dependent on anyone. He feels that God has enough other people to care for.</p> <p>Liz: But he doesn't understand that God loves him.</p> <p>Alec: Maybe his heart needs to understand what real love is. He has no one to show him love.</p> <p><i>Just then a small boy comes in and asks for a slice of bread. Luigi also comes in and works in the background.</i></p>
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Liz:	We don't sell bread by the slice. You have to buy the whole loaf.
Boy:	I don't have enough money and I am hungry.
Liz:	Oh poor you. <i>Liz whispers something to Alec, and Alec nods.</i>
Liz:	This is what I will do: I will buy the loaf for you. <i>Liz takes money out of her purse and puts it in the cash register while Alec puts the bread in a packet.</i>
Boy:	<i>The boy thanks Alec, gives Liz a hug, and leaves the shop excitedly.</i>
Luigy:	What you did there was very kind.
Liz:	Oh, it's nothing. I love helping others. I plan to use the money I get from working here to send to a missionary.
Luigy:	You mean you're working here for nothing?
Liz:	Not for nothing. I am getting pocket money for it. It's just that I want to give it to the Lord, and one way I can give it to Him is by giving it to others.
Luigy:	You make me think back to when I was a child. I came from a poor family too. One day a missionary told me that Jesus loves me; and I believed it then. But as I grew older, I changed. I became hard... like a stale bread roll that has gone rock hard.
Liz:	<i>You</i> may have changed, Luigy, but Jesus hasn't changed. He still loves you just as much now as He did when you were a child.
Luigy:	How I wish I could turn back the clock. I used to be happy and enjoy life. You two remind me of those good days. Now I am hard. But being hard means that I am strong.
Alec:	But hard also means that you crumble, like this..., <i>(Alec snaps a heart cookie in half)</i> ...and hard means that God cannot mould your life.
Luigy:	I must get to work... and so must you. Your father wants another batch of gingerbread men for the weekend.

Alec:	Okay, leave it to us.
Luigy:	And for once, focus on the job—not people.
Liz:	But gingerbread men are people.
Luigy:	Oh... get on with it!
	<i>Luigy mutters to himself as he leaves to go work in the back. Alec and Liz take out the recipe and start mixing the dough.</i>
Liz:	I've got an idea. Let's make a big gingerbread man for Luigy.
Alec:	Great! We can make one as big as the baking tray.
	<i>Alec shapes the big gingerbread man with a knife and they both carefully lift it onto the baking tray.</i>
Liz:	Wait... I have one small adjustment to make
	<i>Liz cuts something out. Alec then puts the tray into the oven.</i>
Alec:	Now let's get going with the others.
	<i>They carry on working, and while they are busy the oven timer sounds. They take the first tray out and put in the next. After a while. Luigy comes in to check on things.</i>
Luigy:	And how are my kids getting along?
Alec:	They're almost done - still in the oven.
Luigy:	No I don't mean those—I mean you.
Liz:	We're almost done too. And we have a surprise for you.
Luigy:	I'm not sure I need another surprise this week.
Liz:	Yes you do! Here, this is for you.

Luigy	<p>Whoa! How beautiful. I will snack on it all weekend. This man is absolutely perfect.</p> <p>But why does he have a hollow heart?</p>
Liz:	<p>Luigy, that is to help you realize who you are. You have a smile on your face, and you are big and strong, but inside, there's an empty space.</p>
Alec:	<p>God wants to fill that hollow space with His love. He wants to come live inside you and give your life a purpose.</p>
Liz:	<p>Yes, God puts a new heart inside us... <i>(Liz holds up the heart that she cut out of the gingerbread man)</i>... not made from the same batch of dough we are made of... if you know what I mean.</p>
Alec:	<p>What Liz is trying to say is that when Jesus comes to live in us He puts His goodness into our hearts, and that means we will live forever.</p>
Luigy:	<p>I will think about what you have said. I will think about it every time I see this gingerbread man. I, umm... I'm just not sure that I will be able to eat him now.</p>
Liz:	<p>That's okay, Luigy.</p> <p><i>Joe comes walking in from the back.</i></p>
Joe:	<p>It's almost time to close up the shop. Make sure everything is switched off and packed away.</p> <p><i>Luigy carefully places the gingerbread man in a packet. He looks down at it and says;</i></p>
Luigy:	<p>I am sure, when you see this man again, he will have a new heart.</p>
Liz:	<p>Hope so Luigy, we'll be praying.</p> <p><i>They exit the shop, and Joe locks the door.</i></p>