

EVELYN

And then Sister Brinkley be trying to compete, 'cause you know she mad Sister Shaw got the praise and worship song!

Evelyn imitates Sister Brinkley singing. Tony and Evelyn compete with singing tricks for the remainder of the song. The moment is playful and entertaining, but also moving. They believe the words they sing. They love the people they imitate. It is beautiful.

BOWZIE

(*Imitating Pastor Wilkins*) Mother Scrivens. Come on up here. Give us the benediction. (*In his regular voice.*) Now you know she move slow as molasses. (*Imitating Pastor Wilkins*) Take your time, Mother Scrivens.

SALLY

(*Imitating Mother Scrivens.*) I'm on my way, baby. Well, you know. The old lady's doing 'bout the same, fair to middling. But my good days outweigh my bad days.

EVELYN

Sound just like her!

As Sally delivers the benediction, their moment becomes less playful and more sincere. The words mean something as they land on the four friends.

SALLY

(*Imitating Mother Scrivens.*) And I just wanna say,

"May the Lord bless ya.

And keeps ya.

And make His face shine upon ya.

And always be gracious to ya.

Lord lift you high and count on ya and give you peace.

Bless your coming and your going,

on the highways and on the byways.

And a special prayer for Li'l Bowzie Brandon.

He hopping on the Freedom Ride tomorrow. Fighting for his rights. Offer a special protecting.

And the church says:

Amen. "

ALL

Amen.

The silence slowly becomes weighted by awareness that this is the very last moment like this they'll have. The silence holds and wraps around each of them individually.

This moment takes a long, long time.

EVELYN wipes a tear quickly, then storms away.

BOWZIE

Well, I guess I best get packed for tomorrow. *(To Tony.)*
Pick me up in the morning?

Tony exits. Bowzie looks to Sally, who looks at the ground.