



"Contact 1-2-3"

Scripture: Matthew 24: 30

"At that time, the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and all the nations of the earth will mourn. They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory."

Dramatic Category: "Three-in-One Skit" (With a "Skermon" option.)

What is a "Three-in-One Skit"?

A "Three-in-One Skit" presents three separate stories being told scene-by-scene, alternating with each other. The lights direct the audience to the next scene that "comes alive" while the other two freeze (in tableau); however, this skit can be done without light pools as well. When one couple ends their scene, they freeze in position; their last line sets up the next couple's first line. Each couple's action resumes exactly where it left off when their turn comes around again. Each scene ends up with the same conclusion or summary statement.

All three scenes freeze when they are finished, and the pastor has the option of walking right up to them and using them as mannequins to illustrate his sermon. He may prefer to have the players exit the stage, but leave a prop in the scene (like a book or a folder, etc.) that he can pick up and refer to, reminding the audience what this scene was about and why it illustrates the point he is making in his sermon. This art form is very unique and surprising!

A "Three-in-One Skit" provides a very memorable introduction, conclusion, or mid-way example for the pastor as he presents the church sermon. It gives your drama ministry a first-hand opportunity to link with the pastor to create a sermon illustration that will compliment any topical or expository sermon.

Topic: Three appearances of God on earth: the manger, the rapture, and the final judgment.

Performance Time: 6 minutes

Number of Players: 6 players (3 men, 3 women)

Objective:

This "Three-in-One Skit" helps people understand that Jesus has come and will come to us first, in the form of a man; second, in the clouds when He comes for His elect; and third, when He comes to be the righteous judge at the end of the age.

Synopsis:

This skit examines three appearances of God on earth: The first appearance was when God put on human flesh and was born in a manger; this is illustrated when Mike, a sculptor, realizes that God sculpted Himself into a man to fellowship with us. The second appearance is the rapture, when Christ comes for His Church; Frank, a fly-fisherman, who discovers that we are all going to "fly", illustrates this. God's third appearance is after the tribulation, when He comes to judge the earth; Josh, a Bible student, who is tutoring his confused friend in eschatology, illustrates this.

Cast:

(Scene 1)

Mike: a sculptor Tracy: his wife

(Scene 2)

Frank: a fly-fisherman

Donna: his wife, who is reading her Bible

(Scene 3)

Josh: an expert on the end times Kari: a student of the end times

Props:

(Scene 1)

A table

A bag of clay (or flower and water clay) unformed

A clay bird Sculpting tools

(Scene 2)

A fly-fishing pole Fishing gear

(Scene 3)

Books

Sheets of paper

A table

2 chairs

LIGHTING NOTE:

This skit is done in three light pools. Only the scene that is active is illuminated; the other two are in darkness. This is a "light show" in that the lit spots direct the audience's attention to the next scene. When one couple ends their scene, they freeze in position; their last line sets up the next couple's first line. This is a "tableau or freeze-pose" sketch. The audience is able to see all three couples at one time; however two of the three are always frozen. Each couple's action resumes exactly where it left off when their turn comes around again.

The Script:

LIGHTS: UP ON SCENE 1 (*The rest of the stage is dark*)

Scene 1: "The Image" (Mike and Tracy)

(Mike is engrossed in his bird sculpture. Tracy looks on in amazement.)

Tracy: That is amazing!

Mike: Thanks. I'm getting better, huh?

Tracy: (She picks up the bag of clay from the floor.) Yea, you are, but that's not what I

meant by amazing.

Mike: (obviously insulted) Oh, thanks.

Tracy: What's amazing is that used to be just clay; you fashioned it into the likeness of a

bird.

Mike: I sure did.

Tracy: (holding the clay bag) Imagine that you were this clay.

Mike: Okay, that sounds like fun. What are you going to be?

Tracy: (picking up on the humor) I'm serious! Imagine that you could become anything you

wanted, but you loved birds so much that you fashioned yourself into a bird so you

could fellowship with them and teach them how to live.

Mike: I don't think so. I'm too used to being a higher life form.

Tracy: That's what God did.

Mike: He became a bird?

Tracy: (exasperated) No... He's the highest life form imaginable, but He loved us so much

that He fashioned himself into a man so He could communicate with us.

That's what's amazing.

LIGHTS OUT ON SCENE 1

LIGHTS UP ON SCENE 2: FRANK AND DONNA

Scene 2: "Time to Fly" (Frank and Donna)

Frank: (kneeling down beside Donna and showing her how to make a fly-fishing lure.)

It's not so amazing really. I've tied a hundred of these flies.

Fly-fishing is an art, you know.

(He gets up and begins casting out into the audience.)

Donna: (She resumes reading her Bible) Hey, are you ready to fly?

Frank: Sure, I've been doing this since I was a kid. (*Keeps casting*)

Donna: No, I don't mean fly-fishing. I mean really flying.

Frank: Like in a plane?

Donna: (not looking up from her Bible) No, I mean without a plane.

Frank: You're kidding.

Donna: (Reading from her Bible) Listen.

"For the Lord Himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. So we will be

with the Lord forever." (1 Thess. 4:16,17)

That's going to be the ride of a lifetime!

Frank: (Kneeling down beside Donna) You're not kidding...

LIGHTS OUT ON SCENE 2

LIGHTS UP ON SCENE 3: KARI AND JOSH

Scene 3: "Clear as Mud" (Kari and Josh)

(They are studying with piles of books and papers.)

Kari: No, I'm not kidding. I'm confused about the second coming.

Am I the only one.

Josh: No, it's a confusing topic. There's lots of theories about it.

Kari: Okay, okay...it goes like this. At the second coming, Jesus comes to Judge the earth.

Josh: That's the third coming.

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Page 4

Kari: The third coming? I've never heard anybody talk about the third coming.

Josh: Well, it would clear things up considerably if we began talking about the first,

second, and third coming of Jesus Christ.

Kari: (being satirical) Oh, thanks for clearing things up.

Josh: (writing as he speaks) Look, think of it this way. The first coming of Jesus Christ

> was when God put on human flesh and was born in a manger. The second coming is the rapture, when Christ comes for His church, and His third coming is after the tribulation, when He comes to judge the earth and stops the battle of Armageddon.

Kari: Armageddon pretty confused.

LIGHTS OUT ON SCENE 3

LIGHTS UP ON SCENE 2: FRANK AND DONNA

Donna: I guess it could be confusing. The second coming is what people call the rapture.

We're going to fly out of here... in "the twinkling of an eye."

Frank: I used to think the second coming was the end of the world, but it's really not.

Donna: (puzzled) It's not?

Frank: No. There's a whole lot more stuff coming down after the second coming.

It's the beginning of the end, but it's not the end.

Donna: (dreamily) Imagine it. People caught up into the clouds to meet Jesus.

What a majestic sight that will be.

LIGHTS OUT ON SCENE 2

LIGHTS UP ON SCENE 1: MIKE AND TRACY

Mike: (Stepping back to study his bird sculpture)

With all this talk about the splendor and majesty of the second coming; I guess I sort

of lost sight of the amazing humility of the first coming.

Tracy: (Reading out of her Bible)

> "Being made in human likeness, and being found in appearance as a man, He humbled himself and became obedient to death--even death on a cross!

(Phil. 2:7,8)

Mike: Now that's amazing.

LIGHTS OUT ON SCENE 1

LIGHTS UP ON SCENE 3: JOSH AND KARI

Josh: I know it sounds amazing, but you can keep it all straight if you

study what the Bible says about the end times. (holding up his Bible)
Remember, this book was written with the intention of people getting it.

Kari: Okay, let me ask you this. Are you a pre-millenialist or a post-millenialist?

Josh: A pan-millenialist.

Kari: A pan-millenialist? What's that?

Josh: Somebody who loves Jesus and figures it's all going to pan out.

LIGHTS OUT FOR A MOMENT

LIGHTS COME BACK UP ON ALL THREE POOLS

Sermon Option 1:

All players remain in "tableau," (Frozen stage picture) and the pastor walks around each set, making his comments about their discoveries. The players do not respond to the pastor. At a given point, cued by the pastor, the players leave the stage, and the pastor continues his message.

Sermon Option 2:

All players exit the stage during the blackout, but leave behind one object: Scene 1 leaves the clay bird; scene 2 leaves a "fly" lure; scene 3 leaves a Bible. The pastor approaches each scene and picks up the object to remind the audience of the discoveries reflected in that scene.

Sermon Points:

SCENE 1:

The pastor picks it up and expounds on the incarnation of God in the person of Jesus Christ.

SCENE 2:

The pastor picks it up and expounds on the rapture.

SCENE 3:

The pastor picks it up and expounds on the end times and the coming of Jesus Christ as the righteous judge.