A POTPOURRI OF CHRISTIAN DRAMA FOR EASY MINISTRY

By Aleta Harris

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DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

The skits, mimes and monologues/readings in this collection of "anytime" material have been written for easy casting, short rehearsals and maximum impact. Topics covered include missionary boxes; witnessing; the afterlife; cultivating the Christian life; allegorical tales of obedience, power, beauty and teamwork; seeing through God's eyes; and the meaning of God's names. Often, the message is driven home with laughter. Most selections are contemporary, but two are from Biblical times. Most can be cast with either men or women and several feature many women. Use them at worship services, church meetings, youth gatherings, retreats and any time you need a lively message delivered in a compelling, concentrated way.

AUTHOR'S NOTE

I believe that drama should be fun, especially as it is implemented in Christian ministry. However, the challenge of coordinating busy schedules for multiple cast practices is one of the primary elements that often takes the edge off the fun in drama. It is for this very reason that this collection was written.

All of the pieces require only a small cast. In addition, they are written to make them simple to memorize. Staging is minimal. That all adds up to fast and easy drama. Most importantly, however, is the ministry message that is echoed in each piece. Some will make your audience laugh, while others will make them look within themselves. But each has a message that is pertinent to where your audience lives.

So, if you want to do effective Christian drama without the grueling hours of rehearsing and staging preparation, your search ends with this resource book. Peruse the pages ... and then perform for the fun of it all.

The Playwright, Aleta Harris

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SKITS

1. BOX WORK BLESSINGS OR BLUES

(A Missionary Skit)

CAST:
NARRATOR
WOMAN
MISSIONARY

SETTING: Two desks, one set center stage, another to the side of the stage. Each has a chair. This may also be performed with one desk or table center stage.

PROPS: Two mailing boxes, drawers and boxes, old shirt, blouse, brightly colored/patterned blouse, scissors, flowered dress/shirt, pencil stubs, half-used pad of paper, staple sections, paper clips, thumbtacks, a bottle of white-out, red nail polish, emery boards, used tea bags.

(AT RISE: SL is a WOMAN frantically cleaning catch-all drawers and boxes, hurrying to meet a missionary box work deadline. As she selects items, she deposits them in a box on the desk CS. SR is a MISSIONARY seated at desk or table, prayerfully contemplating the needs of his people, intermittently talking to himself and to God. He holds a small box with select items.)

NARRATOR: Our scene opens with a busy woman, perhaps just like you, who has been reminded that the deadline for the missionary box work project is fast approaching and she is getting her “contribution” together. On the other side of the world a faithful missionary recalls the needs of the people he serves, and responds to the gifts supplied to meet those needs.

WOMAN: They said the reminder was in the bulletin, but WHO reads the bulletin anyway! They said it was announced the last two weeks, but I'm refilling my coffee cup during announcements! HOW am I supposed to hear the announcements? Well ... I've got fifteen minutes. There's got to be something in this room that missionaries can use for their mission school office. Here's an old shirt. Pocket's torn a little, but it'll do, I guess. Here's a little blouse I've outgrown. I always did like these buttons. *(Stops, ponders, grabs scissors and cuts off buttons and places buttonless blouse in the box. Picks up wildly-flowered dress or shirt and places it in the box.)* That'll keep the natives awake during a service!

(The WOMAN either rifles through the desk drawers or goes offstage when the MISSIONARY is speaking; she re-enters with a small box. She could do this several times throughout the piece.)

MISSIONARY: Boxes are empty here again. We've used everything that was sent for the work, but we sure could use more. Lots of need - all kinds of needs. Those two boxes from _____ *(The name of the producing group.)* Church really helped. God, please bless those folks. Their gifts of love were so useful. Lord, some boxes have arrived here with some of the strangest gifts inside!

WOMAN: Lots of space left here in the box. Hmmm. Let's see. They mentioned office supplies. *(Grabs a half-used notepad and worn down pencil.)* Still a few pages left in this notebook and there's still a bit of lead in this pencil. AHA!! Little staple sections! Hope THEY can keep them from jamming in THEIR stapler like they do in mine. A few clips, tacks, white-out - it's a little clumpy, but they won't mind. Okay, the missionary office is set!

MISSIONARY: God, remember the box of items we received last month. Here it is. Here's that blouse with the buttons cut off. And the pencil stubs.

End of Freeview

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