

Who Wants Eternal Life?

by
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Story of the Play

Five contestants vie for the grand prize of Eternal Life in this special game show takeoff, "Who Wants Eternal Life?" The funny contestants embody certain personality traits, and as the game proceeds, they lose and leave the stage until only one wins the grand prize.

Your audience members will be laughing and cheering for the contestants as the message of faith is spread not only by the actors but also by the singers who perform during specially designed breaks to serve courses of the meal. Little rehearsal is needed as actors can have scripts hidden at their game-show podiums.

Bring members of your congregation together and invite other, non-churched guests for an entertaining evening of food and fellowship. Super easy and super fun!

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Cast of Characters

3-4 m, 4 w, flexible extras as singers

Contestants and TV cast and crew

Ima Doubter...contestant who's unsure of everything
Tullah Busy...contestant who's over-scheduled
Nar Cissis...contestant who's self-involved
Indy Pendant...contestant who needs help from no one
Bee Leever...an ideal contestant
Phil King...game show host
J. C...stage manager for the game show
Don Pardoned...announcer for the game show

Performers on the TV show (Flexible roles)

Grace A. Bundantly...vocalist for the game show
Joy Oz...vocalist for the game show
P.C. Ful...vocalist for the game show
Mel Odee...pianist for the game show
Eternal Life Singers...chorus for the game show

NOTE: Olee Spearit, tech manager for the game show, is an offstage voice. If desired, the roles of J.C. and Don can be combined.

Performance Time

This drama was written to be performed as a dinner theater. Taking into account the time it takes for eating, the play runs approximately two hours in length. It should be a leisurely dinner for the audience.

Setting and Scenery

The stage area should look like a studio. If so desired, a fake camera and a cameraman could be used. (Be careful not to block any views of the audience members.) In the center/right of the stage area, there should be five contestant podiums. Make certain that each podium has a blue piece of paper, the correct number of cards, and a marker. It is advisable to have the answers already written out on the cards. The contestants can pretend to write their answers.

The podium for the host should be center/left. Cards with the questions on them should be on his podium. Further to the left, there should be a solo microphone which the announcer and vocalists use. A chair for Don can be nearby. An applause sign should hang between the contestant and host podiums. To the right of the contestant podiums, there should be four chairs. This area is the contestants' box. A chair for J.C. should be near the contestants' box. The piano and chairs for the vocalists and chorus should be located to the left of the solo microphone.

A backdrop behind the contestant podiums should have the words "Who Wants Eternal Life?" on it. Decorate this backdrop with sparkles, and the colors gold, blue, pearl, and green.

Costuming

All clothing should reflect current styles. The five contestants should dress as their character would. Ima should wear a mismatched skirt and top, as if she couldn't decide exactly what to wear; Tullah should wear a business suit; Nar should wear an expensive, beautiful dress; Indy should wear a stand-out shirt with khaki pants; and Bee should wear an attractive, yet unassuming dress.

Phil, Don, and Mel should wear suits and ties. Don's suit could be more glitzy, if so desired. The vocalists also should be dressed in nice dresses or suits. Chorus members can either be dressed in white tops and black bottoms, or dresses and suits. J.C. should be in jeans and a casual shirt.

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Props

A clipboard, pencil, headset and watch for J.C.
A headset and clipboard with a script on it for Don
A tote bag, cell phone, pen, day planner and watch for Tullah
A purse with compact, lipstick, comb and brush for Nar
A marker and sheet of blue paper for each of the 5 contestants
Eight cards for Bee's podium
Seven cards for Indy's podium
Three cards for Ima's podium
Two cards for Nar's podium
One card for Tullah's podium
Cards with the questions on them for Phil's podium
A watch for Phil
An applause sign that lights up (Can be fashioned from a small lighted box.)

Suggested Music

Depending on the number of diners and the time desired between scenes, more music might be needed than is suggested in the script. If so, select music with the theme of Eternal Life. Songs can be played several times, if necessary.

It is understood that each individual group will either have a license to perform the music suggested in this drama, or purchase the music so that there is no copyright infringement.

(As guests arrive, they should be seated at their tables and served an appetizer. The five contestants, Ima, Tullah, Nar, Indy, and Bee, should arrive just prior to the drama beginning. They should be seated at tables with the other guests. It is important that they stay in character once they enter the room.)

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Scene 1

(Lights go up on stage area. J.C. enters. He has a clipboard in one hand and a pencil in the other. He is also wearing a headset. He moves to the center of the stage area.)

J.C.: Ladies and gentlemen, welcome to the taping of the show, *(Say loudly and with a pause between each word.)* **Who...Wants...Eternal...Life?** *(The CONTESTANTS in the audience should start applauding in order to get the rest of the audience to respond.)* Thank you. My name is J.C., and I'm the stage manager in this studio. As a point of reference, today's show will air in three months. So, mark your calendars now so that you can catch it. *(Looks at watch.)* We'll begin taping in about ten to fifteen minutes. Before entering the studio, you were given instructions on how to play the game. Now, you are going to be given a few studio rules. First off, as you were told prior to coming into the studio, five of you *(Points to audience.)* will be selected to come up front for a chance to win Eternal Life. *(The five CONTESTANTS start applauding. J.C. calms them down.)* Now, when your name is called, come up as quickly as possible, and take a vacant podium. The first person called should take the first one *(J.C. walks over and points to the first podium which is the one closest to the host's stand.)* Second, please remember that we are taping. So, for the sake of our contestants, please do not shout out any answers to the questions being asked, or talk to your neighbors when the cameras are rolling. During the taping, we take three breaks. You can talk to your neighbors when we are on a break. Third, smile a lot. You never know when our cameras will catch you, so keep a smile pasted on your face at all times. Last of all, applause is very important to our show. If you see the applause sign light up, please give a hearty round of applause. *(Speaks into headset.)* Olee, can you light up the sign for us, so that we can practice a few times?

OLEE: *(From offstage.)* No problem, J.C.

End of Freeview

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