



Resource Centre

From our Churches

Author: Brad Lepp

Church: Toronto United Mennonite Church

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Be Aware, God is on the Move!

A Reader's Theatre for 7 persons

Portions of this script are adapted from:

"Noah: Right," written by Bill Cosby in *Bill Cosby is a Funny Fellow, Right!*

"Mike from Canmore" is an original character performed by John Morgan in *Canadian Air Farce* and remains the property of CBC.

1-Zechariah

2-Gabriel

3-Jesus

4-Mike from Canmore

5- God

6- Noah

7- Narrator

After taking a collectively large inhale, the 7 readers enter on stage in single file in numerical order. When they are lined up, they collectively exhale.

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|----|--|----|--|
| 1: | Be Aware | 2: | God is on the Move. |
| 2: | God is on the Move! | 3: | The LORD saw how great man's wickedness on the earth had become, and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time. The LORD was grieved that he had made man on the earth, and his heart was filled with pain. |
| 3: | A reader's theatre | 4: | But Noah found favour in the eyes of the Lord. |
| 4: | In Seven Parts | 5: | Noah. |
| 5: | Presented by the Youth Group | 6: | What? |
| 6: | And coincidentally the theme for this evening's Christmas Program. | 5: | Noah |
| 7: | A Prelude. | 6: | What? |
| 1: | I hate reader's theatre. | 5: | It's me. |
| 2: | Yup | 6: | Who? |
| 3: | Uh-huh | 5: | The Lord. |
| 4: | Oh yeah. | 6: | Right! Ha Ha Ha Ha. What do you want? I've been good. |
| 5: | Me too. | 5: | I want you to build an ark. |
| 6: | For sure. | 6: | Right. Ha Ha Ha Ha. What's an ark? |
| 7: | Amen. | 5: | Get some wood, build it 300 cubits by 80 cubits by 40 cubits. |
| 1: | It's not theatre | 6: | Right. What's a cubit? |
| 2: | It's not poetry | | |
| 3: | It's not dramatic | | |
| 4: | It's not funny | | |
| 5: | Let's face it, it's usually not very good. | | |
| 6: | This is what I'm saying. | | |
| 7: | End of Prelude. (<i>All Bow</i>) Act One. | | |
| 1: | Be Aware. | | |

- 5: A cubit...um? Never mind that now. When you get all that done go out into the world and collect two of every species, male and female and put them into the ark.
- 6: Right. Who is this really? What's going on, why do you want me to do all these strange things?
- 5: I'm going to destroy the world, Noah.
- 6: Right. Am I on Candid Camera? And when are you supposedly going to do this?
- 5: I'm not going to tell you? HaHaHaHa
- 6: How are you going to do this?
- 5: I'm still not going to tell you? HaHaHaHa
- 6: Come on, just give us a little hint.
- 5: You want a hint?
- 6: Yeah.
- 5: How long can you tread water?
- 1: Be Aware
- 2: God is on the move.
- 7: End of Act One. *(All bow)* Act Two.
- 3: For God so loved the world that he sent his only son.
- 4: But to Zechariah and Elizabeth another gift was given.
- 1: *(Frustratingly sarcastic)* Oh I have a good idea, lets draw lots to go see who has to go light the candles. Yeah, that's a good idea. Oh look! Good-old Zechariah drew the short lot! Well, I guess we'd better make the ar old man climb all those steps. Because it must be God's will, after all- he did draw the short lot, of course! Geesh!
- 2: *(loudly)* Behold, don't be afraid Zechariah!
- 1: *(huffing and puffing)* What in the wide Middle Eastern world do you think gives you the right to jump out and scare an old man?
- 2: I am the angel Gabriel.
- 1: I don't care who you are, if you do that again you had best bring a defibrillator with you.
- 2: I'm sorry. I get so excited some times.
- 1: Just simmer down there, skippy.
- 2: *(Excited)* The son of man is coming!
- 1: *(Worried)* He's not hiding in here too, is he?
- 2: The son of God shall be born and he shall be called King of Kings, Lord of Lords.
- 1: Do you have a puffer?
- 2: Don't you see? You're going to have a child.
- 1: *(pause in disbelief)* Look at me. I need to rest after pulling on one pant leg.
- 2: You're son will be great in the sight of the Lord.
- 1: Let me tell you something they didn't tell you in biology class...
- 2: He shall go before the Lord and prepare the hearts of the people.
- 1: Then you had better have brought some Viagra in that gown of yours.
- 2: You aren't even listening to me.
- 1: You think I'm going to have a child.
- 2: Yes.
- 1: A son.
- 2: Yes.
- 1: At my age.
- 2: Yes.
- 1: Okay, who with?
- 2: Well, with your wife.
- 1: Ha. Have you seen her?
- 2: Anything is possible with the Lord.
- 1: Listen, I love Elizabeth. And we've thought of having kids. And we've tried, oh how we've tried. But these days, if she doesn't have a headache, I do.
- 2: Do you ever stop talking?
- 1: I bet you wished one of the younger priests had drawn lots today, eh.
- 2: You have been chosen.
- 1: Oh yeah, prove it.
- 2: You must have faith.
- 1: At my age you need a few certainties.
- 2: You want a sign?
- 1: Yeah.
- 2: You want a miracle?
- 1: Yeah.
- 2: *(Snaps fingers. Pause).* What's that? I'm sorry, I can't hear you? So do you have any objections? Great, well, see you in 9 months.
- 4: Be Aware
- 3: God is on the Move.
- 7: End of Act Two. *(All Bow)* Act Three
- 6: Jesus went up to the Mount Olives. And there spoke to his disciples in parables.
- 5: So that it might be said: Though seeing, they do not see; though hearing, they do not hear or understand.
- 3: The kingdom of heaven is like the mustard seed. Though it is small, when it grows it becomes the largest in the garden. *(short pause for effect)* The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast-
- 4: Nope.
- 3: Like the yeast a baker puts in the flour
- 4: Nope. Don't get it.
- 3: Pardon?
- 4: Don't get it. You'll have to explain it a bit more.
- 3: What is your name, brother?
- 4: Mike. From Canmore.

3: Well, you see Mike, the mustard seed is small at first, but then becomes a great tree for birds to sit on.

4: Yeah. *(after a second, shakes his head)* Nope, you're going to have to dumb it down for us simple people.

3: You wouldn't expect a tree to come from a mustard seed.

4: Why not?

3: Because it's so small.

4: Small. Right, it's really small.

3: And that's what the kingdom of Heaven is like.

4: Small.

3: No.

4: Yellow.

3: No. It's unexpected. Much greater than anticipated.

4: Well obviously much bigger than expected.

3: Yes.

4: Right.

3: Okay. *(pause to make sure Mike is still with him)* The Kingdom of heaven is like a king preparing a wedding for his son.

4: Did he book the hall?

3: The kingdom is like a treasure hidden in a field.

4: Lost and muddy?

3: The kingdom is like a fisherman that lowers his net into the lake and catches many fish.

4: Smelly and talks with a funny accent?

3: It's like a farmer who scatters seeds in his field?

4: Are they mustard seeds?

3: Could be- no never mind that. There are two servants. And the master goes away. The foolish servant beats his servants and hangs out with drunkards.

4: Wait... *(tentatively)* Okay.... I'm with ya.

3: But the wise and faithful servant does his master's bidding and is prepared for when his master returns.

4: Right.

3: Therefore keep watch. If the owner of the house had known what time the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into.

4: Whoa. Slow down there.

3: What is it?

4: He knew his house was going to be robbed.

3: No, he didn't know.

4: I was going to say, who is he, Ms. Cleo?

3: Exactly, that's my point. If he had known, he would have tried to stop it.

4: Obviously. *(pause)*

3: But we don't know.

4: Why, what have you heard?

3: *(exhausted)* We don't know when things will happen, for good or ill. So we should just always do our best and be ready.

4: Right. Well CLEARLY. Why didn't you just say so?
(#3 throws his hands up in the air)

5: Then Jesus left the crowd and went away from there.

6: Be Aware

5: God is on the move.

7: End of Act three. *(All Bow)* Postlude

1: Aware.

2: Anticipation.

3: Action.

4: A change in the winds.

5: When the fig leaves come out

6: You know that summer is near.

1: And that is an encouraging thought.

2: We need not just have hope for the future

3: But we may become aware

4: Aware of Gods movements.

5: Today.

6: Now.

1: Great deeds.

2: Miracles.

3: Signs.

4: A difference.

5: When we seem overwhelmed

6: God is on the move.

7: The End. *(All Bow)*

The 7 readers exit the stage in single file

