

AN ILLUSTRATION FOR LARRY

by RENE GUTTERIDGE

GENRE: Comedy

SYNOPSIS: Divert and Befuddle attempt to keep the truth and message of the gospel from reaching Larry by confusing and distracting him.

DIRECTOR'S TIP: Have fun with this sketch. Divert and Befuddle have obviously tried this before, with about the same amount of success. They really get their subject going, then one of them goes too far. It might not hurt as you prepare for this sketch to watch a few episodes of Touched by an Angel to see what Larry's concept of a messenger from God is and to see what Divert and Befuddle are not.

TIME: Over 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 4

TOPIC: Christian Living, Temptation

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: 1 Kings 22:13-28, Job 1:6-21, Job 2:4-10

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

SUGGESTED USE: General Church Service

CHARACTERS:

Larry - A very busy Christian

Divert - A distraction sent by Satan

Befuddle - A distraction sent by Satan

Messenger - An angel of the Lord

PROPS: A bag or box of chocolate

COSTUMES: Contemporary clothing, appropriate to character; Divert and Befuddle should look like "regular guys."

SOUND: Wireless microphones

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: Bare stage

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Scene opens with LARRY standing onstage. Two angels, DIVERT and BEFUDDLE, approach him from behind.

DIVERT: Hello.

LARRY: Uh, hi. Who are you?

BEFUDDLE: We're angels.

LARRY: Angels?

DIVERT: Yeah. We're here with an important message.

LARRY: *(Still baffled)* Like ... Touched by an Angel?

DIVERT and BEFUDDLE look at each other and crack up laughing.

LARRY: What?

DIVERT: *(Trying to keep a straight face but unable)* Yeah, I'm the Irish chick and she's Della Reese.

They both crack up again.

LARRY: I don't think you're angels. Monica from Touched by an Angel would never act like this.

They both straighten up.

BEFUDDLE: Sorry.

LARRY: Okay, what's the message? I've been waiting for God to speak to me.

DIVERT: I bet you have. Well, the message is very important.

BEFUDDLE: Of the utmost importance.

LARRY: Great! What is it?

DIVERT: First, though, let's sing ourselves a song.

LARRY: A song? Like a praise song?

BEFUDDLE: Oh, praise songs are a little overrated, don't you think? I'm kind of a fan of "Old McDonald."

LARRY: ... had a farm?