

Drama Ministry®

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BARELY THERE

by KATHRYN M. GRAVES

GENRE: Comedy

SYNOPSIS: Three men arrive late to church and find that others have occupied their customary seats. As they determine what to do, they confront attitudes that are less than Christlike.

DIRECTOR'S TIP: The men's parts should be played by younger men dressed as older men.

TIME: Under 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 5

TOPIC: Kindness, Church Life

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Galatians 5:22, Colossians 3:12

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

SUGGESTED USE: Worship Service

CHARACTERS:

FRED
FRANK
PHIL

PROPS: Two short pews or six chairs, five church bulletins, five Bibles

COSTUMES: Fred, Frank and Phil all wear suits and ties. Frank wears big glasses. The two women wear contemporary church attire.

SOUND: Soft worship prelude music throughout; 3 cordless mics

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: A church worship center, just before the service starts

Drama Ministry

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BARELY THERE *by Kathryn M. Graves*

The pews (or chairs) are set center stage, facing stage right, in two rows to simulate rows of church pews. TWO WOMEN enter, stage left, each carrying a Bible and a church bulletin. They walk up to the pews as if they were walking down the aisle of a church, and sit in the front pew (or front row of chairs). FRANK, FRED and PHIL enter, stage left, each carrying a Bible and a church bulletin. They approach the seats where the TWO WOMEN sit. FRANK stands nearest to the women, then PHIL and FRED.

FRANK: Hurry up! We're already late.

FRED: We're not late yet. The choir hasn't come in yet.

FRANK: We're later than normal.

PHIL: Look, there's somebody in our seats.

FRANK: See, *(Looking at FRED over the top of his glasses)* we are late.

FRED: *(Looking around)* Are you looking at me?

FRANK: Yes, I'm looking at you! It's your fault.

FRED: Exactly how is it my fault? You drive slower than molasses.

PHIL: At least we don't get whiplash when he drives.

FRED: Is this Blame-It-on-Fred Day?

FRANK: No, it's The-Truth-Comes-Out Day.

PHIL: Okay, so we're late and there are people in our seats. Can't we just sit someplace else?

FRED: I can't hear as well on the other side.

PHIL: If that doesn't beat all!

FRED: No, really, the sound comes toward my good ear here.

PHIL: Well, you'll just have to sit sideways over there because we can't sit here.

FRANK: Yes, we can ...*(He clears his throat)* Excuse me...

PHIL: *(In a loud whisper as he grabs FRANK by the shoulder)* What are you doing?!

FRANK: *(Turning to face PHIL)* I'm going to ask them to move.

PHIL: You can't do that! It's rude.