

Drama Ministry®

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BETRAYAL AND LOVE

by GEORGE HALITZKA

GENRE: Drama

SYNOPSIS: Two followers of Jesus—Simon Peter and Judas Iscariot—have very different reactions to their Master's act of service.

DIRECTOR'S TIP: The two NARRATORS stand together by a lectern, off to one side of the stage. They read from the script. Center, JESUS, PETER, and JUDAS, in street clothes, stand with their heads lowered and backs to the audience. As they enact their roles, they step forward and speak their memorized lines to each other. JESUS carries a basin and towel.

TIME: Under 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 5

TOPIC: Easter, Biblical Times

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: John 13:1-17

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Easter

SUGGESTED USE: Worship Service, Seeker Service

CHARACTERS:

NARRATOR 1

NARRATOR 2

JESUS

PETER

JUDAS

PROPS: Basin, towel, lectern, stools

COSTUMES: Contemporary

SOUND: Wireless microphones

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: The Upper Room

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ISSN 1084-5917

Drama Ministry is a division of
Belden Worship Resources
www.beldenworshipresources.com

Publisher: Regi Stone

Executive Editor: Kimberlee Crisafulli / Assistant Editor: Scott Crain

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Lights up.

NARRATOR 1: It wasn't exactly the moment of decision, the political maneuvering was underway.

NARRATOR 2: But perhaps it was the straw that broke the camel's back.

NARRATOR 1: Dinner was in progress, bellies were getting full, and this, our friend decided, was put up or shut up time.

NARRATOR 2: Tonight, the Boss better talk about the hostile-takeover plans that were going to make three years of hard work pay off, or he was a dead man.

NARRATOR 1: Either something practical came out of this nonsense about beggars and hospital cases, or the assassination moved full speed ahead.

NARRATOR 2: And then the Boss made the move that, in our friend's mind, sealed his fate.

NARRATOR 1: He stood up—

NARRATOR 2: ...took off his suit coat—

NARRATOR 1: ...picked up a basin—

NARRATOR 2: ...and started washing feet.

Pause. JESUS, PETER, and JUDAS turn around; PETER and JUDAS sit down on stools. JESUS ties the towel around his waist, walks over to PETER, and kneels at his feet.

NARRATOR 1: Jesus went to Peter first, the man who wanted to be top dog in the Kingdom of Heaven; the guy who needed a foot washing worse than anybody else, mainly because he was always shoving his size tens in his mouth.

NARRATOR 2: Here was the guy who in a few hours, would claim he never met his best friend. At least he had a little shame:

PETER: Lord, are you going to wash my feet?

JESUS: *(Shaking his head; smiling)* You don't get it yet, Peter. But later on—

NARRATOR 2: ...about the same time a rooster crows three times—

JESUS: You'll understand.

PETER: *(Drawing away from JESUS)* You will never wash my feet!