

HOLE IN THE ROOF

by RENE L. MAUCK

GENRE: Comedy

SYNOPSIS: The story of the paralytic who was brought before Jesus told from the perspective of the four friends who lowered him through the roof.

DIRECTOR'S TIP: In order to create the "rooftop" on the flat stage, you can create a three-sided "border" using large boards. Behind the boards, weight one end of each rope with a heavy object. This creates the illusion that the ropes are going down a large hole.

TIME: Under 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 4

TOPIC: Friendship, Servanthood, Biblical Times

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: John 8:2-11

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

SUGGESTED USE: Worship Service

CHARACTERS:

SIMON --the "leader" of the group

ZACK--the skeptic/worrier

JARED--the funny guy

REUBEN--the "realist"

PROPS: Four ropes

COSTUMES: Modern dress

SOUND: Four wireless microphones

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: The rooftop of a home

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As the lights come up, we see four guys who are huffing, puffing—each holding a rope. They are preparing to lower their paralytic buddy through a hole in a roof.

SIMON: Got to hand it to you, Reuben, this roof thing was a slick idea.

REUBEN: Thanks.

SIMON: *(Looking down, talking to Joe, who they are lowering through roof)* Just hold on buddy. This is going to work.

JARED: *(To Joe)* We're gonna get you down there, buddy. You're gonna walk again, you got it?

SIMON: *(To the others)* You guys ready?

REUBEN: Yep.

JARED: Let's do it.

ZACK: *(Looking down, surveying)* I don't know ... there's no space down there. Is that a donkey?

JARED: *(Yelling down)* Hey! Buddy! Yeah, you! Come on! Move the donkey, would 'ya?

REUBEN: Unbelievable! Big fat crowd outside the door trying to get in and that guy has to bring in his donkey.

SIMON: Okay, it's clear! Joe, you are gonna meet Jesus, man! Go!

They begin lowering JOE by letting their ropes down.

REUBEN: *(Struggling a bit)* Okay. This is harder than it looks.

ZACK: I thought pulling the roof tiles off would be the tough part. Joe never seems this heavy when we haul him around town!

JARED: Whoa! Pull up, Reuben! We're gonna lose him!

REUBEN: *(Pulling up on rope)* Oh, no! He's gonna roll right off onto that scribe!

They all look frantic as they adjust their ropes.

JARED: Man! That was close!

SIMON: Okay, he's okay. We're almost there. Just a bit lower....

REUBEN: *(Trying not to laugh)* Look at that scribe. Look at his face!