

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS

by TROY SCHMIDT

GENRE: Drama

SYNOPSIS: One woman ponders who is at the door and misses an incredible opportunity.

DIRECTOR'S TIP: Do your best not to show who is behind the door. If the person cannot be hidden behind a door, have them offstage. If you will see them behind the door (from the audience), then have them dressed in the appropriate clothes (see above). Do not show the check! You can easily find a sound effect of a knock. If not, record your own.

TIME: Under 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 3

TOPIC: Youth, Salvation

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Matthew 7:7, Revelation 3:20

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

SUGGESTED USE: Worship Service, Youth Service

CHARACTERS:

JANET

CLARK

CAMERAMAN

PROPS: A door (possibly one standing in a frame), video camera, a check that reads "You Have Won One Million Dollars," a dish towel

COSTUMES: Janet is casual. Clark is dressed in a suit. Cameraman is in jeans and T-shirt.

SOUND: Three wireless microphones

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: A person's house

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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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A door sits on stage inside a frame. We hear a knock. JANET enters from offstage wiping her hands on a dish towel.

JANET: Now who could that be?

She's ready to answer, but stops as her hand reaches the doorknob.

JANET: Wait a minute. What if it's a solicitor? Wanting me to buy encyclopedias or brushes or a vacuum cleaner. We could be here for hours as he brags about the suction of his vacuum cleaner and ridicules my vacuum cleaner...my beloved vacuum cleaner that has stood by me for ten years. No...I can't do it.

She walks away. Another knock. JANET gives in and goes to answer the door. She stops.

JANET: Wait a minute. What if it's one those other religions wanting me to convert to the Fundamentalist Saints of the Latter Day Jehovahs? Then I have to go through some bizarre initiation involving bats and snakes, and go door to door with them the next time they go out. I just can't do that!

She walks away. Another knock. JANET gives in and goes to answer the door. She stops.

JANET: *(Feeling remorse)* Then again, what if it's bad news? Someone's here to tell me my Great-Great-Aunt Gertrude has died? Maybe she was attacked by porcupines or fell under a steam roller or, even worse, died in a shoot-out with the mob! I can't face that!

She walks away. Another knock. JANET gives in and goes to answer the door. She stops.

JANET: *(Thinking she's crazy)* Hold on. I hadn't thought of this. What if I'm just hearing things? What if I'm going crazy and no one really is knocking at the door and it's just my imagination?

Another knock at the door.

JANET: *(Feeling insignificant)* What if someone wants me to do something, but I just can't do it? Then I'll feel embarrassed.

Another knock at the door.

JANET: *(Inconvenienced)* What if it's some neighbor who wants to talk on and on about their weekend? I don't have the time.

Another knock at the door.

JANET: *(Feeling sorry)* What if they're at the wrong house? Then I have to tell them they made a mistake and it'll make them feel stupid!