DRama Ministry POINT, CLICK, ACTION!

PIGS IN THE PALACE

by JOHN COSPER

GENRE: Comedy

SYNOPSIS: A reality TV show producer pitches a TV series about two misfits who move into a wealthy master's house and trash it.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES: The actors need to take their parts seriously. Janet really believes in the show she's pitching. Mr. Parker is looking at the pitch through the eyes of an executive-his chief concern is the bottom line and whether he'll be able to get advertisers to pay for spots on his show. He's also concerned with audience appeal. Wesley takes pride in his job as butler. It's safe to say he's never seen behavior like that of Billie and Chuck. Billie and Chuck are poor "misfits," they aren't stupid. They may not have a firm grasp on English grammar, but they know when they're getting something for free and when they're being swindled. The more seriously these characters take themselves, the funnier it will be for the audience.

TIME: Under 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 5

TOPIC: Christian Living

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Ezekial 44:6-7

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

SUGGESTED USE: Seeker Service

CHARACTERS:

JANET - a TV producer
MR. PARKER - a network executive

WESLEY - servant of a wealthy master

BILLIE - a girl misfit CHUCK - a guy misfit

PROPS: Couch, furniture, candlesticks, knapsacks, chips

COSTUMES: Dress clothes for Janet and Mr. Parker; tux for Wesley; rags for Billie and Chuck

SOUND: Five wireless microphones; classical music, hillbilly music

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: A wealthy residence

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The stage is set like a wealthy man's living room, with a nice couch and other furnishings. MR. PARKER enters with JANET.

JANET: Mr. Parker, so good of you to come down here.

PARKER: You can dispense with the pleasantries, Janet. I'm here to listen to you pitch a TV show.

JANET: Yes, Mr. Parker. Please, have a seat.

PARKER sits, possibly in the front row of the audience.

PARKER: Don't mind if I do.

JANET: Mr. Parker, reality TV has taken over the airwaves with a vengeance. Every channel has some wacky, crazy reality program that has everyone talking the next morning.

PARKER: Gosh, I love them. All the ratings, without having to pay actors or those blood-sucking writers!

JANET: Mr. Parker, I was watching that show with the two stuck-up rich girls. The one where they live on the farm?

PARKER: Ah yes, Pearls Among Swine?

JANET: That's the one. And in an instant, it hit me! Take that idea, switch everything around, and what do you get?

PARKER: I'm dying to find out!

JANET: Music!

Classical string music plays, something upbeat.

JANET: This is the story of a house. Not just a house, but a grand palace, owned by a mighty king. This palace was left in the care of a man.

WESLEY enters.

WESLEY: Hello. My name is Wesley. Welcome to my master's house. Won't you come in?

JANET: Wesley is a wise steward and faithful servant, and he has taken good care of the king's palace.

WESLEY: And in my master's house, everyone is welcome.