

STILL THANKFUL AFTER ALL THESE YEARS

by JOHN COSPER

GENRE: Comedy

SYNOPSIS: A pilgrim family is seen on Thanksgiving day struggling against the same distractions modern families cope with in celebrating a day of thanks.

DIRECTOR'S TIP: Despite the absurdity, play the scene straight, right down to the thee's and thou's. Make sure actors speak clearly so they are understood.

TIME: 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 2M, 2F

TOPIC: Thanksgiving

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Psalm 100:4

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Thanksgiving

SUGGESTED USE: Thanksgiving services or celebrations.

CHARACTERS:

ANNOUNCER

DORCAS - a pilgrim mom

EZEKIEL - a pilgrim dad

ELIZA - a pilgrim girl

MORDECAI - a pilgrim boy

PROPS: Antique table, chairs, countertops, dishes; a sales circular

COSTUMES: Traditional pilgrim costumes

SOUND: Wireless mics if desired

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: A pilgrim home

Drama Ministry

service@DramaMinistry.com
www.DramaMinistry.com
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ANNOUNCER: Ah, Thanksgiving, the oldest, purely American holiday. It's that special time of year when we give thanks for the many blessings we enjoy. This week, families will gather together in kitchens and dining rooms around the country to sit down and celebrate this special day the same way the pilgrims did on that first Thanksgiving.

Lights up on a pilgrim home. There's a table with several chairs, and a few counters where food is being prepared. Eliza sits at a table as Dorcas enters.

DORCAS: Eliza, wilt thou get up from thine table and helpeth thy mother to set it? Tis nearly the hour appointed at which we will eat!

ELIZA: I am sorry, Mother. I was distracted by earthly goods and riches.

DORCAS: How camest thou to be so ensnared by the pleasures of the world?

ELIZA: I was reading the sales fliers for tomorrow's After Thanksgiving Sales.

Dorcas looks at the flier.

DORCAS: Mercy sakes! Is that a butter churn I see?

ELIZA: Aye, and for a mere forty wampum.

DORCAS: Cutteth that out, and layeth it upon thy father's pillow that he might purchase it for me for mine Christmas gift.

ELIZA: Yes, mother. And may I also cutteth out the ad for the tickle me cornhusk doll?

DORCAS: Aren't thou a bit old to be getting cornhusk dolls?

ELIZA: I like dolls, and this one shaketh and laugheth when thou squeezeth it.

DORCAS: Thou doest make mine head spin. Go, ye, and hurrieth back so we may setteth the table.

Eliza exits one way. Dorcas follows and calls off.

DORCAS: Mordecai, turneth off that device and come helpeth thine mother.

Mordecai enters.

MORDECAI: But mother, the parade has not reached its end. St. Nicholas is still several blocks from Macy's.

DORCAS: Turneth that nonsense off. Tis nearly time to eat!

Mordecai exits. Ezekiel enters the other way.