

Drama Ministry®

POINT. CLICK. ACTION!

THE CLICKER

by Charlie Jones and Ruth Jones

GENRE: Comedy

SYNOPSIS: A husband-and-wife missionary team are speaking at a church that sponsors their mission. The husband's goal is to bring the church up to speed on what is happening in their mission field and to ask for the church's continued prayers and support. The wife, however, needs to share how frustrating and draining mission work can be, and that she and her husband are just regular people trying to do the work God has set before them. To do this, she uses a "clicker" that freezes her husband mid-sentence, so she can address the audience directly.

TIME: Under 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 2

TOPIC: Evangelism, Church Life

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Matthew 9:36-38, 2 Corinthians 9:9-11

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

CHARACTERS:

Husband ~A missionary speaking at a sponsoring church
Wife ~His partner in mission work

PROPS: 1) A clicker for Wife (see below)
2) A podium

COSTUMES: Contemporary clothing, appropriate to character

SOUND: Two wireless mikes (or one wireless for Wife and a podium mike for Husband)

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: A church Sanctuary

Drama Ministry

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Director's Tip:

The clicker used in this sketch is a child's toy—a small metal item that makes a loud click when squeezed. The sound must be loud and reliable. The device “works” only if Husband freezes immediately when clicked and stays frozen until clicked free. The clicks will not always come at the given break but the Husband should listen for the clicks as his cue. He should be able to pick up on any word in his lines when unfrozen. One warning about this sketch. It's not intended to make missionaries look bad or to shame the audience into supporting missionaries more. Its intent is to foster communication between missionaries and the congregations that support them. Keep this focus as you prepare the sketch so the attitude portrayed by the actors is one of real emotion and reaching out, not criticizing.

WIFE is seated in the front row of the audience or in a chair to the side of the stage as the scene opens.

HUSBAND: *(At podium)* Good evening, brothers and sisters in Christ. My family and I are so happy to be here with you during your missions conference. Thank you for the opportunity tonight to give you a little idea of the work God—

WIFE clicks the clicker. HUSBAND freezes action, as if a movie was stopped mid-frame.

WIFE: *(Rises, goes onstage)* Hi. That's my husband, poor thing. Sorry, honey, I just had to stop you for a minute. *(Waves hand in front of his face—no response)* This is our standard “get up and smile and tell a good story” conference speech. But tonight, with the use of my magic clicker, I would like to invite you on a little journey. I'll be stopping the speech from time to time to take you behind the scenes. Actually, it's probably more to take you into my heart. I hope you're brave enough to venture there! *(She clicks.)* HUSBAND resumes talk in mid-sentence, having no idea that his speech is being “magically” interrupted. He is unaware of WIFE being onstage.

HUSBAND: — has called us to do in Boro Boro. While preparing for the talk tonight, I thought that I might sing a solo for you of that well loved Christian hymn, “In the Garden.” I did this at the last church I spoke at and they said they preferred me to always sing in the garden as opposed to in the sanctuary. *(Laughs broadly at his own joke)*

CLICK.

WIFE: No comment needed here. However, if you liked that joke, we have a nine volume set of Bennet Cerf Joke Books we'll gladly sell you.

CLICK.