

THE GUILT

by Rene Gutteridge

GENRE: Comedy

SYNOPSIS: A drama team cannot even begin their skit because a fellow drama member feels he cannot minister due to the guilt and shame over a recent sin.

TIME: Under 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 5

TOPIC: Sin, Shame, Youth

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Ezra 9:6-9, Daniel 9:9, Ephesians 1:7

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

SUGGESTED USE: Worship Service, Youth

CHARACTERS:

Deborah
Josh
Andrew
Susan
Brian

PROPS: Three chairs that will be put on stage later during the drama; lighting and lighting engineer

COSTUMES: Modern clothing

SOUND: Five wireless mikes

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: The stage

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Director's Tip:

To help distinguish between the parts of this script that are supposed to be real life and the parts that are supposed to be a sketch, have your actors over act the scenes that are supposed to be a sketch. This will help create a distinction between the two and it will also add comedy to the sketch to see the actors really acting badly.

While this script is comedic in nature, it contains a very dramatic message. You don't want the comedic aspect to override the transition to the message. The actor who portrays Brian needs to have an element of comedy balanced with elements of reality. The more realistic his suffering is at the end, the better transition to the sermon will be when the Pastor enters the skit.

(Stage dark. Performers come on stage. Lights are out for a moment as they get situated, then the lights come up. However, the actors don't look like they're 'in any position to act. They are all huddled up. As the lights come up, they all turn around, horrified. One of them motions for the lights to go back down, like they're not ready. A few moments pass. From the stage we can hear some mumbling and grumbling. Lights come back up. Once again, they're not ready. They motion for the lights to go back down. More mumbling and grumbling. For the third time, the lights come up. Deborah [fill in your team member's names] turns to the lighting booth.)

DEBORAH: *(yelling, frustrated)* Give us a moment, will ya?

Lights go down. In the darkness we hear the following conversation.

JOSH: Now Brian, you're going to have to suck it up and do this drama, do you hear me?

ANDREW: Come on, Brian. You can do it.

SUSAN: I can't believe this. Here we are, up in front of 300 people, and you chicken out on us like this. *(Pause)* Are our mikes on?

JOSH: No, I'm sure they turned them down. I can't believe you're doing this to me, Brian. I finally get the lead role in one of these skits, and you freak out on us.

DEBORAH: Look Brian, what's going-*(Lights suddenly come up. Deborah turns around to the lighting booth.)*

DEBORAH: Just another second, please. *(Lights go down)* What's going on with you? You've never been this afraid to do a drama before.