

THE IMAGE OF CHRIST

by John C. Havens

GENRE: Drama

SYNOPSIS: A Kinko's worker rants about his hectic work schedule at Christmastime until he sees a photograph that reminds him of the people he met due to 9/11.

DIRECTOR'S TIP: The 9/11 attacks are still a very personal subject for many people. This drama may help people reflect on the fact that many people are without their loved ones on the holidays and need to be taken care of. The humor at the beginning of this sketch is intended to provide a contrast for the worker when he talks about 9/11.

TIME: Over 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 1

TOPIC: Thankfulness

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Philippians 2:14-16

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Christmas

SUGGESTED USE: Sermon Illustration

CHARACTERS: MAN in his 30s

PROPS: A photograph (optional; can be mimed)

COSTUMES: White shirt, dark pants (anything that looks like a uniform)

SOUND: One wireless mic

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: Desk for worker to stand behind

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Kinko's worker behind a counter addresses an imaginary customer. He is visibly exhausted during the busy Christmas season and a little fed up with his job.

Hello and welcome to Kinko's. May I help you? As we are nearing the Christmas season, I'm certain that you and the illustrious patrons in line with you are all trying to get your last-minute jobs finished before you go away on vacation. I think I can also say with certainty that you have waited until absolutely the last moment to get your sloppily organized, staple-filled, utterly banal reports to my fine establishment, which means I get to lose even more hair trying to meet your Herculean expectations.

But, hey! Let's all stay in the holiday spirit, shall we? Ho ho ho, Santa's coming soon and let's just hope I can give him sixteen-trillion-quality-paper, five-color greeting cards or I get coal in my stocking this year! Or maybe Frosty will need the PowerPoint presentation of his near-death experience at the greenhouse printed onto slides to wow the Frosty-grandkids round the ice-fire this Christmas.

Whatever it is, everyone will want it now! Now, now, now! Does anyone think of starting their year-end reports before December 15th? Nooooooooooooo. But then your emergency becomes my emergency. Your very existence depends on whether or not I can punch holes in seventeen hundred Excel spreadsheets in time for them to be left on someone's desk until the New Year! You'll need thumb tacks fashioned in the shapes of mistletoe, you'll need....

Interrupted by next person in line.

Pardon me? What do you mean, "Sorry to bother you, I'll come back later." Are you messing with me?

Pauses again, feels a little ashamed.

I'm sorry, you know it's just crazy this time of year. All the machines are whirring full blast all day, drives you crazy. One of the girls got eggnog in the Ricoh L-15,000 and now we're in the dark ages back there (Points behind him towards the back room). Anyway, what can I do for you?

Pauses again, listens, looks at a photograph the customer has handed to him.

Wow, she's a looker. She your girlfriend?

Customer answers in the affirmative.

Lucky man. So you need this blown up and laminated, huh? Yeah, I can do that for you.

Worker pauses, staring at photograph.