

Drama Ministry®

POINT. CLICK. ACTION!

TIME TO RAISE YOUR HAND

by Verna L. Kokmeyer

GENRE: Comedy

SYNOPSIS: Christians give humorous but all too familiar excuses for not being involved in church ministry.

DIRECTOR'S TIP: For this drama to appear spontaneous, make sure it is well rehearsed. Place characters in positions throughout the empty worship center, ensuring that everyone in your congregation will be near a character and therefore feel a part of the action. Each participant rises and then quietly sits back down so as not to distract from the next participant.

TIME: Under 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 10

TOPIC: Church Life

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Exodus 3-4:17, Ephesians 4:11-13

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

SUGGESTED USE: Sermon Introduction

CHARACTERS: For simplicity, number the characters. Mix men and women and different ages. While characters are usually completely acting out a part, in this case it may be to your advantage to pick people who easily fit the profiles:

- #1. Someone who has volunteered often in the past
 - #2. A woman known to have a large family
 - #3. A new person whom few might recognize
 - #4. A young teen
 - #5. Someone known to be very friendly and social
 - #6. A woman who is fashion conscious
 - #7. A person you might ask to teach teenagers
 - #8. Someone who is usually quiet
 - #9. Someone most people know and empathize with
- ANNOUNCER:** a church leader whose participation in the service would not be surprising

PROPS: Script, clipboard, or tablet

COSTUMES: Contemporary

SOUND: One wireless microphone for announcer; standing microphones for other cast

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LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: Church sanctuary

Lights up on the ANNOUNCER, who speaks from the pulpit or podium.

ANNOUNCER: I've been asked to make an important announcement this morning. As we all know, God has important plans for all of us, and he calls us to be used in his service. We can all serve by volunteering right here at our church. There are a few things we need volunteers for immediately. No one has signed up, so we thought a different approach would be good. I'm here to ask for your help.

First on the list: Someone to make coffee on Sunday mornings. This is an important part of our fellowship time, but not all the sign-up dates are full.

#1: (*Stands in the congregation.*) I did that for a month, but someone always complained that the coffee was too weak or too strong. Who am I to make coffee? Then everybody got mad the Sunday I forgot. You'd be better off if I didn't volunteer. (*Sits down*)

#2: (*Stands up on the other side of the congregation*) I'll do it if I don't have to be here early. I have trouble getting the family here, but I could plug it in when we get here if that's okay.

ANNOUNCER shakes his head a little.

#3: (*Rises in a different location*) I'm kind of new here. People will wonder what right I have to even be in the kitchen.

#4: (*Rises*) I'm just a kid.

ANNOUNCER: Maybe we should just go on to the next volunteer needed. We need more people to sing in the choir. Especially men.

#5: (*Stands up in another location*) I heard that you have to sing at more than one service on Sundays. I like to go for coffee with my friends after church and spend the rest of the day relaxing. I'm not sure I could make it back in time.

#6: (*Standing reluctantly*) I don't like standing up in front with a robe on. Especially if I have something new to wear. Besides, it gets hot up there.

#1: I can't sing any better than I make coffee. You'd be better off if I didn't volunteer for that either.