

WISDOM SEEKERS

by Gerardo Marti

GENRE: Comedy

SYNOPSIS: Frank and Earnest have hiked snowy mountains for six days in their search for wisdom. When they finally meet the Wise Man, their expectations are less than met. It seems one no longer need hike the Himalayas to find true wisdom—it's available on the Internet. This amusing look at the contemporary search for wisdom will not only leave your audience laughing, it will make them thank as well.

TIME: Under 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 3

TOPIC: Wisdom

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Psalm 111:10

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

SUGGESTED USE: Pentecost Service, Christmas Service

CHARACTERS:

Frank ~ A man in search of wisdom

Earnest ~ A man in search of wisdom

Wise Man ~ A bargain-basement guru

PROPS: Two backpacks

COSTUMES: Frank and Earnest are in hiking attire; Wise Man wears white, loose, flowing clothes

SOUND: Three wireless mics

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: A snowy mountain peak

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Director's Tip:

This sketch is lots of fun, but it has a serious message. Don't overlook that as you prepare it. A good thing to work on here is dealing with physical conditions. Many sketches are set indoors. This one is set on a mountain peak, and two of the characters have been hiking for six days. Without elaborate sets, how are you going to portray that to your audience? It's easy: Let the actors show it in their behavior. For example, Frank and Earnest could move slowly and deliberately because they are exhausted from their hiking. They can stamp their feet and rub their hands together to show that it is cold outside. These are just a few examples. Talk with your actors to decide how you'll portray the setting without showing it.

Scene opens with WISE MAN sitting in lotus position, eyes closed. FRANK and EARNEST ENTER with backpacks. They have been hiking for days.

EARNEST: Six days, Frank. Six lo-ong days! Snowboards, snow sleds, hiking these huge mountains. Are we almost there?

FRANK: Earnest, I think what we've been searching for is just over this rock—look!

EARNEST: Is it him?

FRANK: Hello there! Hello-o?

EARNEST: Maybe he's meditating. Like, communing with the cosmos.

WISE MAN: I must have fallen asleep.

FRANK: Are you the wise man we've been seeking? The sage from the Seven Hills of Knowledge?

EARNEST: Born from the union of the sun, moon and stars? From the place where all eternal wisdom flows?

WISE MAN: Me? I'm from New Jersey. The wise one you're looking for went skiing today. I'm the wise man on duty. They call me Keeper of the Sacred and Ancient Mysteries. Please, be seated. What do you seek?

FRANK: O wise man, six days we've traveled through hail, sleet and snow.

EARNEST: We've overcome great physical, mental and emotional obstacles.

FRANK: We seek that which is the most precious resource in the universe ...

EARNEST: Wisdom.