

Drama Ministry®

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DEAL OR NO DEAL

by RENE GUTTERIDGE

GENRE: Comedy

SYNOPSIS: Game show contestant Greg misses an opportunity of a life time when he shuns the game because the set doesn't look like he thinks it should.

DIRECTOR'S TIP: Make it big—the more excited Howie comes across, the more comic Greg's disappointment will seem.

TIME: Under 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 7

TOPIC: Communication

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: John 1:10, Isaiah 53:1-6

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

SUGGESTED USE: Sermon Starter, Illustration

CHARACTERS:

HOWIE - the host
GREG - the contestant
LADY #1, #2, #3, #4
BANKER

PROPS: Four old-looking pieces of luggage marked 1, 2, 3, 4, table, phone, "deal bell", antibacterial gel, wipes, Lysol

COSTUMES: Modern clothing

SOUND: Two wireless microphones; one off screen voice over

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: The set of the television game show "Deal or No Deal"

Drama Ministry

service@DramaMinistry.com
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Lights up on HOWIE, speaking to the crowd:

HOWIE: Welcome to Deal or No Deal. I'm your host, Howie Mandel, and we're in for an exciting time! One million dollars is at stake tonight. Will our contestant be able to win a lot of money, or will our banker be able to negotiate him down? It'll come down to quite a climax, so let's welcome our first contestant...Greg!

GREG comes from the back curtain, yelling and screaming like a maniac, trying to get the crowd riled up. But he grows a little less enthusiastic as he looks around the stage. Something is disturbing him, but then he notices HOWIE and rushes to try to hug him. HOWIE ducks. GREG goes for another hug and HOWIE spins out of his way.

HOWIE: Knuckles only, dude. The producers were supposed to tell you.

GREG: Tell me what?

HOWIE: I have a phobia about shaking people's hands and, in general, being touched in any way except on my knuckles.

GREG: Really? I just thought you did the knuckle thing to be cool.

They bump knuckles and HOWIE reaches for the antibacterial gel and quickly squirts his hands.

GREG: *(Looking around)* Isn't this "Deal or No Deal"?

HOWIE: Yeah, why?

GREG: I don't know. I was just imagining it differently. I mean, on T.V. it looks really cool and big with lots of lights and excitement.

HOWIE: Well, aren't you here to win a million bucks?

GREG: *(Getting a little more excited)* Yeah!

HOWIE: Well then, let's get started. You know the rules. You pick the briefcase that you think holds a million dollars, then you open the other briefcases. The banker will make you an offer to buy back your briefcase, and if you want to take the offer, you ring this little bell here.

GREG: Bell? No, no, man. See, it's supposed to be a red button with a glass case over it.

HOWIE: But then our banker can't hear it.

He gestures toward the BANKER. Lights spotlight the BANKER, who is not backlit, but sitting in a chair looking tired. He's not wearing a suit, but a t-shirt.