

## HAROLD AND GABRIEL CATCH UP

by RACHEL C. HOYER

**GENRE:** Comedy

**SYNOPSIS:** Our response to God's messages is usually fear when it should be joy.

**DIRECTOR'S TIP:** While you are portraying actual biblical characters here, there is a contemporary flare to the dialogue. Don't worry about being "proper" or "overly reverent" with these characters. Portray them as relatable human beings and you'll stand a better chance of getting the message across to your audience.

**TIME:** Under 5 minutes

**CAST BREAKDOWN:** 3F, 2M

**TOPIC:** Faith, Listening to God's Word, Trust

**SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:** Mark 16:1-8; Luke 24:1-12;  
Matthew 28:1-8

**CHURCH YEAR SEASON:** Easter

**SUGGESTED USE:** Sermon starter

**CHARACTERS:**

GABRIEL- the angel of the Lord

HAROLD - his fellow angel of the Lord

MARY MAGDALENE - follower of Jesus

JOANNA - a follower of Jesus

MARY - the mother of James, a follower of Jesus

**PROPS:** None needed (the women can carry spices if they want to, but it's not necessary)

**COSTUMES:** White robes for the angels; biblical robes for the women. If these aren't available, everyone should wear jeans, and the angels should wear plain white t-shirts and the women plain earth-toned t-shirts.

**SOUND:** Wireless mics if desired.

**LIGHTING:** General stage.

**SETTING:** The empty tomb—no actual set pieces are required.

**Drama Ministry**

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ANGEL GABRIEL and ANGEL HAROLD ENTER OPPOSITE, FRONT, and meet CENTER. Lights up on ANGELS.

**GABRIEL:** Do not be afraid!

**HAROLD:** I bring good news!

*Both ANGELS crack up laughing at this inside joke. They are lines the angels have said countless times.*

**GABRIEL:** Good to see you, Harold, my friend.

**HAROLD:** You, too, Gabe. Out delivering more messages from the Lord?

**GABRIEL:** Yeah. I love giving people God's message, but I ask you: am I really that scary? Why are they all so afraid when they see me?

**HAROLD:** Well ... no, you're not scary to me, but I'm used to you. Remember—you're Gabriel, man. You've been doing this a long time. But these people we talk to—they don't see angels every day. The whole bright light and flowing raiment thing is pretty intense the first time you see it.

**GABRIEL:** Okay. Granted, it's a little unnerving to have someone appear out of nowhere and give you a message from God. I get that. But God chose them to hear a special message from Him. Don't they get that? What are they afraid of?

**HAROLD:** I don't know, my friend. I don't know. *(Pause. He suddenly has an idea.)* Wait! I know! Maybe if we gave them a little "how to" presentation ... *(GABRIEL starts to react)* No, listen. This could work! Think back. Who were the people who really got it—once they got over the whole bright lights shock thing.

**GABRIEL:** *(Thinks a minute)* Zechariah? Elizabeth's husband?

**HAROLD:** No. Remember? He didn't believe you. Even after we tried to soften the message by having you show up in the temple.

**GABRIEL:** Oh, you're right. I thought the temple seemed like a logical place for an angel of the Lord to appear. Okay. So not Zechariah.

**HAROLD:** How about Mary? Didn't she sing a song or something?

**GABRIEL:** Yes! She was afraid at first, but she recovered pretty quickly. I attribute that to her youth—more willing to believe, more open.

**HAROLD:** I know—kids get a bad rap, but they're a lot easier to talk to than adults.