

Drama Ministry®

POINT. CLICK. ACTION!

THE PRODIGAL SON'S DAD

by Rene Gutteridge

GENRE: Comedy

SYNOPSIS: Though the narrator is trying to tell the story of the Prodigal Son, the man playing the father can't quite get a handle on the perfect love shown to the son.

DIRECTOR'S TIP: Have fun with this. It's one of the few times a narrator can get into the action! If you have folks who like to do narrator parts because they don't have to "act," this is a chance to let them get a taste of "acting" while they still have the perceived safety net of a narrator part.

TIME: Over 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 4

TOPIC: Love

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Luke 15:11-32

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

SUGGESTED USE: Worship Service

CHARACTERS:

NARRATOR—stuffy, English, dressed all in black

FATHER—typical Dad-type

SON—bit of a hippie, perhaps an earring or long hair

SERVANT—butler or maid-type

OLDER SON—prep boy

PROPS: Small podium and script for Narrator

COSTUMES: All black for Narrator; appropriate clothes for father and sons; maid or butler costume, or something similar, such as white shirt, black slacks

SOUND: 5 wireless mics

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: Empty stage

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NARRATOR is stage right with a podium and a script, dressed all in black, speaking in a slight British accent.

NARRATOR: There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to his father, "Father, give me my share of the estate." So he divided his property between them. Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. When he came to his senses, he said, "How many of my father's hired men have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired men."

FATHER and SERVANT enter stage left, engaged in their own conversation.

NARRATOR: But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him. He ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

SERVANT points to the back of the auditorium, where a tired young man is making his way toward the stage.

SERVANT: Your son! He's returned home!

FATHER: (With great excitement) My son! My baby boy! He's back! He's back! (Jumping up and down) Wait a minute.

SERVANT: What?

FATHER: (Putting on a stoic demeanor, standing up straighter and putting his nose in the air) Let's not let him see us like this. Then he'll just take advantage of me again.

SERVANT: True.

The SON approaches humbly.

SON: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you—

FATHER: Yes, you have.

SON: I am no longer worthy to be called your son.

FATHER: You can say that again.

SON: Make me like one of your hired men.