

## THE QUIET MAN

by Matthew Reithmayer

**GENRE:** Drama

**SYNOPSIS:** Dr. Englund is a hotshot new doctor, preparing for a ceremony to dedicate a new wing on the hospital. His major concern is to make a good impression on the media and VIPs who will be at the ceremony. As the sketch develops, he misses a lesson in grace and humility.

**TIME:** Under 5 minutes

**CAST BREAKDOWN:** 3

**TOPIC:** Grace

**SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:** Matthew 23:11-13, Luke 14:10-12

**CHURCH YEAR SEASON:** Any

**SUGGESTED USE:** Worship Service

**CHARACTERS:**

Helen ~ A caring and compassionate nurse

Dr. Englund ~ A pompous doctor

Orderly ~ An elderly hospital volunteer

**PROPS:** None are essential, but a broom, bedpans and a clipboard are optional

**COSTUMES:** Contemporary clothing, appropriate to character

**SOUND:** Three wireless mikes

**LIGHTING:** General stage

**SETTING:** A hospital

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### Director's Tip:

The key to pulling this script off is to keep the audience from realizing that the orderly is Mr. Mendelbaum. When Helen first enters, she is nice to him because they are friends, but she is definitely a nurse giving instructions to an orderly. She shouldn't couch her orders because of who he is — that would give him away immediately and ruin the effect of the sketch. Helen should also be careful, when trying to interrupt Dr. Englund, not to make overt eye contact with the orderly. Again, that would give away his true identity. Instead, she should ignore him and we should think she's trying to get the doctor's attention for some other reason.

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*An elderly man in a hospital orderly's uniform moves about onstage, miming straightening up a bedroom. He makes the bed, fluffs the pillow, etc. HELEN ENTERS.*

**HELEN:** Hi, Frank. Say, could you make sure this entire area is in top shape? The news crew will be here in just a few minutes and I think they'll want to bring their cameras back here.

**ORDERLY:** Sure thing, Helen. I'll get right on it.

**HELEN:** Thanks.

*DR. ENGLUND ENTERS.*

**HELEN:** Dr. Englund. There you are. The news crew will be here any minute. They'll set up in this area of the new wing. Then you'll give your speech, and then they'll do some ribbon-cutting ceremony at the main doors. Then the crew would like some time to look around.

**DR. ENGLUND:** All right. Let's just get this over with. I hate these dedication things. And I don't like speeches.

**HELEN:** Well, you're the new hotshot doctor. The administration thought it would be good press.

**DR. ENGLUND:** Yeah, yeah. "Ladies and gentlemen of the press ..." Or do you have to say "Members of the press" now?

**HELEN:** Just say, "Good afternoon."

**DR. ENGLUND:** "Good afternoon, and welcome to our multimillion dollar emergency-care wing. "How much is multimillion? And by the way, how much money does a person have to have before he can donate a multimillion?"