

WHAT DOES THANKSGIVING MEAN TO YOU

by H.S. Vigeveno

GENRE: Comedy

SYNOPSIS: Three families enter into Thanksgiving day with three different plans to enjoy it.

DIRECTOR'S TIP: This sketch gives us three fine, if not obvious, negative examples regarding Thanksgiving. As there are no positive examples of what Thanksgiving should mean to us, be careful to use this piece only when someone can follow it up with positive examples. The dialogue is written "over the top," meaning your actors will need to be exaggerated in their portrayals for maximum effectiveness.

TIME: Under 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 7

TOPIC: Thankfulness

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Luke 17:11-19, Psalm 138

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Thanksgiving

SUGGESTED USE: Retreat, Worship Service

CHARACTERS:

NARRATOR

FATHER- a football fan

SON- also a football fan

JAMES- married to Miranda

MIRANDA- married to James

ALICE- a mother and wife

FRANK- father and husband

JIM- their son

PROPS: Newspaper, table set for Thanksgiving meal

COSTUMES: Contemporary

SOUND: General

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: Three different family homes. The third has a table set for Thanksgiving dinner.

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NARRATOR: What does Thanksgiving mean to you? Something like this?

FATHER: I want to see those games today!

SON: Me too, Dad.

FATHER: This year, Detroit may finally do it.

SON: You may be right.

FATHER: I've waited a long time for the Lions to win their division. I remember the teams from years ago...

SON: It'll be a great game, Dad.

FATHER: Says here that the game starts at 9:30.

SON: Mom will prepare some good snacks for us. She knows how we like to watch football on Thanksgiving.

FATHER: And after the Lions, it's the Cowboys.

SON: I'm rooting for the Cowboys, too.

FATHER: Wouldn't it be something if Dallas played like they used to?

SON: When does the Dallas game come on?

FATHER: Says here about noon. *(Calling to wife)* Marge, we're watching football until 3:00! Don't plan to servedinner until then!

SON: And Dad, there'll be some college games tomorrow, too. Thanksgiving is a great time for football.

FATHER and SON exit.

NARRATOR: Or is Thanksgiving something like this?

JAMES and MIRANDA walk in.

JAMES: Do we have to go to your mother's again for Thanksgiving?

MIRANDA: Yes, Hon. We're expected about 1:00.

JAMES: But we have to drive through [some congested traffic area/city near you]. You know how I hate thattraffic!

MIRANDA: Yes, I know.