

## WHAT TO DO WITH THE WOUNDED

by Jeffrey D. Collins

**GENRE:** Light Comedy/Drama

**SYNOPSIS:** Two believers discuss what they should do when they encounter a believer who has sinned.

**DIRECTOR'S TIP:** The opening moments of a drama are crucial, as the audience members are trying to find their cue as to what they're seeing and how they're supposed to react. This can be especially tricky in shorter dramas used at the beginning of church services, as there's little or no opportunity to give the audience a context for the scene. What to Do with the Wounded is written to begin with an injured Christian stumbling out onto the stage and collapsing, apparently unconscious. Although in the context of the script this is not intended to be funny, it may result in a chuckle from the audience simply because of its oddity. (It's also a challenge for an actor to enter with a bloody T-shirt and collapse on a church stage without "overdoing" it.)

**TIME:** Under 5 minutes

**CAST BREAKDOWN:** 3

**TOPIC:** Judging Others, Church Life, Sin

**SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:** Galatians 6:1

**CHURCH YEAR SEASON:** Any

**SUGGESTED USE:** Worship Service, Seeker Service

**CHARACTERS:** THREE MEN: Two are speaking parts and one is the wounded person. Women could also play the parts; the sketch would work best with all men or all women.

WOUNDED BELIEVER PHIL—The concerned character. He plays his part straight. BOB—More concerned with appearances. His part is slightly comedic, but he must appear as though he is trying to be sincere.

**PROPS:** A large gauze bandage, a tube of ointment, and a pair of latex or plastic gloves; Bibles

**COSTUMES:** Sunday Church attire; A dirty T-shirt that has a red stain for WOUNDED BELIEVER

**SOUND:** Two wireless microphones

**LIGHTING:** General Stage

**SETTING:** A sidewalk

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ISSN 1084-5917

Drama Ministry is a division of  
**Belden Worship Resources**  
www.beldenworshipresources.com

Publisher: **Regi Stone**

Executive Editor: **Kimberlee Crisafulli** / Assistant Editor: **Scott Crain**

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*The wounded person with the dirty and stained T-shirt enters from one side. He stumbles and falls to the floor facing the audience so his stained T-shirt can be seen. After a moment, PHIL and BOB enter from the other direction. They are dressed in their Sunday best and are carrying Bibles.*

**PHIL:** Wasn't that a wonderful service this morning?

**BOB:** Yeah. I certainly felt the presence of the Holy Spirit.

*PHIL nods his head in agreement. They look up and notice a wounded man lying on the ground. They stop and gasp at the sight. They look frightened.*

**PHIL:** Is that what I think it is?

**BOB:** Yeah. It is. A wounded Christian.

**PHIL:** What should we do?

**BOB:** There's only one thing to do.

**PHIL:** What's that?

**BOB:** Well, shoot him, of course.

*PHIL looks at BOB with surprise.*

**PHIL:** Are you serious?

**BOB:** That's what we've always done. We can't have wounded Christians lying around here and there. The world has to see that Christ makes a difference in our lives.

**PHIL:** I agree, but we're still fallible, aren't we?

**BOB:** *(Speaking softly)* Yeah, but we don't need to advertise it.

**PHIL:** Let's not shoot him. Let's think of something else.

**BOB:** We could just avoid him. You know, walk by like we didn't see him. What he did is really none of our business anyway.

**PHIL:** I know it's none of our business, but why should we avoid him?

**BOB:** Well, for one thing, you won't be exposed to what he's done. What if he committed adultery or something like that? You don't want to touch an adulterer do you?

**PHIL:** It's not a disease. It's a sin.