

WILL WORDS WIGGLE

by Kathryn M. Graves

GENRE: Comedy

SYNOPSIS: How would Peter react on a talk show when confronted with the question: Who is Jesus? Although you might think he'd deny he ever knew the man (three times), in this witty drama we actually discover that he has a hard time convincing the host that Jesus really rose from the dead. This humorous piece is great for the Easter season or a service on evangelism to remind Christians that we need to be patient when sharing the Gospel with those who haven't heard the good news.

DIRECTOR'S TIP: The technician in this piece can be used to great effect; he and William can exchange any number of surprised or bemused looks at Peter's comments.

TIME: Under 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 3

TOPIC: Easter, Evangelism

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: John 19:17-20:24

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Easter

SUGGESTED USE: Easter

CHARACTERS:

William Wordswipple—middle-aged
Peter—early 30s Technician

PROPS: Two secretary's swivel-type chairs, ink pen, several sheets of typing paper, make-up compact, large make-up brush

COSTUMES: William Wordswipple—dark slacks, white dress shirt, dark tie, ink pen in his hand, optional lapel microphone on his tie
Peter—khaki pants, colored shirt, loud tie
Technician—jeans, polo shirt

SOUND: 2 cordless mics

LIGHTING: General stage; TV studio effects if possible (spotlight)

SETTING: TV Studio

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The set of a television news show. WILLIAM and PETER enter stage left and walk to the chairs set up center stage behind the table. They sit in the chairs. The TECHNICIAN enters stage right carrying a make-up compact and large make-up brush. He stands between the chairs and powders WILLIAM's face, then PETER's. WILLIAM turns his face up to make it easier for the technician. PETER coughs and waves his hand in front of his face. The TECHNICIAN adjusts the lapel microphones on each man, then exits stage right. Both men sit facing the audience. WILLIAM picks up the ink pen and shuffles the papers on the table in front of him.

Spotlight is turned on (or house lights come up).

WILLIAM: Good evening. I'm William Wordswiggles and this is "The Question". Our guest tonight is Peter, who insists that the Jewish man crucified last Friday in Jerusalem is in fact very much alive. I know it sounds impossible, but we just pose the question and let you, the audience, decide. *(He turns to face PETER.)* Welcome to our show, Peter.

PETER: Thank you, William. *(He tugs at his tie knot and stretches his neck nervously.)*

WILLIAM: Just call me Will.

PETER: Oh, uh, Will . . . Wordswiggles.

WILLIAM: Yes. Now, our sources tell us you claim that Jesus is still alive. Do you?

PETER: Not still alive. He died all right, but he rose from the dead and he's alive again.

WILLIAM: You're kiddin' me!

PETER: Do I look like the kidding type?

WILLIAM: Well no, but I gotta tell ya, I have a problem with that. How can you make such a statement?

PETER: I've seen him myself.

WILLIAM: Are you in the habit of seeing ghosts?

PETER: He is not a ghost! *(He raises his voice to shout.)* I'm telling you, Jesus is alive! *(He jumps up and slams his palms on the table, knocking his chair backward.)*

WILLIAM: O.K., O.K.! Peter, have a seat. *(PETER sits down, pulls at his tie and shrugs his shoulders.)* So, assuming he is alive, how did Jesus come back from the dead?

PETER: He's God.