



# RESOURCES FOR DRAMA TEAMS

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## SCRIPTS AND SITES

1. Write your own.
2. Read this book.
3. Find *Drama Team Sketchbook*, a companion to this volume.
4. Curt Cloninger, a veteran—and very good—solo performer, has two books of scripts for worship available on his website: <[www.curtcloninger.com](http://www.curtcloninger.com)>.
5. *Image Journal* publishes scripts and interviews with writers, actors and other artists. You can visit their site at <[www.imagejournal.org](http://www.imagejournal.org)>.
6. There is a massive number of websites, including <[www.willowcreek.org](http://www.willowcreek.org)>, <[www.mustardworks.org](http://www.mustardworks.org)>, <[www.ridinglights.org](http://www.ridinglights.org)> and <[www.cita.org](http://www.cita.org)> (Christians in Theater Arts), offering training, journals, scripts and other materials for free and for purchase. But remember, it's a wildly mixed bag o'quality out there, so for scripts, consider number 1 above.

## A FEW GOOD BOOKS

Some are Christian, some are academic; we've found them all useful.

### *On Directing*

Ball, William. *A Sense of Direction*. New York: Drama Publishers, 1984.

Bogart, Anne. *A Director Prepares*. New York: Routledge, 2001.

Dean, Alexander, and Lawrence Carra. *Fundamentals of Play Directing*. 5th edition. Orlando: Holt, Rinehart & Winston, 1989.

### *On Acting*

Bruder, Melissa, et al. *A Practical Handbook for the Actor*. New York: Vintage, 1986.

Hagen, Uta, with Haskel Frankel. *Respect for Acting*. New York: Macmillan, 1973.

Morton, Craig, and Ken Hawkey. *Word of Mouth*. Scottsdale, Penn.: Herald, 2000. Includes readers' theater scripts.

### *On Writing*



Buechner, Frederick. *Telling the Truth: The Gospel as Tragedy, Comedy, and Fairy Tale*. New York: Harper & Row, 1977.

McKee, Robert. *Story, Substance, Structure, Style, and the Principles of Screenwriting*. New York: Regan Books, 1997.

### *On Putting Things Together*

Dyrness, William A. *Visual Faith: Art, Theology, and Worship in Dialogue*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2001.

Siewert, Alison, et al. *Worship Team Handbook*. Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity Press, 1998. Includes scripts.





# WORD

***Alison Siewert***

I wrote this sketch for an event that focused on Scripture study. As I worked on it, it occurred to me that the Hebrews talked directly about God's Word all the time and delighted in it. But I couldn't think of many contemporary ways we deal directly with delight in the Word. So . . . the language in this sketch is meant to be enjoyable, to go quickly and lightly.

## CAST OF CHARACTERS

Player 1, Player 2

*Two actors speak—each one treats his or her lines as a contiguous thought, a stand-alone unit; but the two voices are timed so as to allow for space and overlap, so that both may be heard in interplay, as one elucidates the other. Toward the end (the last 14 lines) the two players take on clear rhythm. Keep the pace up and have fun.*



**PLAYER 1**

**PLAYER 2**

Word

What word?

The word

Word what—

Say “word”

*[smarmy accent]* The Holy Bible

Let's talk

God talked

Write it down

People wrote

Every word

What they got



Heard a word

Lots of words

How many

They described

In there?

What they got

When things happened

God talked

Stuff happened

God acted

Heard a word

Like a story

Saw a word

*(as movie title) The Epic Adventure of God and People*

It was real, though

God's thing

It went down

People saw

Some days I wonder

People listened

What's in that book?

I wonder

In that book—

What was it like to hear God talk?

Yeah, what's in there?

How did they know it was him?

I dunno

I guess they knew . . .

Stuff really happened

People wrote

God laughing

Not knowing, of course

God shouting

That their words

And whispering

Words became huge

Whisper and shout and in the middle

Words turned into—

God said stuff

—Life

Life happened

God talked

Stuff happened

So now I wanna know

Just imagine

What's in that book?

What's in that book

*[evangelist accent]* In the Bible

A lot of words

*[smarmy accent]* In the Scripture

How many?

I wanna know

I dunno

Tell me everything

A very large number

Can someone please explain this to me?

Loads o' words, stuff God did

I wanna know

You gotta know

What it was

What people hear

What it's like

What God said

What's in there

What you hear

'Cause the Word

It talks

When God picks up a voice

He talks

Right here

Here—well, there

In the middle of people

There in their language

Like a local

God picked up on the dialect

He says stuff

And told them a little about himself

Says a lot of stuff

So they could

Very funny, sometimes

Get an idea about God

Like once he talked through an ass

Get a picture of God

And one time he explained stuff from a little shrub

Get an idea about God

And then, this once, God showed a guy his behind only

Get an idea about God

And that deal, where he did little wheelies in the air

What an idea about God

God talks a lot

God's idea about God

In that book, God says stuff

For one, he said, they could

That's one thing, when you listen

Get to know him

Listen up if you want to

Find out what's up

Listen up if you want

It's the Word

Take it in

Like a local

Soak it up

'Cause God picks up a voice

Pay attention

Wraps words in voice

Cause it's everything

Has a beautiful voice

All your ears ever hoped for

Sometimes he sings it

Your ears get full

In our dialect

*(together with Player 1)* And the rhythm kicks in

*(together with Player 2)* . . . rhythm kicks in

*[next twelve lines in rhythm]* God tells

*[in rhythm]* Like a local



What he's like

Listen up

What word

It's the Scripture

That word

It's the Bible

In there

God talks

That book

Listen up

What's up?

Take it in

God's up

Think it over

God's voice

God talked

Voice box

God talks

Voice book

In our voice

In a guy

Like a local

God picked up sound



In our dialect

We can hear him

*(slower)* Can you feel God's voice?

*(slower)* And it's in that book

*The end.*

## SKETCHIMONY

### ***Micah Trippe and Chris Hull***

Here's a prime example of using a sketch to make an announcement. It stays light but also communicates a lot of information in a short time because the lines get traded quickly. A 'Mark Study' is an intensive inductive Bible study of Mark's Gospel. Use this as a model for writing your own announcements.

#### **CAST OF CHARACTERS**

Micah, Chris

CHRIS: Hi, I'm Chris.

MICAH: And I'm Micah.

CHRIS: And together we are

MICAH & CHRIS *[together]*: Two white junior men.

CHRIS: Two years ago we embarked

MICAH: On what some might call