

## **CBF Offering for Global Missions Skit/Drama**

*In this skit, you have three characters and a narrator. The narrator will read from an open Bible at the side of the stage. If possible, have the three characters (a refugee, an artist, and an earthquake survivor) dress their parts or hold a prop that places them in their role. Reader 1 is a refugee, Reader 2 is an artist, and Reader 3 is an earthquake survivor.*

*Stage directions: Each of the three readers should begin facing the audience, but once they have spoken they should turn their back to the audience. When it is their time to speak again, they should turn back around and remain facing the audience until the end. The Narrator can stand at the side of the stage or be a voice from off-stage.*

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Reader 1: I am a refugee. When my country broke out in war, I had to flee with my family. We left with only the clothes on our backs. We went to a refugee camp and then migrated to Canada where we pleaded our case.

Reader 2: I am an artist, but my life has not been easy. My family is poor and I was not able to go to school. So I focused on my art instead. I love to paint and play music on traditional instruments – the same instruments that have been played by my family for generations.

Reader 3: I am a survivor. When an earthquake came to my village, every member of my family was killed. My house was in ruins. I was away at school, so I survived. Like many other people in my community, I have lost so much.

Narrator: O Lord, you have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away. You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely. You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.<sup>1</sup>

*Stage directions: At this point, each reader should be facing away from the audience, and as they read their second piece, they should turn back around.*

Reader 1: I am a refugee, but I have found refuge. In my host country, strangers welcomed me. New friends helped me find a place to live and furniture to fill my house. Now, I help other refugees as they arrive. I know what it is like to be new and alone. I am a refugee who helps others like me.

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<sup>1</sup> Psalm 139:1-6, NRSV.

Narrator: When an alien resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the alien. The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.<sup>2</sup>

Reader 2: I am an artist. When I encounter difficulty in life, I turn to my art to express myself. It is my way of worshiping God. It is my way of reminding others of the common humanity we all share.

Narrator: O, sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth. Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples. For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; he is to be revered above all gods.<sup>3</sup>

Reader 3: I am a survivor. I am rebuilding my life. After the earthquake, generous sponsors helped me enroll in school. I am training to become a midwife. Now, I hope to help others by bringing new life into this world.

Narrator: Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.<sup>4</sup>

Narrator: (*Closing the Bible and turning to face the audience*): God meets us where we are, even in the most desperate times in our lives. God turns our mourning into dancing, makes beauty from ashes. As recipients of such grace, we are asked to do the same for others – to be the presence of Christ – to find the place where God’s calling meets our passion.

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<sup>2</sup> Lev. 19:33-34, NRSV.

<sup>3</sup> Psalm 96:1-4, NRSV.

<sup>4</sup> Matthew 11:28-29, NRSV.

## **Alternate Presentation/Visual Ideas**

- If you have dancers in your church, or access to a local dance troupe or a group of musicians, invite them to perform in your church. After they are done performing, tie their artistic performance back to the work of the Baileys in Bali by reading the missions moment that focuses on the Bailey's work.
- Focus on the Furniture Bank of Ottawa through a creative "art instillation" at your church. Before a church service, remove all the furniture from the meeting room (pulpit, chairs on the stage, and if possible, the chairs or pews congregants sit in). Start the service by reading the missions moment about the furniture bank and the Wyatt's work in Ottawa. End the missions moment by saying, "You might notice that much of our furniture is gone. Today, we will worship by standing in solidarity with those who live in empty houses, who sleep on cold floors, who are saving up money to rebuild their lives. Today, we stand in solidarity with people who are helped by the Furniture Bank of Ottawa – a ministry we support by giving to the CBF Offering for Global Missions."