

CAST
CELISSE
LINDSAY

(Audience member is escorted back to his/her seat, as...)

JESUS

If a man in authority asks you to go one mile with him, go with him to. Give when you are asked to give and never turn your back...

(spins around)

...on one who wants to borrow.

(to musical director or musician)

Hey (name), can I borrow your drum?

(MD or musician hands him a conga drum, and JESUS starts a rhythm on it. He nods to CELISSE, and she leaps up and takes over.)

CELISSE

START
HERE

(accompanying herself on drum)

A man on his way to Jericho
Was set upon by robbers

ALL

Oh oh oh!

CELLISE

They beat him

ALL

Oh!

CELISSE

Stripped him

ALL

Eek!

CELISSE

And knocked him on the head
And when they left
They left him for dead

Now it so happened a priest came by
And the poor broken man he spied
He said...

LINDSAY

(as PRIEST)

Meh, you're not an alter boy... *(or some other priest-related ad lib)*

TELLY
MORGAN
JESUS
GEORGE
JUDAS
UZO
Audience Member
MICK

(ALL begin "making up" with their enemies in a general love fest that gradually gets noisier during the following. By the end, ALL have gotten into a group circle and are shouting "Love-love-love" as they jump up and down, or some equally disruptive and ostentatious display of how much they "love" one another. As this is occurring, JESUS continues his lesson.)

(JESUS)

If you love only those who love you, what is there extraordinary in that? Even the heathen do as much. No, your goodness must know no bounds, just as your Heavenly Father's goodness knows no limit.

(By now, the "love fest" has become so noisy, JESUS has to cross USL, pick up saw-horse, and slam it down to get their attention, or get their attention some other way. ALL fall silent and turn to look at him.)

But, be careful not to make a show of your religion before men.

ALL

(They hang their heads in shame.)

Oh.

JESUS

Because if you do, no reward awaits you in the kingdom of my Father. When you do some act of charity, don't announce it with a flourish of trumpets, as the heathen do in the synagogues and in the streets. I tell you they do it just to win admiration from men. No, when you do some act of charity...

(JESUS takes out magic scarf.)

...don't let your right hand know...what your left hand is doing.

(JESUS changes color of the scarf.)

[NOTE: In the 2012 Broadway Revival, the trick involved JESUS pouring what appeared to be colorless water into another glass of water and "changing" it into wine, which he then drank.

ALL

(As if this is the most wonderful magic trick they have ever seen)

Ohhhhhhh.

TELLY

(To audience)

Did you see that?

JESUS

Your good deed must be in secret.

(ALL put their heads together and whisper.)

TELLY

(To audience, smugly)

It's a secret!

(JUDAS leaves group, crosses down to audience)

JUDAS

(Authoritatively)

What the Good Master is telling us is that when God tells a little secret on us, the angels write it down in a big...

[NOTE: JUDAS' explanation of what JESUS is telling the OTHERS can be improvised, as long as it vaguely has to do with secrets.]

(JESUS crosses to JUDAS)

JESUS

No, no, no. Your heavenly father, who sees what is done in secret...

(Turns to others)

.. He will what?

ALL

Reward you!!!

(JESUS pops a champagne popper behind JUDAS' back and JUDAS happily tries to catch the streamers. With a gesture of encouragement from JESUS, JUDAS narrates the next story.)

JUDAS

There was once a rich man who dressed in purple and the finest linen,...

UZO

(a la Donald Trump)

You're fired!

[NOTE: The Rich Man and Abraham's lines in the following are from the 2012 Broadway revival. Of course, other character choices are possible if desired.]

JUDAS

...and every day feasted in great magnificence.

UZO

I like my steak done medium well, if you can't do that, you're fired.

JUDAS

At his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus...

GEORGE AND TELLY

Lazarus! Come on down!

(They grab an AUDIENCE MEMBER and bring him/her on stage to portray Lazarus.)

JUDAS

...who would have been glad to have satisfied his hunger with the scraps from the rich man's table.

AUDIENCE MEMBER

(Reading from notecards)

Hi, I'm Lazarus. Would it be possible to have a scrap of bread from your table?
Or a Pop-Tart?

JUDAS

Even the doggy-doggies used to come and lick his open, running sores

(GEORGE and TELLY "lick" the AUDIENCE MEMBER and lift their legs to "pee" on him/her.)

JUDAS

Well, one day Lazarus died...

(AUDIENCE MEMBER reads card and plays dead.)

...and was carried away...

TELLY

(to AUDIENCE MEMBER)

Get up!

JUDAS

...to be with Abraham and the angels.

(NICK appears as Abraham, as GEORGE and TELLY, as "Charlie's Angels," bring the AUDIENCE MEMBER to him.)

The rich man also died and was buried in Hades...

UZO

(Addressing OTHERS, who are portraying demons.)

What is this, a Hilton?

JUDAS

...where he was in torment!

(The "demons" set upon UZO.)

(JUDAS)

He looked up and there, far away, was Abraham with Lazarus close beside him.

UZO

Oh Father Abraham, do me a favor, send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water to cool my tongue for I am in agony in this dump.

NICK

(As Abraham as Borat)

I'm sorry Mr. Trumple, remember, all good things fell to you while you were on Earth and all the bad to my wife Lazarus. And now it is he who has consolation here and you who are in constipatio here.

UZO

Listen, send Lazarus to my father's house, The Trump Towers, The Trump Soho, The Trump Palace, The Trump Taj Mahal...*(etc.)*...where I have four brothers to warn them so that they too may not come to this dump.

NICK

You crazy comb-over man. They've got Moses and the prophets. Let'em listen to them.

UZO

But if someone from the dead should rise, then they would listen.

NICK

Look, if they don't listen to Moses and the prophets, they're not gonna listen to anybody, even if someone should rise from the dead.

UZO

Let me see your birth certificate. I don't know how you got this job, I'd take it from you if I didn't...

ALL

(Nick and Uzo are arguing as others join in. They are interrupted by...)

END

CELISSE

Hey!

(Perhaps she accompanies herself on a ukulele, as in the 2012 Broadway revival)

#6 - *Learn Your Lessons Well*

I CAN SEE A SWATH OF SINNERS SETTIN' YONDER
AND THEY'RE ACTIN' LIKE A PACK OF FOOLS.
GAZING INTO SPACE, THEY LET THEIR MINDS WANDER,
'STEAD OF STUDYING THE GOOD LORD'S RULES.