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## **"A Case of the Healthies"**

by  
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**What** The religious leaders of Jesus' time thought themselves as 'healthy' and not 'sick' with sin. When they confronted Jesus for his willingness to associate with the outcasts, the 'sick' of their society, Jesus reminded them of his true mission, and their hypocrisy. This skit illustrates Jesus' message in a modern-day allegory.

Themes: Grace, Hypocrisy, Religion, Sin, Hospital, Forgiveness

<b>Who</b>	Ben	Johnathon
	Sheila	Mindy
	Jason	Betty
	Arlene	Phil
	Trent	Candice: Adult woman
	Sick Person 1: Any age/gender	Sick Person 2: Any age/gender

**When** Present day

**Costumes** Casual clothing

**Props** Assorted chairs, tables, lamps, magazines, to decorate a doctor's office set. "Patient Check in" sign. Certain waiting room cast have cell phones. Clipboard and non-descript paper attached to it.

**Why** Luke 5: 31, 32

**How** The setting is a doctor's waiting room/receptionist area. Use a projected digital picture of a doctor's office if possible. Decorate the set with several chairs, tables with lamps, even a small couch, etc. Stage left mark as a receptionist/check-in area. Consider displaying a sign that says "Patient Check in" in that area. Actor ages can vary as needed to suit your needs.

**Time** 5-6 minutes

At curtain, all **cast** except for **Ben**, **Sheila**, **Candice**, and **Sick Person 1**, and **Sick Person 2** are sitting in the waiting room. Everyone is fidgeting with their phones, looking at their watches, drumming their fingers, etc. After a few beats, **Ben** and **Sheila** enter from stage right. **Sheila** is carrying a clipboard.

**Jason:** (to **Ben** and **Sheila**, angry) There you are. About time!

**Betty:** I was worried we'd be late for our appointment here!

**Group:** Yeah!

**Ben:** (matter of fact, address the group) Sorry everyone, health business, couldn't be helped. (**Group** grumbles a bit more, then settles down) I'm glad you all made it. I think it's best that we present a united front here. Now, before we go any further, I've asked Sheila here to take a quick inventory of your health status, to make sure it's what it needs to be before we move ahead. Agreed? (**Group** shrugs, agrees)

**Sheila:** (refers to clipboard) OK, Jason and Arlene. (they acknowledge) What's not wrong with you?

**Jason:** Not a thing! Fit as a fiddle!

**Arlene:** (jumps up) Ready to dance the day away! (does a little shuffle, **Group** laughs, she sits down)

**Sheila:** Perfect and thank you! (looks at clipboard, then up) Um, Trent?

**Trent:** I've got the health of a, well, an eighteen year old! (**Group** applauds)

**Sheila:** Super! Now, Johnathon and Mindy. (encouraging a positive response) Healthy and happy?

**John/Mindy:** And how! (they give exaggerated thumbs up, more applause)

**Sheila:** So great to hear! Now...

**Phil** interrupts with a very small cough. Everyone freezes and stares at him in an accusatory manner.

*After a beat.*

**Phil:** *(pleading)* I was, uh, er, just clearing my throat! Really! I'm fine, fine I tell ya! One hundred percent!

**Sheila:** *(not convinced)* Uh huh. Well, OK, I can let that go this time.

*Phil wipes his brow in relief.*

**Betty:** *(hand raised, pleading)* Oh, oh, can I go? Can I?

**Sheila:** *(refers to her clipboard)* Yes, of course. Now, let's end on a high note, Betty.

**Betty:** *(proudly)* I could write a book about all the things I don't have! **(Group applauds)** Healthy as a button!

**Ben:** *(starts a chant)* Healthy! Healthy!

**Group** starts chanting "Healthy!" too and they get up and give each other high fives and celebrate a bit. During this time, **Candice** enters stage right. She is visibly sick. She is disheveled and coughing, etc. No one sees her at first but then they quickly do, and yell out.

**Group:** Ewwwww!

**Candice:** *(to the Group)* I... I don't have an appointment, but I need to see the doctor.

**Ben:** *(with disdain)* Well, get in line, sister! We have an appointment!

**Candice:** But I'm-

**Ben:** *(waves over the Group)* All these people are ahead of you!

**Candice:** *(desperate)* I'm so sorry, but I need immediate attention. Can I cut in front of... *(starts a coughing fit)*

**Group** reacts in disgust and either back away or push back in their seats, away from her.

**Ben:** *(backs away)* Oh man! You're not contagious, are you?

**Candice:** I... I don't think so. I'm sorry, I don't want to make anyone sicker than they are.

*Hearing that, the **Group** gasps in disbelief.*

**Sheila:** *(condescending tone)* My dear... *(referring to **Group**)* these people are far beyond being susceptible to any *(with disdain)* sickness.

***Phil** sneezes and the whole **Group** stares at him.*

**Phil:** *(nervous laugh)* Those darn allergies and all...

**Candice:** So, wait. If you're all so healthy, then why are you here to see the doctor?

**Ben:** *(condescending tone)* We're here because we heard that he *(pointing to stage left)* is new in town, and...

**Sheila:** *(continuing his thought, proudly)* And we thought we'd come in and help him with his diagnoses.

**Ben:** *(continuing to explain)* We want to show him the importance of focusing on *us*.

**Sheila:** Yes, he needs to focus on *us* and not *(to **Candice**)*, well, on you people.

***Ben** starts the "Healthy!" chant and the **Group** chants and then pose together proudly, as **Trent** takes a selfie with them. Right after that, **Ben** stifles a sneeze. Others look at him nervously, but continue a smile, but not so proudly anymore.*

**Candice:** *(confused, then)* Wait. I need help now, and I know it. But you all think you're not like me? *(**Group** reacts)*

**Group:** Ewwwwwww.

**Candice:** *(a bit of a genuine warning)* Hey, my condition snuck up on me and it's full blown now.

**Sheila:** We'll never be like... *(clears throat)* you.

**Candice:** Hmmm. I kinda feel sorry for you. Pretending to be healthy must be hard. *(Group reacts with outrage. She continues, now light sarcasm in her voice)* And be careful. *(Phil sneezes bigger)* Something is going around, *(she goes to the receptionist patient check in area and pretends to talk to an unseen person there)*

**Sheila:** *(to Group, waving Candice off)* Never mind, they'll make her wait. After all, we got here first.

**Ben:** Yeah. *(small sneeze, then to Group)* She'll never get in to see...

**Ben** stops as he and the rest watch **Candice** nodding her head to the unseen receptionist, thanking them and then exiting stage left.

**Ben:** What?! She got in!

**Sheila:** *(indignant)* Hey!!

**Sheila, Ben** and the **Group** protest at the receptionist area, all talking at once. During this, the **Group** starts to exhibit signs of illness, with symptoms growing in size.

**Group Ad lib:** We were here first! We won't be ignored! Who's this doctor think he is anyway? Doesn't he know how important we are?!, etc.

As they continue protesting, **Sick Person 1** and **Sick Person 2** enter from stage right and go to receptionist area and then, as if waved in, exit stage left after **Candice**.

**Ben:** *(to Group, coughing)* Well, we don't have to take this. This so-called doctor would rather sully himself by wasting his time on these, these *(hacking)* hopeless wrecks, when he could have basked in the glow of our healthy purity, decency, and wisdom!

The **Group** agrees while still exhibiting symptoms.

**Sheila:** *(sneezing)* Let's spread the word about this guy. Get him kicked out of town!

**Ben:** Yeah, that'll teach him! *(coughs)*

**Sheila:** *(still exhibiting symptoms)* Let him take care of all those sickos.

**Ben:** It's good *(wheezing now)* to be better.

**Group** agrees and symptoms get worse. **Group** slowly make their way and exit stage right, all weakly repeating the "Healthy" chant.

*Lights out.*