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“Handle with Care”

by
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- What** In this funny skit, a married couple discovers that becoming new parents is overwhelming, scary, and potentially a bit messy. But they trust that God will help them figure it all out. **Themes:** Mother’s Day, Father’s Day, Parenting, Trusting in God
- Who** Deep offstage voice
Husband
Wife
- When** Present
- Wear
(Props)** Box with a stork on the outside, with various words of caution stamped on it
Diaper smeared with brown pudding
Cell phone
Chair
Baby crying sound effect
Something to make wife look pregnant in second half of skit
Travel bag
Set of car keys
Theme music from Twilight zone
- Why** Proverbs 3:5-6
- How** This is very simple to stage. The first part should be played very tongue-in-cheek. Go for the physical humor. The husband is not as smart as the wife.
- Time** Approximately 5 minutes

Theme music from Twilight zone plays.

Voice: There is a dimension beyond that which humans can see. It is found in light, illuminates shadow, and lies at the heart of man's existence. It is what we call... the God's Light Zone. The place is here. The time is now and the journey you are about to watch could belong to anyone.

Stage is empty except for a chair.

Husband and Wife enter. He is carrying a very large box marked *STORK INC FRAGILE HANDLE WITH CARE*

Husband: We've waited a long time, but it finally got here.

Wife: Careful honey. Don't drop it. It would be a shame to break it before we get it open.

Husband: *(setting box down on chair carefully)* There. Are you satisfied?

Wife: I will be when we see that it's all in one piece.

Husband: *(takes out a large boxcutter)*

Wife: What are you going to use that for?

Husband: To open it, of course.

Wife: No! *(Points to the words FRAGILE, and HANDLE WITH CARE stamped all over the box)* Didn't you see that? We can't just shove a knife down into the box. Who knows what will happen.

Husband: Well, then, how should we open it?

Wife: It says, "To open, pull here." *(She pulls tape and they open the box and peer in)* Ooooh! It's beautiful. Even better than I had hoped for.

Husband: It is!

Wife reaches into box.

Husband: What are you doing, now?

Wife: Don't you think we should take it out of the box?

Husband: Maybe we should read the instructions before we touch it.

Wife: *(peers in and appears to be moving something around gently)* Honey, I don't see any instructions.

Husband: Let me look. *(pulls out paper which says 1-800- GET HELP)* Here's a phone number.

Wife: *(pulls out phone)* I'll call them. *(Dials, then has a one-sided conversation)* Hello? Yes, I'm calling about a package we just received. No, it got here just fine, but we can't find any instructions. Uh huh. Uh huh. Okay thanks.

Husband: What did they say?

Wife: There are no instructions.

Husband: I'm not sure I want it now. I might break it. Call them back. See if we can return it.

Wife: *(hesitantly)* Okay... *(dials again)* Hello. Our package came without instructions. We want to send it back. Oh, I see. Okay, thanks. *(Hangs up and turns to Husband)* No returns. We have to keep it.

Husband: I guess we'll just have to make the best of it. *(Reaches in box then pulls hand back out quickly)* Oh. It's wet. Something's leaking in there.

Wife: Let me have a look. *(Looks in and puts hand down in)* Yep! It's wet. Do you think it's supposed to be?

Husband: How would I know? I've never had one of these before. What have we gotten ourselves into? It doesn't come with instructions, we can't send it back, and now it's leaking. Call them again. Maybe we can exchange it for one that doesn't leak.

Wife: *(dials again)* Hello. Our package is leaking. Can we exchange it? Uh huh. Uh huh. Uh huh. Okay thanks. Bye. *(Hangs up and turns to Husband)* No exchanges, but wetness is normal, and we can expect it to happen a lot. They said to take it out and dry it off, because if it stays wet too long it will malfunction.

Husband: *(reaches into box)* Okay. Here goes. *(Pulls hand back out)* Honey. It's not just wet. It's also leaking something brown.

Wife: *(reaches in then pulls hand out)* No kidding! *(Smells her hand)* Ugh! I'll call Mary. She got one of these last year. *(Looks for a place to wipe hand off, chooses Husband's shirt, then dials phone)* Hello, Mary? Yes, it's me. Our box came today. Yes, we are excited. Yes, we've opened it. No, we're not sure what model we got. We haven't taken it out of the box, yet. It's

leaking brown stuff. We think maybe it's from old batteries. Should we change them? Oh, I see. *(Next part is said with a variety of inflections indicating disbelief)* You don't say. You don't say. You don't say. You don't say. Okay, thanks. Bye *(hangs up)*.

Husband: Well, what do we do?

Wife: She didn't say.

Husband: She didn't say?

Wife: She didn't say.

Husband: Well, you talked for five minutes. What DID she say?

Wife: She said we have to figure it out for ourselves. Oh, and that it's not the batteries that need changing.

Husband reaches in box and pulls out a diaper smeared with chocolate pudding. Sound of baby crying begins and continues.

Wife: Those sounds make my chest feels funny. *(Pulls shirt out and looks down at her chest)* Honey, *(alarmed)* Now, I've started to leak. We better go find help.

They pick up box and both exit.

Husband re-enters and sits in chair, asleep. We hear Wife crying offstage becomes moaning. Wife enters, this time very pregnant.

Wife: Wake up! I think it's time.

Husband: *(jumps up)* Huh? What? It's time? The baby's coming? THE BABY'S COMING!!! Where's the bag? *(Wife holds up her bag)* Where are my keys? *(Wife dangles keys)* Where are my shoes? *(Wife points to his feet)*

Wife: Maybe I better drive.

They start to leave.

Husband: I just had the strangest dream. I dreamed our baby came in a box and there were no instructions. Do we know what we've gotten ourselves into?

Wife: Do any new parents? *(Moans)* Come on honey. *(Tugging his arm)* We've got to go.

Husband: I'm scared.

Wife: Me, too. But, we'll just do what we've always done when we were afraid—we'll trust God.

Husband: Okay, but you're changing the first diaper.

They exit. Twilight Zone theme plays.

Voice: Parenthood. An unexplored dimension. No instruction manuals, no returns, no guarantees. Your best chance? Enter through the God's Light Zone. *(Music fades)*

TO

REMOVE

WATERMARK

AT

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