

A script from



## "Hello God?"

by

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- What** Two-part comedy sketch about a clueless young man (or woman) attempting to contact God by phone. A classic, originally performed by the comedy team Mitch & Allen. Great accompaniment for presentations on Prayer or on God's character. **Themes:** Comedy, Duo, Ensemble, Prayer, Knowing God, Theological Misconceptions
- Who** **Jerry/Jerri** – Written as male, but may be played by a female. A naïve, backslidden Christian  
**Phone Voices** – May be played by 1 actor, or as many as 9. *Voice* represents the real God—amused, loving, patient. Other voices represent misconceptions about God:  
**Static** – God can't hear us  
**Satan** – "The god of this world" (2 Corinthians 4:4)  
**Busy/Computer** – God is not available  
**Bob** – There are many gods  
**LTD** – God has limited powers/abilities  
**Operator** – We must go through someone else to talk to God  
**Message** – God isn't there  
**WG (Wise Guy)** – God doesn't care
- When** Present
- Wear (Props)** Bible
- Why** Psalm 145:18; Luke 18:1; Romans 8:26; Philippians 4:6
- How** \*See staging suggestions at the end of this script.
- Time** Approximately 8 minutes

*Jerry drags himself on-stage distraughtly and cries out:*

**Jerry:** Ahhhhhhhhhhh!

**Voice:** Jerry felt far away from God.

**Jerry:** I feel so far away from God!

**Voice:** Told you. And he didn't know what to do.

**Jerry:** I don't know what to do.

**Voice:** He knew he had to get back in touch with God.

**Jerry:** I know I have to get back in touch with God; it's like I heard it somewhere. But what do I do?

**Voice:** Well, I'm glad you asked. You could pra—

**Jerry:** Right! I could pretend I don't have a problem.

**Voice:** Actually, I was going to say you could pra—

**Jerry:** Or just presume my problem will go away.

**Voice:** Or you could just—

**Jerry:** Pretentiously prognosticate the future!

**Voice:** Oy!

*Feels phone in pocket, pulls it out.*

**Jerry:** Or, hey, I could throw this at Him to get His attention! No, wait, what if I call Him?

*Noticing the phone in his hand.*

**Jerry:** And I could use this! Except, I don't know His number. I need one of those—whaddya call them?—*directory* thingies.

*Bible is handed to him.*

**Jerry:** Oh, here's one. *(Reads cover)* King James Version. *(Flips to back)* Let's see...Index...God...gods... Holy moly, there's like a million of 'em here! "God-head" – ooo, too creepy! "God of Heaven" – nah, too far away. "God

of Hosts" – nah, it's not like I'm throwing a party. Hmmm...guess I'll just have to try them all. Well, here goes.

*Dials. Heavy static*

**Static:** *(Interspersed static with words)* Hello? Hello?

**Jerry:** Hello? Is this God?

**Static:** Hello? Hello?

**Jerry:** Hello? God?

**Static:** Sorry, dude. Can't hear you. Lousy connection. Hang up and try again later.

*Dial tone. Jerry looks in Bible.*

**Jerry:** Hmm, too far away. How about "God of this world." Sounds local!

*Dials.*

**Satan:** Hello?

**Jerry:** Um, hi, hello. Is this God?

**Satan:** Well, yeah...sort of.

**Jerry:** *(Suspicious)* Wait...what number did I dial?

**Satan:** 6-6-6-H-E-L-L. Why?

**Jerry:** Oh! Um, never mind. You're not the one I want.

**Satan:** Well, maybe I could help anyway. I'd love to try.

**Jerry:** No, I don't think so! *(Hangs up quickly)* Oh, boy! Oh, hey, how 'bout this one.

*Dials again. Ring.*

**Busy:** We're sorry, all of the Lord's ears are busy with more important things. Please stay on the line and you will be connected with the first available ear. This call may be monitored for quality control purposes. Do not hang up as you will lose your place in line. Your call will be answered in approximately...

**Comp:** *(Monotone computer voice)* Twelve. Years.

**Busy:** To speak with Customer Service in a foreign country, press 6.

**Jerry:** God outsources? *(Presses button)*

**Bob:** Hello, this is Bob. How may I help you?

**Jerry:** Hi, um, I was trying to get in touch with God.

**Bob:** Which one, please. There are thousands.

**Jerry:** Um, the one with a capital G.

**Bob:** Oh, sorry, we do not have a contract with Him.

**Jerry:** OK. Bye. *(Hangs up)* No contract? *(Looks in Index)* "God, LTD." Hmm, sounds kinda cool! *(Dials)*

**LTD:** *(Nerdy voice)* Hi, this is the lord. I'm sorry I couldn't be there to answer your call in person, but I do have to rest sometimes, you know. *(Snockers)* So, please leave, I don't know, I guess, like, your name and stuff, and I'll try and get back to you if I can. OK? Bye. Oh, yeah, and may I bless you. *(Snockers loudly)*

*Beep.*

**Jerry:** Um, hi, this is Jerry and I just...never mind. *(Hangs up)* Oh, now I remember, LTD stands for "limited." Boy, maybe I'd better try the—what do they call it?—operator. Do they still have those? *(Looking in Index)* Oh, here—of course! *(Dials)*

*Ringing.*

**Operator:** Hello, this is Mary, may I help you?

**Jerry:** Yeah, I'm having a lot of trouble getting through to God, and I was hoping maybe you could try Him for me.

**Operator:** Certainly. I'll be glad to try.

*Busy signal.*

**Operator:** *(Continued)* I'm sorry, that number is busy. Would you like to hang up and try again later?

**Jerry:** OK. Um, do I need to go through you?

**Operator:** No, a lot of people think that, actually, but you can dial direct.

**Jerry** hangs up, sighs. Exits.

## Part Two

**Jerry** re-enters. Sighs. Dials again.

**Message:** We're sorry. You have reached a god that has been disconnected or is no longer in service. If you feel you have reached this god in error, please hang up, check your heart, and dial again.

**Jerry:** Hmm, check my... *(looks in Index)* Ooo, hey, "Wise Guy." Wise is good, right? *(Dials)*

**WG:** *(Tough guy/criminal accent)* Yeh, waddaya want?

**Jerry:** Um...God?

**WG:** So what if it is? Who wants ta know?

**Jerry:** Um, well, this is Jerry, and I just wanted, um, I just wanted...

**WG:** *(Whiney, mocking voice)* "I just wanted...I just wanted..." Yeh? Well, I don't do requests! *(Guffaws)*

**Jerry:** Um, but, I just, um...

**WG:** Listen, buddy, I ain't got forever.

**Jerry:** You ain't? I mean, you haven't? But you're God. Shouldn't you—

**WG:** Care? Hah! Try again when ya learn how ta pray, kid!

*Dial tone.*

**Jerry:** *(Looks in Index)* Oh, no! That was it! That was my last number! *(Puts phone away)* What am I going to do? *(Drops to his knees)* Oh, God!

**Voice:** *(Clears throat. Pauses. Clears throat again, this time LOUDLY)*

**Jerry:** *(Startled)* Oh, God!

**Voice:** Yes?

**Jerry:** God? Is that you?

**Voice:** Yesterday, today, and forever.

**Jerry:** But what are you doing here? Why aren't you at Home?

**Voice:** I AM at home.

**Jerry:** YOU ARE?

**Voice:** Yes, I AM. (*Chuckles*) I love that.

**Jerry:** Well...how long have You been here?

**Voice:** Three years, four months, and two days.

**Jerry:** But when did You come in?

**Voice:** Behold, I stood at the door and knocked on April 22nd. You opened it. You invited Me in. We had a nice little dinner. And then you tried to lock Me in the closet.

**Jerry:** (*Sheepishly*) Oh.

**Voice:** You didn't succeed, by the way.

**Jerry:** Well...what changed?

**Voice:** You stopped trying on your own and cried out to me.

**Jerry:** But I tried every number in the book!

**Voice:** Behold, you dial and receive not, because you dial amiss.

**Jerry:** I didn't call any girls.

**Voice:** No. And you didn't call Me either.

**Jerry:** But, Lord, Lord, did I not—

**Voice:** Oh, spare me! Look, Jerry, you've tried everything but just talking to Me. That's all prayer is, really, just talking to Me—

**Jerry:** But I talk a *lot*!

**Voice:** And listening.

**Jerry:** Oh.

**Voice:** There, see? Now, what's so tough about that?

**Jerry:** But I didn't feel anything!

**Voice:** Oh, feelings schmeelings! It's about faith, Jerry, not feelings. I've heard every word you've ever said.

**Jerry:** You have?

**Voice:** Uh-huh.

**Jerry:** Oh, God! Oops! Sorry.

**Voice:** There. Now you're praying.

**Jerry:** What, this? This isn't praying, this is just talking to You.

**Voice:** There you go.

**Jerry:** Yeah, but I didn't... I mean, I just... *(It suddenly clicks. Jerry whacks himself on the head)* I get it! I get it! Ooo, ooo, go away and let me try it again!

**Voice:** Oh, Jerry! *(Chuckles)* Noogie, noogie, noogie!

*NOTE: If actor playing **God** is on stage, have him actually noogie **Jerry's** head from behind (unseen by **Jerry**); if **God** is off-stage, have **Jerry** grab his head as if being (invisibly) noogied.*

**Jerry:** *(Giggling)* God! *(Pause)* Hey, God?

**Voice:** Yes, Jerry?

**Jerry:** I love You.

**Voice:** I know, Jerry. And I love you too.

**Jerry:** *(Grins)* I know.

**Voice:** Yeah, I knew that too, actually.

**Staging Suggestion:**

*Have actor/s who perform Phone Voices step up behind Jerry when they answer. Or, if preferred, place Jerry alone on stage with other actor/s on mic off-stage.*

*Sounds (static, ringing, busy signal, etc.): Use pre-recorded sounds or, for both simplicity and comedic effect, have actors make the sound vocally (e.g. a trill of the tongue for "ringing"). Don't worry about sounding realistic—funny is what matters!*

*To get a feel for the style of this sketch, including vocal effects, watch the old Mitch & Allen versions:*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dNbqpij3Rb4>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4U2sY9w85fs>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IDnycy-ogyM>

*This piece may be presented in two 3 to 4 minute segments (as indicated in script) or all at once.*