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PURCHASE

SCRIPT

TO

“Moral Melodramas:

That There Don't Cut the Mustard!”

By

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“Moral Melodramas: That There Don’t Cut the Mustard”

What The town of Goodness Gulch is coming together for a good ole’ fashioned hot dog roast and Kate Kindheart wants everything to be perfect. But when Silas P. Scoundrel sets out to steal her celebration—and her condiments—it’s up to Sheriff Frank Fearless to remind him that just like the Parable of the Mustard Seed, it doesn’t take much to make a big impact in the Kingdom of God. This script is part of the Moral Melodramas series where Sheriff Fearless saves the town of Goodness Gulch from the dastardly Silas P Scoundrel and uses some of Jesus’s famous parables to illustrate important life lessons. This skit can be used with the other Moral Melodrama skits for a multi-week series or as part of a summer Sunday School program or VBS.

Themes: Morals, Values, Parables, Lessons, Symbolism, Jesus, God’s Message, Humble Beginnings, Heaven, Kingdom

Who Narrator
Sheriff Frank/Frannie Fearless, any gender
Silas P. Scoundrel, male
Miss Kate Kindheart, female

When The Wild West, mid 1800s.

Costumes Period clothing from the Wild West. Frank should wear a Sheriff’s costume with badge. Silas should wear a cape, top hat and twirly mustache.

Props Ketchup and Mustard bottles and a hot dog in a bun.

Why Matthew 13: 31-32

How This skit can be easily performed with no set, or you can set the stage to resemble a Wild West town, hotel, saloon, etc. Melodramas are a classic form of theatre that highlights over the top performances of stock characters. All reactions from characters should be exaggerated and predictable. Audience reactions are also encouraged. A Narrator is included to set the scene and encourage audience reactions. The Narrator can be a Pastor, Youth Leader, or another Wild West character in costume, such as a cowboy/cowgirl and give the audience cues on how to respond to various characters, including cheering for our hero, swooning for our damsel, and booing our villain. Narrator can also hold up signs decorated in an old west style, to encourage an audience response. If used as part of a VBS or lesson series, incorporate Wild West games, crafts, snacks, etc.!

Time 5 minutes

Narrator enters.

Narrator: Howdy, folks, and welcome to Goodness Gulch—a town chock full of friendliness and good will. *(thinks, then leans in, aside)* Well, mostly full anyway. Ya see, in this here hamlet, there’s one crooked cad who likes to make trouble, and that man’s name is Silas P Scoundrel. Come on out here, Silas!

Silas enters, twirling his mustache.

Silas: Something wicked this way comes... and that something is me! *(laughs evil laugh)*

Narrator: So when you see Silas, make sure to give him the biggest boo you’ve got! Let’s give it a try now.

Narrator waits for audience to boo. She can also hold up a sign.

Silas: Okay, fine. I see how it is. I’ll just be on my way, then. *(as he exits)* I’ve got things I can do.... deceiving damsels... framing heroes... that sort of thing.

Silas exits.

Narrator: Now Silas isn’t the only one you’ll meet. Everyone knows that where there’s a villain, there’s a hero, and in Goodness Gulch that hero’s name is Sheriff Frank Fearless. Come on out, Frank!

Frank enters, heroically.

Frank: Never fear, citizens of Goodness Gulch! When morals get messy, Sheriff Fearless will be there to lasso up a lesson! *(perhaps twirls a lasso or makes the arm motion)*

Narrator: Always happy to see you, Frank. *(to audience)* And when you see Frank, make sure you give him your best cheer! Let’s try it now.

Narrator waits for audience to cheer. She can also hold up a sign.

Frank: Aw, thank you. Your cheers fill me right to the brim—the brim of my hat that is!

Frank tips his hat then waves it to the audience, then exits as **Narrator** slowly crosses to the other side of the stage.

Narrator: And last but certainly not least, as I said over yonder (*indicates where she was standing before*) Goodness Gulch is chock full of friendliness and good will. And there’s no one more full of good will than the gentle and charming, Miss Kate Kindheart. Kate, would you please come on out!

Kate enters, carrying a ketchup bottle and a mustard bottle.

Kate: It’s like I always say... kindness will *Ketch-up* (*holds up the ketchup bottle*) with you one way or another! (*smiles sweetly*)

Narrator: When you see Kate, make sure to give her your loudest, “Awwww!” Let’s try it out now.

Narrator waits for audience to say, “Aww!”. She can also hold up a sign.

Kate: Well aren’t you folks as keen as mustard!

Narrator: Whadaya got there, Kate?

Kate: Why, haven’t you heard? Goodness Gulch is having a hot dog roast today in the town square! I have so much to do to get everything ready. I’ve got the hot dog’s roasting on the fire, and the side dishes to organize. (*holds up the ketchup and mustard*) And of course the condiments!

Narrator: Darn tootin’! Well I’ll let you get to it, then.

Narrator exits or crosses to one side as Kate looks at the bottles.

Kate: I want to make sure I get all the details for this hot dog roast right. It’s a chance for the whole town to come together for some food and fun. It has to be positively perfect!

Frank enters, heroically. **Narrator** indicates audience should cheer.

Frank: Well / think it’s positively perfect, Miss Kindheart.

Kate: *(bashful)* Aw, thank you, Sheriff Fearless!

Frank: I was talking about the hot dog roast.

Kate: *(quickly)* Of course.... right... I knew that.

Frank: I know it’s in good hands if you’re in charge. You do so much for this town, Miss Kindheart.

Kate: I try my best. So will I see you in the town square later?

Frank: You sure will! I just have to stop over at Sloppy Joe’s first. It seems he’s planning to bring a dessert tonight.

Kate: How nice! What’s he bringing?

Frank: Mud pies.

Kate: Ooh, I love Chocolate mud pies!

Frank: Yeah well, these aren’t chocolate mud pies. They’re *mud* Mud pies. So I’d better get over there and talk some sense into him real quick before he muddles the dessert table—and everyone’s appetites!

Frank exits in a hurry.

Kate: *(sighs)* Thank goodness for Sheriff Fearless. Whatever would Goodness Gulch do without him?

Silas enters, twirling his mustache. **Narrator** indicates audience should boo.

Silas: I don’t know, but I *relish* the chance to find out!

Silas grabs mustard bottle from **Kate**.

Kate: (*angrily*) Silas P. Scoundrel, you give that mustard back right this minute!

Kate snatches mustard back.

Silas: It’s only mustard.

Kate: Only mustard! Why, everyone knows you can’t have a hot dog without mustard.

Silas: Is that so?

Kate: Yes. And the town of Goodness Gulch won’t have a hot dog roast if I don’t finish cooking the hot dogs!

Silas: Is there something I can do to help?

Kate: Help? You—Silas P. Scoundrel—want to help?

Silas: I’m a resident of Goodness Gulch, ain’t I?

Kate: (*unsure*) I guess so.

Silas: And the hot dog roast is for the whole town, ain’t it?

Kate: (*even more unsure*) It sure is.

Silas: Then let me help.

Kate: *(sighs)* Alright. *(holds out ketchup and mustard bottles)* Would you mind taking these condiments out to the town square for me? I just have to pull the hot dogs off the spit and then I’ll see you out there.

Silas: Will do.

Kate hands **Silas** the bottles, then exits.

Silas: *(with an evil smirk)* Will take these condiments and disappear, that is! Then the town of Goodness Gulch won’t be able to have their hot dog roast after all!

Silas holds up the bottle and laughs evil laugh, but is stopped as **Frank** enters, heroically. Narrator indicates audience should cheer.

Frank: Stop right there, Silas! Your plan to steal the condiments won’t cut the mustard!

Silas stops and puts the ketchup bottle in his pocket.

Silas: Sheriff Fearless! Don’t you have something better to do?

Frank: Better than helping the town of Goodness Gulch come together? I don’t think so.

Silas: You really think a couple of missing condiments is going to stop the town of Goodness Gulch from coming together? *(holds up bottles)*

Frank: No. But I know we can’t come together without you.

Silas: Without me? How do’ya figure?

Frank: You’re an important part of this town, just like the rest of us, Silas.

Silas: But I’m just one person. *(looks down, sadly)* A single, solitary person.

Frank: You’re just a mustard seed, that’s all.

Silas: *(upset)* Hey, who ya callin’ a mustard seed?

Frank: *(chuckles)* It’s like the parable. Jesus taught us that the kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his field. *(takes the mustard bottle and holds it up)* It’s the smallest of all the seeds but when it grows it becomes a tree so big that wild birds will come and nest in its branches.

Silas: *(looks in his hat)* But what if I don’t want birds to nest in my branches?

Frank: *(chuckles)* Jesus meant that faith in God can start out small.

Silas: Like the mustard seed.

Frank: That’s right! But it can grow into something bigger. Something better. And so can all of us.

Silas: Even me?

Frank: Even you, Silas. And I know the people of Goodness Gulch will be there to help you, every step of the way.

Kate enters with a hot dog in a bun. **Narrator** indicates audience should say, “Aww!”

Kate: *(startling)* Silas! Where are the condiments I gave you? Don’t tell me you’ve done away with them?

Silas: I didn’t! I swear! *(pulls the ketchup out of his pocket)* The ketchup is right here.

Kate: And what about the mustard?

Frank: Oh, don’t worry about little old mustard. *(takes it out from behind his back)* It’s safe and sound and ready to do big things.

Kate: Great! Because I’ve got a jumbo hot dog right here that’s in need of some mustard.

Kate holds out the hot dog to **Frank** who puts mustard on it.

Silas: That looks delicious.

Kate: Good. Because I made it for you.

Silas: Really?

Frank: *(smiles)* Whadaya say, Silas? Ready to give it a try?

Kate holds out the hot dog. **Silas** takes it.

Silas: Only one thing to say. *(smiles and holds up the hot dog)* Hot diggity dog!

Silas takes a big bite while **Frank** and **Kate** laugh. They all exit.

End of scene.