A script from



"Spontaneous Thanks"

by Curt Cloninger

What A man walks onto the stage and bumbles through an apology that there will be

no clever Mother's Day video this year. He is "spontaneously" interrupted by people in the congregation, who all express their gratitude to, and for their

mothers. Theme: Mother's Day

Who Hesitant (only character on stage) Ten-Year Old Girl

Teenage Guy
Twenty-Year Old Woman
Teenage Girl
Thirty-Year Old Woman
Millennial Guy
Forty-Something Man
Millennial Girl
Sixty-Something Man

When Mother's Day

Wear None (Props)

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Why

How This should have a very spontaneous feel to it. Hesitant, the man on the stage

who makes the "announcement" should be on a microphone. None of the other speakers should be mic'd. They should all just stand, scattered throughout the

auditorium and speak/shout their lines loud enough to be heard in the

auditorium. The whole piece should feel like a "spontaneous happening" which

turns into a "holy moment".

Time Approximately 4 minutes

Proverbs 31:25-30

Hesitant walks onto the stage, to a standing microphone. He has been assigned to make this announcement. He is uncomfortably onstage, and a bit scattered. A loveable, bumbling guy who gains confidence and excitement as the piece progresses.

Hesitant: Umm...so...it's Mother's Day, and...um...usually at this point on Mother's Day we have a short video about...you know...mothers. Sometimes they're funny...the video... (although, I guess sometimes mothers can be too...funny, that is). Like...the video might be a funny little scene about how we take mothers for granted, or the strange little quirks that mothers sometimes have. Or...sometimes they're tearjerkers...the videos, not the mothers. I think I like those the best. You know, like a good AT&T commercial, or something like that. Those things always make me want to upgrade my data plan. Works every time. Yeah, well...anyway...the reason I'm out here right now, and we're not watching some funny, tear-jerking video is because the guy who was supposed to pick the video has been out on vacation for the last two weeks and he forgot to do it. (I mean, how hard can it be?) We just found out about it. About no video. So...they sent me out here (who knows why) ...they sent me out here to say something funny, or tear-jerkery, or...you know...nice...about mothers. Which I can do, I suppose. I mean, I've **got** a mother. Well, shoot...everybody does, I guess. I already called her this morning...my mother. I like her...a lot. She's always been a real encourager to me. She's the one who encouraged me to go into public speaking. (Thanks, Mom.) But, you don't want to hear me ramble on about my mother. I mean...shoot...everybody here could probably say something nice, or tear-jerkery or...you know...good about their mother. So...um... (he pulls out a handkerchief, wipes his forehead, and looks around for a beat, in a semi-panic) ...um... (almost to himself) I'm dying here. So...um...I guess I just wanted to say-

At this point, **Hesitant** is interrupted by a teen-ager who boldly stands up, in the audience, and "rescues him" by shouting out her thanks to her mom.

TeenGirl: I like it that my Mom is not afraid to let me fail, and she doesn't always rescue me, even when I think she should! (She remains standing in the audience)

Hesitant: (a bit "taken back" that this teenager has made this bold move)
Um...yeah . Um...what she said. (Trying to gain control) Um...I'm not exactly sure that this is like an open forum type of—

TeenGuy: (boldly interrupting, standing and shouting out) I like it that my Mom is quick to apologize when she embarrasses me in front of my friends...which she does...a lot. (She remains standing in the audience)



Hesitant: (still nervous that this situation is getting a bit out of control, but excited as well) Yeah...moms can do that sometimes. Um...but—

MillGuy: (a twenty-something guy, stands and shouts out) My mom taught me how to cook, and now I save tons of money by not eating out all the time. (*He remains standing*)

MillGirl: (joins in the fun; she is standing right next to the Millennial Guy) My Mom taught me how to tell the good guys from the bad guys. (She holds up her hand to show off her engagement ring) We're getting married! (Remains standing)

Hesitant: (realizes that he has lost control, and is becoming okay with that) Um...congratulations?

10Girl: (excitedly stands on the pew and shouts out) My mom buys me Star Wars Legos 'cause she knows I hate dolls! (A bit embarrassed that she has gotten so excited that she jumped up on the pew, she looks down at her Mom, who is seated next to her) Oh...sorry, Mom. (She gets down from the pew and just stands, next to her Mom, who then proudly stands up next to her)

20Wom: (stands, and is hesitant, but firm) Um...my Mom couldn't have biological kids. She love me right out of foster care and adopted me. She introduced me to Jesus. I don't know if I would have met him otherwise. (She remains standing)

30Wom: (stands and proudly looks down at her Mom, who sits next to her) My
Mom went back to college after we had all left home. She shows me
how to be brave. I need to know that. (She remains standing)

40Man: (stands up, proudly) My Mom showed me what love looks like, by loving my Dad so well all the years he struggled with cancer. (He remains standing)

Hesitant: (almost to himself) Wow. (He stands, in silence, for a moment, reveling in this "holy moment". Then, he notices an **Older Man** who is slowly rising to his feet. There is a moment of quiet. Then, **Hesitant** points to the **Older Man**, giving him "permission" to speak) You, Sir...

Old Man: (dignified; he does not shout. He speaks in a normal voice, knowing that the audience will "lean in" to listen) My Mother taught me how to pray.

Now, I pray for my children. And my grandchildren. It is my greatest privilege. (After a beat, he looks, slightly, to Heaven) Thank you, Mother.

TeenGuy: Yeah...thanks, Mom.



TeenGirl: I love you, Mom. Thanks.

TeenGuy: Yeah.

30Wom: Hey Mom...Thanks.

40Man: Thank you.

Milleneal Guy and Girl: (together) Thanks, Mom.

MillGuy: You're the best!

40Man: (a bit quieter, almost to himself) Yes. You are the best.

Hesitant: (he stands quietly on the stage, reveling in the moment, before he

speaks) So...the guy who's in charge of picking out the Mother's Day video...I know your Mother loves you and everything. But...you're fired.

Happy Mother's Day, everyone.

He walks offstage and all the "Spontaneous Speakers" sit down.

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