

“The Dark Place”

by
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- What** This Readers Theater reminds us that God is with us in the dark places of our lives. We remember that He knows what it’s like to be human and experience pain, and He will walk with us through life’s heartbreaking moments.
Themes: Easter, Suffering, God’s Love and Peace
- Who** Reader 1
Reader 2
Reader 3
Reader 4
- When** Present
- Wear (Props)** Wooden Cross
Spotlight
- Why** Psalm 23, Matthew 27, 1 Peter 5:10
- How** Readers are positioned a little in front of and on either side of the cross which is center stage (2 readers on each side). At the beginning of the skit, the readers are turned slightly so that their back is toward the cross, but they are still facing the audience. Readers should be speaking to the audience during the script. The lines should be spoken with hope and confidence at the end.
- Time** Approximately 3 minutes

Readers enter and address the audience.

Reader 2: Have you ever found yourself in the dark place?

Reader 1: You know where I mean, right?

Reader 3: Where hope seems to have slipped right through your fingers,

Reader 4: Even as you were trying to hang on with every bit of strength you had left.

All: The dark place.

Reader 4: Where the black shadow of death haunts you and you sit in the presence of your enemies.

Reader 1: The world is crashing around your shoulders

Reader 3: And you're surrounded by people,

Reader 1: But all you really feel is alone.

Reader 2: No one could possibly rescue you from your anguish.

Reader 4: No one can reach you through the blackness of your sorrow.

Reader 2: No one understands.

All: Because you're in the dark place.

Reader 1: The place where that bully called you a name.

Reader 3: You lost the job.

Reader 4: You can't pay your bills.

Reader 2: The place where you held the hand of your loved one as she passed away.

Reader 1: You got the dreaded diagnosis.

Reader 3: You lost your best friend.

Reader 1: The place where you got the phone call that made your stomach drop and changed your life.

Reader 4: The place where nothing will ever be right again.

All: The dark place.

Reader 2: You cry out from the pain.

Reader 3: You struggle.

Reader 2: And cower in fear.

Reader 1: You just try to find the strength to keep breathing.

Reader 4: And then you shake your fist at Heaven and ask why?

Reader 3: Why did this happen?

Reader 4: Why am I here in the dark?

Reader 3: God, why have you forsaken me?

Reader 4: And then you pause.

Pause.

Reader 1: *(turns body toward the cross)* And remember Someone cried out those words long before you did.

Reader 4: *(turns body toward the cross)* Someone who also understands the dark place.

Reader 2: *(turns body toward the cross)* The One who was tempted in the desert.

Reader 3: *(turns body toward the cross)* The One who experienced the heartache of losing a loved one

Reader 1: Who was betrayed by a friend

Reader 3: And bullied by a crowd.

Reader 2: He felt alone when he was abandoned by his disciples.

Reader 4: He was falsely accused

Reader 1: And whipped.

Reader 2: He was crucified.

Reader 1: Stabbed.

Reader 2: Bled.

Reader 3: Died.

Reader 4: And buried.

All: In a dark place.

Pause

Reader 3: All so that we have an everlasting Light

Spotlight turns on highlighting the cross at the word "light".

All: In any dark place we face.

Reader 4: A Hope shining through the gloom.

Reader 1: A Champion to fight the night.

Reader 3: A Savior to carry us through the ugliness.

Reader 2: A Life to conquer death.

Reader 4: The Christ who understands the dark place.

Reader 1: And reigns victorious over it.

Reader 2: So that we may always cling to Him

All: In the midst of the dark place.

Lights down.