

“The Rainmaker”

by
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What In this audience-participation skit, the Rainmaker warns that a storm is coming, but not everyone is listening. People are pointed to God's protection and reminded to listen for God's voice.

Themes: God's Protective Love, Recognizing God's Voice, Grace, Mercy

Who The Rainmaker Listener 2
Listener 1 Listener 3

When Present day right before the big rain

Wear Everyone is dressed in stage black.
(Props) There are four chairs spaced out evenly across the stage.
The chair furthest to the right has an umbrella on its seat.

Why Genesis 6:13-14, Matthew 7:26

How This is an audience participation event. The Rainmaker will lead the congregation in creating a virtual rainstorm. There's a great YouTube video (Africa-Angel City Chorale) showing how to create the sounds, but basically it involves a consecutive series of rubbing palms, snapping fingers, slapping legs and then stomping. Each sound should be brought in quietly and then grow before the next sound is added. Fade back out opposite of the way you come in. It works best if it's practiced with the congregation before the skit begins. Adding flashing lights for lighting is neat, and if you have a talented choir, it would also be fun (and powerful if you think of the lyrics as a conversation between God and man) to have them sing the song "Africa" after the skit.

It's also important that the actors practice this skit. The pantomimes are very important, and timing is crucial.

Because of audience participation this will take about 5 minutes, but the actors actually have very few lines.

Time Approximately 5 minutes

The Rainmaker enters and climbs up to stand on the chair at stage left.

Listeners 1, 2, and 3 enter stage right, walk across and stop in front of and below The Rainmaker. They pantomime being in conversation but stop when the Rainmaker speaks.

Rainmaker: *(powerfully)* I am the Rainmaker.

Listener 1: Did you hear something?

Listener 2: I did. Something about rain.

Listener 3: I didn't hear anything.

Rainmaker: *(even stronger)* Rain is coming!

Listener 1: It's the Rainmaker.

Listener 2: Rain is coming.

Listener 3: I don't believe in *(air quotes)* The Rainmaker.

Rainmaker: *(addressing Listener 1)* Build a boat

Listener 1 turns to face the Rainmaker and Listener 2 and Listener 3 freeze in place

Listener 1: *(addressing Rainmaker)* Did I hear you right? You want me to build a boat? What should I build it out of?

Rainmaker: Build it out of gopher wood.

Listener 1 walks over to first chair. Studies it, then pretends to hammer and saw. This should continue until the rainstorm starts. Listener 2 and Listener 3 pantomime conversing again.

Rainmaker: *(addressing Listener 2)* Build a house!

Listener 2: *(turns to face Rainmaker; Listener 3 freezes)* You want ME to build a house? That's crazy. I've never even built a birdhouse. Besides, I don't have a building site.

Rainmaker: *(pointing)* Build it on that high rock.

Listener 2 walks to next chair and pantomimes building a house. *Listener 3* sits cross-legged on the floor and stares at his or her feet.

Rainmaker: *(addressing Listener 3)* Build a bridge.

Listener 3: *(looks up)* That sounded like thunder.

Listener 1: It was the Rainmaker telling you to build a bridge.

Listener 3: That's silly. Why would *(air quotes)* The Rainmaker tell me to build a bridge. I'm an accountant not an engineer.

Rainmaker: Build it from that low point to that high point.

Listener 3: There? Did you hear that? It thundered again. I better get my umbrella. *(stands up, walks over, picks up umbrella, and sits on last chair)*

Listener 2: That umbrella won't do you any good. You're supposed to build a bridge from that high point *(pointing)* to that low point.

Listener 1: *(climbs up and stands on chair)* My boat's finished. There's plenty of room. Why don't you join me?

Listener 2: *(climbs up and stands on chair)* Or you could join me. My house has a great foundation. You won't even get your feet wet.

Listener 3: I think you are both over-reacting. I'll be fine. *(opens umbrella)*

Rainmaker steps off chair and off stage to stand in front of audience and begin the rain process.

Listener 1: *(as congregation begins rubbing hands)* I smell rain.

Listener 2: *(as congregation begins snapping fingers)* I hear rain coming.

Listener 3: *(shouting to be heard as congregation begins patting thighs)* It's starting to drizzle.

As rainstorm grows in intensity, Listener 1 shifts weight back and forth on chair as if standing on a rocking boat and *Listener 2* peers out as if out of a window. *Listener 3* pantomimes desperately trying to hold on to umbrella.

As sound begins to subside:

Listener 1: *(still rocking back and forth and shouting to be heard as congregation winds down sound of rain)* Wow! I can't believe my boat is actually floating.

Listener 2: *(still peering out and speaking loudly as congregation winds down finger snapping)* Look at all that water. I can't believe how high it's getting.

Listener 3: *(leaps off chair and whirls around as if being spun in a strong current as congregation fades to finger snapping and palm rubbing)* It's too strong. Why didn't someone warn me about how bad it would get?
(spins off stage or down aisle and out of sight)

Rainmaker brings storm to a complete end and sits in congregation

Listener 1 ceases rocking and Listener 2 mimes opening a door. Both step down to floor.

Listener 1: Wow! I never could have dreamed there would be so much rain.

Listener 2: Me either. Hey where's our friend?

Listener 1: She floated away.

Listener 2: Oh no! Well, I hope that, wherever she lands, she'll spend more time learning to listen to The Rainmaker.

Listener 1: Me, too.

Both fold chairs and walk offstage.