

## **The Timeless Employment Agency**

### **Cast:**

Leader  
Mr. Westfield  
Daniel  
John the Baptist  
Jesus  
Peter  
Andrew  
James  
John  
Philip  
Bartholomew  
Matthew  
Thomas  
JamesJudas  
Simon  
Judas Iscariot

### **Props:**

Desk  
Chair  
Trash Can  
File Baskets  
Sign: Mr. Westfield  
Two small tables  
Nine Chairs  
Blackboard with Job Postings  
Cell telephone  
Filing Cabinet  
Bottle Maalox

**Leader:** Welcome to our Father's Day program! As you know, every year we set aside this special day to acknowledge all fathers, past and present, and to pay tribute to all men from Adam to the latest of our own generation. Will you please stand with me for a moment of silent prayer to give thanks to our Heavenly Father for these men, living and dead, who have played such an important and loving role in our lives. For some

it may be a father, a husband, a brother, a son, a grandfather, an uncle or a neighbor.

**(All stand for silent prayer)**

Father, we thank you for the opportunity to be here at this time to worship and offer praise to You.

As we honor the men, who have given so much to us, we also remember Your Son, Jesus, The Son of Man, who willingly gave His life so that we might live forever in Your Kingdom. We know of the suffering and pain He endured because of Your love for us—a love so great that it surpasses our comprehension and any human emotion we might feel. **(Short pause)** Thank You, Father, for loving us so much that You gave Your only Son to die for our sins. Through Him, we can escape from Hell and have everlasting life. Thank You for not wanting any of Your children to perish!

We pray that, from this moment on, all of us who have received Jesus as our Savior, will carry His message to others through our actions. As Your children, we ask that everything we do or say will give glory to Your Name. **(Short pause)** We pray for unity and growth in the Body of Christ and for an end to any personal differences that may separate that body and decrease spiritual growth. God, we ask that You continue to bless the men of this church and all of Your children. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen!

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**Leader:** At this time I would like to invite all the children to come forward for a special Bible game.

**(Children come forward and gather around the leader)**

Since our service today is dedicated to men, I would like to introduce to you four men from the Bible. As each man comes forward, I will ask them to speak to you and then we will see if you can guess who they are. Okay?

**Children:** Yes! or Okay!

**Leader:** Great! Here comes our first man.

**(John the Baptist enters)**

**Leader:** Welcome! What can you tell these children about yourself.

**John the Baptist:** I baptized with water, but Jesus baptizes with the Holy Spirit!

**Leader:** **(Facing children)** Do you know who he is?

**(Children guess who it is—if necessary leader provides more clues)**

**Leader:** That's right! This is John the Baptist. He's the one who told the people that if they were sorry for their sins, he would baptize them with water. He also told them that there was One who was greater than he who would come to baptize them with the Holy Spirit.

**(Jesus enters and stands next to John the Baptist)**

**Leader:** Children, I see someone else has joined us. Sir, what do You want to say?

**Jesus:** **(Facing audience)** I tell you the truth—unless you change and become like these little children, you will never enter the Kingdom of Heaven! **(Kneels on one knee facing children and smiles)** Let them come to Me and do not hinder them for My Father's Kingdom belongs to such as these.

**Leader:** Children, I bet you know who this is!

**(Children guess who it is—if necessary leader provides more clues)**

**Leader:** Yes, this is Jesus! Back then, He told His disciples that they weren't to keep the little children from Him and welcomed them with love and open arms. Today, he will welcome you in the same way because He wants you to be a part of His life.

**(Daniel enters)**

**Leader:** Hi! What clue do you have for the children?

**Daniel:** Even though I was thrown into the lion's den I trusted in God and knew that He would save me!

**Leader:** This one should be easy. Who is this man?

**(Children guess who it is—if necessary leader provides more clues)**

**Leader:** You're right again! Daniel was a very brave man who trusted in God. If you trust in God like Daniel did, you, too, will find that He is there to help you.

**(Abraham enters)**

**Leader:** Welcome Sir! What do you have to say?

**Abraham:** I want the children to know that I have always put God first. And that I have been obedient even when it meant that I had to offer my son, Isaac, as a sacrifice.

**(Children guess who it is—if necessary leader provides more clues)**

**Leader:** You're right! This is Abraham! Abraham loved God so much that he was willing to do whatever God asked of him. Including the sacrifice of his son. But, because our God is such a loving father, He didn't actually make Abraham sacrifice his son Isaac. However, because Abraham was willing to do what God asked of him, he passed the test. Sometimes it's difficult for us to obey God but, if we are willing to do what He asks, we will be rewarded.

Thank you children for helping me with the introduction of these four men who will be in our skit this morning. It's now time for you to return to your seats and for our skit to begin. **(Children return to their seats)** Thank you for your help! **(Applause)**

**(Facing audience)** Before we begin, allow me to give you some Scriptural background on Abraham and Daniel. In

Genesis 18:10-14 Abraham gets the surprising but good news that he's going to be a father.

Then the Lord said, "Next year I will give you and Sarah a son!"

Sarah was listening from the tent door behind Him.

Now Abraham and Sarah were both very old, and Sarah was long since past the time when she could have a baby. So Sarah laughed silently. *A woman age have a baby?* she scoffed to herself. *And with a husband as old as mine?*

Then God said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh? Why did she say, 'Can an old woman like me have a baby?' Is anything too hard for God? Next year, just as I told you, I will certainly see to it that Sarah has a son."

The next Scripture is from Daniel 6:16-23 where we find that Darius, the Chaldean king, has been tricked into signing a law that will force him to throw Daniel, his favorite Jewish captive, into a den of lions.

So at last the king gave the order for Daniel's arrest, and he was taken to the den of lions. The king said to him, "May your God, whom you worship continually, deliver you." And then they threw him in.

A stone was brought and placed over the mouth of the den; and the king sealed it with his own signet ring, and that of his government, so that no one could rescue Daniel from the lions.

Then the king returned to his palace and went to bed without dinner. He refused his usual entertainment and didn't sleep all night.

Very early the next morning he hurried out to the lions' den, and called out in anguish, "O Daniel, servant of the Living God, was your God, whom you worship continually, able to deliver you from the lions?"

Then he heard a voice! "Your Majesty, live forever!" It was Daniel! "My God has sent His angel," he said, "to shut the lions' mouths so that they can't touch me; for I am innocent before God, nor, sir, have I wronged you."

The king was beside himself with joy and ordered that Daniel be lifted from the den. And not a scratch was found on him, because he believed in his God.

**Leader:** (*Slight pause*) Now that our memories have been refreshed about these two men, we're going to transport them forward in time and place to a modern-day employment office. Many people, when times are tough, make the rounds of such an office in the hope of finding work that will provide them with income and security. Soon, however, most discover that there are far more applicants than available positions. It is then that they must rely on the promise Jesus spoke of in Matthew 6:25-34:

So my counsel is: "Don't worry about things—food, drink, and clothes. For you already have life and a body—and they are far more important than what to eat and wear. Look at the birds! They don't worry about what to eat—they don't need to sow or reap or store up food—for your Heavenly Father feeds them. And you are far more valuable to Him than they are. Will all your worries add a single moment to your life?"

And why worry about your clothes? Look at the field lilies! They don't worry about theirs."

Yet King Solomon in all his glory was not clothed as beautifully as they. And if God cares so wonderfully for flowers that are here today and gone tomorrow, won't he more surely care for you, O men of little faith?"

So don't worry at all about having enough to food and clothing. Why be like the heathen? For they take pride in all these things and are deeply concerned about them. But your Heavenly Father already knows perfectly well that you need them, and He will give them to you if you give Him first place in your life and live as He wants you to."

**Leader:** (*Slight pause*) Let's join with Abraham and Daniel as they wait for their interview with Mr. Westfield of the The Timeless Employment Agency.

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**Setting:** Mr. Westfield is at large desk shuffling through papers, looking in file cabinet, etc. Abraham and Daniel are seated at small tables filling out forms. Rest of cast are seated in the audience.

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**Daniel:** This the third agency I've been to this week.

**Abraham:** Any success?

**Daniel:** No! It's always the same old thing—"Don't call us, we'll call you!"

**Abraham:** I know how that is! But maybe it will be different this time. You're young, strong, and healthy—not old like me. What kind of work are you looking for?

**Daniel:** Office work. I've had some training in that area but not any experience. And, the way it's been going, it doesn't look like I'll be getting any either.

**Abraham:** Tell them that you're willing to start at the bottom and work up.

**Daniel:** I do, but they still don't hire me. I bet if I knew the *right* people, they could pull some strings to get me hired.

**Abraham:** You're right young man. It helps if you know someone!

**Daniel:** Sir! What about you? Why are you here? At your age you should be retired, not looking for work. I . . . I hope I haven't offended you! It's just that you look old enough to be sitting at home in a rocking chair.

**Abraham:** **(Laughing)** Rocking chairs are for old people—not me!

**Daniel:** Are you serious? You really are looking for a job?

**Abraham:** Of course I'm serious, and yes, I do want a job! I'm a shepherd and own a large flock. **(Slight pause)** But recently I ran into some unexpected expenses and need to make some extra money.

**Daniel:** Don't tell me; let me guess! A health problem! Right? Surely at your age you must have Medicare!

**Abraham:** **(Smiling)** No! It's not exactly a health problem. It's Sarah—she's my wife—well, she's going to have a baby!

**Daniel:** **(Stands up—surprise on face)** What? . . . What did you say . . . a baby!

**Abraham:** Please sit down! **(With pride)** That's right—a baby! I'm going to be a father!

**Daniel:** Wow! Are you sure? Maybe your wife's doctor is incompetent and made a mistake!

**Abraham:** There's no mistake! We received the good news from the highest authority—the Great Healer Himself—and He doesn't make mistakes!

**Daniel:** Well, if that doesn't beat all! Sarah—she's a lot younger than you are—right?

**Abraham:** **(Smiling)** Right! Only 99—just a spring chicken! Believe me, she's . . .

**Mr. Westfield:** **(Interrupts)** Abraham, you're next!

**(Abraham walks over to Mr. Westfield's desk, hands him his application, and sits in chair next to desk)**

**Mr. Westfield:** Well, speak up! What do you want? Are you here to hire some people to help you with your sheep?



**Abraham:** No! Look at my application! I'm looking for a part-time job!

**Mr. Westfield:** ***(Looks at Abraham with disapproval—opens desk drawer —takes out bottle of Maalox and, after taking a drink, mutters)*** Oh boy! It's going to be that kind of day!

**Abraham:** I beg your pardon! What did you say?

**Mr. Westfield:** Never mind. Let's get on with the interview. Sir, as you probably know, we do not discriminate because of age—but we do try to ensure employers that the people we refer will live long enough . . . well, you know what I mean . . . it's embarrassing to refer someone and have them die on the job from old age.

**Abraham:** No problem! You don't have to worry about that! God has promised that I will live a long life and have so many descendents they will be as numerous as grains of sand in the sea.

**(Mr. Westfield picks up bottle of Maalox and takes a drink)**

**Abraham:** ***(Pointing at bottle)*** Why don't you talk to God about your medical problem?

**Mr. Westfield:** ***(Quickly replies)*** Oh no! No! I can take care of myself. You're the one who should rely on your God because there's no way, at your age, that I can find you a job. ***(Slows speech back to normal—picks up application)*** Just look at this application—the only experience you have is as a shepherd. Once in a while we get a request for German shepherd—but I don't remember ever getting a request for a Jewish shepherd—even a master sheepherder like yourself. Sorry!

**Abraham:** I refuse to learn how to **bark** orders to my sheep in German! What about some other kind of work—something new and exciting?

**Mr. Westfield:** No! There's nothing! Absolutely nothing! You should have made better plans for your old age!

**Abraham:** You're right! And before I get old, I will! Don't worry!

**Mr. Westfield:** ***(Picks up bottle of Maalox and takes a drink. Then, after standing up, looks directly at Abraham—loudly says)*** That's it—you're done! ***(Looks over at Daniel)*** Next!

**(Abraham stands and leaves set—Daniel walks over to Mr. Westfield's desk, hands him his application, and sits in chair next to desk)**

**Mr. Westfield:** ***(Takes a moment to review Daniel's application)*** It says here that you are looking for administrative work—is that right?

**Daniel:** Yes, sir! I believe I'm highly qualified for that kind of work!

**Mr. Westfield:** I agree! Your educational resume' is very impressive. It says here that you are Jewish. How did you get to attend King Nebuchadnezzar's school?

**Daniel:** I was one of the few Jewish captives to receive a full scholarship. ***(Points to application)*** I studied math, science, and languages.

**Mr. Westfield:** Yes, but unfortunately, you don't have any experience. In today's competitive job market, employers are only hiring people who have years of experience.

**Daniel:** But, I'm a hard worker—a good worker! I can learn!

**Mr. Westfield:** I'm sure, but . . . ***(Looks disappointed)*** I'll keep your application on file. There are rumors that the king might be hiring some people soon. If he does, I'll give you a call.

**Daniel:** "Soon" isn't good enough! I need a job now—not later! I'll take anything!

**Mr. Westfield:** And I'd give you "anything" if "anything" was available. Daniel, be patient, but don't call us . . .

**Daniel:** (**Interrupts**) I know—I know . . . Don't call us, we'll call you!

**(Daniel stands and starts to walk back to the table when telephone rings)**

**Mr. Westfield:** (**Answers telephone**) Hello! (**Slight pause**) Yes! Oh, I see! That may be difficult, but I'll see what I can do. I'll get back to you if I find someone. Thanks for calling. Bye! (**Hangs up telephone and calls out to Daniel**) Daniel, wait a minute. I think I have a job for you!

**Daniel:** (**Returns to desk**) Great! What kind of job?

**Mr. Westfield:** (**Slight pause**) You "did" say you'd take "anything." Right?

**Daniel:** Right! What is it? Don't keep me in suspense . . .

**Mr. Westfield:** (**Interrupts**) Okay! Okay! The Big Top Circus just called. They have an opening for a lion tamer. Someone who can handle their lean, mean, man-eating jungle cats.

**Daniel:** (**Incredulous**) A lion tamer! Hey, I wanted a job so I could feed myself—not one where I could be eaten! Me a lion tamer! I don't think . . .!

**Mr. Westfield:** (**Interrupts**) I understand! But think it over. If you change your mind, give me a call!

**Daniel:** (**With emphasis**) No! If I think it over, I'll say "no." Give me the address before I change my mind! Who knows? Maybe what I learn may come in handy some day!

**(Daniel stands and leaves set—Set goes to blackout—Mr. Westfield and John the Baptist leave—leader, carrying Bible, returns)**

**Leader:** Both Abraham and Daniel were Godly men who were favored by God. Abraham, while waiting many years before

Isaac's birth, learned to stand on God's promise. And, because His Word is true and never changing, we, too, can stand on His Word. Speaking of "standing" lets now stand, stretch, and take a five minute break. Please return promptly. Thank you!

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**Leader:** Before we return to *The Timeless Employment Agency* where John the Baptist is waiting to be interviewed, I would like to share with you what it says in Mark 1:2-8 about this dynamic prophet.

"In the book written by the prophet Isaiah; God announced that He would send His Son to earth, and that a special messenger would arrive first to prepare the world for His coming.

'This messenger will live out in the barren wilderness,' Isaiah said, 'and will proclaim that everyone must straighten out his life to be ready for the Lord's arrival.'

This messenger was John the Baptist. He lived in the wilderness and taught that all should be baptized as a public announcement of their decision to turn their backs on sin, so that God could forgive them. People from Jerusalem and from all over Judea traveled out into the Judean wastelands to see and hear John, and when they confessed their sins he baptized them in the Jordan River. His clothes were woven from camel's hair and he wore a leather belt; locusts and wild honey were his food. Here is a sample of his preaching:

'Someone is coming soon who is far greater than I am, so much greater that I am not even worthy to be his slave. I baptize you with water but he will baptize you with God's Holy Spirit!' "

**Leader:** Let's now return to *The Timeless Employment agency*.

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**(Leader exits—lights come up on set—Mr. Westfield, sitting at his desk, is talking on the telephone—John the Baptist is sitting at small table with employment application form in hand.)**

**Mr. Westfield:** So, you want me to cancel the vacancy you had for a barber? **(Slight pause)** I see . . . you decided to do the job yourself. That certainly shows you have a lot of initiative. Thanks for calling and letting me know **(Slight emphasis on name)** Delila. If I can do anything else for you, give me a call. **(Hangs up telephone and looks up at John the Baptist)** You're next!

**(John the Baptist walks over to Mr. Westfield's desk, hands him his application, and sits in chair next to desk)**

**Mr. Westfield:** **(Looking at application)** I see that your name is John.

**John the Baptist:** **(Loudly)** That's right! John the Baptist!

**Mr. Westfield:** Forget the Baptist part. We don't discriminate because of a person's religious affiliation.

**John the Baptist:** **(Laughing)** I like a man with a sense of humor—so does God!

**Mr. Westfield:** **(Unsmiling)** I have no idea what you're talking about!

**John the Baptist:** Don't worry about it. Just find me a country church to preach in—something in the wilderness.

**Mr. Westfield:** So, you want to be a preacher? **(Picks up bottle of Maalox and takes a drink)**

**John the Baptist:** **(Emphasis)** Sir, I ***am*** a preacher! I preach in the wilderness. I was hoping that you might have a full-time position for me to preach in a church. I'll work for no pay.

**Mr. Westfield:** From the looks of your clothes I would think you would want a payday. I've never seen a preacher wearing clothes like yours.

**John the Baptist:** **(Indignant)** Look mister, I like my clothes. They're made of the finest camel hair. God provides my clothes. And, when I'm hungry, He provides my food—locusts and wild honey. He is good!

**Mr. Westfield:** You eat locusts and wild honey—that's disgusting! **(Picks up bottle of Maalox—mumbles to self)** The man eats bugs—yuk! I just knew it was going to be this kind of day. **(Takes a drink of Maalox)**

**John the Baptist:** Looks like you should eat them too! **(Points at Maalox bottle)** Natural foods are good for you! They don't give you ulcers or indigestion.

**Mr. Westfield:** **(Irritated)** Enough about food! **(Glances at application)** I see you didn't complete the education section. Where did you study theology? What university?

**John the Baptist:** None.

**Mr. Westfield:** **Nun** University. You must be catholic.

**John the Baptist:** **(Laughing)** No, I didn't go to Nun University. In fact, I didn't go to any university!

**Mr. Westfield:** Oh, I see. You're a self-appointed man of God!

**John the Baptist:** Wrong again! I'm not self-appointed—I'm God appointed!

**Mr. Westfield:** **(Picks up bottle of Maalox)** God appointed! Sure! I suppose He personally tells you what to say! **(Takes a drink of Maalox)**

**John the Baptist:** He sure does—every day! He has given me a mission to prepare the way for the Messiah! Do you know about Him? I hope so; for He's coming to separate the chaff from the grain!

**Mr. Westfield:** **(Scratches head—looks puzzled)**  
What in the world are you talking about?

**John the Baptist:** That you have to turn away from sin and turn to God. If you do, I'll baptize you with water.

**Mr. Westfield:** I have no idea what you're talking about but, whatever it is, I don't want it. I don't want to be baptized. I . . . I don't want anything from you.

**John the Baptist:** Are you sure? I baptize with water but the One who is coming will baptize with fire and the Holy Spirit! You should repent now! Every unproductive tree will be cut down and burned.

**Mr. Westfield:** **(Shakes head and Picks up bottle of Maalox)** I'm not a tree and I'm a very productive person. Mr. Baptist, I'm sorry, but you're too eccentric to assign you to a church. **(Mutters to self)** Wierd is more like it! **(Takes drink of Maalox)**

**John the Baptist:** Don't be sorry—at least not for me—be sorry for your sins!

**Mr. Westfield:** **(Indignant)** How can you say that? My record is spotless! I observe all the laws and don't go around sinning!

**John the Baptist:** **(Softly)** All men sin!

**Mr. Westfield:** **(Stands up—very angry)** That does it! You're done! Get out of here! Get lost!

**John the Baptist:** **(Stands and takes several steps as if to leave—slowly turns around and with concern in voice says)** It is you who is lost! Watch for the One who is to come. He will be searching for those who are lost!

**(John the Baptist exits—Mr. Westfield sits down—  
Jesus enters and walks up to desk)**

**Mr. Westfield:** ***(Looks up)*** Who are you? I don't like it when someone comes to my desk when I haven't called them!

**Jesus:** But I have been called—called to come to you! I'm looking for 12 good men to work with Me!

**Mr. Westfield:** Oh, you want me to find them for You. Now that's what I call good news!

**Jesus:** No! the *real* "Good News" is why I need the men. The 12 men will be my apostles. They will follow Me and teach of salvation and eternal life. That is the *real* "Good News."

**Mr. Westfield:** ***(Irritated)*** I asked for Your name. You didn't tell me! Who are You?

**Jesus:** I am the Promised One! I have come that you might have life and have it more abundantly!

**Mr. Westfield:** ***(Hand to forehead)*** Oh no! Not another preacher!

**Jesus:** No! Not just another preacher—I am Jesus—I am the Messiah!

**Mr. Westfield:** ***(Sarcasmn)*** Yeah! Sure You are! And I'm the King of Egypt! ***(Slight pause)*** Now, let's get serious. How much are You willing to pay these men?

**Jesus:** I can't pay them in money; however, their heavenly benefits will be great.

**Mr. Westfield:** Let's see if I understand. ***(Slight Pause)*** You want me to find men who are willing to give up everything; they have to follow You and will work for no pay!

**Jesus:** You've got it! Tell the men they needn't worry about money or possessions because My Father will provide all their needs.

**Mr. Westfield:** Oh, I see! You have a rich father who will pay for everything.



**Jesus:** Everyone who knows My Father is rich for He is the God of the Universe—the Creator of all things. He is good! He is living! He knows His children and meets all their needs!

**Mr. Westfield:** Are you telling me that You are God's Son?

**Jesus:** Yes! And you are My brother!

**Mr. Westfield:** **(Stands and points to door)** That's it! I've heard enough craziness for one day. Please leave—I'm closing the office!

**Jesus:** But what about My apostles?

**Mr. Westfield:** There is no way I could convince someone to accept the positions You want. I'm an expert and I'm telling You that there isn't a power on earth . . . **(Slight Puase)** well, let's just say You'll never fill them!

**(Jesus slowly walks away and stands front and center. Mr. Westfield remains seated at desk. One by one the 12 apostles enter and join Him. Background music, if desired, may be played at this time)**

**Peter:** **(Enters from left—looks at Jesus)** I'm a fisherman—Peter's the name. Wherever You lead me, I will follow.

**Andrew:** **(Enters from right)** My name is Andrew. **(Looks at peter)** Simon Peter is my brother. I, too, am ready to follow You.

**James:** **(Enters from left)** I'm also a fisherman. I'm ready to go with You and fish for the souls of men.

**John:** **(Enters from right)** John is my name. I willingly answer Your call.

**Phillip:** **(Enters from left)** Master, my name is Phillip. Lead and I will follow!

**Bartholomew:** **(Enters from right)** Bartholomew is my name. I want to join you!

**Matthew:** I, Matthew, the most unpopular of tax collectors, am willing to give up everything to be Your disciple.

**Thomas:** **(Enters from left)** Though I am known as "doubting" Thomas, I have no doubt about my decision to follow You.

**James:** **(Enters from right)** My name is James. **(Looks at John)** John is my younger brother. I have heard Your call.

**Judas:** **(Enters from left)** Some call me Thaddaeus—others call me Judas. I will go with You.

**Simon:** **(Enters from right)** Simon is my name. I'm a zealot, yet I want to follow You.

**Judas Iscariot:** **(Enters from left)** Master, I am here to be Your disciple!

**(Jesus is in center with six disciples on either side.)**

**Mr. Westfield:** **(Stands)** I was right when I said that "no power on earth" could bring about this type of response. **(Slight pause)** It has to be another power—a power not of this earth. **(Picks up Maalox bottle and throws it in trash can)** I won't be needing this any more! **(Slowly walks forward and joins Jesus and the other disciples)** My name is Paul . . . Paul Westfield.

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**(Leader enters as Jesus and the disciples slowly make their way down the center aisle)**

**Leader:** As Jesus and the disciples leave, I would ask that each of us take a moment to reflect on our own willingness to give up everything for a non-paying full-time job to follow Him and become His disciple. Are we truly ready to be a disciple, or, do we still want to live in the safety of "playing church?" **(Slight pause)** If He calls your name today . . . how will you answer?

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