



## The Parables According to Mr. Hubert: Skits and Songs

A Resource Guide to Performing the Concert  
Created by Jehovah Shalom Youth Choir and Band 2008

## Introduction

The Parables According to Mr. Hubert is a concert that Jehovah Shalom Youth Choir and Band (JSYCB) wrote and performed at Thistlethorn Baptist Church on June 14, 2008. It was designed to make it easier for people to understand the key messages in some of Jesus' most famous parables - particularly for people who are unfamiliar with them. The Parables According to Mr. Hubert is an excellent tool to reach out to people who are not Christians and encourage those who are Christians to strengthen their relationship with God.

This resource guide is free for any group to use. If you are interested in performing The Parables According to Mr. Hubert, we ask that you follow these guidelines:

- You may modify skits and song choices so the concert is relevant to the people you would perform it in front of, but please do not change the overall messages. The concert should always remain grounded in the Bible.
- We ask that you do not charge admittance when performing this concert - it is best when it is as accessible to the community as possible. Asking people for donations to assist in the cost of the performance is an alternative to entrance fees.
- If performing any of the suggested songs, please ensure your church or group has proper copyright permission from each of the artists/companies representing the artists. Christian Copyright Licensing International is a helpful resource for churches seeking appropriate copyright permission ([www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com)).
- Two of the songs suggested in this concert have been written by JSYCB. They are completely free to use/perform and available at [www.jsycb.com](http://www.jsycb.com).
- Please acknowledge JSYCB's authorship when reproducing materials in this guide. We would appreciate acknowledgement during live or recorded performances as well, if it is possible. This guide is not to be sold.

JSYCB would also appreciate knowing who chooses to perform The Parables According to Mr. Hubert. Please contact us!

## Short Description of The Parables According to Mr. Hubert

The following description can be used as a template for promotional materials to the general public and to church congregations:

*A fabulous party, a stolen iPhone, a cabbage corporation, a bully back home ... what do these scenarios have to do with Jesus' parables, or anything? Listen in as it's vividly explained to Rishanna by Mr. Hubert, an old Jamaican man she's forced to keep company with on a Saturday morning. She might discover that it's not as irrelevant as she thought ... and you might too.*

## Tips for Performing the Concert

- While the concert has been created by youth for youth performers, people of all ages can be involved in any aspect of it.
- There are many different songs you can use between skits. Choose the songs that are most relevant to your community. You can reduce or increase the number of songs sung in the course of the concert, depending on time and resources. Always ensure that the songs you choose are thematically in line with the previous skit.
- General public outreach is important, but the most effective outreach is word-of-mouth based on existing relationships. Encourage your group and congregation to invite people they know to attend the concert. Give them tools, such as handbills, to make it easier for them to invite their friends and family members.
- Concerts can be a relationship-building opportunity. After it is over, make refreshments available and encourage people to stay for a while. Get to know new people who have attended. Tell them that they can always ask questions if there was something in the concert they did not understand.

## About Jehovah Shalom Youth Choir and Band

Jehovah Shalom Youth Choir and Band is a dynamic musical group made up of a variety of vocalists and instrumentalists.

Jehovah Shalom's passion is to glorify and praise God. Our name comes from the Bible, and it means "the Lord is Peace" (Judges 6:24). We strive to worship God, enjoy group fellowship, encourage other choir members and listeners, challenge ourselves, have fun and spread joy, build musical excellence, give the Gospel (the "Good News" of Christ), outreach to others, learn about God, and foster God-honoring relationships between people. Jehovah Shalom enjoys exploring a variety of musical styles, from contemporary to traditional kinds of songs about God.

Jehovah Shalom is a youth program ministry of Thistleton Baptist Church in Toronto, Ontario. For more information, visit [www.jsycb.com](http://www.jsycb.com), email [info@jsycb.com](mailto:info@jsycb.com), or call us at 416-741-8060.

## Suggested Order for Skits, Songs, and Devotional

- Introductory Skit
- Sower Skit
  - Resting Place (Deitrick Haddon, on *Lost and Found*)
  - Nothing But the Blood (Jars of Clay featuring The Blind Boys of Alabama, on *Redemption Songs*)
- Great Feast Skit
  - The Real Party (Mary Mary, on *Mary Mary*)
  - All Around (Israel and New Breed, on *Live from Another Level*)
- Good Shepherd Skit
  - Leaving 99 (Audio Adrenaline, on *Adios*)
  - Everlasting God (Chris Tomlin, on *See the Morning*)
- Prodigal Son Skit
  - Soul's Desire (Robin Mark, on *Revival in Belfast*)
  - Prayer Changes Things (Deitrick Haddon, on *Crossroads*)
- Good Samaritan Skit
  - Hero (Kirk Franklin, on *Hero*)
  - Rushing In (Sonicflood, on *Cry Holy*)
- Rich Fool Skit
  - Nothing Without You (Chris Tomlin, on *See the Morning*)
  - I'd Rather Have Jesus (Jeff Deyo, on *Saturate*)
- Wise and Foolish Builders Skit
  - Like the Foolish Man (Jehovah Shalom Youth Choir and Band, on *Praiseaholics*)
  - Hear My Cry O Lord/Rock of Ages Medley (Marva Providence version; verses from Rock of Ages inserted between verses of Hear My Cry O Lord, utilizing the same rhythm and feel)
- Talents Skit
  - Joy (Tim Hughes, on *I Could Sing of Your Love Forever* Vol. 1 compilation album)
  - Gifts to Use (Jehovah Shalom Youth Choir and Band, on *Praiseaholics*)
- Concluding Skit
  - You Don't Know (Kierra Kiki Sheard, on *I Owe You*)

- Devotional (this piece can be 5-10 minutes long and used to highlight the overall message of the concert. A very relevant piece of scripture to speak of is Matthew 13:10-17, where Jesus explains to his disciples why he spoke in parables.)
  - Hosanna (Kirk Franklin, on *The Rebirth of Kirk Franklin*)
- Thanks/final words
- Closing prayer

## Introductory Skit

[Three friends walk up the middle isle chatting and snacking on Tim Horton's.]

**Friend 1:** So what are we doing today?

**Friend 2:** [Yawns broadly] It's too early to think. Why did you drag me out of bed?

**Friend 3:** It's Saturday, man, we need to take advantage of this! Let's go to [name of local shopping mall].

**Friend 2:** Boring.

**Friend 1:** Okay, fine. Let's see a movie!

**Friend 3:** I don't have \$30 for a ticket and popcorn.

**Friend 2:** I know ... let's wait for Rishanna to show up!

[They all snicker and laugh.]

**Friend 1:** Oh Rishanna, our poor little sucker of a friend.

**Friend 3:** Hey, I'm glad it ain't me.

[They chatter more. Rishanna walks in from the south downstage door, bitterly murmuring for her bed. When she sees her friends, she gasps and tries to hide behind a plant.]

**Friend 1:** I see two little eyes peeping out of the bushes! Come out into the light ...

**Friend 2:** Is that sweet and good and so-happy-to-serve-the-community Rishanna?

**Friend 3:** I bought you Timbits, girl!

**Rishanna:** [Steps out] Really?

**Friend 3:** Sorry. I lied.

[The friends break out laughing. Rishanna shuffles to them, disappointed.]

**Friend 1:** So, what you doing for the old man today? Scrubbing dentures? Clipping toenails?

**Friend 2:** No, she's going to put his jerk chicken in a blender and feed him lunch.  
[Mimics spoon feeding] Here comes the choo choo train!

**Rishanna:** Why do I even bother call you my friends? You're all evil.

**Friend 3:** Well, we'll be going now. To have fun. On our free Saturday. Say hi to grandpa.

[They giggle and walk off through the front south door.]

**Rishanna:** He's not my grandfather! [She works herself into a fake smile and rings an invisible doorbell.]

**Mr. Hubert:** [Shuffling onstage] Hold on, hold on! Don't rush me! [Opens the invisible door] Come in Rishanna! I've been looking forward to your visit all week! How's your mommy? [Leads her in.]

**Rishanna:** [Under her breath] Forcing me to waste my time here every single Saturday ...

**Mr Hubert:** What was that?

**Rishanna:** Nothing! She's fine.

**Mr. Hubert:** [Bashful] And how is your lovely, fine young thing of a grandmother?

**Rishanna:** [Making a disgusted face] She's okay, I guess.

**Mr. Hubert:** [Sitting in his chair and putting his Bible on his lap] You know, I saw her across the pew in church last Sunday. Ooo, she was radiant! Her hair in a silvery bun, those sleek bifocals, that flattering flowery dress ...

**Rishanna:** Is that right? How strange of you to notice ...

**Mr. Hubert:** And why didn't I see you in church? I hardly see you these days.

**Rishanna:** Well, I had homework ... assignments ... exams ... time of the year, you know. Tyrants, those teachers! Very busy, very busy ...

**Mr. Hubert:** But I'll see you tomorrow, yes? Bright and early?

**Rishanna:** Um ... we'll see ... what you got there, Mr. Hubert?

**Mr. Hubert:** My Bible. I'm reading the parables of Jesus. They're my favourite. So simple but so meaningful. Jesus told stories that the people could understand. He talked about things they knew about in their everyday lives. I love reading them. It seems like He's in the room, telling me stories to help me understand who He is.

**Rishanna:** Nice. [Pauses awkwardly] I don't want to hold you up, then, you've got a whole lot of parables to go through. Jesus talked a lot, didn't he? That's right. [Starts stepping away] So I'll be leaving you to it - would you like the front door open or closed?

**Mr. Hubert:** Wait! Do you know the parables of Jesus, Rishanna?

**Rishanna:** Oh sure! I learned them in Sunday school. There's the one about that guy who built his house with the sheep, right? And the parable about the dude who threw seeds in the ... king's palace, and the ... ten grooms came in to marry their wives, but there was no room in the inn ... [trails off, confused.]

**Mr. Hubert:** Oh no. Children of today. They don't know anything!

**Rishanna:** Listen, I really have to get going now ... so much homework!

**Mr. Hubert:** Sit yourself down. Those parables are all jumbled up in your mind because you've been skipping church! I need to straighten them out. Otherwise you won't know the lessons Jesus taught us. What good is homework when you don't know about the most important things?

**Rishanna:** [Whining] Oh no! Please, I don't have time for this.

**Mr. Hubert:** Calm down, it won't take too long. I promise, I'll explain them to you in a way you'll remember and understand. You need to hear them.

[Soloist, preferably a child, comes to the front to sing the first verse of the hymn, "Stories of Jesus".]

**Rishanna:** Oh man, don't tell me all that stuff, Mr. Hubert! What does it have to do with anything! Don't do this to me!



## Sower Skit

**Mr Hubert:** Let's see what I was reading before you came today. Good! This is one of my favourites! It's the parable of the sower.

**Rishanna:** Yeah, well, I failed Home Ec, I don't really do the "sowing thing", sooo ...

**Mr. Hubert:** No, no, a sower is someone who plants seeds in a garden.

**Rishanna:** That doesn't make any sense.

**Mr. Hubert:** Well, we have all day so I'll tell you all about it! In fact, I'll tell it in a way that is a little bit easier to understand.

**Rishanna:** [Sarcastically] Wow, thanks.

**Mr. Hubert:** [Ignoring her] You know how much your lovely grandmother loves flowers? They're almost as beautiful as her. She told me that she enjoys planting in her garden. Well, let's just say that the parable of the sower is like a family planting flowers in a community garden.

[Family appears on stage. Mr. Hubert and Rishelle stay on stage but go off to the side.]

**Mom:** Be careful dear, ever since you hurt your back in that accident you're not able to do a lot of the things you used to.

**Lynn:** Yeah, sounds like you're getting old.

**Dad:** Watch your mouth! Don't forget I'm in charge of your allowance.

**Mom:** Alright that's enough. Let's organize these seeds. Honey, you plant yours on that side, I'll plant mine here, and Lynn can plant hers there.

[They all start planting. Lynn starts scattering seeds wildly.]

**Dad:** Be careful, Lynn, you're going to attract all the birds in the neighbourhood!

**Lynn:** You mean like those ones over there? Whoa, they're huge!

[Angry bird sounds.]

**Dad:** Whoa! That's a lot of vicious sea gulls!

**Mom:** They're coming this way!

[They cower and hide their heads.]

**Lynn:** Well, at least you won't have to sweep up all those seeds. The birds ate them all up!

**Dad:** Just think how beautiful they could have been. They would've made the garden perfect.

**Mr. Hubert:** They had completely covered their garden with seeds. They watered them faithfully and waited for them to grow.

**Mom:** Look at all those flowers! They are so pretty!

**Dad:** What's going on over here? I didn't see those thorns before. They're disturbing my tulips. [Dad tries to cut the thorns down and fails.] It's too late, they've choked all my plants.

**Mom:** It looks like yours aren't doing too well either, Lynn.

**Lynn:** Oh no! They've all wilted! [Mimics propping them up with her feet] Not so good.

**Dad:** It looks like the soil is full of rocks. The flowers couldn't grow any roots because the rocks were in the way.

**Mom:** I'm sorry it didn't work out for you guys.

**Lynn:** Your flowers look great though Mom.

**Dad:** They actually look better than the picture on the package!

**Mom:** Some people are great, others have greatness thrust upon them. I'm just great.

[Family leaves stage.]

**Rishanna:** I never knew a story about gardening could be so ... boring.

**Mr. Hubert:** Maybe if you looked a little deeper into the meaning behind the story you wouldn't find it so boring.

**Rishanna:** What meaning could possibly be in a story like this?

**Mr. Hubert:** When Jesus told the story, His point was that the seeds are like us. For many people, when they hear the truth about Jesus, they either run away from it at the first sign of trouble or let worries and ambitions get in the way. Some don't even bother trying to understand. That's what happened to the flowers growing in the rocks and thorns. They wouldn't take it. But those of us who listen and understand what Jesus said and did for us, then we'll survive and grow.

## Great Feast Skit

**Rishanna:** Do I have friends? Yes I do, I have a lot of them. Popular ones, okay? I'm a popular girl, you know.

**Mr. Hubert:** How come I haven't seen any of your friends?

**Rishanna:** They wouldn't come here! If you were at one of our parties you'd see them.

**Mr. Hubert:** Is that so? They're the kind that would only say hello at a party?

**Rishanna:** [Defensive] Of course not! [Thinks a bit] Well ... maybe, some of them. I just get the feeling that if something came up, if there was something I wanted to do, they'd make dumb excuses up. One time when she wanted to invite the whole squad to my house, Lisa said that she had a family thing to go to, and Jeanine told me she was working, but I know that girl's doesn't have a job, and Ali said that he was doing homework but ...

**Mr. Hubert:** Slow down girl, my hearing isn't as fast as your mouth. Let me tell you about a man Jesus told a story about. He had a similar problem with his friends. Jared Winslow the Third was rich and famous, and good looking to boot. He had planned the most amazing party for him and his rich friends.

[Jared and Richard come up stage. At the bottom stage, a people dressed in messy and nerdy clothing come in and hang out.]

**Jared:** [Wearing a sweater tied around his neck and holding a tennis racket] Everything is nearly ready. My friends are going to absolutely love this soirée. Gourmet food, fabulous games, massive ice sculptures, plenty to get this party started.

**Mr. Hubert:** Jared Winslow the Third's most trusted aide was there with him too. His name was Richard and he had been Jared's butler for many years.

**Jared:** Richie darling, call everyone I invited and let them know that the party will start soon. They should head right over.

[Richard dials and puts the phone to his ear; sounds of a phone ringing.]

**Friend 1** [audio only]: Yes, hello? Make it quick.

**Richard:** Hello, I'm calling on behalf Jared Winslow the Third. He would like to remind you that his ultimate party is starting in just a short half of an hour.

**Friend 1:** That's today? You're kidding. Oh man, I thought it was next Saturday! Dude, I just bought a mansion in Forest Hill and I gotta get the down-payment and be there to sign the papers. Business stuff, Richie. Sorry. [Hangs up phone.]

[Richard dials someone else; sounds of a phone ringing.]

**Friend 2** [audio only]: Yeeellloww? Whooo!

**Richard:** Hello, I'm calling on behalf Jared Winslow the Third. He would like to remind you that his ultimate party is starting in just a short half of an hour. He says you should get over here right away ...

**Friend 2:** Sorry bud, I got hitched! I'm at my wedding reception right now! I was going to invite old Jared to the ceremony, but you know how it goes, the old ball and chain had too many relatives to fly over from France. Anyway, next wedding, you and Jared are in the front row! Whooo! [Hangs up the phone.]

[Richard dials someone else; sounds of a phone ringing.]

**Friend 3** [audio only]: Hello, MacDougal estates.

**Richard:** Hello, I'm calling on behalf Jared Winslow the Third. He would like to remind you that his ultimate party is starting and ...

**Friend 3:** Please tell Mr. Winslow that Mr. and Mrs. MacDougal are currently out of country at a Sweedish spa. It takes months to get reservations at those places, so they'll be unable to attend his party. They assure him that they'll make his next get-together a priority. [Hangs up the phone.]

**Mr. Hubert:** Richard told Jared what everyone said and he wasn't very happy. In fact he was down right peeved.

**Jared:** I'll show my so-called friends to stand me up. Richie, go outside and get the [shivers] commoners. You know, those ones that live around the street corner, the people nobody talks to. Make sure you get the nerds from the high school chess team too. Get everyone you've seen getting picked on. None of the people I invited will enjoy this party. The MacDougals will be simply horrified! Property values will plummet!

[Richard goes to the front of the stage and signals for everyone to come to the party. Everyone's excited, especially the chess team. They all run out and Jared and Richard follow.]

## Good Shepherd Skit

**Mr. Hubert:** Have you ever heard the parable of the Good Shepherd who left his herd of 99 sheep to search for one missing sheep? Do you understand what the story teaches, Rishanna?

**Rishanna:** As a matter of fact, I have heard of it and I do understand.

**Mr. Hubert:** Okay then! Tell me, put it in a story so I'll understand the message!

**Rishanna:** Would it be like the time I bought a shirt and didn't know where I put it? It was a really cute top. I searched high and low and finally found it in the freezer! Which would explain why I had a bag of French fries in my drawer. The story means that if you lose something, you should persist and you'll eventually find it.

**Mr. Hubert:** Um, not quite.

**Rishanna:** [Insulted] Are you kidding me? What's the story about, then, Mr. Know-it-All?

**Mr. Hubert:** Let's see ... it's like a youth who's trying to find her friends at a house party downtown. But she's never been downtown before.

[Youth stands on stage, talking on a cell phone, looking confused.]

**Youth:** Mel, where are you guys? It's getting kind of dark and I'm sort of lost.

**Phone Mel:** Did you take the subway to Wellsley Station? You see the Pizza Pizza, right? The apartment is kind of off Dundonaldly Street and Wellsley. See ya at the party! It's so fun!

**Youth:** Wait! Where's Dundonaldly Street, Mel? Hello? Mel? Hello? And now my phone is dying. [Starts wandering on stage] Okay, there's the subway station ... there's the Pizza Pizza. Okay, I think I see an apartment building ... and there's another. It's got to be one of those.

**Mr. Hubert:** That poor girl wandered around for a while and had no luck getting to the party. She was getting more lost and more scared. She didn't know who she could trust.

[Stranger 1 walks by on stage.]

**Youth:** Excuse me, do you know where Dundonaldly Street is?

**Stranger 1:** Sorry. I don't live around here so I don't know where that is. [Walks off.]

**Youth:** This is crazy. I have to try someone else. [Dials on her phone] It's almost out of battery power! Hello, Sharon? My phone is almost dead and I just can't find the apartment!

**Phone Sharon:** I can hardly hear you! This party is off the hook! We're waiting for you! We had to start eating because you were taking so long! Get here soon or you'll miss dessert! Bye!

**Youth:** No, Sharon, don't hang up! Oh no! The phone's dead! And I'm so hungry!

**Stranger 2:** [Comes up to her] Hey, I noticed you're trying to find your way. Nice phone.

**Youth:** Yeah, it's an iPhone, I just got it in New York. Listen, I'm trying to find my friend's apartment at Dundonaldly Street. Can you tell me where it is?

**Stranger 2:** Sure, I can. But first let me see your phone. [Snatches it from her] Looks pretty nice. But the battery's dead, isn't that a shame!

**Youth:** [Trying to grab it] I really need my phone! Maybe it's got a little life in it still ...

**Stranger 2:** Nah, it's pretty dead. Let me take care of charging it for you. [Starts walking away.]

**Youth:** Wait! I need my phone!

**Stranger 2:** It's not doing you any good right now. Oh, and I don't know where Dundonaldly Street is! [Leaves.]

**Youth:** [Very nervous] My phone's been stolen! Oh, man! It's really dark now. And everyone's staring at me. What am I going to do? Oh, no, some weird guy's coming towards me! I gotta get out of here! But I don't have any money left, not even for bus fare! [Sandy walks up onstage and taps her on the shoulder from behind.] Ahh! Get away from me! I know karate!

**Sandy:** Whoa! Calm down! It's just me!

**Youth:** Sandy! I'm so glad you're here! I tried calling but no one would help me and this guy stole my phone! I didn't think anyone would bother leaving the party to help me!

**Sandy:** I knew something was wrong when you took so long to get to the apartment from the subway. I tried calling and texting but you didn't answer. Now I know why! [Puts her arm around her] I was having a lot of fun at the party, but I thought of you lost and alone, and I just had to find you. I wanted you to have a good time too. Let's go. I put some dinner aside for you.

**Youth:** Sandy, I was so scared before you came. I'm so glad you're my friend.

[They leave together.]

**Mr. Hubert:** Sandy did something similar to what the Good Shepherd did in Jesus' parable. She left the comfort of the party and all of her many friends to find one lost person. That's just like how Jesus searches for us and saves us as individuals. He cares for us so much that he'd leave everything behind just to have us as His own.

## Prodigal Son Skit

**Rishanna:** Okay. So all these Bible stories you're telling me about talk about how good and kind God is. But whenever I went to church, they always talked about all these things we had to do. Be kind! Be loving! Don't lie! Don't talk bad about people behind their back! No one can live up to that one hundred percent.

**Mr. Hubert:** But when you give your life to God, He helps you to do what's right. And when you mess up and ask for forgiveness, He'll forgive and accept you back. It's called grace.

**Rishanna:** But I've never really done anything that bad in my life.

**Mr. Hubert:** Girl, I used to say the same thing. But we don't realize the seriousness of our sin and how it destroys us in the end. And we don't always know how willing our Heavenly Father is to save us from it all. Here's another story that might help you understand.

[Son and father walk in, arguing.]

**Son:** I am so sick of this, living at home and under your rules! I want to live my own life. Don't you understand?!

**Father:** You're just a child. You need to trust me that I'm trying to do what's best for you.

**Son:** I'm leaving and never coming back. I want to start living now!

**Father:** I'm going to leave the room. You need to calm down and then we can talk through this some more. I won't just let this go. I care about you. [Leaves the stage.]

**Son:** [Lifts a credit card] So you won't mind if I use your credit card a little, will you, old man? [Leaves the stage.]

**Mr. Hubert:** You should've seen what happened. That boy partied like it was 1999 all over again. Wildness, worthlessness, lawlessness ... all with his father's hard earned money!

[Staggering on stage holding a bottle, looking drunk, bartender propping him up.]

**Son:** Another round, for everybody! All my friends in this room, order your favourite drink! I love you guys!

**Bartender:** Sorry man, these people are going to stay dry tonight. You're maxed out.

**Son:** What? How? Where's my credit card, man?



**Bartender:** [Pulls out 2 broken pieces] You mean this? It's going in the Blue Bin.

**Son:** Oh no, what am I going to do? I've got nowhere to sleep, no food, no more money!

**Bartender:** Well, I do have a job opening. The dude who scrubs my toilets just quit today. He said something about there being too much vomit for any sane, dignified human being to handle. Anyway, once you give it a good scrubbing, you can come out here and clean the vomit out of the garbage pails. I'll let you sleep under one of the tables ... uh, make sure you clean the floor before you lie down. You know. Vomit.

[Bartender leaves and the son, who is looking depressed.]

**Rishanna:** Ew! Disgusting!

**Mr. Hubert:** Well you better believe that the son didn't last very long at that establishment. He decided to go back and beg his father to at least let him sleep in the garage.

[Father goes up stage, looking distraught. The son joins him, ashamed.]

**Son:** Dad, I'm so sorry. I came to ask if I could sleep under the car. I'll clean the whole garage out tomorrow and I'll do any other work you want me to do. Just don't make me go back to that awful, awful bar. I know I don't deserve anything better. I was so wrong to hurt you. I don't deserve your forgiveness and I wouldn't even ask for it ...

**Father:** [Cutting him off and hugging him] Of course I'll forgive you! I love you, I missed you so much. I was so worried, I didn't know what you were doing to yourself, I didn't know if you were dead or alive! Come, have dinner with me. Go have a hot shower, you can use my robe and pyjamas. And you can sleep in my room tonight, I'll sleep on the couch. We'll talk about it in the morning. I'll never let you go.

**Mr. Hubert:** That wonderful father forgave his son and helped him get on his feet again. He even threw a big block party because the boy came back! They celebrated until they couldn't celebrate anymore!

**Rishanna:** But that stupid kid was so horrible to his own father! If I were his dad, I'd give him a piece of my mind! It's so unfair that he was forgiven! Look at all the bad stuff he did!

**Mr. Hubert:** That's exactly why you are not in charge. When God saves people, He forgives them no matter what they do. You and I have done bad things and defied our Heavenly Father every single day of our lives. But if you're truly sorry and trust in Him, He'll forgive you the same way. There is no sin too big. He'll always welcome you into His home with open arms.

## Good Samaritan Skit

**Mr. Hubert:** All I'm saying is that Jesus has commanded us to love our neighbours as ourselves. And, those who are in need are our neighbours. So, we ought to help them out.

**Rishanna:** But one thing that I could never do is help out a person that I don't even know. If it were a friend, I wouldn't mind. But, helping out people you don't know is just ... creepy.

**Mr. Hubert:** But God provides us with opportunities to help those around us – this includes people we know, people we don't know, and even people we don't like.

**Rishanna:** I suppose you would call that being a “good Samaritan”?

**Mr. Hubert:** Precisely. Actually, Jesus' story of the good Samaritan reminds me of a story from my past. It's something that I can never forget. [Puts on a cap and apron] When I was a young man back home, I had a lousy part-time job working at Mr. Skinny Boy's Royal Beef Palace.

**Rishanna:** [Sarcastic] Sounds TASTY.

**Mr. Hubert:** Eh-heh. It wasn't the greatest. But my manager really liked me.

[Flashes back to Jamaica, 40 years ago. Mr. Hubert is playing himself as a younger man - takes off his glasses and stops acting old.]

**Manager:** You know what Ronald, I like you. You're dedicated to your work and you do it well.

**Mr. Hubert:** [Blushing] Thank you ma'am.

**Manager:** You know what I think? I think you can help me. We need someone to do all the odd jobs around here - all the things you and I have no time for. It's not a high paying job, but it's better than nothing. I think you can find me someone to do that for me.

**Mr. Hubert:** [To audience and Rishanna] As soon as I got off work that night, I ran home to call on my best friends. Working with one of them would've made up for my lousy job – it would've made work fun. [Marvin comes on stage and sits on the stoop] But on my way I saw Marvin. I didn't like Marvin. No one did. He was the school bully. [Mr. Hubert starts sneaking and hides when the bully almost spots him. He doesn't realize the bully is upset and crying.]

**Person 1:** [Walking in] Oh no, let's go - it's Marvin ... I don't want to have to pass that boy on the way to youth group tonight. I can't praise after dealing with him!

**Person 2:** You're right, he'll rob the fire out of my spirit! Wait, what's wrong with him?

**Person 1:** I think he's ... crying! [They pause to look at each other and begin giggling.]

**Person 2:** What a fool! That's right, let him cry, he deserves it! Let's go, the Youth Pastor's going to be waiting for us. [They walk off stage.]

[Mr. Hubert slowly comes from hiding to walk up to Marvin. They look at each other, stunned and embarrassed.]

**Mr. Hubert:** Hey, do-do you think you should be out here alone? I - I mean it's kinda late.

**Rishanna:** Oh great! Then he smacked you right? Well, you were kinda askin' for it ...

[Bully shakes his head.]

**Mr. Hubert:** You don't look too well. I really think you should go home. I'll go with you if you like. What's wrong, man?

**Rishanna:** Are you serious? And he still didn't smack you?!

**Bully:** [Guarded] I don't know what to do. My Mom is really sick and my Dad hasn't been working much. He needs to stay home and take care of her on the really bad days. There have been a lot of those lately. All I can think about is what will happen if we lose her.

**Rishanna:** I did not see that one coming.

**Bully:** I've been looking for a job and nobody wants to hire me now. All their employees are afraid I'll hurt them. My Uncle even thought I'd be too much trouble! [Leaves stage.]

**Rishanna:** Please don't tell me you referred him to your boss!

**Mr. Hubert:** Yes, I did. God led me to him. Even though he was my enemy, he really needed my help. I knew that he'd work hard at Mr. Skinny Boy's Royal Beef Palace because it was something he really needed.

**Rishanna:** So, even though he picked on you and thought he was better than you, you still helped him when no one was there for him – not even his own uncle. Well, was really nice of you.

**Mr. Hubert:** Well, it's pretty similar to what happened in Jesus' parable of the Good Samaritan. Back then, Jews and Samaritans hated one another. But a Samaritan man was the only one to stop and help a Jew. The priests and holy men left him to die, but

the Samaritan had mercy. Experiencing Jesus' mercy for yourself just has that effect on you.

**Rishanna:** Hmm ... I guess it makes sense. So I bet that Marvin guy never picked on you again.

**Mr. Hubert:** You got that right - we became good friends.

**Marvin:** [Coming back in, looking tough] Ronald! Go do the dishes and cut that beef, NOW!

**Mr. Hubert:** [Nervous] Uh, sure Marvin! Right away! [To Rishanna] I'll be right back. [Leaves.]

## Rich Fool Skit

**Mr. Hubert:** So Rishanna, tell me, how's school? I hear that you'll be applying for college soon. Do you know which program you're going to register for?

**Rishanna:** I have no clue. There are so many programs I don't know which on to choose from. All I know is that it's going to be one that gets me the big bucks, I'm not wasting my time in college if my job doesn't get me rich!

**Mr Hubert:** Well, you know, money isn't everything.

**Rishanna:** Oh please, only people with money have the gall to say that. Money's really the only thing that will ensure a great future in this world. And that's exactly what I need, because it's obvious that the present ain't too hot.

**Mr. Hubert:** Money can't buy salvation, though. Jesus teaches us that in the parable of the rich fool. It basically says that in the end money isn't the important thing but giving your life to God and doing what wants you to do. It's kind of like a CEO of a big corporation.

[Rich man and 4 co-workers come on stage, one holding a big chart.]

**Rich Man:** As you can see, our profits have sky-rocketed! Cabbage has become so much more than just food now. It's a whole way of life. [Flips the chart to show an advertising image with cabbage] Folks, please welcome "Generation Cabbage".

[Co-workers ooo and ah amongst themselves.]

**Rich Man:** That's why I've bought up all the farm land surrounding the city. We're going to tear down all our old freezers and replace them with state-of-the-art refrigerated warehouses. They'll be twice as big, and we'll even add an observation deck for public to watch the whole operation. They'll see the magic that is modern cabbage farming!

**Co-worker 1:** That should bring in a very good profit. I think we'll finally be able to appeal to the youth market with that. They love cool new technology - iPods, iPhones, cabbage facilities ...

**Co-worker 2:** It's so brilliant, I wish I thought of it myself. Really, we'll have so much money we won't know what to do with it. You're a great Canadian, sir.

**Rich Man:** Thank you. The whole thing is rather inspiring, if I do say so myself.

[Co-workers start mumbling and planning amongst themselves and walk off the stage while Mr. Hubert is speaking.]

**Mr. Hubert:** So the CEO went ahead with his plan. He didn't care that many farmers had been depending on the income from the land he was taking over. He didn't just build new "storage units". Soon, he had shops and theatres and attractions put up by the highway to bring the public in. They opened 5-star restaurants with famous chefs cooking cabbage. Crowds came from miles around and it was a huge success - the man was a billionaire. But something went terribly wrong.

**News Anchor** [coming on stage with 2 "man-on-the-street" people waving behind him]: This just in - the world has woken up to some shocking news this morning. Multi-billionaire CEO of Cabbage Unlimited Industries was found dead in his apartment. While it hasn't been confirmed, initial police reports indicate that cause of death was likely from a cabbage overdose. We turn to the public for their reactions to this tragedy. [Points the mic at them.]

**Person 1:** I can't believe it, I'm on TV! Hi mom! I'd like to shout out to all my friends, Jojo, Ray-ray, my cousin Marla ... oh yes, that CEO guy, what a shame. He was so young and so successful! But his cabbage amusement park still rocks! At least he left a legacy to be proud of.

**Person 2:** Who do you think will get his estate? I mean, the guy was rich, but there ain't much he can do with money and boats and mansions now, right? He'll be hanging out with earthworms soon. And he didn't have family or anything, so where's that money going? Hi grandma!

**Person 1:** Ah, who knows, his corporation will snatch it up or the government will get him for not paying taxes when he was alive. Who cares. By the way, I'm starving. You hungry for cabbage?

**Person 2:** Nah, nobody eats cabbage anymore. Beets are the new black.

[All three walk off the stage together.]

**Mr. Hubert:** You see what I'm talking about? The love of money isn't a good thing and God doesn't tolerate our selfishness. He wants us to put Him first in our hearts. What's the point of gaining the whole world if you'll just lose your soul in the end? In the parable of the rich fool, Jesus told us to get rid of our dedication to earthly things and store up treasures in heaven instead.

**Rishanna:** Okay, I get it, old man. I'm going to go get a snack. You got any cabbage?

## Wise and Foolish Builders Skit

**Mr. Hubert:** Did you ever meet someone who acts like they listen but who proves they really don't by their actions?

**Rishanna:** [Staring off into space] Hum? Did you say something Mr. Hubert?

**Mr. Hubert:** Lord, give me strength. Girl, did you hear about that young woman who went into the hospital because of a drunk driver?

**Rishanna:** Yeah, she goes to my school. It was all over the news.

**Mr. Hubert:** I bet you didn't hear the whole story. Your grandmother knows the girl's parents and told me what really happened. Before the girl left home to go to her friend's house, her mom had a little talk with her.

[Mom and girl come on stage.]

**Mom:** Well don't you look you nice! Now tell me. Who's going to be the designated driver tonight?

**Girl:** Rae. She's the only one who has a car.

**Mom:** Now, if for some reason Rae isn't fit for driving, don't get in the car with her. Even one drink can make someone unable to drive properly. Call me and I'll come and get you or I'll send one of your cousins. Do you understand me?

**Girl:** [Rolls her eyes] Yes mom. Now can I go? They're all waiting for me.

**Mom:** Yes, go. Just don't forget what I told you. Do you trust me, honey? You know what I'm saying makes sense, right? I only want what's best for you.

**Girl:** I trust you, mom. I know you're right. I promise I'll give you a call if I need you.

[Both mom and girl leave the stage.]

**Mr. Hubert:** Well, your grandmother told me that the get-together was quite a blast, time just flew by because everyone was having so much fun. When it hit 1:00 in the morning, the girl who goes to your school searched for her friends and Rae. She found them out on the road.

[Girl, Rae, and 2 other friends stand/sit on stage.]

**Girl:** Rae, you don't look so good. Are you sure you want to do this?

**Rae:** Girl, you crazy. I'm good to drive. I only had one and a half beers and that was when we first came in. It digested in my tummy and went out of my system already!

**Girl:** I really don't know if you should be driving. I think I'll just call my mom and get her to send my cousin for us.

**Friend 1:** Don't worry about it! You don't need to call you mom. Rae she does this all the time and we always get home safely.

**Friend 2:** She isn't drunk, trust me. Rae, do the test you do.

**Rae:** My pleasure. [She tries to walk in a straight line and touch her nose. She starts to stumble.] Oops, my bad! You know I'm normally clumsy and off-balance.

**Girl:** Really? I don't remember you being that clumsy ...

**Friend 1:** [Impatient] Come on, let's get in the car and go. We're gonna miss you curfew if we don't leave now.

**Friend 2:** Rae might be a little tipsy, but it's not a big deal. She's always kind of nutty anyway. We're not that far from your house and we'll drop you off first.

**Girl:** Well, I could call my mom and get a dependable ride. It's really not going to be a bother to her and she told me to do it if I needed to ... or I could just go with Rae. [Looks over at Rae, who's gazing into her glass, mesmerized.] Probably not my best decision of the night ... but let's just go.

[They all start walking off stage.]

**Rae:** And a-waaay we go! [Sings] Shut up and drive! Just shut up and drive! Yeah, shut up and fly! I mean drive!

**Mr. Hubert:** You can guess what happened after that. Halfway to the girl's house, Rae lost control of the car and it rolled into the ditch. They all woke up in the hospital. They were lucky their injuries weren't more serious.

**Rishanna:** Her mom offered to give her a ride, and the girl acted as if she was really listening! Why would she take such a chance? If that was me, I think my mom would kill me when I got out of the hospital. And no ambulance would be called to rescue me.

**Mr. Hubert:** That girl's story reminds me the parable of the wise and foolish builders. Jesus asked the people, "Why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?" He told them that if they listened to all His remarkable teachings but didn't do what He said, it's like a person who builds his house on sand. Rain would wash that house away in no time.



**Rishanna:** I remember. He also said that people who listen to Him and do what he says are like a wise person who builds a house on solid rock.

**Mr. Hubert:** That's right, you got it. We can all hear Jesus' words and recognize their value, but only that handful of believers who put their faith in Him and obey Him will survive the storm.

## Talents Skit

**Mr. Hubert:** [Walking onstage with two mugs] Tell me, Rishanna, what are you good at?

**Rishanna:** [Taking a mug] Nothing besides waking up early on Saturdays.

**Mr. Hubert:** [Sitting down] Oh come now, everyone's got something. Like your granny. Did you know that woman is so wonderfully talented?

**Rishanna:** You're making me want to throw up.

**Mr. Hubert:** Boy, she can sing! Voice of an angel! What a gift God's given her. [Optional: play pre-recorded old woman singing a hymn.] And she doesn't waste it, you know. She praises God in song all the time at church! Thrills my heart every time.

**Rishanna:** Yes, I'm sure it thrills your heart.

**Mr. Hubert:** Her singing reminds me of the parable of the talents. It's the story Jesus told about how God gives gifts to His people and how they're supposed to use them.

**Rishanna:** I don't know that one.

**Mr. Hubert:** Well, it's sort of like ... that silly show. The one with the man and his weird hairdo.

**Rishanna:** The Apprentice?

**Mr. Hubert:** Yes, that's it. [Three people come in with business jackets on, in front of Trump.] It's like that man giving his money to the contestants. They go away for a week and have to impress him with what they did with their loans.

**Donald:** Contestant, I need you to tell me why I shouldn't fire you on the spot.

**Contestant 1:** [Confident, holding an apple] Mr. Trump, I used the \$10,000 you gave me to invest in a small business that turns apple juice into gasoline. I know it sounds like a risky venture. But a good worker knows when to take chances and I'm not afraid of hard work. I invested and helped to plant all those apple seeds. Our company has run Exxon out of business and ended the oil wars around the world! And our fuel is only two cents a litre!

**Donald:** That's exceptional execution. I think I'll give you a corner office. What do my co-managers think? [Two jacketed Minions run up beside Donald.]

**Minion 1:** Oh yes, you're right, Mr. Trump, you're always right. I adore you.

**Minion 2:** Absolutely, excellent work! You're completely right, sir. You're my everything.

**Donald:** And what about you, contestant? Why should you survive?

**Contestant 2:** [Holding a purse with a little dog in it] I'm ambitious and loyal, sir. With your loan of \$5000, I started a company in Rosedale that custom-designs outfits for lap dogs. You may think it's a crazy idea, but you'd be surprised how many people want to dress their pocket pooches like ballerinas and firefighters. We made a profit in our first week!

**Donald:** How innovative! [Minions exaggeratedly mumble in agreement.] You'll get a company BMW. Now to our final contestant, what have you done with my money?

**Contestant 3:** [Nervous, clump of bills in hand] Okay, well, this is what happened. I got 1000 bucks from you, right? And then I was like, maybe I should buy stocks but then I lost my cell phone and I couldn't call a broker. Then I tried to find a bank to open an account, but I didn't have any TTC fare on me and I was like, how can I possibly get anywhere? So I went to my mom's house, but she wasn't home, and she always tells me what to do with my money, so I thought, maybe she could help the Donald figure out what to do with his money ...

**Donald:** Are you telling me that you did nothing? [Minions shake their heads.]

**Contestant 3:** I warmed them in my pocket for you. So can I get a corner office too?

**Donald:** You're fired! And give the other contestants your money! [Storms off. Minions do the same. Contestant 3 hands her money over and they walk off.]

**Rishanna:** But you can find banks everywhere! The last contestant could've at least put the cash in an account. What a waste of good money! Of course he got fired.

**Mr. Hubert:** Jesus told a similar story to show that we shouldn't waste the talents He gives His children. Those gifts aren't ours to keep! We're supposed to use them to show the world how glorious He is. We're never to grow weary of doing good for Him.

## Closing Skit

[Rishanna's sitting on Mr. Hubert's chair, skimming his Bible.]

**Mr. Hubert:** [Walking in with his coat on, hat in hand] What, you're still here? It's 4:00!

**Rishanna:** Already? Wow. Time went by so fast today.

**Mr. Hubert:** You should go along now. Your mother's going to wonder where you are. And I don't want to be late for my date with your grandmother!

**Rishanna:** Ew! A date? At 4:00 in the afternoon? You crazy kids.

**Mr. Hubert:** Quiet, you. We're going for a walk in Allen Gardens, and then we're going for dinner at The Real Jerk with my senior's discount card!

**Rishanna:** How romantic. No expense spared for my granny! [Gets up, lingering with the Bible.]

**Mr. Hubert:** You can keep that this week, if you'd like.

**Rishanna:** I don't want to take your Bible from you.

**Mr. Hubert:** I have others. That's a very special Bible to me, you know. My mother gave it to me when I was a boy. See the inscription? "To my dear son Clifford. May you learn to love the stories of Jesus as I do." She was the one who introduced me to all those parables I told you about. You should read them for yourself.

**Rishanna:** Well, I did see them a little differently today. It can't hurt to read them. Okay, I'll bring your Bible back next Saturday. Take care, Mr. Hubert. Behave yourself and don't keep my grandmother out too late! [Walking out.]

**Mr. Hubert:** Have a good week, Rishanna.

[Rishanna is downstage opening the Bible again and skimming a little before exiting.]

**Mr. Hubert:** [To himself] Well, miss gorgeous grandmother, prepare for a little bit of romance! [Puts on his hat and fusses over himself as if looking in a mirror. Pauses, shakes his head, and prays.] Oh Lord. Let Rishanna see Your truth in those stories. I hope I did justice to them today. They have made all the difference in my life. When my mother told me Jesus' parable of the sower, You gave me faith and I was saved. Let the same be true of Rishanna and everyone else who hears Your words. Let them not fall on hard ears. Many of us will hear Your truth but never understand, many will see your truth right in front of them but never really perceive it. Many of our hearts are calloused. But help us, Lord Jesus, help Rishanna. Let her see with her eyes, hear with her ears, understand with her heart, and be healed by You. Give us faith. We have no hope apart

from You and life isn't worth living if it's not for You. You are everything to me. Thank you, Jesus. Thank you. [Exits stage with cane, humming "Tell Me the Stories of Jesus".]