

## Church for the Found

Players: 5 or more actors, male and female. “R” denotes READER in script. The numbered parts may be changed to suit group count; lines do not change\* (see pg. 10).

This story is a modern day parable reminiscent of *The Parable of the Great Banquet* in Luke 14:15-24.

The script can be played Readers Theater style (standing or sitting) or it can be played with staging. An ensemble feel is the goal with all players telling the story of *The Church for the Found*, one line after the other. You are storytellers.

Readers should play lines with believability and conviction to story, although the content has obvious *tongue-in-cheek*. The piece will come off as clever and playful to your listeners as you follow this direction. This heightens the awakening to the truth as “The Found” actors transition to playing “The Lost” in the story.

- R 1            Once there was a man who was hopelessly lost.
- R 2            Most of his life had been spent in aimless wandering.
- R 3            Then one day he was found by the Great King and told...
- R 4            “Tell everyone you meet that you have been found by Me.”
- R 5            “I will Great King!” and the man hurried away to search for others who were lost.
- R 1            For the next few days and weeks, the man searched for lost people.
- R 2            They were pretty easy to find. His own lostness was still so real.
- R 3            He found a beautiful single woman, a young couple from his work, and another acquaintance from his life.
- R 4            Soon there was a group of found people,
- All            Five in all!
- R 1, 3, 5       They were so happy!
- R 2, 4        They had been found!

CHURCH FOR THE FOUND, Pg. 2

- R 5 In fact, they were so happy that they had been found, they started meeting together regularly.
- R 1 Every Wednesday and Sunday...
- R 2 Without fail...
- R 3 They would meet in the young couple's home.
- R 4 They'd all sing a song or two.
- R 5 And Bill, their co-founder with the Great King,...
- R 1 Well, he would read from an ancient book that related stories about others who had been found.
- R 2 Then one of the five would stand up and tell about his or her experience of being found.
- All These six found and very happy people continued to gather and share...
- R 3, 5 Until one day...
- R 3 Bill decided the home in which met was too small.
- All More like cramped and squeezed!
- R 4 Bill and Susan (the beautiful single woman) had married...
- R 5 There were children now...
- R 1, 2, 4 Making meetings just a little bit noisy, cramped and squeezed.
- R 1 Besides all of that, the chairs had become uncomfortable.
- R 2 The songs old,
- R 3 ... and boring. (yawn)
- R 4 And the readings from the ancient book (sigh) about the found had become really trite and tired.

CHURCH FOR THE FOUND, Pg. 3

- R 3, 5            “We need a change!”
- R 4                Bill shouted one Sunday in the middle of what he now called a  
‘preachment’...
- R 1, 2, 4        Waking three of the five from their usual preachment paralysis.
- R 3, 5            “Let’s find a building!”
- R 3                “Let’s hire a sitter... no, a ‘Christian Education Person’ for all these  
kids,”...
- R 5                “And give them a room!” someone added.
- R 1                “We’ll take a room for ourselves and secure some soft, over-stuffed  
pews!” And Bill continued on...
- R 2                “We’ll call it a ‘Sanc-tuary’ and”...
- R 3                “And, in the Sanc-tuary will be those glorious pews which we can all sink  
into every Sunday and Wednesday. There will be,”...
- All                “Wait a minute what are ‘pews’?!” they asked.
- R 4                “Just a word I made up—same as long bench. But I have a hunch the word  
‘pew’ will be used some day.”
- R 1,2            One by one, the group began to accept Bill’s suggestion...
- R 3,4            That they would have a room for the children and one for the adults...
- ALL              With pews.
- R 1                “What we waiting for?” someone finally said.
- R 2                “Let’s get started right after our ‘potluck’”...
- R 3                Another one of Bill’s words—‘potluck’.
- R 4                So, that’s just what they did.
- R 5                They combed the city for a building that would suit them...

CHURCH FOR THE FOUND, Pg. 4

- R 1, 3           It seemed like they looked forever.
- All                “‘They’re all so big! Why do people need such big buildings?’”
- R 2                ...they thought to themselves.
- R 4                They went home wondering if they’d ever find *their* building,...
- R 4, 5            Ever have those comfortable, over-stuffed pews,...
- R 1, 2, 3         Ever have a room for all the kids.
- All                “See you Wednesday.”
- R 3, 5            On Wednesday, however,...
- R 2, 4            Another idea...
- R 1                Popped into Bill’s head.
- R 2                “You know what we need!?” asked Bill.
- All                A building?!
- R 2                “Obviously. Listen up. Why don’t we build a building just the right size?”
- All                “Hmmm...” they murmured.
- R 3                “Great idea,” said one of the five. “But won’t we need money?”
- All                “Forgot that,” said Bill sheepishly.
- R 4                “Now don’t worry! I’ll think of an idea for that too,” assured Bill.
- R 1                “Wait a minute!” Susan called out. “Remember when we were all lost?”
- All                They nodded, vaguely recalling the moment.
- R 2                “Come on now, remember?” said Susan. “Bill told us about the Great King.”