

A script from



## “Human Videos”

concept by

Eddie James, The Skitiots

and the Saddleback Drama Team

For a full Human Video script,

go to [www.skitguys.com](http://www.skitguys.com) to download *Total Eclipse of the Heart*.

- What** The “videos” focus the audience’s common choices and outcomes, and point out the solution to their issues is Christ. (Themes: Live for God)
- Who** Ensemble cast who will act out different situations done to music.
- When** Present day
- Wear (Props)** Depends on what situations you choose. Designating a Prop Person would be a great idea to pull off these human videos, preferably someone with a gift of administration, and not one of the actors.
- Why** Please see the *Life Hurts, God Heals* outlines for several scripture references. Goes with “Live for God” messages. Messages can be downloaded at [www.simplyyouthministry.com](http://www.simplyyouthministry.com).
- How** This is a great opportunity to use more of your team at one time. Also a great “coming out of the shell” experience for members of your team who are shy or inexperienced to find success in a ministry to which God has called them.
- Time** Approximately 5-6 minutes

**From Eddie:**

Human Videos can either be a really great and effective way to connect with your audience through music, or, unfortunately they can be very cheesy (*chéé-zee: adj. a description given to any performance of a skit or video that is hokey, one-dimensional, and/or otherwise uncomfortably bad.*)

The two songs that follow were workshopped by the Saddleback Drama Team. I realize that any song you choose will become dated and lose its effectiveness with audiences. Please feel free to use the song(s) that work for you and your team, and update them as necessary. Use the suggestions below as a springboard to get you and your team thinking toward similar goals.

**HOW TO:**

First find a song that speaks to human interaction. Next, buy the CD or download the song and burn it to a CD. Have your group of actors listen to the song. Then have a brainstorming session; writing down what visuals might work with the song, (What captures the feelings that are evoked by the song?). You and your team will play a vital role in writing these human videos. Even though there is a list of situations and issues at the end of this workshop, going through this process with your group really gives them ownership over what they will portray to their peers, showing what is relevant to their part of the world, and what they deal with.

*(A note on brainstorming: ALL ideas are written down regardless of their potential. Do not let your group shut an idea down until you go through a separate weeding-out process.)*

Once you have listened to the song and made a list of the visuals, list the different scenes. You can have five or six scenes just in one song! Make sure they look very different. Of course this last suggestion can be ignored if it suits your purpose, but in general the audience will get bored watching the same type of situation over and over, plus you and your team are much too creative to settle for that.

Lastly, remember when doing human videos, since no words are spoken, you must always ask yourself, “Will the audience understand this?” Regardless of movements, props, facial expressions, etc., everything has to be very clear or your audience will not understand without the words. Always remind your actors that this makes them better actors because they cannot rely on words. Everything relies on what is done with the body, which is well over fifty percent of good acting anyway.

Good Luck!  
**Eddie James**

## HOLD ME NOW

Kirk Franklin's “Hold Me Now”, from the NU NATION PROJECT. The song is track number nine.

Kirk Franklin also talks through two parts of the song. He talks about Moses and the Red Sea. A great interlude idea is to use video clips of THE PRINCE OF EGYPT playing in the background when Kirk Franklin speaks. The more ways you can get your audience to stay engaged visually the better.

If you use video, put the lyrics on the screen while the actors are acting things out. This always helps the message stick in the minds of the audience.

## WISE UP

Aimee Mann's “Wise Up”, from the JERRY MAGUIRE soundtrack. The song is track number ten.

The words expressed are words about always repeating the same mistakes and concluding that things will not get any better until we wise up.

Again, if using video, the lyrics and possibly scripture from Proverbs (One of the books of wisdom in the Old Testament) would be excellent.

*\*\*\* You will need a Jesus character to portray taking away all the hurt and baggage. With this topic, think of different ways to show LIVING FOR GOD. Endings are crucial on these human videos, so stay away from the cheese.*

## EXAMPLES:

When you do human videos and intertwine video, always try to think what all students go through, what can be easily understood with music and bring impact and thought. Here are just a few to help you get started. Use any of these you want with your own team to make powerful human videos:

1. Person(s) drinking
2. Fighting with parents
3. A parent walking out the door with suitcase in hand
4. A couple breaking up
5. Someone who is not part of the popular crowd; feeling alone
6. Someone who is part of the popular crowd but still feels alone
7. Girl looking in mirror then looking at her waist and being unhappy with how she doesn't measure up to what she thinks she should look like

8. A person making bad grades
9. Football player who takes off letter jacket and reveals a “Christian shirt” and the rest of the players think he’s weird and all leave him behind
10. A bad date
11. Drug abuse
12. Physical abuse
13. Someone in a cop uniform handcuffing a student
14. Disrespect to the elderly
15. Pregnancy
16. Someone not getting invited and being left out
17. Death
18. The other girl/guy who is prettier or more handsome than someone else
19. Memories of someone’s past
20. Divorce; show little girl or boy and Daddy or Mommy leaving
21. Heaven and hell
22. Anger, lashing out, rejecting love in one’s life
23. Pornography
24. Bulimia or anorexia
25. Parents that are too busy; Missed a game, show, or event
26. Someone simply crying or hurting maybe holding a picture of someone
27. Smoking cigarettes just to fit in
28. Any type of “peer pressure” scene
29. A guy trying to pressure a girl into going further than she wants to sexually

In any human video, show the follow up to your scenes (e.g. someone hugging a hurting person, Jesus taking away the hurt, etc.)