

“Freedom: A Re-Telling of the Prodigal Son”

by
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What Though "freedom" is the only word used throughout this skit, when the son returns to his father, the word is a powerful reminder that true freedom is only found in God.

Themes: Father, Love, Redemption, Forgiveness

Who Father
Son
Alcohol
Vanity
Lust
Pig

When Present Day

**Wear
(Props)** Wallet
Money
Bottle
Hand-held Mirror
Scarf

Why Luke 15:11-32

How *See the end of this script for tips on how to use this script.

Time Approximately 2 minutes

Father and Son stand center stage.

Son looks to Father.

Son: Freedom?

Father takes both of his pointer fingers and makes a heart on his chest. He then cups his hands and mimes giving the Son his heart.

The Son pushes the Father's heart away.

Son: (insistently) Freedom?

Father, once again, takes both of his pointer fingers and makes a heart on his chest. He then cups his hands and mimes giving the Son his heart.

The Son pushes the Father's heart away again, this time indignant.

Son: (adamant) Freedom?!

Father looks at Son and shrugs. Son rubs his fingers together to indicate that he wants money. Father, defeated, pulls out his wallet and hands his Son lots of money.

Father moves upstage and turns his back to the audience.

Son moves downstage and holds his money in the air.

Son: Freedom!

Alcohol enters. He is holding a bottle. Throughout the mime, he takes drinks from his bottle.

Alcohol: Freedom.

Son: Freedom?

Alcohol: Freedom.

Son goes to take the bottle from Alcohol. Alcohol holds the bottle out of reach and rubs his fingers together to indicate that he wants money.

Son gives Alcohol some money.

Alcohol: (as he hands Son the bottle) Freedom.

Son takes a drink.

Alcohol takes one of Son's hands (the hand that holds the bottle) and puts it behind Son's back. Alcohol exits.

Son realizes that one of his hands has been put behind his back. He takes a minute to try and release it. He can't.

Vanity enters with a mirror and a scarf.

Vanity: *(looking into the Mirror)* Freedom.

Son: Freedom?

Vanity: Freedom.

Son hands her some money with his free hand. She gives him the mirror and puts the scarf around his neck.

Son: *(looking into the mirror)* Freedom.

Son: *(still looking into the mirror, haughtily)* Freedom.

Son lowers the mirror, strikes a 'look-at-me' pose, and looks into the audience.

Son: Freedom!

Vanity then takes the hand that is behind Son's back and his free hand and puts them together in front of Son. Son should look like he is handcuffed, with his hands in the front of him. His one hand holds the bottle while the other holds the mirror and some money.

Vanity exits.

Son realizes that now both of his hands are stuck. He struggles, a little more than the first time, to get free.

Lust enters. She slowly walks by Son, looks back at him and winks.

Lust: Freedom.

Son: Freedom?

Lust: Freedom.

Son goes to her. She asks for money. His hands are 'bound' together, but he holds them both up and offers her the rest of his money.

Son: Freedom.

Lust takes his money.

Lust circles him, then pushes Son to his knees.

Lust exits.

Son is stuck on his knees with both of his hands still bound in front of him.

Son: Freedom?

Son puts his hands to his stomach, indicating that he is hungry.

Pig enters on all fours. Pig goes over to Son and starts to mime eating food off of the floor. Son looks at Pig, disgusted. Then, he holds his stomach and looks at Pig. Son looks away from Pig a little less disgusted this time. He looks over at Pig a third time and decides to try some of Pig's food.

Son mimes eating what the Pig is eating. Pig snorts at him. Son mimes spitting out the food.

Pig exits.

Son: Freedom?

Pause.

Son: Freedom?!

Son shakes his head. Son looks up, as if he has had an idea. Unsure, he looks around. Son slowly stands and walks in a large circle. As he does, Father comes downstage and meets Son center stage.

Father embraces Son.

Son falls to his knees.

Father looks at Son. He picks up Son's bounded hands.

Son: *(dejected, referring to the items in his hands)* Freedom.

Father takes the mirror and the bottle out of Son's hands and puts them on the ground. Father then unbinds Son's hands and stands him up.

Father takes both of his pointer fingers and makes a heart on his chest. He then cups his hands and mimes giving the Son his heart.

Father: Freedom.

Son cups his hands and receives Father's heart. Son then places both hands over his own heart.

Son: Freedom.

Father and Son embrace.

Father and Son exit together.

How:

Costumes & Props:

All actors should be dressed in black.

The script instructs the actor who portrays Son to mime the chains. However, if you have chains that can be split into three parts (or however many 'sins' you portray) feel free to use them. Every sin should enter with the promise of freedom but leave Son in more chains.

Find the humor:

This skit is serious, however be sure to find humorous moments. Although there is only one word in the entire skit, have fun with the tone of voice. (Ex) When the Father finally gives Son money...maybe he sings FREEDOM...)

The Pig should be a humorous character. Be sure to cast an actor who will fully embrace that role.

Mission Trip Tips:

Keep it simple, especially if you're performing this in multiple locations. This can be performed without any props or costumes.

Alcohol, Vanity, Lust can be exchanged for other sins such as: Gambling, Drugs, etc. Feel free to connect more with your audience by choosing relevant sins.

Also, feel free to add more sins to the skit; just be careful not make it too long. The goal is for the audience to be fully engaged from beginning to end.