

“Things of God: Cup”

A Lenten Reading

by
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What Thinking of the bitterness of the drink offered to Jesus on the cross, this Readers Theater explores the idea that we often end up with a cup running over with things we don't want. But we're reminded that Jesus drank the cup of God's judgment so we wouldn't have to.

Themes: Easter, Lent, Pain, Struggles, Judgment, Sacrifice, Crucifixion

Who Reader 1
Reader 2
Reader 3

When Now

Wear (Props) Readers may dress in black, or in clothing of their choosing. Coordinating binders should be used to hold the script.

Why Matthew 26:15

How This is a reader's theater piece. All Readers need to work together to maintain a consistent rhythm. It should feel as if one person is reading. For more ideas watch How to Perform a Reader's Theatre on SkitGuys.com.

Time Approximately 3 minutes

Readers enter, take their places, and open their notebooks.

Reader 1: Cup. Noun. A small, open container, sometimes having a handle, used chiefly as a receptacle from which to drink.

Reader 2: What does your favorite coffee cup say on it?

Reader 3: #1 Grandma?

Reader 1: World's Best Boss?

Reader 3: Myrtle Beach?

Reader 1: Stressed, Blessed, and Coffee Obsessed?

Reader 2: Or maybe it just says "Starbucks".

Reader 3: Maybe you believe that coffee is constant proof that God loves us and wants us to be happy.

Reader 2: And whatever kind of cup it's in, you know what to expect when you take that first sip.

Reader 1: A caffe latte with whipped cream and a caramel drizzle.

Reader 3: Chai with an extra shot of vanilla.

Reader 2: Or just plain old truck-stop coffee with a cream and two sugars.

Reader 1: You ordered it, or you poured it yourself, but it's exactly what you wanted.

Reader 2: But what if it wasn't?

Reader 3: What if you dropped a sugar cube in your cup only to discover it was full of beef broth?

Reader 1: What if you took that first sip from the cup and tasted gasoline?

Reader 2: What if you took a big swig and got a mouthful of Elmer's glue?

Reader 3: Not pleasant to think about...but Isn't that life?

Reader 1: We find our cup is seemingly filled with bitter experiences.

Reader 2: Your cup runneth over, surely...but not with things you want.

Reader 3: So, we drink, but we are dismayed at the taste.

Reader 1: Our Heavenly Father has wisdom to know what we need to grow, to mature, to become more like Him.

Reader 3: We don't always like the flavor.

Reader 1: Even Jesus asked that He not have to drink from this cup, if there was any other way to accomplish the goal.

Reader 2: But He so loved the world, that He gave His life...

Reader 3: Jesus drank the cup of God's judgment so that we would not have to.

Reader 1: That's how great His affections for us are.

Reader 3: He allows our cups to be filled with many things—many are sweet and delicately flavored.

Reader 2: Laughter and beauty and quiet moments with family and friends. Drink those deeply. Savor them.

Reader 3: But do not be afraid to drink from the cup of suffering.

Reader 1: Be strong. Be courageous.

Reader 2: When your cup is full of pain and sorrow and loss...

Reader 3: Drink deeply of them as well, knowing that God will take them and build you from the inside out.

Reader 1: And as you drink, look over the brim and see the grace in His eyes...

Reader 3: Let the flavor, sweet or bitter, fill you.

Reader 2: Close your eyes and think of what was in the cup Jesus drank.

Reader 1: Think of His sacrifice.

All: Drink...and remember.