

BONUS DRAMA SKITS

Advent B — Theme 1: Behold the Signs | Leader Instructions

This folder contains two original bonus drama skits for Advent B, Theme 1. These skits are **optional** — they are not part of the printed Leader's Guide — but they offer a powerful, fun way to bring the Advent theme to life through performance.

Both skits explore the same big idea as the lesson: watching for signs of Christ's coming. They are designed to work across generations, with roles for kids, teens, and adults in the same cast.

What's in This Folder

Leader Instructions - Bonus Drama Skits.pdf	This document.
Skit 3 - The Watch Party/	
Skit 3 - The Watch Party (Full Script).docx	Complete script for director/leader
Skit 3 - The Watch Party (Actor Sides).docx	Individual cue sheets for each actor
Skit 4 - Breaking News/	
Skit 4 - Breaking News (Full Script).docx	Complete script for director/leader
Skit 4 - Breaking News (Actor Sides).docx	Individual cue sheets for each actor

About the Skits

Skit 3: The Watch Party

Type: Cross-generational comedy-drama

Cast: 1 adult, 1 teen, 2 kids (4 total)

Runtime: Approximately 8–10 minutes

Scripture: Mark 13:35 — “Keep watch, because you do not know when the owner of the house will return.”

Setting: A living room watch party with no screen

Three kids arrive at an adult's home expecting to watch something on a screen — only to discover it's a “watch party” for signs of Christ's coming. What starts as comic confusion (Signs the musical? Yard signs? A sign from space?!) slowly shifts into a genuine moment of awareness. By the end, each character recognizes a small sign of God's presence they had already encountered that week.

Best for: Sunday morning worship, family faith nights, small group settings, or Advent program openers. Works beautifully with 4 participants or as a congregational performance. The intimate setting and relatable humor make it especially effective for younger audiences.

Skit 4: Breaking News — Signs of the Season

Type: Cross-generational comedy with serious pivot

Cast: 3 adults/teens, 3 kids, 1 offstage voice, 1 running announcer (8 total)

Runtime: Approximately 12–15 minutes

Scripture: Mark 13:33, 35 — “Be on guard! Be alert!... Keep watch, because you do not know when the owner of the house will return.”

Setting: A TV news studio covering “Signs of the Season”

A fast-paced TV news parody in which reporters cover “signs of the season” — a giant inflatable Santa, a dramatic weather system, playoff brackets, and trending hashtags. A biblical scholar guest keeps trying to redirect the conversation toward Mark 13. A quiet moment from the social media reporter (“People are hungry for something real”) shifts the tone, and HERALD’s final slow entrance — announcing an Advent candle being lit in someone’s living room — brings the room to stillness.

Best for: Large group settings, all-church worship, Advent program nights, or any context where you want a high-energy performance with a meaningful landing. The TV format is immediately familiar to kids and adults alike.

Casting Notes:

HERALD (kid) has short, memorable lines and big running entrances — ideal for a young or first-time performer.

BUZZ (offstage voice) is perfect for a shy participant who wants to be involved without appearing on stage.

Skit 4 can be trimmed by cutting SWIFT’s lines or condensing SAGE’s speeches if needed.

How to Use These Skits

When to Use Them

- As an opener for an Advent program or family night (Skit 3 or 4)
- As a children’s message substitute during Sunday worship (Skit 3 works well)
- As a full congregation drama for an Advent Sunday service (Skit 4 works well)
- As a rehearsed performance for a mid-week Advent event
- As a low-prep reading activity — actors can read from their sides, no memorization required

Adapting the Scripts for Your Congregation

All skit scripts and actor sides are provided in Microsoft Word (.docx) format, which means they are fully editable. Feel free to adapt the dialogue, character names, cultural references, or humor to better fit your congregation's context and personality. A joke that lands perfectly in one community may need a small tweak in another — these scripts are a starting point, not a finished product.

Common adaptations include: swapping a pop culture reference for one your group will recognize, adjusting a character's name, shortening a speech, or adding a local detail (like naming the church on Fifth Street after your own congregation).

Preparation Tips

- One rehearsal is usually enough, especially for Skit 3.
- Actors do not need to memorize lines — reading from their Actor Sides is perfectly fine.
- Props can be simplified or pantomimed if needed.
- The skits can be performed with or without costumes — minimal staging works well.
- For Skit 4, a table as a “news desk” and a handmade sign reading FIRST NEWS AT FIVE are all you need.
- Consider having BUZZ read from behind a curtain, a door, or simply offstage.

Using the Actor Sides

An **actor side** contains only one character's lines — plus a few words from the line said just before theirs, so they know when to speak. Instead of printing the full script for every actor, print the Actor Sides document and hand each actor only their own section.

This keeps rehearsal focused and helps kids stay on track without hunting through multiple pages. Kids in particular do much better with their own side than with a full script.

See the instructions at the top of each Actor Sides document for full details on how to print and distribute.

Connection to the Lesson

Both skits connect directly to the Advent B, Theme 1 lesson theme: *Behold the Signs*. The central question — “How do we watch for Christ’s coming?” — is explored through humor, confusion, and ultimately a quiet moment of recognition.

Either skit can be used:

- Before the lesson, as a warm-up that raises the question the lesson will answer
- After the lesson, as a reinforcement of the central idea
- As a standalone activity in place of or alongside other lesson components

The skits are designed to complement the lesson, not replace it. They work best when the leader connects them explicitly to the Scripture and discussion questions in the Leader’s Guide.

Key Scripture

Mark 13:33 — “Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come.”

Mark 13:35 — “Keep watch, because you do not know when the owner of the house will return.”

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