

“HOPE HOTLINE”

By
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Synopsis

Mr. Andrews is in need of hope. He is struggling through life and doesn't know where to turn. He calls the Hope Hot-line looking for answers. He talks with Prayer and agrees to place his hope in God, but when his needs are not met, after a few weeks, he calls back to talk with Prosperity, then Possessions. Nine months later, his life is worse than before and he comes to realize Prayer's advice (to put his faith in God) was right all along.

Scripture

Mark 11:22-24

Ministry Lesson

We pray to God for help but when God doesn't answer our prayers when we want and the way we want, we doubt God and revert back to placing our hope and faith in other people or things. When we pray we must be patient, have faith, and never doubt that God is able to do all that we ask of Him.

Ministry Focus

Prayer and Faith

Genre

Drama

Cast

Mr. Andrews - (average guy, mid-40s, married 16 yrs)
Prayer (female) - (humble and caring)
Prosperity (male) - (somewhat of a sleazy character)
Possessions (female) - (stuck up and materialistic)
Calendar Girl (10-14 yrs)

Costumes

Everyday attire

Props

- Cell phone - Mr. Andrews
- Three (3) Desk phones
- Long table with 3 chairs
- Three (3) Name Cards
- Four (4) Large Signs; "Today", "3 Months Later", "6 Months Later", "9 Months Later".

Time:

10 mins.

Director's Notes: The characters Prayer, Prosperity, and Possessions are actually physical manifestations of Mr. Andrews's thoughts. All of us think about different ways to resolve problems we have in life. Hopefully our trust in God, through prayer, outweighs our trust in other things; prosperity (i.e., money) and possessions.

Hope Hot-Line

INT. CALL HOTLINE ROOM AND HOME OF MR ANDREWS

Mr. Andrews is standing (stage right) with his head down (or lights out). The Calendar Girl is standing stage center. Seated (stage left) behind a long table are the characters: Prayer, Prosperity, and Possessions. There is a telephone sitting on the table in front of each character. There is also a name card, with the character's names placed in front of each phone facing the audience.

CALENDAR GIRL HOLDS UP SIGN SHOWING THE CURRENT MONTH/YEAR, E.G., "JANUARY 201x"

PROSPERITY AND POSSESSIONS ARE BUSY MIMING A CONVERSATION ON THE PHONE. PRAYER IS WAITING ON THE NEXT PHONE CALL.

MR. ANDREWS LIFTS HIS HEAD (OR LIGHTS FADE IN) AND DIALS ON HIS CELL PHONE.

SOUND EFFECT - THE PHONE RINGS

PRAYER

(Answers phone) Thank you for calling the Hope Hot-Line. My name is Prayer, may I help you?

ANDREWS

Ah yes...is this the Hope Hot-Line?

PRAYER

Yes it is, may I help you?

ANDREWS

Yes...Yes... My name is Peter Andrews and I really your help.

PRAYER

I will be glad to help you. What is your problem?

ANDREWS

Well, I'm having a rough time. I've been unemployed for over a year, my son won't listen to me anymore, and now my wife wants a divorce.

PRAYER

I understand, these are hard times for many people, but there is hope here at the Hope Hot-Line.

ANDREWS

That's exactly what I need; something that will change my life around.

PRAYER

Well, Mr. Andrews, you've called the right PERSON. God wants you to talk to him about your problems. The bible says "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest". God will comfort you in the midst of your problems, but He will also help you through your problems. All you have to do is trust Him.

ANDREWS

I definitely believe that God can make a difference in my life. Thank you Prayer, you have given me the hope I need. I actually feel better already.

PRAYER

Thank you for calling the Hope Hot-Line, and may God bless you. Good-bye.

PRAYER HANGS UP THE PHONE. PROSPERITY HAPPENS TO HANG UP HIS/HER PHONE AT THE SAME TIME.

MR. ANDREWS BOWS HIS HEAD OR LIGHTS FADE OUT ON HIM.

THE CALENDAR GIRL CHANGES HER SIGN TO SHOW THE MONTH/YEAR 3 MONTHS LATER, E.G., "**APRIL 201x**". AT THE SAME TIME **PRAYER** SILENTLY ANSWERS ANOTHER PHONE CALL AND BEGINS MIMING A CONVERSATION.

MR. ANDREWS LIFTS HIS HEAD (LIGHTS FADE IN) AND DIALS ON HIS CELL PHONE.

SOUND EFFECT - PHONE RINGS

PROSPERITY

(Answers phone) Thank you for calling the Hope Hot-Line. My name is Prosperity, may I help you?

ANDREWS

Ah yes...is this the Hope Hot-Line?

PROSPERITY

Yes it is, may I help you?

ANDREWS

Yes...Yes... I'm really having a hard time in life. I called previously and spoke with Prayer, but my life is still the same. I don't think Prayer's advice is working for me.

PROSPERITY

(Antagonistically) Well, what did Prayer tell you to do?

ANDREWS

To tell God my problems and trust in Him. I did that, but it's been 3 months now and nothing changed. I need to do something else.

PROSPERITY

Well, what's your problem? Maybe I can help you.

ANDREWS

I can't find a job, my son is acting up, and my wife is ready to walk out on me.

PROSPERITY

Oh, I know what you need. You need money...and lots of it.

ANDREWS

You think more money will fix everything?

PROSPERITY

Absolutely. If you have money, you can pay all of your bills, your wife can quit her job, and you can give your son money to keep him satisfied. Everyone will be happy and you won't have any other problems.

ANDREWS

You know that sounds like a really good plan, but how can I get a lot of money quick?

PROSPERITY

Obviously looking for a job is not working, so how about doing a little gambling?

ANDREWS

(Hesitant) Well, I don't know about that.

PROSPERITY

Many of my callers have done very well at the casinos. All you need to do is take a couple thousand out of your savings or retirement accounts, play a few games and you can probably triple your money.

ANDREWS

I never thought about that. I know a few people who won big at [name a casino]. That sounds like a plan.

(MORE)

I really believe this may be my answer.
Thanks so much.

PROSPERITY

My pleasure. Take care and good luck.

PROSPERITY HANGS UP THE PHONE. POSSESSIONS HANGS UP
HIS/HER PHONE SOON AFTERWARDS.

MR. ANDREWS BOWS HIS HEAD OR LIGHTS FADE OUT ON HIM.

THE CALENDAR GIRL CHANGES HER SIGN TO SHOW THE MONTH/YEAR
3 MONTHS LATER, E.G., "JULY 201x". AT THE SAME TIME
PROSPERITY *SILENTLY* ANSWERS ANOTHER PHONE CALL AND BEGINS
MIMING A CONVERSATION.

MR. ANDREWS LIFTS HIS HEAD (LIGHTS FADE IN) AND DIALS ON
HIS CELL PHONE.

SOUND EFFECT - PHONE RINGS

POSSESSIONS

(Answers phone) Thank you for calling
the Hope Hot-Line. My name is
Possessions, may I help you?

ANDREWS (O.S.)

(Sounding worn down) Hello...is this the
Hope Hot-Line?

POSSESSIONS

Yes it is. May I help you?

ANDREWS (O.S.)

Oh boy, do I need some help. My life is
really messed up.

POSSESSIONS

What seems to be the problem?

ANDREWS

Well, I haven't worked in nearly 2
years, my son rarely comes home at
night, my wife and I just separated, and
I recently lost all of my retirement
money gambling at the casino.

POSSESSIONS

I'm very sorry to hear that.

ANDREWS

I've called you guys before. About 6 months ago I called Prayer, then about 3 months ago I called Prosperity.

POSSESSIONS

Well, don't feel bad, there is still hope here at the Hope Hotline. You mentioned that your family has left you, right.

ANDREWS

That's right.

POSSESSIONS

Maybe you need something to attract them back.

ANDREWS

(Getting excited) Like what?

POSSESSIONS

Well, maybe buy a new car or new clothes to help you become more attractive.

ANDREWS

(Thinking) Yeah, maybe my wife left me because I haven't been keeping myself up. With new clothes and a new car, she'll see that I'm a new man and we can start over again.

POSSESSIONS

Also buy your wife a diamond ring or necklace. They say, "Diamonds are a girl's best friend".

ANDREWS

That's a great idea, but I don't have money to buy new stuff.

POSSESSIONS

You still have credit cards. I'm sure you'll get a job soon. Just charge what you need then pay the bill when you get your job.

ANDREWS

You know, my last 2 interviews were great. I'm sure to get one of those jobs. Thank you Possessions, you have given me the hope I was looking for.

POSSESSIONS

Glad I could help. Take care. Bye.

POSSESSION HANGS UP THE PHONE. PRAYER HANGS UP HIS/HER PHONE AT THE SAME TIME.

MR. ANDREWS BOWS HIS HEAD OR LIGHTS FADE OUT ON HIM.

THE CALENDAR GIRL CHANGES HER SIGN TO SHOW THE MONTH/YEAR 3 MONTHS LATER, E.G., "OCTOBER 2012". AT THE SAME TIME **POSSESSIONS** SILENTLY ANSWERS ANOTHER PHONE CALL AND BEGINS MIMING A CONVERSATION.

MR. ANDREWS LIFTS HIS HEAD (LIGHTS FADE IN) AND DIALS ON HIS CELL PHONE.

SOUND EFFECT - PHONE RINGS

PRAYER

(Answers phone) Thank you for calling the Hope Hot-Line. My name is Prayer, may I help you?

ANDREWS

(Totally depressed) Hello...is this Prayer?

PRAYER

Yes it is, may I help you?

ANDREWS

Hi, this is Peter Andrews, I spoke with you about 10 months ago.

PRAYER

Yes, I remember you Mr. Andrews. How are you doing?

ANDREWS

Well, I've lost everything. My wife divorced me, my son has been arrested, I've lost all of my savings, and my home is in foreclosure.

PRAYER

I'm very sorry to hear that Mr. Andrews. Did you follow the advice I gave you?

ANDREWS

Well yes, for a while, but nothing changed, so I ...

- End of Preview -

Mr. Andrews comes to realize that he should have followed the advice of Prayer and faithfully waited on God.
