"ONE-EYED BOXER"

By Terry Stanley

Synopsis

A boxer with one-eye is engaged in a boxing match. He is fighting against his problems and temptations. He doesn't believe he can win. He's ready to "throw in the towel". However, his trainer encourages him to fight back using the Word of God.

Scripture

Philippians 4:13 "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me"

Ministry Lesson

God never promised that our life would be easy. We may feel we don't have the means or ability to deal with our trials and tribulations. However, no matter what limitations we have (physical, financial, social status, etc.), we can overcome any problem with Christ on our side

Ministry Focus

Life Challenges

Genre: Comedy

Cast

Boxer Trainer Cut-man Announcer

Costumes

Boxer in true boxing wear or shorts and sleeve-less tee-shirt.

Props

Stool
Sponge
Water bottle
Boxing gloves
Towel
Smelling salt
Bandage wrapping (or ace bandage)

Sound Effect:

Boxing ring bell
Soundtrack from the Rocky movie (optional)

Time: 10 mins.

"ONE-EYED BOXER"

INT. BOXING RING

SOUND EFFECT: BOXING RING BELL

THE TRAINER AND CUT-MAN ENTER. THEY DRAG THE SEMI-CONSCIOUS FIGHTER (RAY) BACK TO THE CORNER OF THE RING (CENTER STAGE). ANNOUNCER SPEAKS AS TRAINER ENTERS.

ANNOUNCER

Ladies and Gentlemen, what a fight!
What a fight! This is the end of the
8th round between Sugar Ray Johnson and
Life. Only 2 rounds to go. Let's go to
the challenger's corner.

ANNOUNCER SITS DOWN.

TRAINER

Get the stool.

CUT-MAN GRABS STOOL AND A WATER BUCKET.

Let's sit him down.

BOXER FLOPS DOWN ON THE STOOL. TRAINER TRIES, UNSUCCESSFULLY, TO REVIVE HIM

Give him the smelling salt.

CUT-MAN WAVES SMELLING SALT UNDER THE NOSE OF THE BOXER. THE BOXER JUMPS UP AND STARTS SWINGING.

(calms Boxer down) Ray...Ray, the round is over.

CUT-MAN SPONGES RAY DOWN AND RUGS HIS ARMS AND SHOULDERS WHILE THE TRAINER SPEAKS WITH RAY.

RAY

(still dazed) Did I win?

TRAINER

No, you were saved by the bell. We had to drag you back to the corner. (beat) Ray, we got two more rounds to go.

TRAINER (cont'd)

Life is really beating up on you but you can do it.

RAY

I...I can't hold on. Life is too rough.
I can't even see what's comin' at me. I
only got one-eye.

TRAINER

Stop making excuses! Just use the good eye God gave you.

RAY

I can't.. (Ray shouts out "Adrian"
mimicking the movie Rocky).

TRAINER

(grabs Ray's shoulder) Ray, pull yourself together! This isn't a movie.

Look, don't let the problems of life beat you up. You're stronger than them.

RAY

Yeah, but there are a lot of them and only one of me.

TRAINER

That's life! Problems don't come one at a time. They like to gang up on you. Look protect yourself and just keep bunching.

SOUND EFFECT: BOXING BELL

RAY (VERY SCARED) GOES BACK INTO THE RING (EXITS STAGE)

SOUND EFFECT: CHEERING CROWD

THE TRAINER AND CUT-MAN PANTOMIME THEY ARE WATCHING THE ACTION...BOBBING, WEAVING, BOXING. THE TRAINER SHOUTS INSTRUCTIONS...JAB, JAB, KEEP MOVING, ETC.

SOUND EFFECT: BOXING BELL (NOTE: RING AFTER ABOUT 30 SECONDS. THIS IS A SKETCH AND NOT A REAL 3-MIN ROUND FIGHT)

AFTER BELL RINGS, RAY RE-ENTERS. HE STUMBLES BACK TOWARD THE CORNER. THE CUT-MAN RUNS OVER TO HELP RAY TO THE STOOL. RAY IS EXHAUSTED

TRAINER

Sit him down. (Gets Ray's attention)
That's good Ray. You got knock down 9
times, but you got back up.

RAY

(Touch his head) I think my head is bleeding.

TRAINER

Don't worry about that Ray. We got the best cut-man in the business. (to cut-man) Bandage him up.

THE CUT-MAN WRAPS A BANDAGE AROUND RAY'S HEAD WHILE THE TRAINER COACHES RAY. (NOTE: WRAP UP THE BOXER TO MAKE HIM LOOK FUNNY...THIS IS A COMEDY SKETCH)

TRAINER

Now Ray, this is the last round. You have to KNOCK OUT your problems to win this fight!

RAY

I can't do it. (grabs towel) Can we throw in the towel?

TRAINER

(grabs towel from Ray) No, we're not giving up.

RAY

(complaining) But my problems are to big. Did you see my Bills? First my rent bill punched me in the face, then my electric bill hit me in the gut. How am I gonna fight against them?

TRAINER

The Lord will fight your battles.

RAY

Oh yeah...I don't see Him in the ring!

TRAINER

Look, stop worrying. God didn't give you a Spirit of fear but of power.

RAY

But you don't understand. It's not just my problems, it's my sins and temptations. Every time I knock them down, they keeps coming back. They're too strong...I can't win!

TRAINER

Yes, you can Ray. You just have to believe, have faith, and use the Word of God!

SOUND EFFECT: BOXING BELL

Okay, this is the last round. You ready?

RAY

(scared) Can I use the bathroom first?

TRAINER

No, stop making excuses. Now go out there and trust in the Lord!

The tension builds and his corner shouts out scriptures as Ray battles through the last round to victory.
