"THANKSGIVING GUESTS"

Ву Terry Stanley

Synopsis

Wanda is ready to enjoy a quiet and relaxing Thanksgiving dinner at home when she is joined by two unwelcome guests, her "Problems" and "Worries". Soon, Wanda's "problems" and "worries" convince her that she has nothing to be thankful for. Suddenly, three more unexpected, but welcomed, guests arrive... "Love", "Peace", and "Mercy".

Scripture(s) Philippians 4:6-7

Ministry Lesson

God warns us that we will have trials and tribulations in life. However, God also promises that He will never leave us nor forsake us. On Thanksgiving Day, and every day, we can be thankful that in the midst of our problems and worries God's love, peace, and mercy are always present to help us make it through.

Ministry Focus

Thankfulness

Genre: Comedy

Cast

- Female Wanda

- Female (Peaceful, Tranquil) Rest

- Male (Inconsiderate, Hot-Headed)
- Female (Nagging and Annoying)
- Female (Kind hearted)
- Female (Caring) Problems Worries

Love

Mercy

Peace - Male (Dominant, Strong)

Costumes

Wanda is dressed in everyday attire

Characters are dressed in tee-shirts with their name imprinted

- --REST soft pastel color with black letters
- --PROBLEMS hard color, Black with white letters
- --WORRIES hard color, Red with black letters
- --LOVE white with red letters
- --MERCY white with purple letters
- --PEACE white with green letters

Props

Table covered with table cloth Two chairs Dinnerware (plate, glass, etc.)
Thanksgiving food (real or imaginary) your preference

Time: 10 min.

Sound Effect: Door Bell or Hard Knock

Note: A great way to print the names on the tee-shirts is by generating the name on your computer then using a transfer ironon to imprint it on the tee-shirt.

THANKSGIVING GUESTS

INT. DINING ROOM

WANDA IS WEARING AN APRON. SHE IS GATHERING DINNERWARE TO SET THE TABLE FOR A QUIET AND PRIVATE THANKSGIVING DINNER. "REST" IS COVERING THE TABLE WITH A TABLE CLOTH AND TIDYING UP THE AREA.

WANDA

(humming happily)

This will be my first Thanksgiving dinner all to myself. No relatives, no children, NO NOTHING! (looks at Rest)

Just rest and relaxation.

REST

Girl, you've had a hard week...better make that a hard year!

WANDA

You got that right! I deserve my Rest.

Thanks for coming by. (They hug)

REST

Oh, don't mention it. Today, it's just you and me. Let me do that.

REST TAKES APRON OFF WANDA.

You just take a seat at the table. Take off your shoes and relax.

WANDA

(exhausted)

Why not.

WANDA TAKES A SEAT AT THE TABLE. SHE KICKS OFF HER SHOES AND SETTLES BACK IN THE CHAIR.

Whew, that feels good.

REST PLACES SILVERWARE ON THE TABLE IN FRONT OF WANDA.

REST

Dinner for one coming up. I'll get the turkey out of the oven.

REST RETURNS TO THE KITCHEN AREA. REST PANTOMIMES REMOVING THE TURKEY FROM THE OVEN AND PREPARING FOOD IN THE KITCHEN. WANDA GETS REAL COMFORTABLE.

WANDA

You know, I have a lot to be thankful for.

SOUND EFFECT: DOOR BELL OR HARD KNOCK

WANDA

Who in the world can that be?

WANDA OPENS THE FRONT DOOR. "PROBLEMS" AND "WORRIES" BURST INTO THE HOUSE PAST WANDA WITHOUT GREETING HER.

WORRIES

(Loud)

(to Problems) Look, I told you this was
the house. Now c'mon we're late.

WANDA

Hey, wait a minute! Who invited you?

PROBLEMS

(to Wanda) Oh, you thought you were
going to have Thanksgiving dinner
without us, huh?

WANDA

(pleading)

Look, I just want to have a nice quiet evening at home.

WORRIES

Oh you can forget about that! You have to deal with your (pointing to Problems and herself) Problems and Worries like everyone else.

THEY ALL APPROACH THE DINING ROOM.

PROBLEMS

(To Rest) Well, well, well, it's you again...Ms. Rest. Always trying to sneak into our territory.

REST

(defiant)

I'll have you know, Mr. Problem and Mrs. Worries, that Wanda invited me. To bad you can't say the same.

WORRIES

Oh we don't need to be invited. We go where we want and stay as long as we want.

PROBLEMS

And guess what? You can't do nothing about it, but we can do something about you. Get out!

WANDA

No, no REST, don't go.

REST

REST TAKES OFF HER APRON AND THROWS IT AT PROBLEMS.

I'm sorry Wanda. I just can't hang around Problems and Worries. I'll be back when they're GONE!

REST STORMS OUT

PROBLEMS

Don't hold your breath!

WANDA

(distraught)

Now look what you've done. You've ruined my nice quiet evening.

WORRIES

No we haven't, we just added a little spice to it. Take a seat. I'll finish serving dinner.

WORRIES GRABS THE APRON AND PUTS IT ON. SHE WALKS TO THE KITCHEN AREA AND BEGIN FUMBLING AROUND MAKING A MESS OF THE PREPARATION (PANTOMIME). IN THE MEAN TIME, WANDA AND PROBLEMS TAKE A SEAT AT THE TABLE.

WANDA

Look, I know I have a lot of problems and worries, but it's Thanksgiving. Can you at least take a break for the holiday?

PROBLEMS

(upset)

Take a break! You see, that's a problem right there. I'm with you all year long, then when a holiday comes up or your friends come around, you act like you don't have any problems.

WORRIES

...and you know you haven't been feeling well. You might even need to have surgery. That's something you need to keep on worrying about.

WORRIES BRING OVER A PLATE OF FOOD. SHE SETS THE PLATE DOWN IN FRONT OF WANDA.

WORRIES

Alright, it's time to eat.

WANDA

I...I really don't feel like eating now.

WORRIES

(pointing to Problems) Did your Problems make you lose your appetite?

PROBLEMS

Me! You're the one worrying her to death.

PROBLEMS AND WORRIES BEGIN TO ARGUE BACK AND FORTH ABOUT WHOSE FAULT IT IS THAT WANDA WON'T EAT. WANDA IS SITTING WITH HER FACE IN HER HANDS, OVERWHELMED BY THE PROBLEMS AND WORRIES IN HER LIFE.

SOUND EFFECT: DOOR BELL OR HARD KNOCK.

WANDA

Now who in the world can that be?

WANDA GETS UP AND STARTS TO WALK TOWARD THE DOOR. SHE TURNS TO PROBLEMS AND WORRIES.

Can you two be QUIET! You're giving me

a headache.

PROBLEMS AND WORRIES PAUSE MOMENTARILY, THEN START UP AGAIN, THIS TIME ARGUING OVER WHO GIVES HER THE MOST HEADACHES. WANDA OPENS THE DOOR.

REST ENTERS

WANDA

(tired and worn)

Oh hi Rest. You need to come back later. My Problems and Worries are still here.

REST

I know, but I brought some help...God's Love, Peace, and Mercy.

 ${\color{red} \underline{\text{LOVE}}}$, ${\color{red} \underline{\text{MERCY}}}$, and ${\color{red} \underline{\text{PEACE ENTER}}}$. THEY SHARE GREETING WITH WANDA

WANDA

(energized)

Oh thank God!

LOVE

Now what's wrong Wanda?

Wanda's Problems are Worries are no match for God's Love, Peace, and Mercy. Wanda comes to realize that God is always with her and that's something to be thankful for.
