

ESGN skit for youth led worship 11.20.05 By: Russ Britton

Scene: sports desk with 3 commentators, a fourth party standing off to the side as the “sidelines” commentator, the goal is not to have every scene acted out but to allow the audience to play it out in their mind as they would through the narration

Matthew: Good morning and welcome to ESGN, Entertainment Sheep and Goat Network. We bring you premiere discipleship coverage and today we’re glad to bring you scintillating coverage of the Lord’s 500. I’m Matthew along with my co-hosts Margot, Luke, and Johanna.

Johanna: That’s right Matthew, today’s match-ups will be intense tests of the discipleship of the servants. And when it’s all said and done, we’ll see who are the goats and who are the sheep!

Margot: You can’t have said it better, Johanna. Today is a critical contest. Discipleship, though still fighting for more major network coverage, is widely recognized as the **most** challenging human endeavor recently passing up football, childbirth, and meteorology.

Matthew: Well, it’s time for our first contest, we’ll see what the Lord rolls their way. For some pre-game analysis let’s go to Luke.

Luke: Thanks, Matthew! This first match-up pits the contestants face to face with feelings of entitlement, confronting one’s own gluttony, and the certain peril of sharing. It looks as though the Lord has some hungry strangers entering the field, we’ll see what the disciples do. Back to you in the booth.

Matthew: And here we go, contestant number one approaches the hungry party. *(Pause)* It appears that this fellow is just going to avoid the hungry person. *(All watch intently.)*

Margot: I think I heard him use the dubious, “get a job,” strategy, while the other seemed to just share the hot dog which they had apparently recently purchased.

Johanna: The Lord is really challenging these disciples with some double ‘service’ angle contests. Let’s go to Luke for more on that.

Luke: Absolutely, Johanna. It appears that your assessment is on target. Rarely, is misfortune or difficulty so singular in its categorization. It tends to be a composite as in the case of the first individual we saw who was not only afflicted with hunger but also appeared to elicit assistance from someone completely unknown to them. It looks like the next service opportunity is entering the field and shazam, do they look thirsty! *(All watch intently.)*

Margot: Wow, and one contestant seems oblivious to this person’s need for clean water.

Matthew: Quite a relevant contest as globally the peril of water isn’t *well* understood. Do you get it? ‘Well’, understood? Ha!

Johanna: Punny joke, Matthew. Did you know that ½ of the people in Africa do *not* have access to safe drinking water. Every other person... no water!? Though it isn’t Evian, Aquafina, or Dasani, it looks like a disciple has finally offered a glass of tap water to the parched person. Did you know which nation leads the world in the number of brands of bottled water?

Luke: No, would it be the US?

Johanna: You might think so, but with a mere 170 different brands of water, we rank 4th, behind Germany, Italy, and France. Anyway, now entering the field... wow I can’t believe it?!

Margot: That person is plumb naked! Someone ought to do *something!* (*All watch intently.*)

Luke: It appears that one of our contestants is approaching the party with an old potato sack. That could seriously chafe! But wait, it looks like the other is bringing the, whew, the naked party some *actual* clothes!

Matthew: Glad that contest was resolved quickly!

Johanna: You can say that again.

Luke: By the appearance of some supervising medics I'd guess this second to last contest is someone who has an internal bug. And oh, do they, look at that sickly person!

Margot: Wow, I feel sorry for them from just the appearance of pain! To say nothing of the discoloration.

Johanna: Friends, one of our disciples, at possible risk to themselves, is approaching them! True the other is staying away shouting something about "...not a good time of year for them to be ill." Oh, and it looks like some necessary medications have been purchased.

Matthew: Another dramatic contest. We'll be back with the final contest of the day after a brief word from one of our sponsors.

Attentions turn to individual party

Advert: It wasn't that I would never thinking of serving, though I am soo busy, it's that our Lord doesn't always make it super obvious who I should serve. That was until I got *Ceaneed*®. With *Ceaneed*®, from the makers of *Dunorong*®, I just take 4 pills randomly at six times throughtout the day and, though it has the occasional side effect of being overwhelmed with compassion, I can see the "least of these" just like we're encouraged to do in Matthew 25. (*Said like a commercial jingle*) 'When the Lord decides who's a goat or a sheep, with *Ceaneed*® you've no need to weep.'

Matthew: Thanks for coming back to our continued coverage of the Lord's 500.

Margot: Sure enough, God has saved a particularly difficult one for the end.

Johanna: The inmate. The incarcerated felon who, by nearly unanimous agreement, doesn't deserve mercy or care. Let's see what our disciples do! (*All watch intently.*)

Luke: I have seen some wild turn of events but that is just crazy folks! One actually kicked him while he was down. Then the other disciple just sat with him and listened. I think this contest might be open and shut!

Margot: I hope our viewing audience can see that discipleship is a task laced with certain difficulty! It's not like the Olympic event of walking or something like that.

Johanna: Yes, and it's a challenge to think that service might demand a cost of us that we don't get to choose or control, isn't it?

Matthew: Sure is. Well, we believe the judges should be back with the scores shortly but we have to end our broadcast and ironically enough, it isn't ours to judge others anyway. We'll trust God the Father, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit to deal with each of us justly. I'm Matthew, with Margot, Luke and Johanna saying good night and remember, 'Goat or sheep, the final call is God's.'