



BibleTheater

NEWSBEAT Magazine

Evangelizing Through The Arts

May 2014
Act 1 Scene 3

"MULANA"

A Stage Play



Bernadette Marks
as Mulana

**"SO YOU THINK YOU
CAN WRITE?"
WRITING CHALLENGE**

**ACADEMY ARMY
RISING UP**

**"STAR ATHLETE:
SO MANY VOICES"
STAGE PLAY**

**HISTORY OF
THEATER**

**DANCE: TWO
STYLES
ONE PURPOSE**

**EVERYTHING
THEATER**

LOVE, LOVED ME

**THE GODCHILD
IS BACK
M.S.O.G. MOVEMENT**



Let's travel down memory lane

The Potter Wants To Put You Back Together Again . . .

“The Potter’s House”

BibleTheater Theatrical Stage Production, 2008

Shattered by the Ungodly, Blind

Pursuit of ‘a dream!’



Do you have big plans for your future that exclude God? If so, here is a special message.

We are never alone in our walk with the Lord. He knew that some of us would have powerful dreams and visions of success. The challenge is our ‘method’ of handling our dreams. Do we ask God if they fit into His plan and design for our individual lives?

I resolve to give God all my hopes and dreams. What about you?

[above from left to right] Ivan Spearman, Carletta Thompson, Dayla Riley, Primes McGirt, Helen Miller, Brenda Towns, Gabrielle Ovletrea and Charlaine Mattox praising the Lord.

Jesus will pick you up, if He has to reach way down! Let Him fix all your broken pieces.

[right] Clifton Williams and Helen Miller



'Called To Purpose'

“What manner of love is this, that a man would lay down his life for his friends.”

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Reaching Out With Love To the Nations



God's unfailing love is a Free Gift that the sons of God and the World never has to earn. The Father's compassion for His people is borne of His own feelings, will and emotions. What our focus has to be now is the swift, purposeful impartation of our Father's sentiment towards mankind. **BibleTheater** will take on the challenge of presenting the Light in the Earth through the Arts. Come join us as we unveil the mysteries of Christ through drama, dance and music! I love you all.

Coco Thompson



Behind the Scene @ *B.T. NEWSBEAT*



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Columnist
Indiantown, FL

Tell the Vision!

In this issue, we want you to share the vision of Apostle Mary and the **BibleTheater** staff and its artistic, evangelistic outreach.

Your feedback is important to us.

This magazine is created
With you and the needs of your Academy
In mind—to nurture and to grow you up into Purpose!

If you are interested in working
On this team of dedicated staff,
Contact us at director@bibletheater.com.

A digital copy of this magazine can be found at
www.bibletheater.com!

*Love the Lord
with all your heart,
your mind, and all
your soul!*

"And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it."

—Habakkuk 2:2

*Love thy neighbor
as thyself!*

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Houston, TX

LOVE

Conquers All

Real L-O-V-E

1 Corinthians 13

Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.

² And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.

³ And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.

⁴ Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,

⁵ Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;

⁶ Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;

⁷ Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

⁸ Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away.

⁹ For we know in part, and we prophesy in part.

¹⁰ But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.

¹¹ When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things.

¹² For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.

¹³ And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.

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“Love, Loved Me”

Love? What does that mean?! Well **I can tell you it's** not a walk on the beach or a candle-lit dinner. **It's** not opening a car door or even an intimate stare. Love isn't even the giving of your attention or time. A friend of mine wrote one day, there is no love magic in someone's hair or skin or eyes; the magic comes from finding someone whose soul is akin to your own. "Akin to your own" . . . that sounds good, but even that is not the magic of love. None of these things sum up the most powerful thing this world has ever seen. Even God chose not to define LOVE in one sentence. He wrote a whole chapter about it [1 Corinthians 13].

I've heard love described as an untamed force that destroys, enslaves and confuses mankind. but I say it is not **'love'** that does those things, but the lack thereof. So I could write an essay about what love truly is . . . explaining what Apostle Paul meant when he wrote that charity is patient, it does not seek its own, and **it's not puffed up, but for the sake of your reading I'm just going to share what love did.** Love motivated God to sacrifice His **only** begotten Son; it moved Him to give the best of Himself . . . all of Him.

**THERE IS NO GREATER LOVE THAN THIS . . .
THAT A MAN WOULD LAY DOWN HIS LIFE FOR HIS FRIENDS**

Love fixed my brokenness; He shined a luminous light in the dark holes of my heart, love caused my evil thoughts to be condemned and replaced them with loveliness and kindness. It was because of Love that I was able to humble myself, knowing that no matter how low I had to go, no matter how ugly I was or seemed to be, that love wouldn't leave me; but that in the end--- it would lift me. Love forgave me. He hid my dirtiness and nakedness and washed me. He made me shine!!! He made ME :) Love reached in my chest and took the pain away. Love kept me from defeat. When I was captive by my own lust, He gracefully forgave me and taught me how to **walk holy so that I wouldn't** have to go to Hell for all the times I foolishly gave my life to sin. Love, loved me; loved me unconditionally.

"Look for the love that will keep you alive when life puts you through a bad winter, and that will nourish your soul, not just make it crave more false affection". I read this in a beautiful letter a few days ago. And I've come to the same conclusion that the disciple John did in **1 John 4:8**, "He that loveth not knoweth not God; for **God is Love**". Yes! Love is God, and God is. . . Love.



Our Great Commission is to spread the Gospel to the ends of the Earth. **That's** a lot of ground to cover on foot. However the Lord has given us a way to minister to large groups of people at one time. He has given us the stage . . . He has given us the airways to proclaim the Good News. . . HE GAVE US BIBLETHEATER . . . HE GAVE US BTBN. **By Coco Thompson**



Figure 1
Helen Miller



Figure 2
Gabrielle Ovletrea

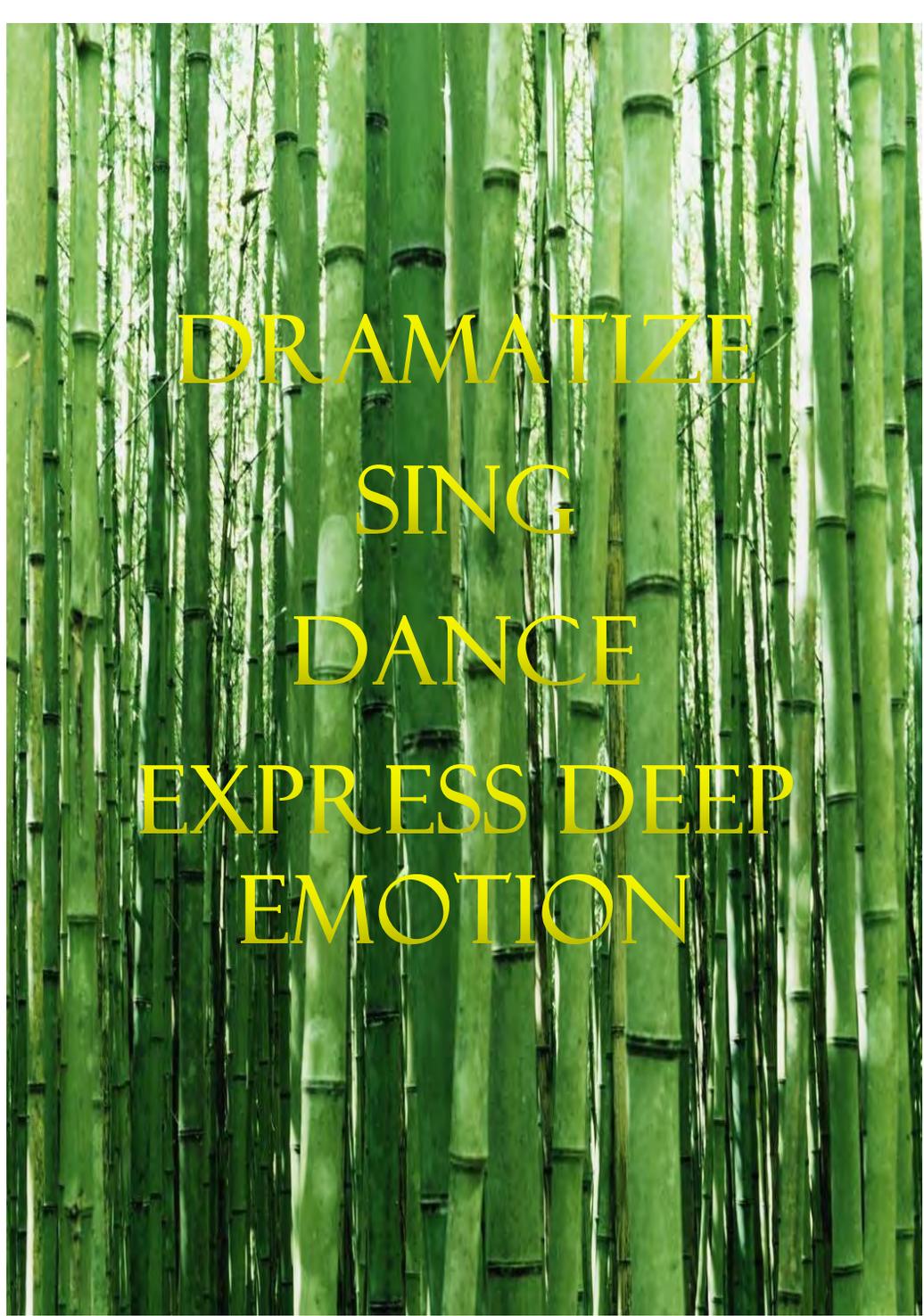


Figure 3
Ciera Freeman, Byron Williams
Jason Johnson and Lacia Blue



Figure 4
Byron Williams

We are Ministers of the Arts

'Our Stage is the World ~ Our Script is the Word of God'

The Stage Anthem

The battleground where
Tradition meets Truth
where your shield of faith and
your feet shod
with the preparation
of the gospel of peace
always dispels the darkness.

Calling all
Ministers of The Arts
to take up arms,
fight the good fight of Faith.
Dramatize it. Dance it. Sing it.
Communicate it. Go, live the vision!

THE STAGE: the place, or platform, from which ministers actively present the Gospel through dance, drama, spoken word and godly creativity; a place of truth, hope, salvation and freedom

GLOBAL EVANGELISM IN THE ARTS

We were created for the glory of God. Is there a better, more efficient way to reach out to people with the Good News than through drama, dance and music in the arts? I think not.

As those who have been called to go before the Word of God to prepare the way of salvation, **Ministers of the Arts** are led of the Spirit to impart the Wisdom of the Word in an easy to understand, practical way.

Many in today's society are looking for solutions to the dog-eat-dog methodology which drives 'the world'. They often make references to being followers of people or causes that are 'real'. Who can be more *real, or authentic*, than God's children? None. I can say that with assurance, because we **ARE** even as He is according to the scriptures.

The sons of God are empowered by the Holy Ghost **and present a distinction which can't be duplicated or imitated** by the world. Most importantly, it is our former human experience that qualifies us to share love, hope and deliverance to our fellowman.

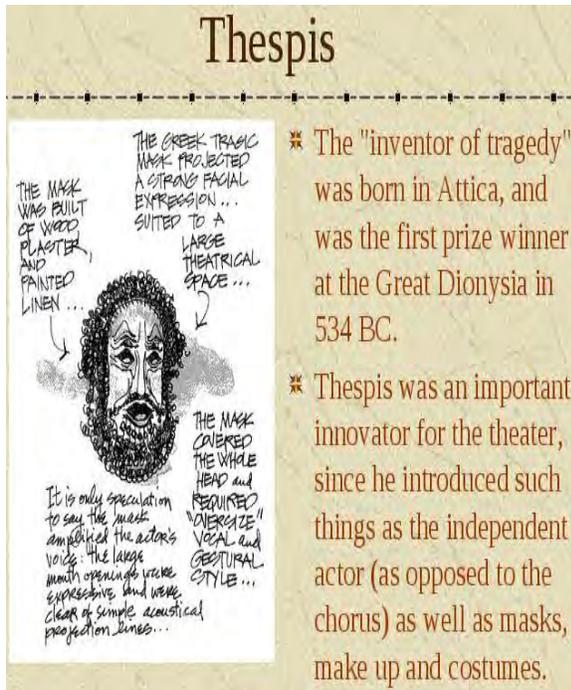
The stage belongs to us. It is our platform for singing, dancing, and painting a picture of the truth, hope, salvation and freedom from sin that is only found in the Father. The stage is our place of honor and reverence to our Great King.

Should our dramatic, creative presentation fall short of consistently presenting the pure Light of Christ, we would have missed a great opportunity to maximize our evangelistic outreach. It is with pure hearts that we must offer Christ--the Way, the Truth and the Life!



HISTORY OF ACTING

By **Bonny Dyer**



- ✦ The "inventor of tragedy" was born in Attica, and was the first prize winner at the Great Dionysia in 534 BC.
- ✦ Thespis was an important innovator for the theater, since he introduced such things as the independent actor (as opposed to the chorus) as well as masks, make up and costumes.

Acting is the work of a person who tells, enacts or portrays a character in a story through bodily movement and/or spoken words. Beginning with the Hellenic or Classical Period of Greek history (500-323 BC) in which Athenian Democracy governed, the arts, math and philosophy of men such as Socrates, Plato and Aristotle were prominent.



In the 6th century, a poet named Thespis of Icaria is accredited with being the first actor. When Thespis stepped out from the chorus, he spoke as if he was the character (for example, "I am Dionysus. I did this"). From Thespis' name derives the word thespian.

Theater was always an outdoor space or landscape. The circular forms of the Greek theatre strived toward participation and communion.

Theatron means a place to watch, examine and

contemplate. **Theoria** means speculate, view or behold, and **theos** means gods.

All ancient tragedies and comedies known to us were written in order to be performed as a form of worship at the Dionysus Theater situated on the slopes of the Acropolis in Athens.

The desire for better acoustics, seating and visibility led to the building of theaters dedicated to other gods. **Tragedies** [stories with terrible endings] were based largely on the **myths**, or stories of the ancient narrative epic poems, mainly "the Iliad" and "the Odyssey" written by Homer. These plays were performed by a 12-member chorus and three men. Women were excluded.



Greek women were controlled by their fathers and husbands. They had no property or voting rights and were not permitted in public places. Only a hetairai (**courtesan***) was allowed in public.



Costumes were generally designed to show the character's social status or gender, while masks might depict emotions or age, as seen below.

- chiton (robe or tunic)
- chlamys (short cloak)
- himation (over garment)
- chlaina (over garment)
- chlamyskothurnus (short lace-up boots)
- peplos (cloak)

All theatrical forms that developed in Athens during the 6th and 5th centuries BC were forms of masked drama. A mask covered the entire head with narrow eye, ear and mouth openings.

Following the expansion of the Roman Republic (509–27 BCE) into several Greek territories between 270 and 240 BCE, Rome encountered Greek drama. Through the Roman Empire (27 BCE-476 CE), theatre spread west across Europe around the Mediterranean and reached England.



Interest in full-length drama declined in favor of a broader variety of theatrical entertainments.



In the 7th Century, many cultures - Asian, Chinese, Hebrew, Sanskrit, Japanese, Syrian, Tamil and others - developed acting such as shown below in Sanskrit. Themes focused on the religious rituals of the countries, which worshipped many false gods. [see left]

As the Western Roman Empire fell into decay through the 4th and 5th centuries, the seat of Roman power shifted to Constantinople and the Eastern Roman Empire, today called the Byzantine Empire.

At the end of the 5th Century until the 15th Century was a one thousand year -period called the **Medieval Period** or Dark Ages.

By the Early Middle Ages, churches in Europe began staging dramatized versions of particular biblical events on specific days of the year in order to vivify annual celebrations. Use of **vestments***, altars, censers and pantomime were performed by priests to mostly illiterate audiences.

With the rebirth of the arts in the 17th Century, known as the **Renaissance**, there was a wave of bawdiness, intellectualism and secular works which included those of William Shakespeare, the best-known playwright. He borrowed many Bible passages and accounts such as the witches of Endor in *Macbeth*.



The photo below depicts the Renaissance clothing of Scotland

The 18th Century theater brought in French and English dramatists such as John Gay (*The Beggar's Opera*) who wrote about social themes of the poor and rich.

In the 1800's, Queen Victoria's reign in England heralded the **Industrial Age**, constitutional monarchy and Christian influence with social reform. Victorian principles in America were affected by male dominance and legalism.



Before the first English colony was established in 1607, there were Spanish dramas. Native American tribes also performed theatrical events.

The birth of professional theatre in America may have begun with the Lewis Hallam troupe that arrived in Williamsburg, Virginia in 1752. They brought a repertoire of plays popular in London at the time (Shakespeare), including *Hamlet*, *Othello*, *The Recruiting Officer*, *Richard III* and *The Merchant of Venice*.

Encountering opposition from religious organizations, Hallam and his company left for Jamaica in 1754 or 1755. In the 18th century, laws forbidding the performance of plays were passed in Massachusetts in 1750, in Pennsylvania in 1759, and in Rhode Island in 1761, and plays were banned in most states during the American Revolutionary War at the urging of the Continental Congress.

In 1794, president of Yale College, Timothy Dwight IV, in his "Essay on the Stage," declared that "To indulge a taste for play going means nothing more or less than the loss of that most valuable treasure: the immortal soul".



A scene from the Charles Dicken's play, *Oliver Twist*

However, playwrights did not give up. The history of the Revolutionary Period inspired William Dunlap, considered the father of American drama (1700's). In 1812 President Thomas Jefferson and the Marquis de Lafayette attended *The Rivals* at the Walnut Street Theater in Philadelphia.

The historic Walnut Street Theater celebrates its 205th anniversary season in 2014, and many prominent actors and actresses have walked on its boards.

From Pennsylvania to New York to states across America, theaters and actors continued to please the hearts of the people. In the 20th Century, churches began using theater as an art form and outreach. Radio, television and movies followed suit with Jesus Christ as the subject as well as themes such as martyrdom and hell.

In this 21st Century, Reformation in the Church of Jesus Christ is heralding a fresh form of theater and acting that proclaims the true meaning of salvation and God's Word. **BibleTheater** is a strong arm raised to heaven which follows the leading of the Holy Spirit. Playwrights and actors walking in the Spirit are producing works that were written before the foundation of the world by the One God who is leading His people into the Millennial Kingdom!

Yes, the manifested Sons of God are scribing the plays and walking the boards one last time before Jesus returns for His Church! Come one, come all with the gifts God has given you! Be a member of this mighty move of God!

- ***courtesan:** female of the court; courtier; prostitute associated with high-ranking or wealthy men.
- ***vestment:** ritual robe worn by member of the clergy; indicates office or state of an individual.

History of Acting-Part I

References

Wikipedia: History of Acting academia.edu classical Greek Theatre; Thanos Vovolis, Visiting Professor, Drama Institute, Stockholm, Sweden; google Greek costumes; answers yahoo Greek women; ancient Sanskrit theatre. Artist: Mani Damodara Chakyaren; wikipedia.org costume Athenian tragedy cartage.org greek building en. wikipedia Theater United States Walnut Street theatre gallery.

To **learn more** about **BibleTheater & Academy of the Arts**
 or to **sponsor a workshop** for your church or organization,
 Contact us at **director@bibletheater.com** and **www.bibletheater.com**
Phone: 832.559.7885

From the Children to Auntie Mary

Some of these bright-eyed youth lead very happy, well-rounded lives with families that love and protect them. Other kids are often not cared for and even experience bad things like being abused by parents or people who are supposed to take care of them. Yet, they draw hope and inspiration from Apostle Mary Banks as she points them to The Father!

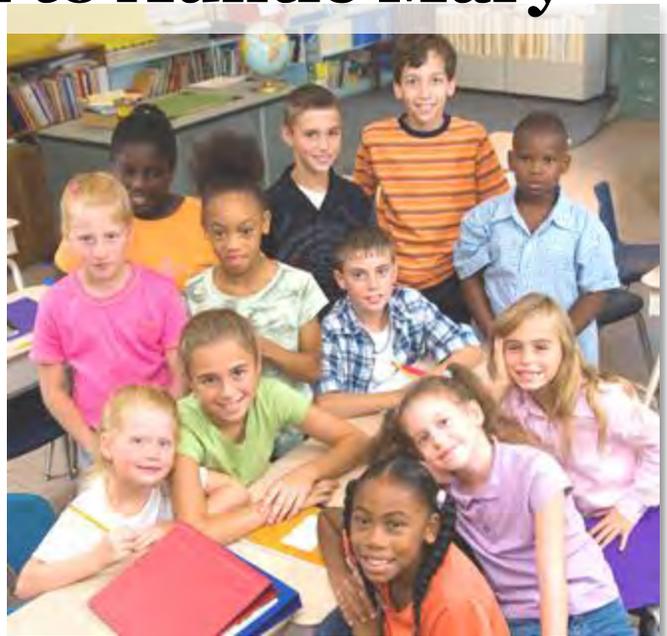
Hello to all of the people out there . . . We are your future . . . Today!!

We come from diverse ethnic backgrounds and countries; South America, Asia, Africa, Trinidad, Jamaica, Australia, the United States, and too many countries to name them **all here**. We are really a global 'mix'. We want to be trained in the things of God so that we can grow up to be wonderful, productive people in this global society.

We all love to come and hang out @ Youth Camp. One day, a lady by the name of Auntie Mary Banks came and talked with us. She talked about Jesus and heaven.

Almost everyone said they would like to go there [heaven] when we are very old and die. [We took a poll.] Until that time comes we have decided that we would like to get to know Jesus. We hear from Auntie Mary that He is full of love and compassion for the whole world. We were told that He really likes children.

She invited all of us to come to the **Academy of the Arts** and learn how to act, dance and sing. Jesus would like that very much.



Since that time, many of us have already given our lives to Jesus [Auntie Mary is very persuasive]. Now, we're just excited and waiting for the next step.

Stephen [he's 14] said he'll get everybody else to give their lives to Jesus also. We think maybe Stephen is a person called an evangelist.

We can go ahead and get started learning how to **become ministers of the arts**. We'll be learning how to teach and preach the gospel while having so much fun. Thank you Auntie Mary Banks!

By Coco Thompson

Gift your copy today AMAZON.COM

The Thought War is a work designed to reveal the perversions that take place in the human soul as it lives its way through offenses, hurts, disappointments and fear. Since 99% of deliverance is identification, the book clearly details the 'operation of the mind' that produces lasting hurts, fears and hopelessness. In the end you will know how to heal emotional wounds, dispel your fears and temper your personality. You will know how to win the Thought War!



Order at <http://marybanksfaithlibrary.com/> or amazon.com today!

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BTBN's purpose is to destroy the works of the devil in the nations of the world by the *Gospel of the Kingdom*. It will raise the bar of Christian programming in Jamaica by improving content and quality, and it will present programming that is fresh and relevant. Programs address real-life issues that apply to all age groups across denominational lines. BTBN introduces new and fresh vehicles of expression, including various art forms and genres in theater, dance, music and poetry.

It's time that you and your family plug-in to this network designed to speak to every area of your life. Tune in to learn the *Keys to Kingdom Living!*



Dr. Mary Banks
Pioneer
Apostle
Ground Breaker
Teacher
Preacher
Reformer
Visionary



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BTBN.TV provides convenient ways to watch our programming because we understand that choice matters. Whether you want *live* content or *archives* of previously aired material, we make it happen!

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Coming Soon

Global Praise

World Conference 2014



J o M o m s



Mothers Be Encouraged

By Marj Cameron

Mothers, be encouraged. God loves you!

You work so hard and try to raise your children in the Lord
But get depressed and so distressed when they become wayward
Just want to encourage you today
All you can do is trust and pray
That the Word they heard will infiltrate
And their hardened heart will penetrate.

**If you didn't do as well as you would have liked
Then ask God's forgiveness and your failures will be wiped
Away into His sea of forgetfulness
Never to be remembered anymore – it was a mess!
He'll give us all a fresh start; no, it's not too late
And for our failures our Lord's grace will compensate.**

**Give us the words oh Lord to turn our children's hearts to you
No matter if they are grown and gone, their souls you will renew
Send forth workers into their lives
To speak words of truth, not lies
Reach them Lord for only you know what it takes
To draw them back into your loving embrace.**

Mothers, be encouraged. God loves you!



Pastor Marjorie Cameron
Spring, TX

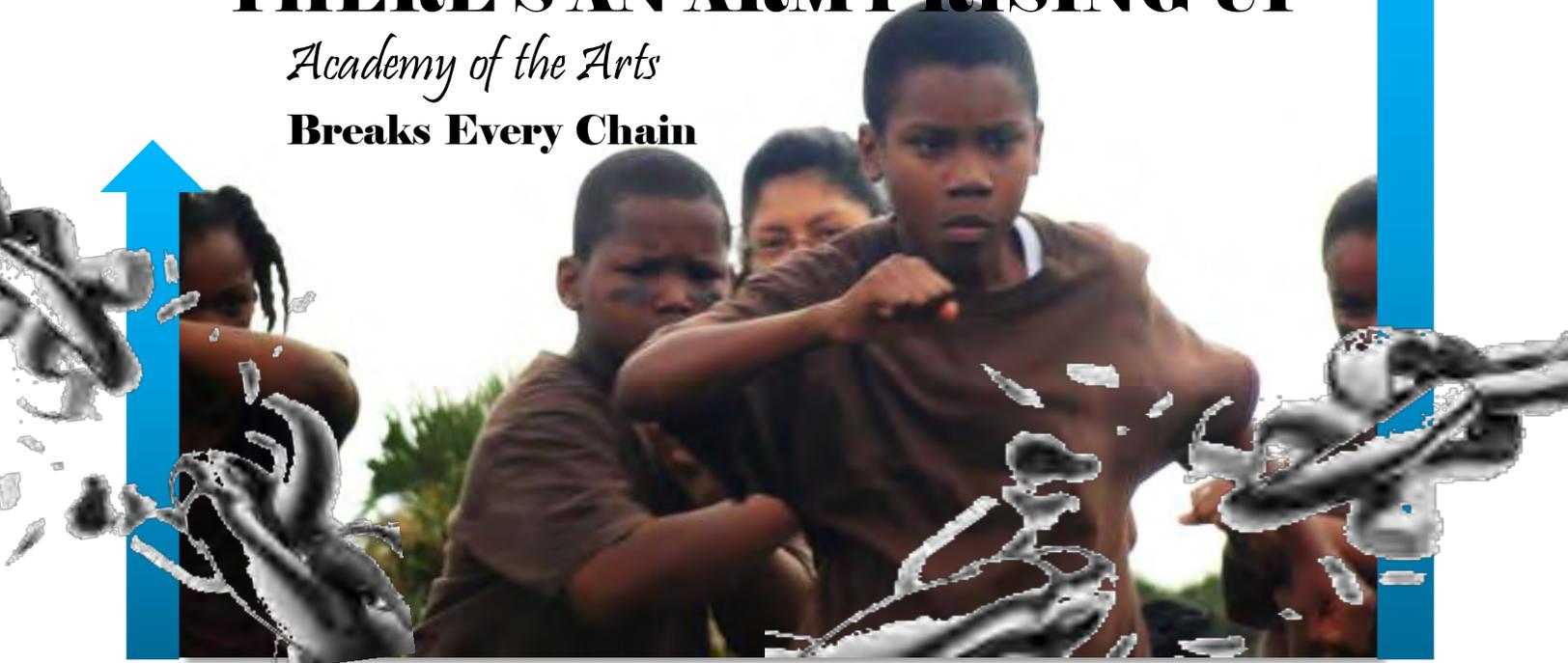
FOCUS ON

Academy of the Nations

“THERE’S AN ARMY RISING UP”

Academy of the Arts

Breaks Every Chain



BibleTheater & *Academy of the Arts* is an amazing Christian theatrical school that builds ministers in a safe, spiritually, mentally and physically stimulating learning environment targeted to youth and adults where everyone is disciplined to operate in a Spirit of Excellence. Its focus is to produce creative, eye-opening, *in-your-face* evangelistic platforms such as theatrical productions, poetry venues and ministry presentations with the intent to expand the Kingdom of God.

Not only was I taught the Word, but I, and other students, also learned how to portray the Word in dance, drama, and music. Having been systematically guided by patient, caring teachers, it actually broke me out of my shell and gave me the confidence I needed to put God on display on any platform --anywhere. I was taught how to express myself through the art of dance.

Truly, we are an Army rising up. The Academy and its staff has installed **a mindset of freedom** from fear and failure, perseverance in the face of adversity, and passion for serving God above all else. On a personal note . . . *I was* so reluctant to dance in the beginning due to my size, but my teachers encouraged me. They opened up an avenue for me to discover how much I enjoyed dancing for God. Most importantly, I was able to defy my own limited view of myself and allow God to prove that if He could use anything, He could use me. Now I truly believe I can do all things through Christ!



By Sylvia Robinson

TESTIMONIALS: What Do You Think?

Come to Academy

UNITED STATES



Being Administrator of the Fort Lauderdale *Academy of the Arts* has been a blessing. I have seen the students grow in practical things such as their ability to dance and act.



Heather Blair,
Ft. Lauderdale, FL
Academy of the Arts
Administrator

Also, I have witnessed them grow spiritually, with confidence in who they are in God and not be ashamed of the Gospel. People in the audience have been blessed, and we even had a woman join our church because of her daughter's participation.

To God be the glory!



The *Academy of the Arts* brought me to know Jesus. I was hooked by the whole idea of being able to incorporate drama, glam, and excitement in God. Actually, in the midst of dancing to the song "My Redeemer Lives", I received the Holy Spirit. My life and ministry changed instantly. I'm so glad to be saved and a leader on God's side!

< **Hoddlynn Wright**
Academy Staff



The Academy taught me what *virtue IS*, and it taught me patience.

< **Candice Delions**
Academy Staff



Sylvia Robinson
Ft. Lauderdale, FL
Academy of the Arts
student

To watch God work in all of our lives through the Arts has been absolutely amazing, especially since several of the people we minister to may never step foot in a church, except when we invite them to be our guest at our **end-of-the-module "Glory to the King" Theatrical Outreach Production.** >

Come to Academy



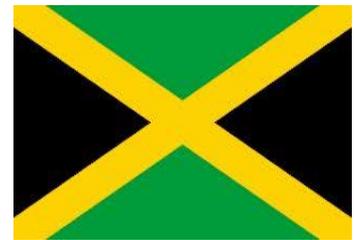
The *Academy of the Arts* was very beneficial to help me learn more about God.

You can participate in drama, singing or dancing. Best of all, you get to spend time with The Lord while doing it!

The *Academy of the Arts* can help you learn more about pleasing God, and we can become ministers.

Academy was beneficial to help me learn more about God

JAMAICA



LOOKING FOR AN ALTERNATIVE TO LIFE AS USUAL?

Today, they look like a plethora of kids *doing* some acting and dancing, *tomorrow* they will be the apostles, prophets, teachers, pastors, evangelists and ministers of helps directing the Body of Christ. If your youth appear to have no drive or spiritual focus in their lives and you believe they would enjoy serving the Lord, bring them and yourself to Academy!

In Workshop, we teach and explore new and 'been used' avenues of 'how to' apply skill sets and values into the student's curriculum. The students are given a hands-on approach to learning: Demonstrations and methodologies are incorporated to broaden their scope of learning.





Kingdom POETS

By Phillip Davis, Jr.

God,
you are so
Amazing!!

Kingdom Poet: One whom God has gifted with the ability to minister His word, the truth, using the Art of Poetry.



In the Kingdom of God the gift of poetry is unique in its ability to encourage, build up, tear down, motivate, convict & inspire with the strategic use of words.

A Kingdom Poet incorporates visual, verbal & written expressions to convey the heart & mind of God.

Poetry in the Kingdom of God is different from poetry in the World, in that its Intention is to deliver 'Truth' to the heart of its hearers, thereby affording them an opportunity of freedom from sin & darkness.

Remember God has created all things for Himself, for His own pleasure. 'He' has to be satisfied with not only our use of *the gift*, but with our attitude concerning the gift as well. *That is His original intent when He gave men gifts!*

ARE YOU A POET?

Are you a poet,

a cup that God can fill with His thoughts?

Can you paint a picture with your words?

Are you a poet,

someone who the Gospel can be spoken through?

Can you peel back the pages of this life to reveal the presence of Living Water?

Are you a poet,

called and chosen to speak to this generation?

Can you relate to the souls of mankind?

Are you a poet?

“Jesus . . .the Light of the World”



The Love of God is like the ocean...
you can see its beginnings,
but you cannot imagine its width and depth.
God loves you immensely in a way you can never imagine.



"SO, YOU THINK YOU CAN WRITE?"

Writing Challenge

By Heather Blair

Writing a Short Story

A story is simply a tale of events linked by cause and effect. It can be true, or it can be a work of fiction. Stories should have a beginning, middle and an end; they involve at least two characters and some events.

In this article, I'll take you through one of the major contemporary types of written stories:

- **The short story**

For each, I'll explain what it is, and how to write it successfully.

A short story is a work of fiction under 20,000 words. More typically, a short story will be 1,000 – 5,000 words. Short stories need:

- A small cast of characters with one main character
- A compact time frame with the story taking place over the course of a few days or weeks
- A single plot without subplots, though longer short stories may have a subplot



How to Write a Great Short Story

Like any story, your short story needs to have a beginning, middle and an end:

- **The beginning** is where the reader discovers the characters, especially the main character and his or her problem [conflict].
- **The middle** is where the action and plot develops. The main character will face difficulties such as opposition from other people or a challenging environment.
- **The end** is where the main character triumphs over his or her biggest challenge [or fails, in the case of a tragedy]. The resolution should be satisfying and conclusive for the reader.

By the end of your short story, the main character should have experienced an internal change. This means that they've grown and developed as a person – perhaps overcoming a fear or recognizing an unacknowledged truth about himself or herself. It should show deliverance.

**THE 2014 INTERNATIONAL
WRITERS CHALLENGE
DUE BY MIDNIGHT JULY 1, 2014**

HERE'S HOW TO ENTER

Calling all writers to the writer's challenge of the year! Do you think that you have talent to write plays that will speak to the hearts of God's people? Do you always seem to have a different spiritual storyline running in your mind?

If so, put your skills into overdrive. All you have to do is:

1. SEND IN A TYPE-WRITTEN PRODUCTION:

• **Writing Guidelines:**

- Double-spaced with 1" margins on all sides.
- All pages must be numbered
- Use only black ink on white paper
- Size 12 font in either Arial or Helvetica [use italics to indicate stage direction and character description and use bold to indicate which character is speaking]:
For example:

Sam: Hey, Mom. What's for dinner? [*says this while looking over her shoulder*]

- Include a Cover Page:
For example: [*Should be located in the center of the first page*]

TITLE [all caps]
Number of Pages
Your Full Name
Mailing Address
City, State, Zip and Country
Daytime Phone Number
e-mail Address

- Include setting and background information [describe the setting: *the kitchen*]
- Indicate Acts and Scenes
Example: Act 2 Scene 1
- Have clear and concise stage directions [*Katherine walks in from stage right and joins Terrence by the window*]
- Include sketches or pictures of scenes including furniture and other props. [Ping or J-Peg]
- All work must be original. Do NOT send someone else's work.



GRAND PRIZE WINNER

\$100.00 love gift

Certificate of Achievement

Special recognition for your artistic contribution in the

**BibleTheater
Newsbeat Magazine**

1ST RUNNER UP

\$75.00 love gift

Certificate of Achievement

Featured in a general article showcasing all winners in the

**BibleTheater
Newsbeat Magazine**

- NOTE: All scripts, once submitted, will become the property of **BibleTheater** and may be altered from its original format according to the leading of the Holy Spirit.
- **Story-Line:**
 - 30-90 minutes in length [no more than 60 min. if entire cast is mostly children]
 - Must have a cast of at least 15 characters including lead characters [supporting roles, musicians, dancers and extras]
 - Give clear main character[s] descriptions [*he was short and walked with a limp*]
 - Must use an array of characters with ages ranging from child to elderly
 - Must convey one of the following **topics/topics** and bring either salvation or deliverance:
 - Pride goes before a fall
 - No weapon formed against godly love shall prosper
 - Wrong thinking is the root of all sin
 - God loves mankind, but He hates sin
 - Prayer changes things
 - You must be born-again
 - **God's Word never changes**
 - Forgiveness frees the offended
 - **God's ways are higher than man's ways**
 - Time and chance happens to us all
 - Must include content that is appropriate for children as the Academy of the Arts includes students ages five [5] - Adult.



2. SUBMIT YOUR PRODUCTION:

- All submissions must be emailed to **director@bibletheater.com** no later than the official deadline of **July 1, 2014**. Any productions submitted after this deadline will not be accepted for this challenge.
- **Please Note:** All submissions are final and will not be returned to the applicant.

NOTIFICATION OF WINNERS:

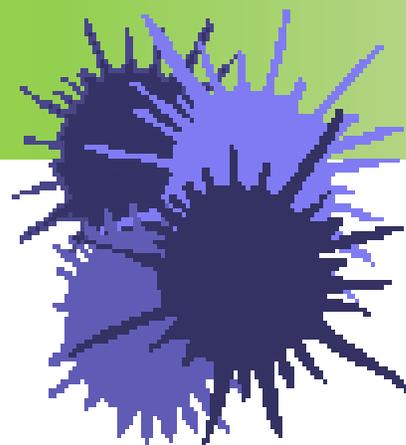
All winners will be notified via e-mail on **August 1, 2014** and a follow-up phone call will be done within one week's time after the e-mail has been sent. **Please Note:** Only winners will be notified.

GIVING WHAT WE'VE RECEIVED

We come not as novices, but as particular parts that the Lord has chosen. When fitly joined together, we become a masterpiece of His workmanship that He can send forth to minister the Gospel. We are a part of a great move of the Spirit destined to change the face of the Church and the world. Each particular **part** is a person---special **in God's** sight who is equipped with a specific spiritual design on their lives.

To do this, we are commissioned to take each of those particular parts and open their eyes to ministry: Ministry that will focus on bringing Christ to the people through various **avenues of artistic expression**. **That won't be easy**, and it will take much work, faithfulness and dedication, but the leaders in the Academy are up to the challenge. It is their opportunity, through their gifts, talent, dedication, and training to give back into the lives of others what they have received.

By Coco Thompson



JAMAICA ACADEMY BABY

It's a girl! Congratulations to the proud couple Elaine French, East Kingston Academy Administrator, and Pastor Rennelee French. I am sure that they are overwhelmed with love and joy for their new edition. I sure hope she will be joining her mom in a few short years—in the Academy. Yeah!



Tomeka Speaks Dance

Diverse Styles . . . ONE Purpose



Have you ever looked at a hip-hop dancer and said to yourself, "I wish I could do that?" Have you ever desired to be a liturgical dancer because their gracefulness made it look so easy? Ever imagined dancing hip hop to Darwin Hobb's "He's Able" or dancing liturgically to Kirk Franklin's "Stomp?" For some, this is difficult to imagine because we have a picture in our minds of what these two dance styles should be like. You might even ask yourself what these two dance styles have in common? If God is in the midst, the end result is purpose. Purpose to win souls for the Kingdom of God is our agenda.

What does purpose mean? It means the reason why something is done, its intent. Luke 4:18 states, "The Spirit of The Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor, he hath sent me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind. To set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year **of The Lord**". As we embrace the message of purpose in the dance, our message is the same as Christ . . . the Spirit of the Lord is upon me . . .

HIP HOP

street dance styles will be performed to get the attention of hip-hop culture. It includes a wide range of styles such as breaking, locking and popping which were created in the 1970s and made popular by dance groups in the United States. **Let's use it to glorify God!**

BALLET

a type of performance dance that started in the Italian Renaissance courts of the 15th century and later grew into a concert dance form in France and Russia. The Reformation ministers this style to praise the Lord!

STEP

a term for dance styles in which the footwork is the major part of the dance. Limb [arm] movements and styling may be restricted or considered not important. Commonly referred to as Stepping where members join in steps — elaborate synchronized group routines that are called "step shows". These shows incorporate cheerleading, military and drill-team moves, especially the call-and-response element inherent in those forms. Come, magnify the Lord with us.



* From Wikipedia.com

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God Demands A Holy Vessel



Praising the King of Kings

What is a HOLY VESSEL?

Holy Vessel: an individual who is born of God and submitted to His plan for their lives; one who walks after the Spirit, pleasing God on a consistent basis.

I once heard a minister expand on a **teaching about 'perfection'**: He stated that perfection is the action of functioning according to **one's** purpose. This minister shared that **a cup is perfect** if you can drink from it, because it is designed to be a vessel that is used to hold a beverage. We, as sons of God, are holy when we **operate according to the design of Christ in character**, which is purely motivated by the love of God. By Shaun Robinson

As a minister of dance, this is our purpose: to visually portray the Word of God in movement, to introduce the love, joy, peace, comfort and the Salvation of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to mankind and to preach the **Good News** of the gospel through dance.

Purpose goes beyond what you can physically see. From the beginning of time, we were called and predestined to do the will of the Father. God's desire is that no man be lost. He came and died so that **ALL** can have an opportunity to receive everlasting life with Him.

One might say that liturgical dance is the only true dance, and hip hop is not deemed sanctified. Ephesians 4 tells us that we, the Body of Christ, are one body, one Spirit. We are of one faith and one baptism. Even though we have our cultural or ethnical differences, we are still "ONE" body.



In the body [Christ's body], there are many members with different callings and gifts. These were given to us by God as He saw fit. Every joint supplies and no gift is greater than the other.



Drama Toolbox

Format

A labeling of a play as either a monologue [single person] or an interactive production [many cast members]

Stop Motion

a drama technique in which the actor stops all physical movement in a freeze position

Conflict

The problem or challenge which the main character faces in a play. Conflict can be internal [inside of an individual's heart] and external [outside of the person, ex. other people or a situation]

Act

One of the main divisions of a play or drama. An act is made up of different scenes.

Stage Management

A major department responsible for coordinating with the director, staging crew and technicians to seamlessly manage the flow of the play, who also works 'The Set'

Deliverance

A major aspect of the Christian theatrical storyline. Its spiritual pattern must be seen and heard as the Wisdom of the Word

Scene Chemistry

A term used to describe the ease with which the actors speak, move and flow with one another in a scene; the cohesiveness and unity of the group

Scene

The smallest division of a full length play or drama.



BACKSTAGE ON PRODUCTIONS

'MULANA'

Dramatic Stage Production



Bernadette Marks

as 'Mulana'

Houston, TX has landed



Mulana Chandler was living the high life, or so she thought. From an affluent family with wealth and social status, she heads out to college, receives the **riches of God's glory [received the Holy Spirit]**, falls in love with her college sweetheart and places the God on the back burner.

If Mulana had only known what she later learned about the Lord, Love, and Relationships, she would have been spared a great many dark valleys **in her early life. After the honeymoon, Mulana's** seemingly perfect marriage came crashing down after a series of run-ins with her husband over finances and infidelity.

After some candid girl-to-girl talk with her best friend Janice, Mulana discovers her cold, callousness towards the purpose of God in her life. Although Mulana did not see the truth about her spiritual priorities earlier on in marriage, she learns the hard way! Not only does God reconcile her back to Himself, He helps Mulana find the path back to her place in ministry.

THEATER & YOU: Emotion

In everyday life when someone is being overly emotional, many people **don't appreciate the pressure it can** sometimes bring. On the other hand, in theater displaying the appropriate **emotion** at the right time is critical for the audience to follow the storyline. Without it, the events and the importance of God inside of the relationships force the audience to fight to find the meaning of it all. Yes, the stage is meant for gestures, exaggerated body language and the expression of deep, strong emotion that mirrors the situation in which the character finds themselves. There simply is no believability where the proper emotion has been omitted.

RETURN OF THE 'GOD CHILD'

LORD OF THE RHYME

APOSTLE MIKE THOMAS



Thinking of concluding his musical career, this Ft. Lauderdale native entrepreneur, producer and Gospel Rap artist is the center of a massive movement to glorify God among the youth of the U.S. and Jamaica.

The name of the movement is M.S.O.G. **This dynamic outfit uses the 'real talk'** embedded in the lyrics of Mike's rap to introduce sinners to Christ and to motivate loyalty to Christ among Christians today.

The carefully crafted messages of each song present the teachings of Christ through dance and in a talk-show like manner on www.btn.tv. BTBN.TV is not just Christian television, but it's reality TV for the soul.

Be sure to stay tuned to the M.S.O.G. television program every week and be challenged, changed and charged with the best of pure godly lyrical rap beats by **the original Lord of the Rhyme**, Mike Thomas A.K.A. The Godchild!

TO MY FRIENDS . . .
MEMBERS AND STUDENTS IN
THE U.S., CANADA AND THE
CARIBBEAN

"COME RIDE WITH ME!"

www.michaelthegodchild.com
www.godchildproductions.net

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We are living in a time and season where our Faith in Jesus is being challenged by the devil, the world, and even the church. God uses theatrical vignettes [short stories], like “**Star Athlete**”, to take a stand against immorality and encourage young Christians to remain holy in a seducing environment.

TITLE: ‘STAR ATHLETE: SO MANY VOICES’

Cast

- Todd** A born again 18 year old star athlete at Willer High School. A young man of integrity.
- Veronica** A cheerleader at Todd’s high school. She represents a temptation.
- Malcolm** A fellow football player. He represents a temptation.
- Les** A male drug dealer. He represents a temptation.
- Coach Benjamin** A football coach. He also represents a temptation.

- SETTING:** In the football locker room at W.H.S.
- FORMAT:** Mixed - Monologue & Interactive Skit
- PROPS:** small bench, phone, football, football gear, a perfume bottle, drugs [a medicine container], and aspirin.

FIRST STAGE POSITION

Todd:
[to seen or unseen teammates all excited and talking at one time] Alright Jack, see you tomorrow. Pete you did some great blocking today. Later. *[pause]*

[now alone taking his pads off] Lord, there are so many voices in the land. I am a football player in the natural, but Lord, you called me to play in the Spirit. You taught me the devices of the devil, who comes to steal, kill and destroy the soul of a man.

I saw the enemy take out my cousin. Leroy was the best running back in the South. Everybody wanted him. In the beginning, he was confident: A little cocky, a little arrogant, a little big-headed. Then, I watched the enemy tap into each one of those areas.

Leroy became puffed up and over confident. So much so that he felt invincible. He WAS recruited by a BIG college, and he got a fat scholarship, but within one and a half years, HE WAS BACK HOME in the streets SMOKING CRACK. HE was always rehearsing his GLORY DAYS TO ANYBODY who would listen. *[Pause. . . one of the other guys comes in to say goodbye . . . then goes back to monologue]*

I decided a long time ago TO LET the Lord be my Shepherd. Lord, I thank you for showing me HOW TO STAND on Your word.

SECOND STAGE POSITION

Veronica:

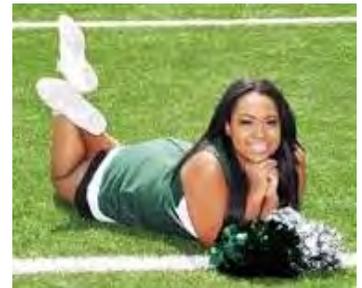
Hey Todd. I hear you're up for the captain of the football team next year. That means you have to be initiated by none other than me, Veronica, the V-E-R-O-N-I-C-A, Veronica Okay. My parents are going to be out of town next weekend, and I would like for you to come over so we can get to know each other a little better. It would be a shame if the team found out that you turned down the hottest CHEER on the squad. It may not be today, but no man can resist this piece of deliciousness. You will be mine.

[sprays perfume in the air toward Todd to leave her scent behind but begins to slink to the ground as Todd goes on to open his locker] **[THE TEST HAS FALLEN]**

Todd:

That's not for me. Did you hear that? If a girl comes on that strong, you better run. But the Word says,*

- 3 For the lips of a strange woman drop as an honeycomb,
and her mouth is smoother than oil;
- 4 But her end is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a two-edged sword.
- 5 Her feet go down to death; her steps take hold on hell.
- 6 Lest thou shouldst ponder the path of life, her ways are moveable,
that thou canst not know them.
- 7 Hear me now therefore, O ye children, and depart not from the words
of my mouth.
- 8 Remove thy way far from her, and come not nigh the door of her house



Veronica, I won't be coming to your house NEXT weekend or ever. *[Todd is in a pose until Malcolm speaks]* *p. 34

THIRD STAGE POSITION

Malcolm:

What's up Todd?

Todd:

Hey Mal. Are you ok? You seemed kinda distracted today . . . **but that didn't stop** those legs from working *[laughs]*.

Malcolm:

[serious] I normally don't do this man, but I need a huge favor. *[Pauses, waiting to see Todd's reaction]* **I need you to do something, and it's not just** for me. If you handle this one thing, it will really help the WHOLE team.

Todd:

You know I will do anything I can to help.

Malcolm:

[cutting in] You're a good guy Todd and I need, I mean the team needs your help. They're going to test me for steroids first thing in the morning. *[pausing]* All you have to do is put a drop of urine in this cup. *[to Todd's amazed expression]* **Don't worry no** one will ever know, and I'll put in a good word for you with the coach--get you a little more playing time.



Todd:

[slowly walking around Malcolm – talking toward him then the audience] Steroids . . . I had no idea. You fooled me completely with all that talk about energy drinks and muscle training. For the team? Yeah, right! I heard about guys getting caught up trying to help a brother out. **The devil is not playing. He uses every weapon he can. He's the master of deception. The wisdom of the Lord say. "No!"** I won't pee in a cup for you. At some point, we all must decide WHO we are going to serve. *[Malcolm seems to slink to the ground as Todd goes on to open his locker]* [THE TEST HAS FALLEN]

FOURTH STAGE POSITION

Les:

[comes in] I know you made some bad plays this week, they all do. I have something that can keep you going on the field. *[Les shows the drug to Todd]*

This stuff here is the good stuff. See when you take half, the performance enhancer **doesn't stay in your system as long. And your mood won't be affected AS MUCH.**

No doubt you **WILL** reach peak performance. Oh don't give me that innocent look. You won't be the first. **All the guys you're competing with are doing the same thing.** This will make it fair, by giving you the same advantage **THEY HAVE** in the game.

Look, I'll leave **THIS SAMPLE** with you. Remember, take **half of it, and you'll be straight.** *[Les seems to slink to the ground as Todd goes on to open his locker]* [THE TEST HAS FALLEN]



Todd:

You would think he would at least consider that I am only 17 and a junior in high school. **Steroids are extremely dangerous for someone my age. I can go to jail for taking “the good stuff”.** Dude, THIS STUFF COULD KILL ME! I want to live and not die. [STOP]

Coach Benjamin: *[talking on the cell phone to Mack, a recruiter from Minnesota]*

Yeah, I know, I know. Look, have I ever disappointed you? We recruited Falton last year, didn't we? Todd, he's a pretty clean kid, kinda religious but trust me **everybody has a price.** *[listening]* **He WILL take THE BAIT.** Just be patient! You know I'm the man with the master plan. I've been working on him since freshman year, and now the time is ripe *[laughing]*. *[composes himself]* Okay, I'm here now. We'll talk later. *[Hangs up phone and talks to Todd]*



You da man! *[points his finger at Todd]* No joke, you **ARE** the best talent I've seen in a long time. Speaking of that, **Minnesota State University** is still interested in you playing for them. **If you say yes,** you'll be the ALL STAR quarterback and captain next year!

Head coach Mack can market you just right to be drafted into the Pros. He keeps his promises. *[Puts his hands on his shoulder]* Look Todd, I know things haven't been the same since your dad lost his job. Coach Mack promises to take care of your family too. *[reaches in shirt pocket, unfolds and shows him a temporary check for \$10,000 written in]*

Some things I can't say out loud. Just take it, I know your parents will appreciate it. It's his way of saying this is just the beginning. **Just say yes.** *[Coach seems to slink to the ground]* **[THE TEST HAS FALLEN]**



Todd:

A check for \$10,000 out the blue, no strings attached. Mom always said, **“If something sounds too good to be true, it is”.** And Minnesota Valley? I never heard of that school. Look, my faith is NOT in money and fame, or even **my talent.** Those things are temporary. God has purposed me to play football and with that comes great responsibility, but the bigger purpose is in my life and my walk as a Christian.

I will play on the field, but you better believe I will also be playing in the Spirit. Your plan is much bigger than this sport. Thank you Jesus! **Thank you Lord. You're a GREAT GOD and an AWESOME COACH.**

Scriptural References

for Veronica scene: **Proverbs 5:3-8**
for Les scene: **2 Corinthians 6:14**
for Todd: **Proverbs 1**

for Malcolm scene: **Luke 9:23**
for Coach Benjamin scene: **1 Timothy 6:10**

Test Your Spiritual I-Q

MULTIPLE CHOICE: *Circle the correct answer.*



1. What happened with Todd's cousin Leroy?

- a. Leroy won a scholarship to play baseball at University of Florida
- b. Leroy got the 'big head' because he played football so well, but he ended up failing school
- c. Todd told Leroy that he was not going to be his cousin anymore

2. What temptation did Veronica represent in the vignette?

- a. Greed
- b. Pride
- c. Lust

3. What tool did Veronica use to try to lure Todd into her trap?

- a. Her position on the cheerleading squad
- b. Her readiness to share Todd's lack of prowess towards 'the ladies' with his teammates
- c. Pretending to be holy too

4. When Malcolm asks for a favor, is it an honest favor?

- a. Yes, that's what friends are for
- b. No, you don't treat your friends in a way that encourages them to be dishonest
- c. It depends on how you look at it

5. What was Coach Benjamin's true intent when he gave Todd a \$10,000 check?

- a. He was being generous and caring
- b. He was being manipulative and underhanded and an instrument of unrighteousness
- c. He was being merciful on Todd's family by trying to help their financial situation out of love

6. What's the best thing to do when faced with peer pressure?

- a. Follow the Word of God
- b. Listen to your mother, even if she is wrong
- c. Do what your best friend tells you to do

7. Who can make you do something you don't want to do?

- a. Your friends
- b. No one, born again Christians have the greater one on the inside
- c. The devil

8. What is the best plan of action when a boy or a girl is coming on to you, and you feel attracted to their vibe?

- a. Give in. If it feels good, do it
- b. Pray for a Spirit of might to help you
- c. Go with it, and then repent

9. What would you tell a friend if they asked you about whether or not they should use drugs or alcohol to perform better in school sports?

- a. They should try it to see how it will make them feel. If they are not affected, they should do what it takes to compete in the sports
- b. They should give it to you so you can try it first and tell them if it will be good for them
- c. They should respect their body and not put anything harmful in it; their body is not their own

10. How much money did Coach Benjamin offer Todd?

- a. \$ 100.00
- b. \$ 5000.00
- c. \$ 10,000.00

11. What was Todd’s ‘spiritual location’, or heart’s attitude, in the production?

- a. disappointed in God
- b. easily swayed by the temptations he faced
- c. rooted and grounded in the Faith; secure in what he believes

12. Todd revealed Christ through:

- a. his Faith
- b. being high-minded and arrogant
- c. mindlessly quoting scriptures without belief in God
- d. none of the above

TRUE or FALSE: *Circle one.*

- 13.** True False Money is the root of all evil.
- 14.** True False Sex is something for single people.
- 15.** True False The Word of God is too strict.
- 16.** True False Todd was flirting with Veronica.
- 17.** True False **Parents are concerned about their children’s** well-being when they instruct them ‘how to’ live a godly life.

Multiple Choice	7. b
	8. b
	2. c
	1. b
	3. b
	9. c
	4. b
	10. c
	5. b
	6. a
True or False	13. F
	16. F
	14. F
	15. F
	17. T

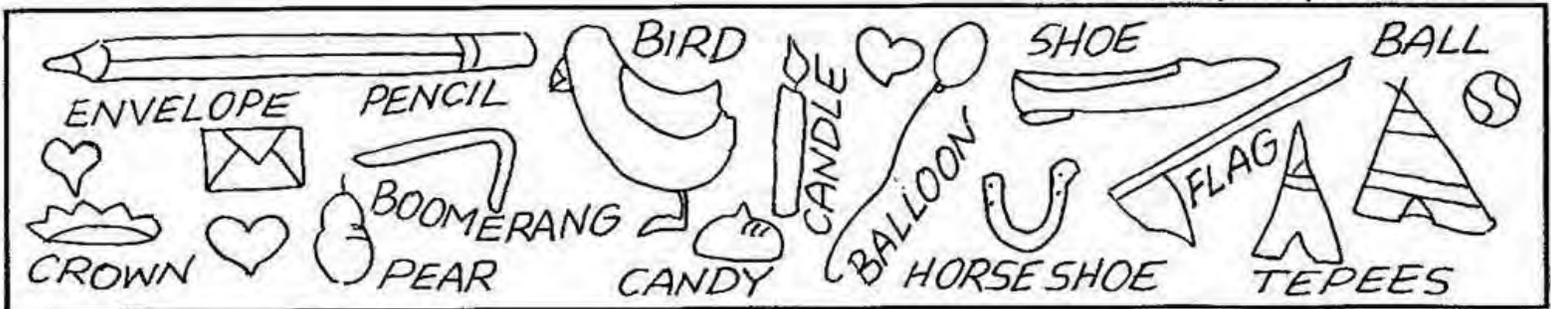
FUN PAGE

By Sylvia Robinson

Spring Scavenger Hunt. Find and color the items at the bottom of this search activity.



www.hiddenpicturepuzzles.com



“WE HEAR THE SOUND OF GOING” by Dr. Mary Banks

Ministers of the Arts,

That rain has come down from above. But if the people of the earth are to be partakers of it, the sons of God must move into the nations so that out of their bellies the Living Water will flow.

Get up Body of Christ! Wake up you sleeping giant. You are the called and chosen of God. You have the latter rain in earthen vessels. Go to the nations, and let it pour out of you as is ordained by God. The call goes out to every Minister of the Arts; to use the gifts, talents, abilities and resources He has so freely given you to preach the gospel from the stage and on the streets. Let us show forth Christ's great love and calling by acting, dancing, singing, preaching through poetry, and visual experiences that apply the 'good news' to everyday situations, circumstances and relationships that men face. Love pouring out . . . watering thirsty souls.

We will use every resource and opportunity to share this great gospel. We must stop complaining **about what we don't have and use whatever the Father has provided.** We are faithful, and we will evangelize the world. We are called to the nations. We will go.

Excerpt from
Apostle Mary Banks' teaching on
Revealing Christ to the Nations

PORTRAITS OF THE WORD



EVERYTHING THEATER!

1 LISTENING



2 COSTUMES



4 WALKING

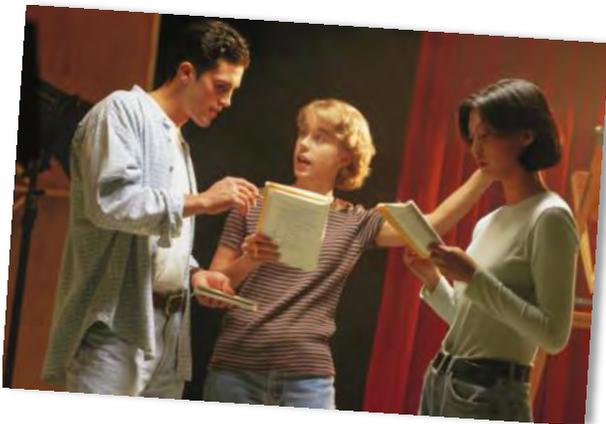


3 ACTING OUT

5 DANCING



6 REHEARSING



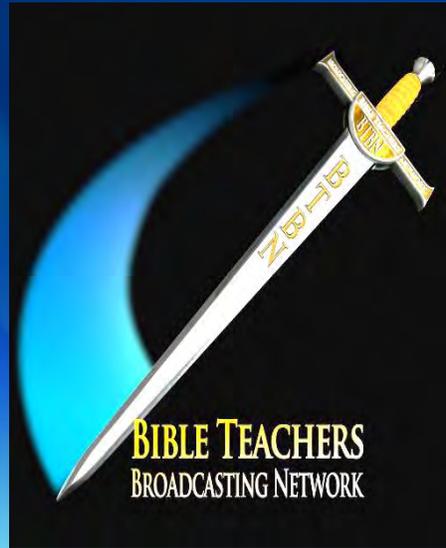
Everything Theater is Exciting: dancing, expressing, character building,
creating stage presence, developing acting and presentation skills.
It's mind-blowing serving The Lord, together!

By Shaun Robinson

Going To
The Nations

BibleTheater & Academy of the Arts

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Join the Revolution. Reality T.V. for the Soul!
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Expanding the Gospel through the Christian Theater
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This 'Reaching out to the Nations' message has been brought to you by:
BibleTheater & Academy of the Arts