

## **DEAD MEN WALKING - NOT!**

This skit needs 3 people. One should look like a zombie or someone wrapped in grave clothes – toilet paper would work. Wrap arms and legs separately so the dead man can move around. The other two are in normal clothes. One is struggling with walking in the newness of life. The other is an encourager who is walking in newness of life.

You will need a headstone with RIP on it. You will need a brown or green cloth to represent the grave. The zombie guy should be under the 'grave' and in front of the headstone as the skit is ready to begin.

Scene opens with dead man and grave in place. Struggler and Friend in some type of setting. You can decide. Is it at a kitchen table? In the family room?

**Struggler:** Where did I put that paper? I never can find anything. I tell you, I'd lose my mind if it weren't already lost! (Grave begins to open and the dead man raises his hands, kicks his feet and rises as the Struggler begins to talk. He comes to stand right behind the Struggler mirroring her movements.) Just yesterday I lost my keys and it took me two hours to find them. They were hanging in the door waiting for me to go out and lock the door. I am getting so forgetful! (Dead man pumps his fist like he is winning the war!)

**Friend:** Here. (Handing Struggler a paper.) Is this what you are looking for? I find that if I stop for a moment and let my mind settle, suddenly, I remember where I put things. It is like the Holy Spirit brings the thought right in my mind. (Dead man shudders and groans, doubling over as though in pain.)

**Struggler:** You are so right! (Dead man heads back to grave, looking back in dismay, lies down and covers up.) I did stop on Monday to ask God to help me find what I was looking for. It was just as you said; a thought came in my mind to look on top of the washing machine. Sure enough, there were my glasses! Right where I had left them.

(Phone rings and Struggler answers it.)

**Struggler:** Hi honey! What?! You're bringing home how many guests for dinner? (Dead man begins to stir.) Oh no, not them! I can't stand Sylvia... You know how she acts so self-righteous. (Dead man props himself up on an elbow. At the same time, the Friend reaches over and places a hand on the Struggler's shoulder, and smiles.) Okay. Okay. (Dead man flops back down.) Yes. I'm happy to prepare dinner for the Jones'. Thank you for calling me early enough in the day so I can get everything ready. I will put a roast on and make your favorite rolls. Bye...(hangs up phone) I'm so thankful you

are here this morning. Thank you for keeping me on track. Could you help me cut some fresh flowers for a center piece? I love the way you arrange them. They are so beautiful.

**Friend:** I'd be delighted to help you. We can talk about what we have been learning in our small group that is processing the LifeChanger and GameChanger messages.

**Struggler:** (sighs) I haven't even started my assignments. (Dead man raises his hand.) I don't even know where they are at the moment.....another paper I've lost. (Dead man sits up.) I feel I will never catch up. I'm behind with my assignments, I keep losing things and now I have to prepare a meal for the Jones'. I don't know why (Dead man stands and begins to walk towards Struggler.) Henry invited that couple for dinner. He knows I don't like Sylvia. I mean, she wears those short skirts and those low cut blouses. It's just not right. (Dead man does a little dance.)

**Friend:** Now, now, Mariam. You know that Sylvia accepted Jesus into her heart and is turning her life around. It is true that she lived a hard life before, but now, she is a whole new person because of Christ. That old Sylvia doesn't exist. I'm eager to see what all will unfold in her life as she begins to understand more fully what it means, that Christ didn't simply die for her, He died as her. Remember when she heard that phrase in that first message of Graham's *Establishing a Kingdom Culture* – She just kept saying, with tears streaming down her face, "He died as me! He died as me!"

**Struggle:** Oh, I forgot about that. (Dead man turns and begins walking back to the grave, kicking his feet, as if kicking a can, the whole way.) I remember how those words impacted me too. Remember when Sylvia grabbed me and gave me a hug as she was saying, "He died as me!" My heart just melted. It was obvious her heart was melting too! (Both Struggle and Friend laugh as they remember.)

**Friend:** Yes that was a precious time. We all had an encounter with truth that day. But you know what Graham said, "It is one thing to have a breakthrough. It is another thing to keep it." That is why I so enjoy our processing groups. We are really seeing ourselves from Heaven's point of view. We are learning to leave all that judgment behind us.

Struggler: Yeah... remember how negative I always was?

**Friend:** Do I? You could hardly say one word without turning it into a negative statement. Especially about yourself.

**Struggler:** I know, from a child I formed my whole self- worth based on my performance. My Mother never gave me encouragement or compliments, no matter what I did. I could bring home blue ribbons, first place finishes, A+ grades, she still found something negative to talk to me about. I'm so thankful to know that I don't have to live my life from her place of disapproval. When I learned God isn't looking at my behavior, rather, He looks at my position in Christ, I felt like a prison door opened before me. I walked out of my small prison cell of negativity into a huge room filled with love and acceptance.

(Dead man kicks his feet in the grave and growls as though hearing this news is upsetting him.)

Struggler: What was that? Did you hear it?

**Friend:** (laughing) It was probably your old man turning over in his grave, especially after hearing that statement.

**Struggler:** Yeah, I'm sure he must be turning over. Well, he can keep turning over. He ruled my life for so many years. Now I have the truth of who I really am in Christ. He has begun to set me free to walk, talk, and see a whole new way of living on the earth.

**Friend:** Yes! We all love who you are today through Christ. One way you demonstrate His love and compassion is when you prepare meals and host dinners in your home! Beyond your superb cooking ability, I love to watch you greet people as they come into our Aglow meetings. What a wonderful first impression they receive from you. I've watched as even the shyest ones feel welcomed and loved enough to share their deepest feelings with you or others at Aglow.

**Struggler:** As Grahams says, no one is safe from a blessing! People come unafraid to Aglow because they know their failures are not talked about. We help them discover who they really are, their true identity.

Friend: When you know who you are

Struggler: And you know WHOSE you are... (the dead man rolls his eyes and flops back down )

Friend: Then you naturally have the right attitude toward people and your own life!

**Struggler:** It amazes me that just knowing who you are causes the atmosphere to change around you. It is true that no one is safe from a blessing. We've become kinder, more loving.

**Friend:** (Filled with compassion) – People are reacting to the atmosphere change all around us. They are becoming part of the outreaches we have in our community – Like gathering school supplies for children who wouldn't have any; delivering food bags at the end of every month so no one goes hungry; bags filled with new baby supplies for new moms; even giving cookies to our police and firemen...

**Struggler:** Who would have thought that bringing cookies to our community authorities would open the door for them to ask us to pray for specific problems in our area? We are asking our prayer groups to stand in the gap for our neighborhoods. It's totally changing our community! I even see positive changes in our teens... Now that's awesome!

**Friend:** Hey, you better get that roast on. I'll go out and cut some flowers and then we can make the rolls together.

Struggler: Why don't I put two roasts on and you and Mark can come join us for dinner tonight too!

(Dead man stomps his feet and makes a sound of impatience.)

Friend: Did you hear that?

**Struggler:** It is just the sound of an old, impatient dead man. Pay him no mind!

(The dead man hangs his head and slowing walks back to the grave site, moans then slowly covers up)