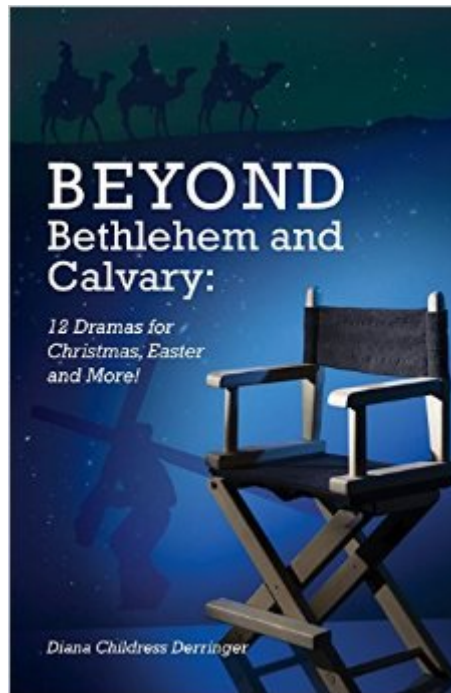


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Beyond Bethlehem And Calvary: 12 Dramas For Christmas, Easter And More!



Synopsis

Beyond Bethlehem and Calvary: 12 Dramas for Christmas, Easter and More! is a collection of brief dramatic presentations that invites everyone, from the novice performer to the most experienced, to share basic Biblical truths in a variety of settings. Flexibility, ease of production, and themes that meet us where we live make this collection suitable for large or small groups, whether in a church setting or on the most rugged mission trip. The themes are universal. They include tough choices and their consequences, acceptance and rejection, and the impact of attitudes. Each presentation includes: A title that identifies the content focus Related scripture A brief summary Props and costuming suggestions Run time Just a few of the titles included: Mary's Song (Luke 1: 39-56) A Bouquet of Praise (Ephesians 1: 3-10; Psalm 100: 1-5) Eggsactly (John 3:16-17) Making a Message (Luke 2:17) Let His Light Shine (Luke 2:1-20; Matthew 2:1-2, 9-11; Romans 12:3)

Diana Childress Derringer, a former social worker and adjunct professor, writes and presents monologues and other drama for churches, various community settings, and mission trips. She also writes articles, devotions, and poetry for numerous publications. Her works have been accepted by Lifeway, Standard Publishing, Cook Communications, The Upper Room, Reiman Publishing Group, Judson Press, Warner Press, and others. Diana has a master's degree in counseling, and belongs to the American Christian Writers Association and the Kentucky State Poetry Society. She currently teaches a middle school girls' Sunday school class and sings in the adult choir at Campbellsville Baptist Church in Campbellsville, Kentucky. Diana and her husband serve as a friendship family for international university students.

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Customer Reviews

This is a wonderful collection of mini-dramas that can be used as sermon starters or in special programs such as Christmas or Easter. The dramas are very short and to-the-point and require a minimum of props and costuming. Most of them use children or youth as the characters, which adds to their appeal to and impact upon viewers. All the dramas are biblically sound and lift up Jesus as Savior. In the drama on "Mary's Song," I can imagine the impact upon viewers as teenage Mary turns from Elizabeth and faces the audience and sings or recites "The Magnificat" from Luke 1. All the dramas pack a similar appeal. Pastors and worship leaders will find many ways to enhance the worship service by using these dramas. Art Criscoe

This is a collection of short plays based on Bible stories. They can be used in worship services as well as other church gatherings. Some are designated as sermon starters. The first page of each drama includes a list of specifics to help the organizer plan and collect props. The list includes time (how long it lasts), theme, scripture reference, church year season, suggested use, summary, character list, props and costumes needed, sound equipment requirements, lighting, and setting. Most skits are five minutes or less, but there is one that lasts 15 minutes. I can see this collection being used year-round. Christmas and Easter are represented, but other seasons are included, too. There's even a Father's Day skit. These plays are a great way to help people identify with Bible characters and apply scriptural principles to their own lives. Disclosure of Material Connection: I received this book free from CSS Publishing. I was not required to write a positive review. The opinions I have expressed are my own. I am disclosing this in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission's 16 CFR, Part 255: "Guides Concerning the Use of Endorsements and Testimonials in Advertising."

These short dramas--the longest is 15 minutes and the shortest 2 minutes--teach Christian principles such as forgiveness, resurrection, salvation, and unconditional love in language that is clear and beautiful. The stories enacted are simple and touching. My favorite is Mary's Song, which concludes with a sung or spoken version of the Magnificat, letting the beauty of those words carry the message without added exposition. While designed to be used with children, some of the longer pieces could also be used with adults. Each presentation includes a title that identifies the content focus, related scripture, a brief summary, props and costuming suggestions, and run time.

This collection of short drama pieces is a valuable tool for pastors, drama directors, youth workers, and more. A variety of topics and styles are represented, and the dramas pack an emotional punch. The book is well organized with prop lists, character descriptions, and suggested uses. A wonderful addition to your drama toolbox!

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