

“Chicken Sacrifice”

By Terry Stanley

Synopsis

A woman struggles to give up chicken (her favorite food) in observance of Lent. However, in the process she goes through chicken addiction withdrawal symptoms.

Scripture

Luke 4:1-13

Ministry Lesson

Making sacrifices is not always easy. Jesus not only left Heaven, he also fasted 40 days, suffered under the ridicule and attacks of religious leaders, and eventually died on a cross for us. During the season of Lent, our willingness to fast and pray helps us to better understand and appreciate the many sacrifices Jesus made for us.

Ministry Focus

Fasting, Easter

Cast

1 Adult Female

Setting

Kitchen, modern day

Props

- Chair
- Small table for telephone
- Small table for food (tuna fish, box of donuts, loaf of bread)
- Eyeglasses
- Bible

Sound Effects

Ringling phone

Costume

Normal house attire

MONOLOGUE

A WOMAN (MILDRED) IS SITTING AT THE KITCHEN TABLE TALKING ON THE PHONE.

(CHEERFUL) Oh yes...I know what you mean (Listens). It hasn't been easy, but my fast is almost over. (Listens) That's right, I've been on a chicken fast for 46 days and you know how much I love chicken.

(Listens) Well that's what Lent is all about, fasting and praying in honor of the sacrifices Jesus made for us. (Listens) I only have 4 more hours to go. I know I'm gonna make it. (Listens) Okay, bye, bye (HANGS UP PHONE)

(DISTRAUGHT) Oh my Lord, how am I going to make it? I'm dying for some chicken. What was I thinking of? I should have committed to something easy like not eating Yogurt, or Onion Soup, anything but chicken! It's all Sister Bridgeport's fault. I wasn't planning to fast at all this year until she started bragging that she was sacrificing fish for Lent. Ha! Anyone can give up fish! I decided to show her a real sacrifice, so I opened my big mouth and volunteered to stop eating chicken for the next 6 weeks. Lord, what was I thinking about! (RECOVERING) Okay, just calm down, take a deep breath (BREATHES IN DEEPLY), I can make it. I just need to keep my mind off chicken. I know what, I'll read the bible. That's right, when temptation comes; I need to turn to the Word of God. For the Word is a light into my lamp and the pathway under my feet...or something like that. (READING) "...and Jesus fed five thousands with 2 chickens and 5 loaves of bread...I, I mean... 2 fish and 5 chicken breasts". (CLOSE BIBLE) That won't work. Maybe I'll just pray for a while. Yeah, that's right, I'm supposed to pray while I fast anyway. (BOWS HEAD) Dear Lord, help me to not think about chicken. Help me to keep my mind stayed on you. For your word says, "take my YOKE upon you and learn of me. For your yoke is over easy and your egg is light." (FRUSTRATED) My goodness, I can't even pray without thinking about chicken.

SOUND EFFECT: PHONE RINGS

Hello, oh hi Sister Mitchell. (Listens) Oh Yes, I'm doing just fine. Let me see what time that clock says (PUTS ON GLASSES TO SEE IMAGINARY CLOCK ON THE WALL). It's already after 4:00 p.m. I have less than 2 hours to go. (Listens, lying) Oh no, I rarely think about chicken.

(Listens) The crusade? Oh yeah girl, I already signed up. All of the big Preachers are going to be there. You know this is the 25th Anniversary of the "Kingdom For Christ" crusade. Have you printed the tickets yet? (Listens) Uh huh, well, if the words "Kingdom For Christ" won't fit on the ticket, just use the initials...KFC. Look, don't you worry about a thing, it's gonna be fine and we're gonna have a good time. (Listens - bad news) Sister Wilson can't make it? (Listens) Oh no that's terrible, what happened? (Listens) Oh my goodness, you know I almost fell myself. You have to be so careful walking on snow and ice, especially at her age... (Listens) Yes, uh huh... uh huh. Well, thank goodness it wasn't any worst, you know she's as frail as a chicken. Thank the Lord she only has bruises on her LEG, THIGH, and BACK. (Listens) Well, I will surely stop by the hospital tomorrow. What WING of the hospital is she in? Okay, bye, bye, remember to keep me in your prayer. Bye. (HANGS UP PHONE). Oh well, maybe I'll just make me something to eat. I'm really hungry, that's why I keep thinking about chicken. All I have to do is eat a big meal, then take a nap, and I'm home free.

WALKS OVER TO SMALL TABLE CONTAINING MISCELLANEOUS FOODS: BREAD, COFFEE, TUNA, AND BOX OF DONUTS.

Let's see, oh, I haven't had tuna fish in a while. (Picks up can and read) "Tuna, the Chicken of the Sea". Oh no! Maybe I'll just have a donut. Oh that's right, my doctor told me to stay away from sweets. I keep forgetting about my diabet... diabet... my sugar.

SHE WALKS AWAY FROM THE FOOD TABLE, WHEN A VOICE (OFF-STAGE) IS HEARD. THE VOICE IS VERY DEEP AND POWERFUL IN TONE.

(THE VOICE) Mildred! Mildred! I know that you are hungry and weak. The bible says, "delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart." Do you believe this?

(MILDRED) Yes, yes, I believe.

(THE VOICE) Do you desire hot tender chicken?

(MILDRED) Oh yes, yes, yes.

(THE VOICE) Mildred, do you see that box of donuts on the table?

(MILDRED) Yes, I see it.

(THE VOICE) Then command that box of donuts be turned into a box chicken wings.

MILDRED SLOWLY WALKS TOWARD THE TABLE. SHE PICKS UP THE BOX OF DONUTS AND LICKS HER LIPS. SUDDENLY, SHE COMES TO HER SENSES AND PUTS THE BOX DOWN.

Get ye behind me Satan, man shall not live by chicken wings alone. Oh my goodness, I must be hallucinating. I've got to stay focused. I can't let my mind wander. I only have (LOOKS AT WALL CLOCK) an hour left. Maybe I'll do some exercise. The doctor said I should do some deep breathing and stretches every day. That will help me keep my mind off chicken.

MILDRED BEGINS BY LIFTING BOTH ARMS STRAIGHT UP IN THE AIR 2 TIMES. THEN EXTEND BOTH ARMS STRAIGHT OUT TO THE SIDE 2 TIMES. FINALLY, BEND BOTH ARMS INWARD FORMING A BIRD WING AND FLAP THEM SEVERAL TIMES. BETWEEN THE BREATHING AND FLAPPING, MILDRED LOOKS LIKE SHE'S FLYING LIKE A BIRD.

Whew, I'm out of breath. I'll have a heart attack before I finish fasting. I can see it now, old Sister Bridgeport will be gossipin' all over the church that I died from chicken addiction withdrawal. (CHECKS CLOCK AGAIN) How much time do I have left? Just 30 more minutes.

- End of Preview -

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