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Simon Says

Romans 3:20ff

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Characters: 5. = 2 Male. Simon (a Pharisee who hosted a meal with Jesus in Luke 7:40-44), Jesus, Persons #1-3.

Props: none necessary... you can use an empty, un-crushed, "Red Bull" drink can and a bagel (plastic or real). everyone should be dressed in modern-day clothing.

Settings: Simon leads a game of "Simon Says" and eventually everyone must drop-out, except Jesus. The orders could be: military-like, Jewish-law-like, preschool-like, cooking school-like (Julia Child, Martha Stewart, Iron Chef, or the Swedish Chef from the Muppets), modern ballet-like, or professional sports team-like doing warm-ups.

Scripture: Romans 3:20-24... The law makes us aware of our sinfulness... our righteousness comes from God through Jesus... all have fallen short of God's perfection.

Opening: All enter, standing together to play a game of "Simon Says".

S: (loudly) Get ready... it's time so follow the instructions to the letter! Simon says (points to self and gives silly directions. on the third direction P1 fails) You failed. Make a sacrifice.

P1: I offer my Red Bull (*you can use the canned drink*, sets it at Simon's feet).

S: (loudly) A Red Heifer was once a sacrifice, but yours is no good. You're out. Ready? Simon says (gives directions... on the third direction, C2 fails) You failed. Make a sacrifice.

P2: I'll give my whole grain offering. (can use a bagel, sets it at Simon's feet).

S: (loudly) A grain offering was once an acceptable sacrifice, but yours is no good. You're out. Ready? Simon says (gives two directions).

P3: (gives up throws up hands into the air and sits down pouting greatly) I can't do this!

S: (loudly) You did that on purpose. There was never a sacrifice for that.

P3: But I was afraid to keep going. What do I do? I know... (stands up) how about a wave offering? (runs from one side of the stage to the other so that P1 and P2 perform "the wave" with P3. then P3 runs in front of and facing the audience so that maybe they will continue "the wave". then turns to Simon who is laughing but shaking his head negatively while holding his forehead with one hand.)

J: (Jesus is smiling during "the wave" because He appreciates the attempt as well as the humor. He pauses and then answers both Simon and P3) I paid the penalty... My death IS the sacrifice.

S: Romans 3: starting at verse 20 says, "Therefore, no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin."



J: (still smiling) “But now a righteousness from God (points heavenward), apart from the law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify.

S: (gestures to J) “This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe.

P1: “There is no difference for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

P2: “and are justified freely by His grace,

P3: “through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus”.

S: (loudly) “Whom the Son sets free is free indeed!”

P2: Free!?! Free!?! (tags Simon) You’re it! (runs off-stage whooping loudly)

(P1 and P3 scatter also whooping loudly. Jesus shrugs shoulders at Simon, then smiles warmly, and finally runs down center aisle whooping too, leaving Simon on stage. Simon waits a second then calls loudly) Jesus is home-base (Simon runs off stage wildly.)

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