

## CAN HE FIX IT?

By Rod

*This sketch is based on the parable of the tenants from Matthew 21: 33-46.*

### CAST

Narrator 1

Narrator 2

Bob the builder

Bob's son

Fellow builders/servants/rent collectors/soldiers (2 minimum),

Tenants (2 minimum)

*At start Bob, son + builders on stage. Bob in middle.*

1. Once upon a time there was a man called Bob.  
*[Bob steps forward]*
2. Bob the builder?
  1. Yes, and he was a very good builder.  
*[2 servants + son pass Bob tools+ puts hard hat on Bob]*
  2. No kidding. Bob the builder can fix anything. "Can he fix it? Yes, he can."  
*[Bob fixes lectern]*
1. Not only could he fix things, he could also build from scratch.
2. What did he build?
  1. He built a house.
  2. Wow, that is a big project.
1. He drew up careful plans.  
*[Others bring forward large blueprint. Consult with Bob]*
2. Good idea. I always remember the five P's.
  1. What five P's?
  2. Perfect Planning Prevents Pathetic Performance.
1. And then he began to build. He laid the first stone in the corner.  
*[Bob mimes laying first stone.]*
2. How did he know where that was?  
*[Bob carries on building helped by others]*
1. How do you mean?  
*[They use spirit level, post etc]*
2. Well, if he hadn't done any building, there wouldn't be a corner. So how could he start there?

1. He knew from his plans.  
*[Son thrusts plans under his nose]*
2. Ah, I see.
  
1. *(Muttering)* Talk about pathetic performance.
2. Pardon.
  
1. Nothing. *(Clears throat)* He completed the house, and then built a wall around the outside of the garden.
2. He likes building things does Bob the Builder.
  
1. He even built a watchtower.
2. He must have had a very big watch.  
*[One builder holds up watch]*
1. A watchtower where security guards could keep a watch over his property.  
*[Bob points to pulpit. Builder with watch mounts, looks over scene on guard.]*
2. Oh, I see. He was very security conscious.
  
1. He wanted to ensure his brand new house would be well looked after.
2. And he would live in it safe and sound.
  
1. Well actually, no.
2. How do you mean?
  
1. Bob had to go away for a while.  
*[Son gives Bob a letter which he reads]*
2. Probably to build some more houses. You can't stop Bob building.  
*Bob + son + servants exit]*
1. Maybe. To ensure the house was occupied he rented it out and left tenants.  
*[Enter two tenants dressed with military caps one army, one navy. Shake hands with Bob on his way out]*
2. Which regiment?
  
1. I beg your pardon.
2. Which army regiment were these lieutenants in? Or perhaps they were in the navy.
  
1. I said, he left tenants. People who paid to stay there.  
*[Tenants remove caps. Bob and servants depart.]*
2. Oh, sorry. Were they good tenants?
  
1. No.
2. What did they do?

1. Well, after a while, Bob sent round one of his employees to collect the rent.  
*[Enter one servant. Puts hand out asking for money.]*
  2. It is only reasonable for Bob to charge rent; they were living in a lovely house.
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1. The tenants beat up this rent collector.  
*[Tenants kick servant off stage.]*
  2. What – and didn't pay?  
*[Enter second servant]*
  1. No, and when Bob sent another rent collector the tenants killed him.  
*[Tenants stab him. If needed again, he staggers off stage.]*
  2. You're kidding.
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1. And then they threw stones at a third one and drove him away.  
*[Enter 3<sup>rd</sup> servant. Tenants throw paper balls at him.]*
  2. That is awful.
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1. So Bob sent rent collectors in pairs for their protection.  
*[2 servants enter.]*
  2. Did it work?
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1. No, they treated them just the same.  
*[They are driven off stage]*
  2. I expect Bob was sad to think of his lovely house being occupied by a bunch of hooligans.  
*[Enter Bob, extreme stage right + son.]*
  1. He was. So he decided to send his son to collect the rent.  
*[Bob puts hand on son's shoulder. Points & sends him.]*
  2. Good idea. They should respect the son of the owner. Did they pay him?
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1. No – they killed him.  
*[Tenants stab son – with spear?]*
  2. What! That is truly shocking.
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1. They figured that, if they killed the son of the owner, he would have no heir to inherit his property and so they would get to keep the house for themselves.  
*[Tenants collude, rub hands together greedily.]*
  2. I expect Bob was no longer sad – but hopping mad. I mean, killing his son. That is dreadful.
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1. Bob was very angry indeed. He came round to the house himself with plenty of muscle and threw the tenants out of the house.  
*[Bob summons & enter with armed soldiers or police with baseball caps and bats.]*
  2. Bob fixed them.  
*[Soldiers force tenants off stage.]*
  1. He did, and he got his house back so that he could rent it out to tenants who would treat it, and him, with respect.  
*[Bob stands centre stage, arms open wide in welcome to congregation.]*

*THE END*