

NO WORRIES

By Rod

This sketch is based on Jesus' teaching in Matthew 6 vv 25-34 and Luke 12 vv 22-31. To set the scene I have proposed that the crucial verses (Matt 6 v 31-34) be read first. Alternatively these could be read at the end

CAST

Reader

Wife *Amanda*

Husband *George*

Reader Jesus said, "So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the pagans run after all these things and your Heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."

ENTER Husband and Wife. They have just returned from a party. She is clearly annoyed with him. He does not know why.

Husband Are you all right dear?

Wife *[Tersely]* Yes, fine.

Husband Are you sure?

Wife *[Impatiently]* I told you, I'm fine.

Husband It's just that you were so quiet in the car. It's not like you.

Wife *[Angrily]* Why shouldn't I be quiet in the car if I want to?

Husband Oh, no reason. It's just er Have I done something to upset you?

Wife *[Tersely, not looking at him]* No.

Husband Are you sure?

Wife *[Turning on him aggressively]* OK. Well, since you ask - yes you have.

Husband *[Bemused]* What?

Wife I would have thought that would be obvious to anyone with a modicum of intelligence.

Husband I'm sorry, but I really can't think of anything.

Wife *[Turning away]* Huh!

Husband *[Pleading]* Please tell me.

Wife You really don't know do you? You only invite half the neighbourhood round for supper tomorrow night without consulting me, and you expect me to be happy about it.

Husband But I did consult you.

Wife Call that a consultation? I could hardly say "No" in front of them all could I? It was a fait accompli by the time you asked your 'kitchen skivy'.

Husband Well I'm sorry ... but it's not actually half the neighbourhood. It's only Tom and Barbara, who we haven't seen for ages. I thought you'd be glad if we showed them some hospitality.

Wife I would ... but not tomorrow. What am I going to give them to eat? Have you thought about that?

Husband I did only say 'supper', so it needn't be anything fancy. Just something out of the freezer.

Wife What, and have Barbara think I'm too lazy to do proper cooking! Not on your life!

Husband I'm sure they won't want you to go to any trouble. It'll just be good to spend time catching up with each other's news over a simple meal.

Wife And then there's the question of what we're going to drink. The cellar is practically empty after your brother and his family came to visit last weekend. I'm surprised he hasn't been called up to drink for England.

Husband I think there's one bottle of red left And, anyway, Tom and Barbara don't drink much. They'll be perfectly happy with water.

Wife That's all very well but I haven't a thing to wear.

Husband What about that blue dress. *[He approaches in a 'seductive' way]* I always like you in that.

Wife *[Shrugging him off and turning away]* I couldn't possibly wear that! It's way out of fashion. Tom and Barbara will think we're living in the Stone Age.

Husband *[Exasperated]* Well, I'm sure it doesn't matter. It's only supposed to be a simple supper with two old friends – not a fashion parade.

Wife Huh, that's typical of you men!

Husband *[Conciliatory]* Look, darling, do stop worrying. Everything will be fine. We'll have a lovely evening sharing our home with two old friends. They'll appreciate our hospitality as they've been through a rough patch recently.

Wife What rough patch?

Husband I thought you knew. Their daughter's been really ill with meningitis. She's on the mend but is still in hospital. That's why I invited them round. I thought we could try to help cheer them up and provide a bit of support.

Wife *[Changing to a sympathetic tone]* Oh, I didn't realise. How awful! *[Thinking quickly]* I can easily knock up a lasagne – we've got some mince in the freezer. The red'll go nicely with that. And we can throw together a fruit salad – we've plenty of fresh fruit.

Husband It sounds just the ticket. And, you know darling, you'll look great whatever you wear.

Wife Oh, don't worry about that silly. It'll just be lovely to see poor Tom and Barbara.

Husband That's the spirit, Amanda.

Wife You know what, George? I'm really looking forward to tomorrow. As the Aussies would say, 'No worries'.

Husband No worries!

THE END