

TRUE WORSHIP

By Rod

Based on Isaiah 58, this sketch explores the meaning of what sort of 'worship' is truly acceptable to God. Some directions are given as guidelines but the characters should always try to mime the action being described by the narrators.

CAST

NARRATOR 1	Male or female
NARRATOR 2	Male or female
BILL BLIND	Wearing a suit
LEN LIGHT	Casually dressed
BILL'S WIFE	
LEN'S WIFE	
VICAR	
SIDESPERSION	
GUEST	
Mrs SMITH	
Mrs JONES	

SET

Front Left Table with 2 chairs [*Home of Blinds / Bill's office*]
Front Right Table with 3 chairs [*Home of Lights / Len's office*]
Middle Front row of 2 chairs, Back row of 3 chairs – seats in church
Narrator 1 is on left, Narrator 2 is on right.

Narrator 1	Meet Bill Blind and his wife. [<i>Enter Bill and his wife</i>]
Narrator 2	And meet Len Light and his wife. [<i>Enter Len and his wife</i>]
Narr 1	On Sundays the Blinds goes to church.
Narr 2	On Sundays the Lights goes to church.
Narr 1	Bill chooses a suit to wear from the selection he has in his wardrobe. He feels it is important to look smart when going to 'God's House'.
Narr 2	Len doesn't have a suit and spends little time deciding what to wear. He reckons that God is not too worried about outward appearances.

Narr 1 Bill always likes the vicar to greet him and shake his hand when he arrives at church. *[Enter Vicar who greets the Blinds. Enter Guest who sits in front row]*

Narr 2 Len is a little embarrassed if the vicar shakes his hand. He prefers to slip into church unnoticed. *[The Lights sneak past the vicar while he is greeting the Blinds]*

Narr 1 Bill always sits near the front in what the regulars call ‘The Blinds’ Pew’. *[The sidesman asks the Guest to move from front row to the one behind to accommodate the Blinds]*

Narr 2 Len doesn’t mind where he sits but prefers a seat near the back. *[The Lights sit in second row next to Guest and engage him/her in conversation]*

Narr 1 When the collection is taken Bill puts down his hymnbook, gets out his wallet and places a £20 note on the plate. *[All this is acted out by sidesman, Bill and his wife]*

Narr 2 When the collection is taken Len doesn’t put in anything; he tithes his giving through a covenant scheme. *[Len acts this with sidesman.. Bill turns round and sneers at Len’s failure to contribute to the collection]*

Narr 1 At the end of the service Bill likes to discuss the finer points of the sermon with the preacher. *[Bill enters discussion with vicar]*

Narr 2 At the end of the service Len generally helps serve the tea and coffee. *[Len passes round coffee and talks to Guest]*

Narr 1 After church the Blinds go home for lunch. *[Blinds go to their table]*

Narr 2 After church the Lights go home for lunch. *[Lights with Guest go to their table]*

Narr 1 Bill always remembers to give thanks to God.

Bill In a world in which so many are starving we thank you, God, for this sumptuous feast.

Narr 1 Unfortunately he doesn’t always remember to say thank you to his wife who has cooked him such a sumptuous feast.

Bill’s wife You take me for granted.

Bill No, I don’t.

Bill's wife Yes you do.

Bill Don't be ridiculous woman.

Narr 1 They often end up arguing and quarrelling.

Narr 2 Len always remembers to thank God for his food and helps his wife to prepare it. They generally share their meal with someone they have met at church – a student, a visitor or a single person who would otherwise have eaten alone.

Narr 1 During the week, Bill goes to work. He is manager in a business.

Narr 2 During the week, Len goes to work.. He is manager in a business.

Narr 1 Bill likes to show his workers whose boss.

Bill *[Sitting at his table as if at a desk, faced by Mrs Smith]* You were late again this morning Mrs Smith.

Mrs Smith Yes, sir. I'm sorry, sir. It won't happen again.

Bill Indeed it won't, Mrs Smith. You're fired.

Mrs Smith But please, sir, I need the money.

Bill I'm sorry, but rules are rules and I can't have you setting a bad example to everyone else.

Narr 2 Len also likes to show his workers whose boss.

Len *[Sitting at his table as if at a desk, faced by Mrs Jones]* You were late again this morning Mrs Jones.

Mrs Jones Yes, Sir. I'm sorry, sir. It won't happen again.

Len No indeed that's what we need to aim for together. Do you have some problems at home at the moment?

Mrs Jones Oh, yes, my daughter's ill. I have terrible trouble every morning trying to find someone to look after her but I cannot afford any time off work.

Len I do understand. It must be very difficult for you. Let's see if we can find a way of helping you

Narr 1 At the end of every day Bill says his prayers. *[Bill puts hands together in classic prayer mode]*

Narr 2 At the end of every day Len spends time with God. *[Len holds palms upwards in prayer]*

Narr 1 Bill often feels that God does not hear him when he prays.

Narr 2 Len often feels that God guides him personally during his prayer times.

Narr 1 Bill sometimes gets angry with God for not answering his prayers.

Mrs Blind What on earth are you doing, Bill? You're supper is getting cold.

Bill Stop nagging woman. *[He puts his hands together in a pleading prayer to God]* God give me strength.

Narr 2 Len often finds joy in the Lord who satisfies his every need.

Mrs Light Len, you're supper's ready.

Len Thank you, dear, I'll be right with you. *[He looks upwards]* Thank you Jesus for all your goodness to me.

THE END