**THREE WISE MONKEYS**

**By Rod**

*Based on Matthew 89 VV 27-34 where Jesus heals two blind men and a mute man. The narrators tell the story while the three actors perform the actions.*

*CAST*

*Narrator 1 Male*

*Narrator 2 Female*

*3 actors 1,2,3*

Male Once upon a time there were three monkeys – er.. I mean men. *[Actors step forward]*

Female Same thing?

Male Two of them were blind and one of them was dumb. *[1 & 2 cover eyes. 3 covers mouth]*

Female Surely saying ‘a dumb man’ is tautology?

Male When the blind ones met Jesus… *[3 steps forward to become Jesus]*

Female They couldn’t see him.

Male But they could recognise who he was. They cried out..

Female “Have mercy on us, Son of David.” *[1 & 2 hold hands aloft as if crying out]* And when Jesus asked them..

Male “Do you really believe I can do this?”, they replied…

Female “Yes, Lord.” *[1 & 2 hold out hands as if asking]* Jesus was so impressed he said…

Male “According to your faith will it be done to you”. *[3 touches eyes of 1 & 2 as if curing them of blindness]*

Female And he cured them of their blindness.

Male So now they could hear, speak and see. *[1 & “ show delight at being able to see]*

Female But Jesus said..

Male “See that you do not speak about it.” *[Jesus gestures accordingly]*

Female That seems a bit tough, and surely everyone could see that they could see?

Male True, and in fact just the opposite happened. They couldn’t stop themselves. They spoke about it all the time. *[1 & 2 mime talking non-stop. 3 returns into line to resume his position as dumb man with hands over mouth]*

Female Unlike the man who was dumb.

Male When he met Jesus he said..

Female “mmmmm” *[3 mimes this]*

Male But Jesus knew exactly what he needed.

Female A new voice.

Male And that’s exactly what he gave him. The man spoke clearly for the first time in ages. *[3 mimes talking]*

Female What did he say?

Male We don’t know.

Female Probably something like “I reckon Israel should play 4-4-2 with Moses Rooney slotting into the pocket behind the striker. *[3 explains this to 1 & 2]*

Male At this point the whole crowd joined in and said “Nothing like this has ever been seen in Israel.” *[1 & 2 act as crowd showing amazement]*

Female Surely not! Their football team must have played 4-4-2- before. It’s not exactly rocket science.

Male No, they meant Jesus enabling the dumb man to speak.

Female Oh, right. I suppose that is quite amazing. And to go with restoring the sight to those two blind men. No wonder everyone was so excited. *[1,2 & 3 show excitement]*

Male Everyone that is, except the Pharisees. The talked a different talk. *[1,2 & 3 huddle together as Pharisees looking unhappy]*

Female Miserable lot. What did they say?

Male “It is by the prince of demons that he casts out demons.”

Female What does that mean?

Male It means that they thought He was not really the Son of God.

Female I feel sorry for them.

Male Yes, they missed out. *[1,2,3 back in line]*

Female They failed to **SEE** Jesus for who he was. *[1 puts hands to eyes]*

Male They failed to **HEAR** his words of truth and hope. *[2 puts hands over ears]*

Female And they could not join in and **SPEAK** the praises of God’s glorious mighty saviour. *[3 puts hands over mouth]*

Male We don’t want to be like the Pharisees.

Female No, we want to **SEE** Jesus. *[1 removes hands from eyes and holds aloft]*

Male We want to **HEAR** his words. *[2 removes hands from ears and holds aloft]*

Female And we want to **SPEAK** about Him to our friends. *[3 removes hands from mouth and holds aloft]*

ALL Hallelujah, Amen!

*THE END*