

YOU'VE GOT MAIL

By Rod

This sketch seeks to draw out the parallel of the Bible being 'God's Letter' to us, with a view to encouraging people to read it regularly.

CAST

Narrators 1 and 2 These two could work alongside each other sharing a microphone

Celia

Dave

Ellie

Frankie Could be male or female

Postman Non-speaking role that could be omitted

Narrator 1 We all like receiving mail don't we?

Narrator 2 Nowadays, of course, it may come electronically.

Narr 1 *[Imitating a computer. It could be flashed up on a screen if one is available]* You have new mail. Do you wish to read it now?

Narr 2 But there's still nothing like the sense of anticipation that runs through the house as we hear the postman dropping the letters through the letterbox.

[Enter Postman who delivers letters. Celia, Dave and Ellie rush on to stage to pick up letters. They sort them out between themselves eagerly. Meanwhile Frankie enters and sits at a table with an open Bible.]

Narr 1 Maybe, if we thought of the Bible as a letter from God, we might be as eager to read it, as we are to read the letters we receive.

Narr 2 After all, the Bible is God's Word, written by Him ... to us.

Narr 1 That sounds very much like a letter to me.

Narr 2 Sometimes our letters contain bad news....

Celia Oh no, I've failed my Grade 4 violin exam. *[Reading]* "I am afraid you're score of 17 out of 150 falls well short of the standard required". All that practice for nothing!

Dave What practice?

Ellie I never heard any.

Frankie “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”.
Romans 3 verse 23.

Narr 1 But sometimes our letters contain good news

Dave Oh great! Listen to this guys. *[Reading]* “We are delighted to inform you
that you have been accepted for a place to read History”.

Ellie Well done, Dave.

Celia That’s great news.

Frankie “Through Jesus we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we
now stand”.
Romans 5 verse 2.

Narr 2 We may get picture postcards

Ellie Oh look, it’s from Jenny. She’s in Italy. *[Reading]* “The weather is here.
Wish you were lovely”. Typical Jenny – ever the joker. But she goes on to
say how much she’s missing us.

Frankie “And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.
Matthew 28 verse 20.

Narr 1 We get letters from our parents

Celia *[Reading]* “To our darling daughter, with lots of love from Mum and
Dad”

Frankie “ ‘I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters’, says
the Lord Almighty.
2 Corinthians 6 verse 18.”

Narr 2 We get letters packed with news about our friends.

Dave *[Reading]* “I saw Starkers yesterday. He says, ‘Hi’. Mazza sends his
greetings and Just says, ‘Don’t forget the 26th’. Oh, and Lulu and Des say,
‘Keep punching.’ “

Frankie “My fellow-prisoner Aristarchus sends you his greetings, as does Mark,
the cousin of Barnabas. Jesus, who is called Justus, also sends his
greetings. And our friend Luke, the doctor, and Demas send greetings.”
Colossians 4 verses 10, 11 and 14.

Narr 1 And we get those horrid brown envelopes containing the dreaded bills

- Ellie Oh terrific, it's my mobile 'phone bill. *[Reading]* "£98.36p". I don't believe it! I've hardly used it this month. I don't know how I'm going to pay it.
- Frankie "The servant fell on his knees before his master. 'Be patient with me', he begged, 'and I will pay everything'. The servant's master took pity on him, cancelled the debt and let him go." Matthew 18 verses 26 and 27.
- Narr 2 But the letters we really look out for are those pink ones, strongly scented and sealed with a loving kiss
- Celia Oh goody, it's from Steve. Listen, he's written me a love poem. *[Reading]*
 "Roses are red,
 Violets are blue.
 What colour are yours?
 I wish that I knew."
 Oh, he's so romantic.
- Frankie "I have loved you with an everlasting love;
 I have drawn you with loving-kindness."
 Jeremiah 31 verse 3.
- Narr 1 And on that one special day of the year we love to receive letters containing cards
- Dave Hey look, I've got a birthday card. *[Reading]* "It's your day – enjoy it!"
 You bet I will.
- Frankie "For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring Word of God".
 1 Peter 1 verse 23.
- Narr 2 But the most exciting mail of all does not come in the form of a letter at all ...
- Ellie Wow, I've got a parcel – with a present inside. I wonder what's it is. Isn't it exciting?
- Frankie "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus."
 Romans 6 verse 23.
- Narr 1 So the Bible is like a letter – directly from God.
- Narr 2 And we can receive His message every day - without fail.

Frankie “All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work”.
2 Timothy 3 verses 16 and 17.

Narr 1 *[Imitating a computer. It could be flashed up on a screen if one is available]* You have new mail. Do you wish to read it now?

Narr 2 You'd be a fool not to.

[Celia, Dave and Ellie gather round Frankie to read the Bible over his shoulder]

THE END