

(JESUS)

...and think nothing of the first.

(UZO sticks out her tongue at TELLY and gives him a "raspberry.")

[NOTE: The above describes the action as performed in the original. The specifics, in terms of the participants and the way in which the story is illustrated, are up to the individual director, as long as there is some illustration of the story, preferably one that ends with a gag.]

JESUS

No man can serve God...

ALL

What!?

JESUS

...and money!

ALL

Oh, money!

(As they ALL go to get into position for the Rich Man's parable, they mutter to the audience about money. What they say specifically is up to each individual. One might ask for spare change, one might complain about an experience with an ATM, one might give racing tips, etc. The point is that it be clear that they are all talking about money. During this, JESUS helps LINDSAY up to stand center on the table, indicates that she should tell the next story, and gets down to watch.

In the original, the Rich Man's parable was illustrated by the OTHERS thusly: Each of the four male cast members lay down on the stage with their feet facing the audience and their legs bent, as if in position to do a sit-up. Each of the four female cast members sat on the men's midriffs, facing the audience. Thus, they created what looked like a single figure with the woman's face and torso and the men's legs. During the parable, they pantomimed the story using both facial expressions, hands, and feet. This made for amusing and theatrical stage business. They remained in these positions for the first verse of "Bless the Lord" and performed musical staging thus as well. Obviously, other choices are available to the individual director, but it is important that the OTHERS participate in acting out the story.)

LINDSAY

There once was a rich man whose land yielded heavy crops. He cared not for the people who tended his crops, though they worked long hours and were paid a fraction of the rich man's salary.

OTHERS

Occupy *(name of theatre or town)*! Occupy _____!

LINDSAY

Yet despite all his riches, he found it still wasn't enough. "Oh, what am I to do?," he said. "I have not the room to store my produce. Ahh, this is what I will do," he said. "I will tear down my storehouses and build them bigger. I will collect in them all my corn and popcorn and tuna surprise, and M&Ms...

[NOTE: The specific items the man is planning to store, after the mention of corn, are up to the individual actor.]

And then I will say to myself: 'Man, you have plenty of good things laid by you, enough to last you many years. Take life easy. Eat. Drink. Enjoy yourself.'" But, then God said to the man,...

(LINDSAY continues to mouth the words, but JESUS, talking into the microphone in an echo-y voice, actually says them. During this, the music intro for "Bless the Lord" begins:)

#7 - Bless the Lord

JESUS

(Echo-y voice)

"You fool, this very night you must surrender your life. You have made your money. Who will get it now?"

(JESUS hands the microphone to LINDSAY and she begins to sing.)

LINDSAY

O BLESS THE LORD, MY SOUL!
HIS GRACE TO THEE PROCLAIM!
AND ALL THAT IS WITHIN ME JOIN,
TO BLESS HIS HOLY NAME, OH YEAH!

O BLESS THE LORD, MY SOUL!
HIS MERCIES BEAR IN MIND!
FORGET NOT ALL HIS BENEFITS,
THE LORD, TO THEE IS KIND.

At this point, the OTHERS leave their double-figure pantomime positions and begin to get into the number. In the original production, LINDSAY jumped off the table and joined the other women DSR as JESUS and the other men went to DSL. The choreography was in the style of Motown groups such as the Temptations and the Jackson Five. The men's choreography also involved using two of the planks, held vertically in front of them, as a screen that they opened into a V-shape and closed again. But as always, the specific choreography is up to the individual production.