



Harvest Children's Ministry Presents "Rock The World"

"How To Pray: The Lord's Prayer" On Top of Spaghetti

10/07/07

Character List:	Sunday Morning First Service	Sunday Morning Second Service	Sunday Morning Third Service	Sunday Evening Service
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- Worship Leader
- Luigi (restaurant owner)
- Marco (employee)
- Mrs. Finkelstein
- Daughter
- Jesus (puppet)
- Disciple #1 (puppet)
- Disciple #2 (puppet)
- Priest (puppet)

Prop List:

Restaurant kitchen	Bible	Tableware / forks / knives
Restaurant table	Phone	Spatula
Red checkered tablecloth	Two bowls w/spaghetti	Mrs. Finkelstein's mink hat and scarf
Table flower arrangement	Bowl of meat balls / tongs	Mrs. Finkelstein's purse

SFX / Music List:

Blessed Be the Name of the Lord	SFX: silverware tinkling on glass	BG: "That's Amore" Lady in the Tramp style
Trust In The Lord	SFX: trumpet blast (announcement)	
Get Down	SFX: telephone ringing	
I Walk By Faith		



HARVEST CHILDREN'S MINISTRY - "ROCK THE WORLD"



Opening Song: Blessed Be the Name of the Lord

Cue Background Music: That's Amore "Lady and the Tramp" style

WORSHIP LEADER: Good morning / afternoon! Today we are going to learn about prayer. What does the Bible teach us about prayer? Is there a right and wrong way to pray? In the book of Luke 1:1b, the disciples ask Jesus to teach them how to pray. We're gonna find out what Jesus says to do: Let's watch.

Fade Background Music

Co-worker Marco is stage right rolling and then throwing pizza dough in air.

MARCO: (Throwing a pizza in the air and singing, "That's amore.") It'sa my peetsa pie, that I throw in the sky. You'll want a'moray.

LUIGI: (Sitting stage center left at one of the restaurant tables in total distraught with head in hands, speaking to himself) Imma soooo stressed outta! And thata singing! Mama mia, he'sa driving me nutsa! I havea to get fooda in his mouth so he willa be quiet. (To Marco) Oh, Marco?

MARCO: Polo!

LUIGI: Marco!

MARCO: Polo!

LUIGI: (Angrier) Marco!

MARCO: Oh! Yes, Luigi, my boss and compadre who loves to hear me sing. (Begins to sings again) When I make, peetsa pie, you'll want a moray.

LUIGI: (Forcefully) Youa working too-a hard. (Gets up and beckons Marco to come sit)

MARCO: Huh? Me? (Walks over to table where Luigi is) But boss, it's almost lunch. We'll have a crowd in here any minute.

LUIGI: Youa sit. (More forceful, standing up and pulling out chair) Marco sitta downa! Mange-ah, come on-a, you eat-ah.

MARCO: (Immediately sitting almost scared) Okay....Wow! I never thought you cared so much about me eating lunch. (Wondering what is going on) What's wrong?

LUIGI: I be righta back. You have-a spaghetti and-a meat-a-balls. (Leaves quickly stage left comes right back with noodles and sauce in gravy bowl.)

Cue SFX: silverware on glass tinkle





MARCO: (While Luigi is getting food, Marco hits water glass with knife and makes a tinkling sound, sings softly) **It's-a my, peet-sah pie, that I throw in your eye. That's...**

LUIGI: (From stage left runs in like a crazy man with tray of food, yelling) **The phone, the phone is-a ringing!**

MARCO: (Shocked, screams) **Aaahhrgh! You scared me half to death. It was me on the glass. What's wrong with you, Luigi?**

LUIGI: (He starts getting spaghetti with big forks to put on plate and ends up putting it on Marco's head because he's watching the door and the phone. He doesn't even notice and Marco just plays along to see when Luigi will notice) **I'm-ah expecting big-ah phone call-ah. I have to keepah my eyes-ah on the door-ah and the phone-ah.**

MARCO: (Calmly) **Uh, Luigi?**

LUIGI: (Not even looking at Marco, distracted as he is stirring the sauce) **No, don'ta thank me! Now, I hava to getta thissa new client, Mrs. Finklestein! If-a I don't, howa am I gonna keep-ah thissa buniness open? She'sa having a biga party for her-a daughter's a-wedding. And we needa to do thissa party. We could use-ah dah money.**

MARCO: **Ah, Luigi, don't you think something's wrong here?**

LUIGI: (Remembering, looking up into the sky, arms flail up as if to say "what?") **Ahh, yes, I forgotah the meat-ah balls. I be right-ah back.**

MARCO: **No, Luigi.** (Blows through strands of spaghetti, but doesn't move, still keeps spaghetti on head)

LUIGI: (Runs out and then back in with new bowl of meat balls, starts to dig into them and looking for just one, never looking at Marco's head, very distracted with "doing" stuff.) **I gotta the meat-ah balls.**

MARCO: **No, Luigi. I'm talking about something else.**

LUIGI: (Checking the door, picking up a meat ball with a big spoon and fork.) **Oh, you meanah... pray? About-ah my business? You are-ah so right. I shoulda pray.** (Puts down meatball in bowl) **Yes-ah, good idea!** (He runs stage left over to his office chair... kneels down and begins to babble) **I' m-ah gonna pray!**

Luigi starts praying repeating a babbling phrase, but mouthing, not out loud but very fast.

LUIGI: **Hour fahdah, who artah in heavenah, hahlowed be die nameah.
Hour fahdah, who artah in heavenah, hahlowed be die nameah.
Hour fahdah, who artah in heavenah, hahlowed be die nameah.**

MARCO: (Comes into the dining room from the kitchen, and is stumped by the sight, and watches for a moment) **Excuse me, are you ok?**



LUIGI: (Startled, but doesn't look at Marco, keeps eyes closed) **Ummm. What-ah?**

MARCO: Are you ok?

LUIGI: Yessa. Be quiet, I'm-a praying God to givea me the new client, so-ah we can-a do Mrs. Finklestein's-ah party.

MARCO: There's something really wrong here. (He stands up and faces Luigi)

LUIGI: (Luigi see's Marco's head for the first time and points) **You not-ah kidding. You supposed to eat-ah the spaghetti, not wear it like a hat-ah! What sa wrong with-a you? I'm-ah trying to pray and-ah you play around-ah with spaghetti. You a sick-a person.**

MARCO: (Very frustrated) **Me? Me? I** (Takes off spaghetti, puts it back in bowl) **Look, Luigi, I don't know what kind of mumbo jumbo you're saying. But that is not how we're supposed to pray.**

LUIGI: **What-ah do you-a know about-ah praying? You a cook!**

MARCO: Look, I know about it because i've read the cook book. I mean the Bible.

LUIGI: (Whispering the whole time, shocked and upset) **The Bible?. Youa not-a supposed to reada that book. That's-a God's book. It's-a holy!** (When you say "holy", shake hands like a jazz dancer, open fingers)

MARCO: God already knows what's in it. He wrote it. For us to read!

LUIGI: (Looking to the left and then the right, then whispering) **Whata does he say abouta praying?**

MARCO: Well, let's take a look. (Walking over to get Bible on other table) **Just now, you were repeating the same thing over and over again? That's not how the Bible says to pray.** (He opens the Bible and sits at the table) **Here, let me show you. It says here in Matthew chapter 6:7 "When you pray, do not keep on babbling"**

WORSHIP LEADER: Kids, do you know what babbling means?

KIDS: Yes, no!

WORSHIP LEADER: Babbling means to repeat the same thing over and over again, like a meaningless chant. God's word tells us not to do that.

Cue SFX: trumpet

PRIEST PUPPET: (Singing in lofty tones: Slur your words and sing it fast) **Oh, Lord, I am but a Godly priest. Oh, Lord, I am but a Godly priest. Oh, Lord, I am but a Godly priest.** (Peeks to left and right to make sure others are watching.) **Hmmm, maybe I should have the trumpet play again, not enough people are watching.** (Exits down)

LUIGI: What in the world did-a he say?

MARCO: I don't know. But more importantly, God knows what he said with his attitude. Kids, what was that priest "really" saying with the attitude of his heart? Do you know?

KIDS: He was saying, "Look at me."

LUIGI: But-a how should we pray?

MARIO: Good question. The disciples wanted to learn how to pray, too. Listen.

(We go to the puppets)

DISCIPLE #1: Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.

JESUS: When you pray say, "Father hallowed be Your name, your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we also forgive everyone who sins against us. And lead us not unto temptation."

LUIGI: Canna youa help me to understanda whata the prayer meansa?

MARCO: Sure! But lets pray first, and ask God to help you with this client, Mrs. Finklestein. "Heavenly Father, we come to You knowing that You are awesome and holy. We know that Your plans are always better than ours. Please reveal them to us in Your timing and according to Your will. This client is very important to Luigi, but I ask that he will trust you and will wait on you. In Jesus' name we pray, amen."

Cue SFX: telephone rings

LUIGI: (Overly emotional, runs for the phone) The phone-ah! Hello. Yes-a, this issa Luigi. (Sad) Oh, I am-a very sorry, too. (Very sad) Thanka you for-a calling.

MARCO: Who was that?

LUIGI: That-a was-a the very important-ah client, Mrs. Finklestein. She said-a that-a she decided to use-a differenta restraut to-ah cater her-ah party. Whatta am I gonna do?

MARCO: Well, we prayed about it and so we need to remember to trust in God because He knows what's best for us. Come on, let's check on the sauce. (Both exit stage left)

Cue Song: Trust in the Lord

WORSHIP LEADER: The good news is that Luigi wanted to know more about what Jesus said concerning prayer.

Marco and Luigi enter from stage left and Marco has his Bible in hand and Luigi sits at table while Marco talks facing audience.



MARCO: It's about being close to God. You show him you know him by praising him for who he is. For example, you could say, "God, you are an awesome God. You deserve much praise. I can't wait to see you face to face. Thank you for taking care of my needs. I trust you today with all my worries. Help me to forgive anyone who has sinned against me. Please forgive my sins. Help me to walk in your path. Help me to trust you with my Italian restaurant. It's yours, Lord. Please bless it and me as you want to. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen."

LUIGI: But I'mah worried.

MARCO: He knows that. Do you think God is some magic genie and you need to say the right magic words? Like "abra-cadabra." (He waves his spatula as if it were a wand) No, not at all! You just talk to him like you would a person. Only...

LUIGI: (All excited) Let-a me-a give ita try. Okay, I'ma gonna pray. (He squints up his eyes and clenches his fists hard to pray)

Mrs. Finklestein and daughter come down center aisle to front of stage.

DAUGHTER: (Upset, with mother) Do you think we'll find him in time?

MRS. FINKLESTEIN: (Enters from center aisle, talking to kids) Ooo, I hope so. We need to find him. I made a terrible mistake. Ahh, excuse me, sir?

LUIGI: (With eyes still closed and squinted) I'm a sorry, signora, buta I'm a doing something-a very important. Could you wait-a minute, please?

MRS. FINKLESTEIN: But, I'm Mrs. Finklestein and I'm in a desperate situation.

LUIGI: (Still eyes closed and squinched) Nota now, Mrs. Finklestein. If-a you had-a come in even a ten-a minutes ago, I woulda droppeda everythinga for you. But thisa concernsa me and the Holy God of heaven and earth. I'ma going to talka to him. So please-a, would you mind sitting adowna until I ama finished. Then, dear signora, I willa be with a you. Pronto, pronto.

She goes to sit down at checkered table and is willing to wait.

LUIGI: (Still with eyes squinted) My deara God ina heaven, you are-a one-a Holy God who wantsa to be my frienda. I'm-a so happy to know-a you hear-a everything-a I say before I even-a say it. So-a you-a already know-a I am-a thanking you thata Mrs. Finklestein isa here. It'sa miracle. But youa had it ina your plana. So, I'm nota worried anymore-a, God, because-a you are so-a faithful-a to me. I coulda justa cry. (Covers face with hands to wipe face, pulls edge of table cloth and wipes eyes)

MRS. FINKLESTEIN: (Looks for hanky in purse, can't find one and uses table cloth, crying, too.) Me-a too-a! (Covers her face and blows her nose loudly) Honk! Oh, excuse me. But it was so, (Crying some more) so beautiful!

DAUGHTER: (Beautiful) Yes, mother, beautiful! (Sniff, sniff)





LUIGI: (Opens eyes and is distracted by loud honking noise, then squints eyes tight again) I pray-a in the name-a of your Son-a, Jesus. Amen. (Waits a second, takes a deep peaceful breath) Now, ah, Mrs.-a Finklestein, maya i-a help-a you?

MRS. FINKLESTEIN: I went to the other restaurant and met with the owner and for some reason I kept feeling compelled to leave and come talk to you. So, when I got to my car, I prayed and asked the Lord to show me what he wanted me to do for the party. And the next thing I know, I walk in and you were praying about me. This has to be what the Lord was trying to tell me. Mr. Luigi, how bout it? Will you cater my party?

LUIGI: (Holds chin and looks unsure) Well-ah. (Thinking)

MARCO: Luigi, are you nuts, this is what you wanted.

LUIGI: I thinka I shoulda pray about it.

MARCO: But...

LUIGI: (Joyful and loudly, hands up in the air) I'm-a just-a kidding. Mrs. Finklestein, I'ma delighted to cooka for you. Let's-a go to my kitchen, you taste-a all-a my food. Thee best-a italian sauce-a on-a top-a spaghetti. Anda my meata-balls. (Kisses tips of fingers as they walk off stage left) Moi! Like you-a never tasted before-a!

DAUGHTER: Sounds great!

MRS. FINKLESTEIN: I wonder if you have good Italian apple pie.

MARCO: (Follows behind and wipes brow like that was a close one) Whew!

WORSHIP LEADER: When we pray, we usually ask God for something. God is more than happy to hear our requests. He is our provider and the giver of all good things. Next week, we'll be looking at ways we can follow his example. How can we give our talents and our service and our money to God and know that we are pleasing him? What does he expect us to give? We'll find out more about being a "giver" next week.

Repeat after me:

The prayer of a righteous man
Is powerful and effective.
James 5:16





WORSHIP LEADER: Let's pray.

Dear Lord,
Thank you for hearing our prayers
And for giving to us
What we need. In Jesus' name I pray,
And everyone said, "So be it!"

Cue Closing Song: I Get Down / I Walk by Faith

