

Monologues that Minister

By Venus Bardanoue

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PUBLISHED BY
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Monologues That Minister

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Dedication

To my friend, Janey Norheim.

A monologue about her would be called "The Encourager."

The Playwright, Venus Bardanouve

Here's a resource book you won't want to be without. As the title suggests, these 20 monologues are intended to minister to the needs of people today in a dramatic context. Built around a Biblical character, incident, or parable, seven of the monologues cover specific holidays while the rest can be used any time. Each one arouses thoughts and feelings that will either minister to the listener or cause that person to be more sensitive to other peoples' problems and be Christ's hand extended to them. While quite effective with sermons, the monologues are so easy to produce that they work well in other settings, too. Use them to minister, entertain, and inspire!

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I. MONOLOGUES FOR HOLIDAYS

1. **Where Are the Nine?** *To remind us to have thankful hearts. Ideal for Thanksgiving.*
2. **The Oldest Shepherd** *For the Christmas season.*
3. **The Six Marys of the New Testament** *Six separate monologues to emphasize different types of women. (Requires six women) Perfect for Mother's Day, could be used anytime.*
4. **The Man Who Owned the Donkey** *For Palm Sunday.*
5. **The Centurion After the Cross** *For the Easter season.*
6. **Simeon Meets the Messiah** *For the Christmas season.*
7. **Timothy Remembers** *For Father's Day, Mother's Day or anytime to make us aware of the needs of the fatherless, and to emphasize godly training of children.*

II. EVERYDAY MONOLOGUES

8. **A Child Like This** *To remind us how Jesus viewed all children, especially the poor.*
9. **A Prodigal's Father** *To make us aware of the hurt in prodigals' parents.*
10. **Nicodemus, The Silent Christian** *To remind us to be bold in our commitment to Jesus.*
11. **Agrippa, Who Almost Believed** *To appeal to the non-committed.*
12. **Abigail, Whose Marriage Was Difficult** *To remind us of those in difficult marriages.*
13. **Shiphrah, God's Important Woman** *To remind us that we may unknowingly be an important part of God's plans.*
14. **Noah's Wife Looks Back** *To relate to our sometimes bewildered reactions to God's plans.*
15. **Samuel Sorrows Over His Sons** *To emphasize that we make our own adult choices.*
16. **The Man Healed of Blindness** *To emphasize that there is no set pattern in the way Jesus heals.*

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17. Lydia, A Business Woman *To remind us God loves us equally and to suggest priorities in our lives.*

18. Paul and the Potter *To remind us we are all important in God's work although we may not always be aware of it.*

19. Naomi Finds God's Sunshine *To remind us God does not forget his own and comforts the sorrowing.*

20. Miriam Faces Her Inner Self *To help us look within ourselves and admit our weaknesses.*

WHERE ARE THE NINE?

(A monologue based on Luke 17:11-19, suggested for the Thanksgiving season, although appropriate anytime.)

Character: Jotham, one of the ten lepers Jesus healed.

Costuming: Simple biblical.

Setting: No special requirements.

MONOLOGUE

(AT RISE: JOTHAM enters, looking at hands and arms, rubbing them and talking to self, face rapt with wonder.)

It's been a week since I met Jesus, and I still can scarcely believe that I'm healed! *(Looks up.)* God, my heart is overflowing with gratitude for your goodness to me! *(Pauses reflectively.)* But, I keep remembering Jesus' question, "Where are the nine?" *(Regretfully.)* My friends never did return to thank Him. *(Pauses.)* I guess they were too excited about the wonder of their healings. And yet ... *(Pauses, examining arms and hands and touching face.)* ... all those ugly, old, white scabs are gone. All those hateful sores are healed! And I can't believe it - even my fingers and toes that were all deformed are straight! And, thank God, the missing ones have grown back!

(Notices audience and speaks to them.) Look at my hands and face! *(Touches face and holds out hands.)* I had been a leper for seven long years! I had to leave my family and live with others who had leprosy, too. We lived in caves outside the city gates. We begged for food, but often we were hungry. And the caves were cold at nights. But above all, we were lonely without our families. *(Shutters.)* And the awful hopeless disease!

(Looks up.) God, I thank you for Jesus. He didn't even care that I am a Samaritan. Other Jews hate us but not Jesus. My heart is overflowing with gratitude! I am thankful to You and thankful to Him.

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(To audience.) You know, there were ten of us lepers who lived together in a big cave on the border between Samaria and Galilee. One day Josiah, one of my companions, came in limping as fast as he could. He was very excited, waving his crutch and calling out. "Jotham" - *(Points at SELF.)* that's me, "Azur, Jacob - all of you, come quickly. That man Jesus we've heard about is going toward the village. People say He can heal. Maybe He CAN."

All of us hurried to leave the cave. We had to help - almost carry - some of our crippled friends, but we all managed to move toward the village. We didn't dare go too near the people, but when we saw the crowd, we began to call out, "Jesus, Jesus, Master, have pity on us!" He turned and saw us over the crowds and said, "Go, show yourselves to the priests," and then He went on His way. Azur began to cry. "The priests! All they'll tell us is that we are lepers! They'll tell us to get out and go back to our cave. *(Wailing in despair.)* Oh, He didn't hear us!"

Then I remembered the old story I had heard in the synagogue about Naaman, the Syrian captain who had leprosy. He came to Elisha hoping to be healed, and Elisha told him to go dip in the river seven times. He was hopeless, too, but when he obeyed, he was healed. I cried to my friends, "Let's do what Jesus said!" And as I quickly started toward the town, the others straggled behind me. It's almost unbelievable! But as we limped along, our sores began to rapidly heal. *(Looking at hands.)* The white spots began to disappear, fingers straightened and GREW BACK ON! We all began to be healed!

My friends hurried to show themselves to the priests, throwing away crutches and canes as they ran. *(Remembering.)* I just stood there amazed. Then I looked back, and Jesus was looking at me. I was overwhelmed with thankfulness! I ran to Him and threw myself at His feet - and thanked Him - and thanked Him - and thanked Him! I thought my heart would burst with gratitude. He touched me and blessed me. Then His eyes looked sad and He said, "Where are the nine?" All my companions were running toward town.

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Not one looked back to call thanks to the Master!

(Pause.) As my family and I walked down the streets of the city yesterday, I saw Azur and Jacob. They are completely healed. I told them what Jesus asked, and they both agreed that they would have to find Him one of these days and thank Him - maybe take Him a gift.

(Looks up.) Lord, I can still see Jesus' face as He asked, "Where are the nine?" Lord, I don't know about my friends, but help me to always have a thankful heart. Yes, for my physical healing, but most of all for the deep healing of my soul and heart.

You have healed my body, soul, and spirit, and my heart overflows with gratitude and love. I will spend the rest of my life serving you. *(Exits, hands lifted, saying softly.)* Thank you, Jesus, Thank you, Lord.

The End

End of Freeview

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