

The persistent widow

(Lk 18:1-8)

Two people. Best if Director is male.

Scene: *Judge sitting at desk with phone/intercom. Intercom gives voiceover of secretary from outer office. In congregation will be sitting the “director” of the skit. (OR Director can voiceover Secretary and then voiceover Director)*

Secretary: Excuse me Judge Rippoffovich, that widow is on the phone again – she really wants to talk to you about revising your assessment of her husband’s estate.

Judge: [*poking button on phone*] Look Ms Peachey, didn’t I tell you to tell her that I was in a meeting next time she called.

Secretary: Yes Judge Rippoffovich but this was the twentieth meeting you had – and that was only for today!

Judge: So, I’m a busy man!

Secretary: Yes Judge but incredible as it may sound, getting the same answer twenty times a day for the last month may have made her just a tad, well, incredulous.

Judge: Ms Peachey – I don’t pay you for your cynicism thank you!

Secretary: Well, that’s just the point Judge – I can’t get my work done with her ringing all the time.

Judge: Well, you’re a resourceful girl. Think of a way of dealing with her.

Secretary: I know, what about you just talking to her Judge Rippoff...ovich.

Judge: That’s quite enough of that! [*pause*] Alright, look ... you know I don’t curry favour with any man – or woman for that matter – of any colour or creed.

But just to get her, and you, off my back set up an appointment with her for next week. I’ll need the weekend to prepare for it!

Secretary: Thank you God!
Judge: Well you don't have to elevate me to that level
Ms Peachey – you know I'm not a God-fearing man.
Secretary: You don't know what G.O.D stands for you Great Old D...
Judge: Thank you Ms Peachey, that will be all!

[Director steps up from congregation OR Voiceover]

Director: That was great! Mind you, I think having Anne doing Ms Peachey will work better next week.
Judge/Actor: I don't know – you made a good Ms Peachey!
Director: Thanks Jimmy, your all heart. Anyway, I don't think we need to rehearse it again. If you can keep it like that for next Sunday that should go over very well!
Judge/Actor: By the way, and look, call me dumb but what exactly is the point of this skit?
Director: Well, it's a contemporary version of the parable Jesus told about the persistent widow.
Judge/Actor: Yes, that's all well and fine, but what is the parable trying to say? That we should love one another and be more than a little painful on occasion?
Director: No, no no – that's not it at all! It's about prayer!
Judge/Actor: Oh, that is so obvious...NOT!
Director: Look, all Jesus was illustrating was that if even if the unworthy Judge felt compelled to see that justice was done for the woman because of her persistence, how much more would our God, who is worthy, listen to our prayer.
Judge/Actor: You mean that those who pray in faith, and persevere in their praying, will surely see God's justice?
Director: Yes, that's right!
Judge/Actor: *[Walking off]* Are you sure you don't want play Ms Peachey next week? It's bound to get a few laughs.
Director: Just keep on walking Jimmy...