

Boasting and Riches

James 4:13-17, Luke 12:13-21

Narrated Drama - script by Sandy Galea. An adaptation of N. Butterworth and M. Inkpen's 'The Rich Farmer'.

Main Point - It is very stupid to boast about what you will do and the money you will make. We don't know what will happen.

Instructions:

The smallest box is on the table at beginning of play. Other boxes are within easy reach.

Need:

- Narrator
- Farmer
- 3 children dressed as
 - rabbit
 - cow
 - bird
- Props
 - moneybag
 - child's wheelbarrow
 - shovel
 - carrots, corn, lettuce
 - three barns of varying size made from boxes: small, medium, big, (e.g. washing machine size)
 - fourth barn is a drawing of a barn that can be shown on a screen
 - data projector
 - large table with blanket over it to place boxes on

Script

(Narrator)

In James chapter four we are warned about boasting.

Boasting about what we are going to do and the money we

Actions

Small barn is on stage, on top of table.

Narrator enters, moves to centre stage and addresses audience.

are going to make.

Jesus told a story about a man who boasted.

He boasted about what he was going to do and the money he was going to make.

And Jesus said he was a fool.

Let me remind you of the story Jesus told.

(pause)

There once was a farmer.

He was a very rich farmer.

He was rich because his soil was good.

And his corn grew faster than all the other farmers.

So at harvest time he had much more corn than all the other farmers.

He was happy.

But the farmer had a problem.

He had heaps of corn.

His old barn was too small to store all the corn.

It was far too small!

So the farmer had a think.

"Um!"

At last he said,

"No worries!

I will knock down this old barn and build a bigger, better barn.

Narrator moves to one side of stage.

Enter farmer.

Farmer pats moneybag.

Farmer mimes grabbing a handful of soil, nods.

Farmer exits, wheels on wheelbarrow with corn in it.

Farmer holds up corn.

Farmer smiles.

Farmer scratches head.

Farmer looks at the corn.

Farmer looks at small barn.

Farmer points, mimes words, 'Too small'.

Farmer scratches head.

Farmer repeats.

Farmer repeats.

Farmer repeats.

Farmer repeats.

Then next year, I will be rich.

Rich enough to have a rest.”

So the farmer set to work.

He pulled down the old barn,

and he built a new bigger, better barn.

But, at harvest time the next year, the new barn was still not big enough.

You see the farmer had been greedy.

He had planted even more corn.

And some carrots as well.

The bigger, better barn was just too small!

The farmer said to himself,

“No worries.

I will build an even bigger, better, super-doooper barn.

Then next year, I can have a really great holiday.”

So the farmer pulled down the barn and he built a bigger, better, super-doooper barn.

But at harvest time the next year, even the bigger, better, super-doooper barn was not big enough.

Again the greedy farmer had planted more corn, more carrots, and a few lettuces as

Farmer repeats.

Farmer repeats.

Farmer mimes tearing down small barn.

Farmer exits, returns with medium size box, places it on the table.

Farmer exits.

Farmer enters with wheelbarrow full of corn and carrots, eyes wide with greed.

Farmer holds up corn.

Farmer holds up carrots.

Farmer tries to push carrots and corn into barn, gives up.

Farmer repeats.

Farmer repeats.

Farmer repeats.

Farmer mimes tearing down medium barn, exits, re-enter carrying large barn, places it on the table.

Farmer exits, enters with wheelbarrow full of corn, carrots and lettuce, eyes wide with greed.

Farmer tries to push carrots, corn and lettuce into barn, gives up.

well.

The bigger, better, super-duper barn was just too small!

(pause)

So the farmer said,

“I will build the most spectacular barn in all the world.

Then I will be so rich,

I will never have to work again!”

So the farmer pulled down the barn, and he built a barn that was enormous.

It was higher than the tallest tower.

When he had finished building the barn the farmer smiled and said,

“Tomorrow I will harvest my corn, carrots and lettuce.

And when that is done I can have some fun!

I know what I'll do!

I'll have a party!”

But that very night, while the farmer was asleep, he died.

Just like that!

The birds came ate up all his

Farmer shakes his head.

Farmer repeats.

Farmer repeats.

Farmer repeats.

Farmer mimes tearing down barn.

Data projector on.

Farmer then waves his hands and an enormous barn comes on the screen.

Farmer indicates its height.

Farmer wipes his hands twice as if to say, ‘Job done!’

Farmer repeats.

Farmer repeats.

Farmer repeats.

Farmer repeats.

Farmer sleeps standing up.

Farmer snores loudly.

Farmer dies dramatically.

Pause.

Pause.

Enter bird, picks up corn, eats

corn.

The cows came ate up all his carrots.

The rabbits came ate up all his lettuces.

And the biggest, grandest barn in all the world stood empty.

The rich farmer never did get to have a party.

He never got time to enjoy being rich.

and exits with corn.

Enter cow, picks up carrots, eats and exits with carrots.

Enter rabbit, picks up lettuce, eats and exits with lettuce.

Narrator indicates barn.

(Narrator moves to centre stage and addresses the audience)

What a foolish man!

He made plans, he boasted about his plans and he was confident that his money would allow him to live out his plans.

But he failed to live long enough to do what he planned.

In James chapter four it says that we are like a mist.

We are here one day and gone tomorrow.

We do not know what will happen today, tomorrow, next week, next year.

So children, don't boast about your plans. Instead live each day...