

MAROONED

Copyright © 2016 by Barry Chant

These two skits designed to demonstrate how gifts of the Holy Spirit are not necessarily permanent but bestowed on us according to need. Feel free to give the characters names to suit your local context. Use real names if you like. (In fact, the use of real names will add to the humour if the actors are known to the audience.) It is important to convey the double meaning in the final lines in each scene and to make sure they are dramatically spoken and acted and clearly understood by the audience.

SCENE ONE

A and B are marooned on a desert island.

A: *(Holding stomach and moaning loudly)* Oooh, I don't feel so well.

B: What's wrong?

A: It must have been that seaweed and sea snail supper we ate last night.

B: I'm OK.

A: Well, I'm not. *(Holding stomach and writhing in pain)* Oooh, I feel terrible.

B: I'm sorry to hear it.

A: Can you pray for me?

B: Maybe I can give you a word.

A: A word? What are you talking about? *(More groans and moans, holding of tummy etc).* Oooh! I don't need a word. I need healing.

B: But I don't do healing. Now if you'd like a prophecy...

A: *(Raises voice)* I don't want a prophecy. I want to get rid of – oooh – this rotten pain. Oooh, I'm gonna die if you don't something *(maybe even collapse on floor at this point with cries of agony and distress.)*

B: All right. Listen. *(B adopts sermon tone, raises voice as if speaking to large crowd, extends hand to A.)* This is the word of the Lord. *(A continues groaning.)* Because you have walked in the paths of righteousness all the days of your life, and because you have honoured the Lord with the first fruits of your substance, yea, I the Lord am pleased with you. And even though you walk through the valley of death, I will be with you and comfort you. So I the Lord say unto you that this is a time to be steadfast and immovable...

A: *(Interrupting)* PLEASE, I don't need a prophecy right now. I need – oooh – healing. I'm dying *(writhes)*. Pray for me. Lay hands on me. Oooh. Anoint me with coconut oil. Oooh! Do something!

B: Sorry, I don't do healing. I only do prophecies.

A: Oooh. *(Grits teeth)* So do I. And I prophesy that if I recover from this sickness I personally am going to lay hands on YOU!!!... *(Holds hands up as if to strangle B.)*

B runs for his life. A staggers off after him.

SCENE TWO

If the same two people are playing the parts as in the first scene, they swap roles – A now becomes B.)

A: We'll never get off this stupid island. We'll be here till we die.

B: Cheer up, something will turn up.

A: I'm so discouraged.

B: Things could be worse.

A: Worse!! How much worse could they get? (*Sniffs and pouts.*) We haven't got any decent food. Our clothes are rotting off our backs. The water will probably run out soon. We haven't seen even a sign of a ship passing by. The aeroplanes are so high up they will never spot us. (*Begins to sob loudly.*)

B: (*Cheerily*) We still have each other.

A: Can't you say something helpful for a change?... What I need right now is a word from the Lord. (*More sobs.*)

B: That would be nice.

A: Prophecy to me!

B: What?

A: Prophecy to me! Give me a word! Pleeaaaase!! (*Falls on knees and holds up hands as if begging.*)

B: You know me. I don't do prophecy... I only do healing.

A: I – DON'T – NEED – HEALING! I'm not sick. I want a word from the Lord.

B: Sorry. No can do. Let me lay hands on you for healing.

A: (*Shouting and backing away*) Get your hands off me!!

B: Are you sure you don't want me to lay hands on...

A: (*Interrupting*) NO! Leave me alone!

B: Perhaps I could anoint you?

A: NO! Go away! Prophecy to me or move to another island!!

B: Are you sure you don't need healing?

A: NO! I do not !(*A glares at B with fists clenched as if about to punch B.*) But the way you're going right now there's a very good chance YOU might.

B backs away and A storms off in frustration.

You can download and reproduce this script for personal use or for free distribution to groups such as your local church Bible study group or Christian fellowship. Please include

the following acknowledgement: 'Copyright © 2016 by Barry Chant. Reproduced with permission from www.barrychant.com.'