



Whirlwind Ranch

VBS/Camp 2016

Skit/Melodrama

What's the Number for 911?



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*Written as a stand-alone People Skit in four scenes to coordinate with Whirlwind Ranch VBS/CAMP 2016.
Scenes can be combined or adjusted for fewer presentations.*

Setup: Scene One is a Spring evening sitting on the porch of the house watching a Texas storm roll in.

Earlene	Wife of Jarred. She is a little on the sarcastic side with her comments. Facial expressions and body language are easily readable.
Jarred	Husband of Earlene. He halfway listens to his wife and seems laid back, that is, until his truck is gone; somewhat of a redneck fellow.
EMS Personnel	Various EMS type folks such as Fire, rescue, first responders. [Scene #3]
Narrator	Never seen; only heard reading his lines.
Coughing People	[Scene #3.]

Appropriate music plays in the background to build up the entrance and assist with exiting. We suggest something like the Theme Music from *The Dark Knight* Movie.

Props Personnel: Use box fans or if you have access to a large industrial or barn fan. Personnel will need to turn them on at the appropriate cue.

Need an audio [perhaps from YouTube] of a tornado/severe storm siren.

SCENE ONE:

MUSIC UP and build for about 90 seconds before diminishing for characters to speak. Continue to play softly in background throughout the scene and then bring back up in volume after the final dialogue of the scene. Play for an additional 60-90 seconds at the end.

[Earlene and Jarred are sitting on the front porch of their home. There is a Texas Spring Storm brewing in the Southwest. While the initial music is playing you can see they are having a conversation that we cannot hear as they are pointing to the sky.]

Earlene: Those clouds are starting to look GREEN.

Jarred: *[Spoken with a slight sarcastic tone.]*

Oh, Earlene, you think every time a little rain cloud shows up that is gonna' be a TOR-NA-DA !

Earlene: Jarred, you won't think it's so funny if you don't go pull your truck under the carport! That cloud is GREEN, I tell you; it's got HAIL in it.

Jarred: AWWW, Earlene, you are ALWAYS finding something wrong or bad to worry about!

Earlene: Fine! Go ahead, have it YOUR way.

Jarred: *[Laughs]* I remember the time you had all the kids piled up in the bathtub with a blanket pulled down over their heads.

Earlene: SO!? *[Getting disgusted]* What's your point?

Jarred: *[Still chuckling]* Nothing; nothing at all; except it was all good ...that is, until Daryl turned the shower on! *[Laughs]*

Earlene: Jarred! *[Hits him on the arm]* Be still and listen!

Jarred: What?

Earlene: Don't you hear that?

Jarred: Hear what?

Earlene: The wind pickin' up!

Jarred: Picking up what?! *[Laughs out loud]*

[Have a props person turn on a box fan so the breeze is starting to be noticeable.]

Earlene: *[Stands up & proceeds to go inside the house]* Jarred, that is **NOT** funny!

Jarred: Oh, it's just a BREEZE!

[Turn on all fans; add a little dust/dirt/confetti to fly by them. For example, whole wheat flour makes a suitable dust effect.]

Earlene: I'm going inside!

Jarred: AWWH, FRAIDY CAT!! What can go wrong? We've never been hit at our house by a tornado before? It won't happen to me!

Earlene: *[As she now is standing with her back to Jarred, like she was going inside the house. She pauses and turns around just enough to speak to him.]* FINE Jarred, you just sit out here and get blown away. But you just remember, I TOLD YOU SO!

Just because it ain't happened yet, doesn't mean it won't.

Jarred: *[Keeps on chuckling at Earlene.]* Blah, blah, blah, Okay, Okay!

Earlene: *[As she disappears into the house or off stage we hear her say....]*

Prepared, NOT SCARED, PREPARED, Jarred, that's my motto.

Jarred: *[Thinking out loud to himself.]* Yeah, what could happen? What could go wrong?

[Tornado Sirens begin to wail in the distance! The lights go out! Loud crashing noises! Then silence while we are sitting in the dark.]

Narrator: Tune in tomorrow when we hear Jarred say.....

Jarred: Oh great, she is never gonna let me live this one down!

MUSIC UP

SCENE TWO:

MUSIC UP

[Scene opens with debris everywhere. Suggest that you spread a tarp and cover in debris. Have Jarred waiting under the tarp so that he may enter at appropriate time.]

Earlene: *[Carrying a flashlight; Scene is dimly light. Runs onto the scene as she is tripping over storm debris; throws some debris around in a panic.]*

JARRED!!! JARRED!!! Where are you? ARE YOU OKAY???

Jarred: *[Crawls his way out from under the mess of debris; debris going everywhere.]*

SHINE THE LIGHT OVER HERE!

Earlene: Are you okay, Jarred?

Jarred: Where's my truck?! Where's my truck?!

Earlene: *[She puts her hands on her hips in total disgust.]* Your truck?! The FIRST thing you want to know about is YOUR TRUCK?

Jarred: Yeah! It's an **OLD RELIC!** It's **IRREPLACEABLE!**

Earlene: What about me?!

Jarred: *[Jumping around all excited and scared.]* OKAY, Earlene.....

Earlene: Yes, Jarred?

Jarred: You can go look that way. *[Points to his right.]* And I will go look the other way. *[Then he runs in the other direction looking for his truck.]*

Earlene: *[Stands with her hands on her hips and her mouth open in surprise and disgust.]*
[After a couple of seconds she yells towards Jarred.] Jarred, did you remember to pay the Truck Insurance Premium last month? Jarred?

Jarred: *[Runs back on stage very quickly; leans into Earlene's face and calmly looking her directly in the eye, comments.]*
I thought you paid it.

Earlene: I told YOU to pay it Jarred!

Jarred: Well, I THOUGHT YOU had it covered Earlene!

Earlene: You NEVER LISTEN to me!

Jarred: I hear you talking all the time, Earlene. [pause] I just don't listen!

Earlene: Oh great! What ELSE can go wrong?

[Suddenly Earlene and Jarred both have trouble standing as the ground beneath them trembles They continue to have trouble standing as they are apparently in the middle of an earthquake.]

Jarred: Earlene, I think that TORNADO might have picked us up and sat us down someplace else!!!!

Earlene: **Kansas?!**

Jarred: NO, it's more like **SAN FRANCISCO!** HOLD ON, it's an **EARTHQUAKE!!!!!!**

Earlene: WHY is all of this happening? What did we **DO** to deserve all of this? Why is God letting this happen to us? What else can go wrong?

Jarred: *[Spoken to the side as if Earlene cannot hear:]* Your mom could come to live with us!

Narrator: Jarred and Earlene have survived the TORNADO! Now they face an earthquake.
Stay tuned when next time we hear.....

Earlene: Jarred, Call 9-1-1.

Jarred: I CAN'T!

Earlene: Why not?

Jarred: I don't know the number for 9-1-1!

MUSIC UP

SCENE THREE:

MUSIC UP

[Jarred and Earlene are sitting on a concrete block. They have Band-Aids, make-shift arm slings, and bandaged heads & they look forlorn and pitiful. EMS personnel are walking to and fro. Blue& or Red lights are seen from emergency response vehicles. A recording plays in the background with emergency response chatter over the radios.]

Earlene: First a TORNADO *[as she leans over and emphasizes her next phrase]* like I TOLD you was coming, came.

Then an EARTHQUAKE! And we don't even live in California or Oklahoma!

Jarred: I think SOMEONE is out to GET us!

Earlene: You don't mean???

Jarred: Yeah, I do. It's got to be *[pause]* GLOBAL WARMING!

Earlene: Well, that's a relief! I thought you were going to say **God was out to get us!**

Jarred: Well, I may not be the brightest bulb in the chandelier or I may be one taco short of a combination plate or maybe I am a few fries short of a happy meal...one of those. But anyway, I do know this one thing.

Earlene: What's that?

Jarred: What's what?

Earlene: What's the ONE THING you know?

Jarred: God is not out to **GET** anybody. We just sort of get a little BUSY and get a little SIDETRACKED when it comes to listening to God. *[Pause]* Sometimes. *[She is staring at him.]* Well, a lot of times.

[Person goes by with mouth covered and coughing & in a big hurry.]

Earlene: So you think He is trying to tell us something?

Jarred: Well, maybe, I mean, I don't know, well, maybe. It's probably just a bunch of **BAD LUCK**. You know, like on the old television show Hee Haw:

[Begins to sing Hee Haw song.]

Doom despair and agony on me; deep dark depression, excessive misery.

Earlene: *[She joins in.]* If it weren't for bad luck, I'd have no luck at all. Doom Despair, and Agony on Me!

Earlene: You know **THEY** say that bad things come in threes.

[More people are running by now coughing. One man has a handkerchief to his face. People seem to be in a panic and running.]

Jarred: *[Stops one of the people running by.]*

Excuse me! What's going on?

Person: It's a WILDFIRE; It's spreading! Run for your life! *[Coughs and runs.]*

[As they both get up to run, Jarred has one more thing to say.]

Jarred: **Well, I am glad this streak of bad luck is about over, Earlene!**

Earlene: What do you mean?

Jarred: Bad things come in threes; this is the third.

[Jarred and Earlene run out after the other coughing people.]

Narrator: What will it take for Earlene and Jarred to hear the voice of God? Tune in next time when we hear Jarred say.....

Jarred: **Earlene, what's the number for 911 anyway?**

MUSIC UP

SCENE FOUR:

MUSIC UP

[Still bandaged up Earlene and Jarred face their dilemma.]

Earlene: Jarred, first our house gets hit by a tornado, then we have an earthquake, and then we have to run for our lives from a fire! We must be in **BIG TROUBLE** with God.

Jarred: *[Sarcastically]* What makes you think that?

Earlene: Just look at all of the **BAD LUCK** we have had!

Jarred: **Well, that's just where you are totally WRONG, Earlene.**

Earlene: **WRONG?**

Jarred: God just does not work that way! People get all mixed up when it comes to the character of God! For one thing: God does not believe in LUCK! Good or bad.

Earlene: And I suppose that you are an EXPERT on the character of God?!

Jarred: NOPE. But I have read the BOOK. *[Holds up a Bible.]*

Earlene: Oh me, too. I mean I go to Worship.

Jarred: Going to Worship and jumping around waving your arms around does not mean you know how to listen to God, Earlene.

Earlene: But it FEELS SO GOOD, to sing and "get into the moment." *[Waves her arms.]*

Jarred: My point exactly.

If I didn't talk to you every day, if I just didn't speak to you, what would you think? Would you think that I cared?

Earlene: But we do talk every day, Jarred, **we have to**; we are married.

Jarred: **But what if I JUST TALKED ABOUT you and never to you?**

Earlene: Then we really wouldn't know much about each other! I mean, how would you know when I wanted you to mow the yard, or to carry out the trash?

Jarred: Maybe there would be some advantages after all!

Earlene: What'd you say?!

Jarred: I was trying to make a point.

Earlene: We would not REALLY know each other.

Jarred: Exactly, it would not be a REAL relationship at all. I doubt we would have ever gotten married in the first place if all I did was **TALK ABOUT** you instead of **talking with you.**

Earlene: So what has this got to do with God?

Jarred: Let me show you something. *[Picks up the Bible and reads.]*

1 Kings 19:11b-12 ...**but the Lord was not in the wind;** and **after the wind an earthquake; but the Lord was not in the earthquake;** **And after the earthquake a fire;** **but the Lord was not in the fire;** **and after the fire a still small voice.**

Earlene: You mean while all of this stuff was happening to us, God was trying to get our attention to TALK to us?

Jarred: YES, He has just been just getting our attention so that **HE COULD talk to us and we would LISTEN.**

[Start music in background softly.]

Narrator: Just like Earlene and Jarred we all have times we neglect to communicate with God.

The Bible, God's Word says:

James 4:8a Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you.

Before you are a Christian, before you are saved, you cannot get close to Him. You have a choice to make today. Either you are His, or you are not. It is a choice you must make. Jesus is waiting for your decision.

MUSIC UP

Ron & Francine Singleterry

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