

``Boxes''

A Skit by Greg Beastrom

LIGHTS UP

FOUR PEOPLE each standing inside a small box. On one box is a sign that reads ``FEAR''. On another is a sign that reads ``PRIDE''. On another is a sign that reads ``UNBELIEF''. And on the final box is a sign that reads ``IGNORANCE''.

Each of the four individuals are primping their respective box, maybe dusting it or fidgeting with it in some way. Suddenly, JESUS appears from stage left and rushes over to them.

JESUS  
Oh, there you are!

FEAR is momentarily startled.

FEAR  
You scared me!

PRIDE  
Jesus! Where have you been? It seems like ages  
Since we've seen you.

JESUS  
I've been wondering where you all have been. I'm  
In the middle of doing something so new and so  
Exciting - well, I want you all to be a part of it.

The four become very excited.

IGNORANCE  
Well is it a big secret or can you tell us what  
You're doing?

JESUS  
Okay, I can give you a little hint - it all begins  
With this -

He leans over to the four of them and whispers. Their mouths  
drop wide open.

UNBELIEF  
I don't believe it!

FEAR  
Are you sure that's safe?

CONTINUED

IGNORANCE

I'm not sure I understand.

PRIDE

Well I can see that you're gonna need MY help.

JESUS

Didn't I tell you it was exciting? Like I said,  
I want you all to be a part of it so - come on  
And follow Me.

ALL FOUR

Right!

Jesus begins to exit stage left. The four begin marching around in their boxes. Jesus pauses before He exits. He notices they are not following. Jesus walks back over to them.

JESUS

What're you doing?

PRIDE

What do you think, Lord? We're following you.

JESUS

Following Me? You never moved.

UNBELIEF

I can't believe you said that. Don't you see how  
Much we're moving here? Of course we're following  
You.

JESUS

Okay, let's try this again. Follow Me, we're going  
Over here. Do you understand?

IGNORANCE

We're right behind You!

JESUS

Good! Let's hurry!

Jesus begins to exit stage left again. The four march in their boxes even more vigorously. Jesus pauses, looks back at them and walks back, incredulous.

FEAR

Is there a problem, Lord?

CONTINUED

JESUS

Just what part of 'follow Me' didn't you understand?

IGNORANCE

I don't understand!

JESUS

I mean for you to step out of your little boxes and Follow Me over there.

PRIDE

Did you say 'step OUT' of our boxes?

UNBELIEF

I don't believe it!

FEAR

And follow You - Waaaay over there?

JESUS

Yes! Yes! That's exactly what I mean!

The four glance at each other, then quickly shake their heads.

IGNORANCE

I can't leave this box, Lord. It's all I know. These four corners are my life. At 7:00 AM I go to This corner. At noon, I go to that corner. 6:00 PM I go to this corner. And I end my day back here. I Wouldn't know how to do anything else. You might as Well ask me to change my whole life.

JESUS

Well that's the idea.

PRIDE

Do you know how long it took me to get my box into This shape? I have the perfect box now. It's not Too big, it's not too small. It appeals to every Type of person. Everyone loves my box. In fact, Everybody always tries to copy it because they See how successful I've been. I can't just up and Leave it because You want to do something new.

UNBELIEF

Yeah! In fact, how do I know this is really You And not some counterfeit? I mean why would God Require us to take such a risk if it means leaving What we're so comfortable with. Why should we Believe You?

CONTINUED

JESUS  
My sheep know My voice.

UNBELIEF  
Oh - yeah - I guess You're right. Okay, so what  
Are You doing over there that You can't do right  
Here? I mean right here is just as good as way  
Over there.

FEAR  
Waaay over there!

JESUS  
You know, if I want to do My work in Outer  
Mongolia, what's that to you? I want you to  
Follow Me.

IGNORANCE  
And we will follow You, Lord. Right here in our  
Boxes.

FEAR  
Where it's safe!

JESUS  
You mean you would rather stay here in these  
Cramped little boxes, doing the same thing you've  
Always done, instead of experiencing the fullness  
Of what I want to do with you?

PRIDE  
My box is perfect.

UNBELIEF  
My box is proven.

IGNORANCE  
My box is comfortable.

JESUS  
So none of you are willing to follow Me?

PAUSE.

FEAR  
I'm willing.

IGNORANCE  
You?

CONTINUED

UNBELIEF  
I don't believe it!

PRIDE  
But you're the weakest one of all of us. You're  
Afraid of your own shadow.

FEAR  
I'm sick of living this way. Sure it's safe -  
But I'm completely unfulfilled. I want my life  
To change. I want to become everything God wants  
Me to be. Don't you?

PRIDE  
We are everything WE want to be.

The three others turn around with their backs to the audience. Jesus reaches His hand out to Fear and leads his/her out of the box.

FEAR  
Are you sure it's gonna be okay?

JESUS  
Relax, I will never leave you nor forsake you.  
Come, let's go.

FEAR  
Oh wait a minute.

Fear turns and takes the sign on the box that reads "FEAR" and turns it over. It now reads "CONFIDENCE".

Now I'm ready.

JESUS  
(to audience)  
"Do not remember the former things, nor consider  
the things of old. Behold I will do a new thing,  
now it shall spring forth; shall you not know of it?"

Jesus and Fear exit stage left.

LIGHTS OUT