

# THE J. C. CLUB

A Skit by Greg Beastrom

Lights up:

Int. JC clubhouse - DAY

(Note: This is a satire on the Mickey Mouse Club.)

In march the MEMBERS of the JC CLUB, all bright-faced, extra wide plastic smiles, vibrant, exaggerated movement and lots of sickeningly obnoxious giggly exuberance. They all wear the same T-SHIRTS or SWEATERS and FAKE HALOS on their heads. They begin the CLUB SONG (sung to the tune of the Mickey Mouse Club song):

ALL MEMBERS

Who's the leader of the club that's made for you and me? J-E-S- U-S-C-H-R-I-S-T! Hey there! Hi there! Ho there! We're as happy as can be! J-E-S-U-S-C-H-R-I-S-T! Jesus Christ! Jesus Christ! Forever we will hold our heads up high! High! High! High! Who's the leader of the club that's made for you and me? J-E-S-U-S-C-H-R-I-S-T!

Their captain, JIMMY comes to the front as the rest of the group circles around in formation.

Unbeknownst to them, another BOY ENTERS and watches them. He does not wear the same clothes but is dressed in STREET CLOTHES.

JIMMY

Okay, Christians! Sound off!

PATTY

I'm Patty!

CHUCKIE

I'm Chuckie!

ANNETTE

I'm Annette!

BILLY

I'm Billy!

LORI

I'm Lori!

JIMMY

I'm Jimmy!

CUBBY

And I'm Cubby!

They all CHEER. When they stop, they turn to SEE the boy standing off to the side of them.

ALL MEMBERS

WHO ARE YOU?

BOY

Me? Well, I'm just a little shy.

ALL MEMBERS

HELLO SHY.

BOY

No, you don't understand --

JIMMY

Do you want to be part of the Jesus Christ Club, Shy? Is that why you're here?

BOY

I - I guess so.

JIMMY

Well the first thing you need to know is the rules, right kids?

ALL MEMBERS

RIGHT!

ANNETTE

(steps up)

First! You have to LOOK like all of us.

She CURTSIES and moves back. The group surrounds the boy and puts the same SHIRT and FAKE HALO on him.

CUBBY

(steps up)

Then you have to ACT like us.

BOY

How do I do that?

LORI

You have to smile so wide, your ears start to lose blood flow.

She SHOWS HIM and he tries to copy her. She turns and helps him finally forcing him into a very uncomfortable GRIN (like a Cheshire Cat). You can see the PAIN in his eyes.

BILLY

Then you have to exaggerate your response to everything! Like when you're excited.

Everyone JUMPS UP AND DOWN SQUEALING with delight.

CHUCKIE

Or when you see something funny.

Everyone FALLS ON THE FLOOR in FAKE HYSTERICS.

PATTY

Then you have to say the same things WE SAY, like --

CUBBY

Praise the Lord!

LORI

The Cross is a PLUS SIGN!

BILLY

(taps Boy in the head)

Forgive me. God's not finished with me yet.

JIMMY

Just remember that once you become part of our club, you must always be happy! That's what being a member is all about.

BOY

But what if I don't feel happy?

JIMMY

That's okay, Shy. As long as you ACT like you're happy, then everyone will want to be your friend.

BOY

It just seems like so much to get to know. I mean, what if I'm sad? Or what if I don't feel like wearing the same thing everyone else does? What happens then?

A sudden and serious HUSH descends upon the group.

ANNETTE

Well Shy, it's like this. You're either one of us, or you're not. If you get with the program, we'll all get along. If you don't, we'll shun you and pretend you don't exist. After all, that's what Jesus would do, right kids?

They all cheer and break into the CLUB SONG as they EXIT. The boy remains and notices a BIBLE sitting on the ground. He picks it up.

BOY

Well, I guess I want to have friends. And I sure don't want to be excluded. I guess maybe that's what being a Christian is all about. But I still feel worried and empty.

He opens the Bible and reads:

BOY (cont'd)

'Come unto Me all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of Me, for I am meek and lowly in heart, and you shall find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.'

He closes the Bible and thinks for a moment. Jimmy ENTERS and sees him with the Bible.

JIMMY

You really shouldn't be reading things like that.

BOY

But it's the Bible.

JIMMY

That's right, but it's ALSO a two-edged sword and unless you know how to use it, you may hurt yourself. Come on, we're going to the Waterpark to have some old fashioned Christian fun!

BOY

I don't feel like going to the Waterpark. I want to learn more about what Jesus said.

The other members ENTER.

BILLY

You don't WANT to go to the Waterpark?!

The members MURMUR among themselves.

JIMMY

Look, Shy, if you would just ACT like we do, all your problems will be solved. You don't have to read the Bible or anything else like that. Just have FUN!

BOY

I don't want to just have fun! I want Jesus to come into my life! I want Him to heal me and make me new! I don't want to be like you! I want to be like Jesus!

ANNETTE

But we ARE like Jesus!

BOY

You look happy on the outside, but I bet you're all miserable on the inside. Look! Look at Chuckie!

Chuckie is off to the side sneaking a DRAG on a CIGARETTE. They all turn and SEE him.

CHUCKIE

(caught)

It's for my nerves.

BOY

And look at Lori!

They turn to SEE Lori sneaking a DRINK from a WHISKEY BOTTLE. She stops and LAUGHS nervously.

LORI

What're you looking at? I'm a social drinker!

BOY

And look at Cubby!

They turn to SEE Cubby slowly pointing a GUN to his head. He stops and notices them.

CUBBY

(embarrassed)

Target practice. That's all!

BOY

You see? We don't need a "club". We all need Jesus.

JIMMY

Hey boys and girls! Don't listen to that religious zealot! Being a Christian is FUN! You don't want to give that up, do you?

BOY

Jesus said --

(opens his Bible)

"Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful on the outward, but within are full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness." I think He's saying you look great on the outside, but you're dead on the inside.

Jimmy gets upset.

JIMMY

Come on, kids! We don't need to be hearing this! Let's go to the Waterpark.

(to Boy)

I'm sorry, Shy. But if you can't be like us, we have to leave you alone.

BOY

I know you can leave me, but now I also know that I'll never be alone.

Jimmy SMIRKS and EXITS with the rest of the group. The boy goes back to reading the Bible. Suddenly, Cubby RETURNS.

CUBBY

You know, I think I want to know more about Jesus too. Besides, I'm sick of this stupid halo and uncomfortable shirt.

They both take their halos off and read the Bible together.

Lights out:

END