

# Donald Trump Meets Jesus

CHARACTERS: Donald Trump and Jesus (*Jesus is calm, sometimes amused by Donald and enjoys sharing his mind and heart*)

COSTUMES: modern day

PROPS: None; or phone and office intercom

SETTING: bare stage or office

RUN TIME: 6 minutes

SCRIPTURE/BASED ON: Matthew 10:1-4, Mark 3:13-19, Luke 6:12-16, Acts 4:13, 2 Corinthians 4:7 & 12:9

*Jesus is calm, sometimes amused by Donald and enjoys sharing his mind and heart.*

AT RISE: Donald Trump (DT) is on the phone in his office.

DT: That was an idiotic! You're fired! (*slams phone down, buzzes intercom*) Glenda, get Maurice on the phone. (*phone rings, DT answers, his face scrunches up in disgust*) Jesus Christ! (*JESUS starts walking in behind him, unnoticed by DT*) You're fired! (*He slams the phone down and we see him react as if the hackles on his back have alerted him to the presence of an unseen person behind him. Carefully he rotates around in his chair*) Who are you and how did you get past security?

JESUS: I'm Jesus Christ, Donald. You called me and I'm here. What's on your mind?

DT: Jesus? You're more likely some religious nut. (*pressing buzzer*) Security!

JESUS: Donald, Donald, Donald. You're a smart man. How did I get in here past security, unless I can walk through walls like I walked on water?

DT: I don't know. (*DT presses the buzzer again while staring at JESUS who smiles at him and sighs at his unbelief. When nothing happens DT presses the buzzer harder. Resigned to the fact security isn't coming anytime soon, DT tries another approach*) Let's say, theoretically speaking, you are Jesus Christ. I'd like to know why in the world you surrounded yourself with incompetent idiots. If you really were the son of God, you could have done a better job picking the 12 apprentices who'd take your message into the whole world. They were unschooled, rough, working class men. Not management material. (*DT leans back, crosses his arms across his chest and figures that will stump whoever is in his office*)

JESUS: I'm not surprised my choices baffle you, Donald. By the way, they are called disciples or apostles, not apprentices.

DT: (*catching himself*) Right, right. Disciples. (*sounding assertive*) I would have fired the whole lot and brought in some religious bigwigs. Maybe a general or royal.

JESUS: I'm sure you would have. (*pausing, smiling as he thinks back*) They were rather ordinary, weren't they?

DT: Yeah, I would have hired people with public speaking experience or at least some charisma, not a bunch of fishermen.

JESUS: (*laughing*) They weren't all fishermen.

DT: (*continuing on, more animated as he shares his opinion*) They had no experience or training that remotely related to their duties as your emissaries.

JESUS: But they did. Those with experience catching fish were able to translate that experience into being fishers of men.

DT: Then why not hire the right ones in the first place instead of relying on on-the-job-training?

JESUS: "My power is made perfect in weakness".

DT: (*confused by Jesus last reference but forging on, forgetting all about security*) Doubting Thomas was a poor choice too. If he wasn't full of doubts, he was depressed. I would have fired him the first time he moped around, dragging everybody down with him.

JESUS: But Thomas was loyal. Remember when Lazarus died and I set off for Bethany?

DT: (*having no clue what Jesus is talking about*) Vaguely, maybe. Remind me.

JESUS: Thomas responded to the news we were leaving for Bethany with "Let us also go, that we may die with him." Even though he was about to walk through what he considered the valley of the shadow of death, he followed me. His loyalty warmed my heart.

DT: You could have used a bodyguard. Too bad you didn't channel Simon the Zealot's energy into defending you.

JESUS: (*smiling*) I didn't need anyone to defend me. (*more seriously*) But Simon's zeal, his energy warmed my heart. He was a bit misguided, wanting to drive out the Romans and set up an earthly kingdom. I rechanneled him to drive out sin to enter a heavenly kingdom.

DT: OK. I guess the guy had something going for him. Maybe you were able to "rechannel his energies." But why choose Matthew? He colluded with the enemy. He collected taxes for the Romans.

JESUS: Matthew was skilled at collecting coins bearing the image of Caesar. He became skilled at collecting men, made in the image of God. You see, Donald, I didn't need capable men. All I needed was, as Paul once said, jars of clay.

DT: (*confused*) Jars of clay? What does that mean?

JESUS: After I died, my spirit filled those eleven like water fills a clay jar. When the religious and other earthly powers observed them, they realized they were ordinary, unschooled men. They were astonished by their words and deeds. And they noted that these men had been with me.

DT: So?

JESUS: Donald, Donald, Donald. The disciples demonstrated how it was by my power they succeeded. They showed by their very lack of everything humankind holds important, that this all-surpassing power they possessed was from God.

DT: Ok. I will concede that there's something in being able to take nobodies and turn them into somebodies. Kind of like that movie "My Fair Lady".

JESUS: I love watching people being transformed.

DT: But how in the world can you justify picking Judas Iscariot, knowing full well ahead of time what he'd do? That was plain *(trying to find a more socially acceptable term)* stu ... fooli.. .... unfathomable.

JESUS: You were thinking of "stupid".

DT: *(squirming uncomfortably but accepting Jesus' omnipotence reluctantly)* Yes, downright stupid. Why not pick Matthias in the first place rather than choose Judas who stole from you and betrayed you?

JESUS: Two separate issues, really. Matthias demonstrated great faithfulness. Although worthy of being one of the 12, he was not chosen. A lesser man would have left in disappointment, maybe even bitterness. But not Matthias. When almost everyone else left, he hung in there despite not having the special status the others had. His enduring faithfulness warmed my heart.

DT: Ok, OK. It was a characters building exercise for Matthias. I can see your point there. But why Judas? You could have picked some other fool ... *(catching himself)* I mean disciple, who would have demonstrated it was by your power they succeeded.

JESUS: I could have. But I needed to demonstrate more than my power.

DT: Huh? Power is everything. *(thinking he's catching Jesus' drift)* Unless you mean money?

JESUS: No, Donald. I mean love. I needed Judas to display my love. It is easy to love and live with and work alongside people who are lovable. But to love those who'd hurt you, hurt you to death? My lavish love was displayed by choosing Judas, knowing what I knew.

DT: Hmmm *(lost in thought momentarily absorbing this last statement then changing the subject)* Jesus, I have another question. Is hell, with all that brimstone and fire, real?

JESUS: Yes, Donald and I do hope you won't get "fired".

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