

# Pleas to God: I need a friend

CHARACTERS: 8 women, extras as desired

C is older, D younger (*at least a generation or two difference*)

COSTUMES: street clothes, A wears business attire

PROPS: none

SETTING: anywhere, 3 chairs

RUN TIME: 3 minutes

*At rise, all 4 women are quiet with their heads down. B is sitting, the rest standing each separate from the rest. A & B raise heads. W, X and Z enter, shake A's hand in turn as B looks on.*

W: (*gushy, superficially*) That was so go great; you always do such a nice job. Wish I could stay and chat but, you know. (*waves and exits*)

X: (*awed*) I don't know how you do what you do. You must be superwoman! Thanks. (*exits*)

Z: (*relieved*) I'm so glad you're here to do these things. It just wouldn't be the same without you. Gotta rush now. (*exits*)

*A visibly collapses into a chair, raises her head to God and prays)*

A: Father, Everybody's always friendly, they appreciate what I do but, Lord, it's just so superficial. I'd like to have a friend, just one friend, who I could be myself with and not feel like I had to live up to their expectations all the time.

*3-4 extras (women) pass by A shaking hands and telling her what a wonderful job she did organizing everything (whatever "everything" means). B looks on longingly. A warmly thanks them. Extras exit. A visibly collapses into a chair, raises her head to God and prays.*

A: (*weary*) Lord. I'm so tired. I'm glad to serve you but sometimes I wish I didn't have to seem so perfect. I'd like to have a friend, just one friend, who I could be myself with.

B: (*pleading*) Lord. (*indicating A*) I wish I had that many friends. I wish there was someone I could trust, who would accept me as I am.

A: Lord, just one person who'd accept me for who I am, not what I can do.

B: Lord, I'm not asking to be as popular as (*indicating A with a head tilt*). Just one friend is all I'm asking for.

A: I'm not alone, but I'm so lonely.

B: (*starts to rise, hesitates, then slumps back down in her seat*) She'd never want to be my friend. I'm nobody important. I'd just get rejected. (*bows head almost in tears*)

A: Just one, Lord? *A bows head, C & D raise their heads*

C: Lord, please send someone to that new woman who just joined our Sunday morning class. I know she

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wouldn't want to talk to me. She's so young. She wouldn't want somebody my age to talk to.

D: Lord, please send someone. It's hard being in a new place. Everyone seems to already have all the friends they need. (*glances over at D*)

C: I wouldn't know what to say to someone her age.

D: (*looking at C, then looking away*) I wouldn't know what to talk to her about. I don't have a husband or kids.

C: Lord, so many of my friends have passed on. Will I ever have any more friends? (*Bows head*)

D: I miss home. Will I ever have any more friends? *D bows head; A & B raise their heads*

B: Ok Lord. With your strength I can do this. (*stands*) I'll go talk to her. (*starts to move then hesitates*) Please don't let me be rejected. (*starts walking toward A. A turns. B reaches out. A grasps her hand. They look at each other and smile. Hold 2 beats then drop heads.*)  
*C & D raise heads. E enters and crosses to C.*

E: (*cheerfully*) Hi.

C: (*recognizing E and smiling*) Hi.

E: Let me introduce you to someone. You two have a lot more in common than you might think. (*Gently pulls her towards D. D turns around. E introduces the two of them silently like the sound on the TV is off but we can still see the action. C & D shake hands and start chatting as E moves off stage. Chat with big smiles for 2 beats. A, B, C, D all raise their eyes to Goad and say in unison:*

Thank you, Lord.