

AFRAID! The Gospel of Mark: Tech Sheets

First of all, don't worry! The show involves no sets or props, and the lighting is very simple. No church has ever had a problem! And people with no theatrical experience can easily execute the technical cues, after a run-through with Frank. If you have any concerns or questions, Frank will be happy to answer them. Just give us a call at **805 498-5154**, or email us at runyeonproductions@gmail.com.

Here is a checklist of what we will need to put on **AFRAID**:

VOLUNTEERS FOR A QUICK REHEARSAL

A group of 3-6 volunteers should be recruited for one quick rehearsal--usually two hours before the show. One or two adults overseeing a group of teenagers is fine. The tech crew's jobs will be:

3 MAJOR HELPERS:

- (1) One person runs the follow-spot (no previous experience is necessary)
- (2) The second person reads the cue-sheet for the follow-spot (they just need good hearing!)
- (3) The third person follows a simple cue sheet to turn the "stage" light on and off during the show.

2 MINOR HELPERS: A fourth and fifth person will sit in the audience and turn the side-aisle lights on and off by pushing the button on a power strip at a few moments during the play. (Spouses or friends can easily do the side-aisle lights with a quick 1-minute rehearsal, if they are unable to attend the full rehearsal.)

1 EXTRA: A sixth person could be in charge of the many candles, and/ or serve as a "stage manager." If your youth group or confirmation class is larger, and you would like them all to be involved, let Frank know. He should be able to designate some other jobs.

If you have difficulty recruiting this 3 to 6-person "crew," just let Frank know. He's flexible! But rehearsal is fun, and it's great for Frank to work with your youth or laypeople to bring the Gospel alive!

TECHNICAL NEEDS:

Beyond the volunteers and lights listed below, almost everything necessary for putting on the show is already somewhere in your building--chairs, music stands, candles, etc. The following list summarizes the technical needs. Again, if something poses a problem for you, just give us a call. We may be able to work around it!

LIGHTS:

A FOLLOW-SPOT

- **THIS IS THE ONE ESSENTIAL. PLAN NOW:** to either borrow one from a local school or theater; or to rent one from a theatrical lighting company listed in your yellow pages under Stage or Theatrical Lighting, Rent-alls, or Music Stores (usually no more than \$40-70).
- **BE SURE TO REQUEST A REPLACEMENT BULB,** just in case.
- **The color gels in the spot should be strong: red, blue, & orange/amber.**
- Ask if the fan in the follow-spot is noisy: one with a quieter fan is best.

FIVE 90-WATT WHITE HALOGEN HOUSEHOLD SPOTLIGHTS

- "**Spotlights**" are better than "**floodlights**": spotlights have a brighter center.
- If they don't have halogen, a regular 120-watt household **spotlight** is OK.
- You can pick these up at any hardware store for \$5-8 or so.
- Avoid buying spotlights that are the "Outdoor Accent" brand: poor quality.
- **Floodlights** can be used if you must!

4 POWER STRIPS

- We'll use these to control the center stage light, tomb light, and 2 side-aisle lights.

5 CLAMP LAMPS for mounting the lights (silver-bowled work lights, \$5-9 at hardware stores)

A FLAGPOLE (or "boom" mike stand)

- The center stage light will go on top of a flagpole (or boom mike stand). You can simply "undress" one of your flagpoles, and remount the flag after the performance. If you have no flagpole (or banner pole), we can use a microphone stand ("boom" mike stands with an arm are best).

IF YOU PLAN ON USING TRADITIONAL THEATRICAL LIGHTS:

- A traditional theatrical lighting pole and a theater-light with a dimmer board is of course also fine to provide center stage lighting, although it's not necessarily better. The biggest problem is the tripod. A circular weighted bottom is preferred.
- Traditional theater lights are OK for the other 4 lights, too, but 2-3 will be used at close range, so very high wattage should be avoided. These 2-3 will probably be used as "footlights," and ideally should be mounted on a board or floor mount.
- These 4 lights need to be controlled locally, not from a dimmer board, and will need their own power strips.

CANDLES AND CANDLE HOLDERS

- **2-6 tall standing candles** will be placed around your sanctuary in the side aisles (and back of the center aisle) to help set a primitive, "candlelight" mood as the audience enters. Avoid pew-attached candles on the center aisle (they block the follow spot).
- **6-12 smaller white candles** (for up front, "on stage") Old used candles are very good for these..altar candles, pillar candles, or dinner candles, mounted simply. They go up front on the right and left side of the altar. They represent the assorted candles the Christians have brought down into the catacombs.
- **And: 6-12 white votive candles** to mark the steps in the darkness (small candles in glass containers: short 1"-2" ones are better than tall ones)

AUDIO:

A WIRELESS LAPEL MICROPHONE

Although Frank sometimes performs the play without a mike, it is very helpful during the rehearsal, and, depending on your acoustics, he will probably also use it for the performance.

THE SET:

1 HIGH STOOL (TO SIT ON) AND 6-12 CHAIRS

- **A stool** for Frank to sit on--and stand on--center stage as the "storyteller." This can be a simple "kitchen counter"-type wooden high stool, or a metal artist's stool. **Avoid stools that swivel or have a back on them.** Frank will be standing on this stool for the crucifixion--make sure it is solid!
- 6-12 adult audience members (not tech crew) are invited as they arrive that night to sit "on stage" in the chairs, 3-6 on either side, in diagonal rows. Regular or folding chairs are fine. **(These 6-12 audience members require no rehearsal; they simply watch the play like the rest of the audience, men and women. Ask Frank before assigning seats!)**

4 SOLID-BACKED, BLACK MUSIC STANDS

- 2 music stands may be used to hold the side-aisle lights
- 2 stands will be used by the tech crew, to hold their lighting cue sheets.

TECH MISC:

250 FEET OF EXTENSION CORDS

You will need lots of extension cords, enough to plug in each of the lights.

Have at least 6-8 different cords, totaling 250 feet.

Ideally: two 50-foot, and six 25-foot cords. Grounded, 3-pronged extension cords are best. (Pick up 5 adaptor plugs if your outlets are not grounded!)

2 ROLLS OF DUCT TAPE

You will need lots of duct tape, to tape down the extension cords, so audience members don't trip over them going to their seats. (But don't duct tape in advance; we'll do it in rehearsal.)

A ROLL OF ALUMINUM FOIL

Frank will use the aluminum foil to focus the lights, cupping it around the clamp light shells, to narrow the light, and direct it more precisely. He will also use it to put color gels on the side aisle lights.

NON-TECHNICAL DETAILS

PROGRAMS: *Be sure make copies of the [AFRAID](#) program to hand out that night*

- The program included in the P.R. kit at our website can be used as your church's program by putting your church's name above or below the photo with the date of the performance under it.
- **PLEASE INCLUDE THE CONTACT INFORMATION ON THE BACK OF THE PROGRAM. And be sure it came out on your printer! This is how we get many of our bookings--which allow this ministry to continue!**
- The backside of the program has been left blank to provide a place to put thank you's to the technical crew, ushers, to those helping with the refreshments and child care, etc., and/or for church announcements.
- Some churches have expanded the program into a multi-page "Playbill" and sold advertising to local merchants (printing their business cards, etc.) or personal pages (like a yearbook) to raise funds. That's fine with us!
- If you have any questions about how to adapt the program, just call us! Feel free to adapt it as you wish--but **include the website, phone, and contact address!**

REFRESHMENTS

Everyone looks forward to refreshments, if you wish to provide them after the performance. They add an air of celebration and fellowship that go well with the Gospel. Coffee, milk, juice, sandwiches, cookies, pastries, potluck desserts, you name it!

CHILD CARE: *Please provide a nursery or crying-room for preschoolers, if possible.*

Children of all ages are welcome at the performance, but if a church is sponsoring, a crying room or nursery is a very good idea. Children 7 years of age and older enjoy the play tremendously, but if younger siblings get restless or noisy, it's good to have a place for them to go. Parents deserve a chance to focus on the Gospel!

PHOTOS AND AUTOGRAPHS

- Frank enjoys staying afterwards and talking with people. Photos and autographs are fine. Frank will also be happy to sign copies of the video of the show. You may make this "reception" part of publicity.
- No photos should be taken during the performance. It distracts the audience as well as Frank. Frank will arrange photo-ops for the press. Ask!

DVD's: AVAILABLE AFTER THE SHOW

Any recording of the performance is strictly forbidden by the professional theatrical unions. **DVD recordings might be on sale afterward. Ask Frank.**

HOW LONG IS THE PLAY?

- The play is 75 minutes long, with no intermission.
- If for some reason you wish the play to fit into a shorter time slot, a shorter version is available (55 minutes).

***Any other questions, call us at: [\(805\) 498-5154](tel:8054985154)
or email us at runyeonproductions@gmail.com
Frank will be happy to answer them!***