



“DELIVER US FROM EVIL”

Written by Joe Rieger

CAST

Joe: (adult leading a church event)

Frog puppet: (Albert)

Demon puppet: (black shirt and black sunglasses)

Angel puppet (white shirt)

SETTING: Puppet stage

(Joe sitting on a chair going over some items on a clipboard. Enter Albert the FROG)

JOE:

Oh, hi Albert. Well, it's the last day of our retreat. I really think everything's going well and the people are enjoying themselves. I just know that God is going to bless these families as they make prayer an important part of their daily lives.

ALBERT:

You're absolutely right. Our Heavenly Father loves to bless His children and when families are praying and fully relying on God, He'll do amazing things.

JOE:

You know it! Praise be to God!

(Enter demon puppet – decked out in black, with dark sunglasses)

(Albert sees the demon and the two “angels” stare each other down – Joe is unable to seethe demon, but senses there's a problem)

JOE:

Hey Albert, everything okay?

ALBERT:

That remains to be seen. Let me ask you something. Did you say your morning prayers today?

JOE:

Well, come to think of it ... no. Hey, I didn't get to bed till late last night and first thing this morning, I had to come down here to set up for this service.

(Joe moves closer to the puppet stage –the demon leans forward and whispers into Joe's ear)

JOE:

(Joe's expression changes to one of annoyance) Why are you getting on my case about it, I'll pray later on.

(Demon silently laughs and mocks Albert)

ALBERT:

I was only asking a question ... not getting on your case. The retreat isn't over yet and the enemy would love nothing better than to ruin things. You need to Fully Rely On God, now more than ever. You need the power of prayer!

(The demon leans over and whispers something into Joe's other ear)

JOE:

You're one paranoid little frog, do you know that? The "enemy" is nowhere near us (*demon is dancing over Joe's shoulder*). I've come this far without any problems and I can handle everything just fine from here.

(The demon keeps going from one ear to the other –whispering lies and getting Joe angrier)

JOE:

Hey, you're really starting to annoy me with all your criticism. Why don't you run along back to heaven or to your lily pad or to whatever rock you crawled out from and leave me alone. I don't need your help or anyone else's. Take a hike, Frog!

(The demon is jumping up and down, gloating over his apparent victory. Albert draws closer to Joe, shakes his head at the demon, touches Joe's arm and keeps it there. Joe suddenly snaps out of it and shakes his head in disbelief ... the demon backs off and stays away from Joe while Albert's hand is on him)

JOE:

What's come over me? Albert, I am so sorry for saying those mean things to you. None of them are true. What just happened here?

ALBERT:

Spiritual warfare my friend, spiritual warfare. You can't see the enemy, but he's here alright. He's been whispering lies into your ear from the moment you said, "The retreat is going well, praise God." The last thing the devil wants is for this retreat to be a success and for all of these families to go home and start praying.

JOE:

My pride was starting to get the best of me. I actually started believing that I could do this all on my own – even taking credit for what God was doing here.

ALBERT:

The enemy knows your weaknesses and how to use them against you and God's people. He's powerful, but he's no match for Almighty God. And when people pray, God's power is unleashed and the enemy turns and runs for cover.

JOE:

I should have known better. Ephesians chapter 6 says we need to put on the armor of God to resist the devil and his schemes. God equips us with spiritual armor for spiritual warfare – and we’re supposed to put each piece of this invisible armor on in prayer.

ALBERT:

You didn’t do that today, did you?

JOE:

No.

ALBERT:

Well, what are you waiting for? Put it on!

JOE:

Lord, give me the belt of truth- to stop the enemy’s lies.
The breastplate of righteousness – for I am righteous through faith in Christ
Give me shoes to spread the Gospel of Peace
The shield of faith to resist his flaming arrows
I need the helmet of salvation so I can have the mind of Christ
And the sword of the Spirit – the spoken Word of God

ALBERT:

God’s spoken Word is living and active – sharper than any doubled-edged sword. I’ve heard you quote scripture Joe. Start quoting!

JOE:

“Contend O LORD, with those who contend with me; Fight against those who fight against me. Take up shield and buckler; arise and come to my aid.”

(As Joe is quoting Psalm 35:1-2, the demon is frightened and starts to backpedal. Out of nowhere, a larger angel in white, lunges across the puppet stage and takes out the demon)

JOE:

Is he gone?

ALBERT:

Oh he’s gone alright.

JOE:

Good, we’ve got a worship service to do and an Awesome God to praise.

THE END