



“WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM MY FROG”

(Opening Skit:)

Written by Joe Rieger

CAST

Joe: (adult leading a church event)

Frog puppet: (Albert)

Lauren: (young girl, Joe’s daughter)

SETTING: Puppet stage

JOE:

Lord, I am so nervous about this retreat. What a huge responsibility it is to lead this thing. What was I thinking when I said yes to doing this? We'll never pull this one off without a full-blown, Class-A miracle. It'll be starting soon and I'm so not ready. I'm toast. Lord, please help me.

(Enter frog puppet, hopping back and forth)

JOE:

Oh how nice, a cute little frog.

(Frog stops and stares at Joe)

JOE:

What are you looking at? Take a hike toad! Aren't you supposed to be hibernating at the bottom of a pond or something?

FROG:

(Frog looks up to heaven) Are you sure you want me to help this guy, Lord?

JOE:

(Startled) Wait a minute! You talked ... fff-frogs can't talk.

FROG:

Hey, you're pretty quick *(Frog looks up to heaven again)* Can't I work with his wife Karen instead? She's a lot smarter. *(Bows his head down as if rebuked)*. Sorry Lord. He really does need help doesn't he? *(Looks back to Joe)* No, earthly frogs can't talk, but who says I'm from earth?

JOE:

Oh great, opening night at our big family retreat and the place is swarming with alien frogs from outer space. It just keeps getting better all the time.

FROG:

I am not and I repeat not an alien from outer space. I'm a messenger from God ... an answer to your prayer in fact. I'm here to help you with this retreat.

JOE:

What like an angel or something?

(Enter young girl -Lauren)

LAUREN:

Hi Dad. Who were you talking to?

JOE:
Believe it or not, an angelic frog sent from heaven (*points to the frog*).

LAUREN:
Dad, there's nothing over there. You're scaring me.

JOE:
He's right here (walks over to the frog) ... can't you see him?

LAUREN:
Good one Dad. I get it. Save your routine for the kids, okay. Oh, and Mom says to hurry up and get ready. It's SHOWTIME! See ya.

(*Lauren exits and Joe turns to the frog – bewildered*)

FROG:
By the way ... I'm invisible to everyone but you. Nobody else can see or hear me, so stop embarrassing yourself ... okay! And I don't care to be called an angelic frog either. Yes, I'm an angel sent by God and yes, I've come in the form of a frog ... but that's only for this one assignment. Then I'm back to being a regular angel – tall and shiny and on to other things.

JOE:
Well exxx-cuuuuuse me! Then why the frog get-up?

FROG:
I'll make this as simple as possible for you. What's the name of the retreat?

JOE:
Fully-Rely-On-God

FROG:
Now take the first letter from each of those four words, put them together and what's it spell?

JOE:
We've got a G, an O, an R, and an F – “GORF?”

FROG:
Yeah, that's it GORF. Will ya work with me here? You've got it backwards. It's Fully-Rely-On-God - F.R.O.G. – FROG. Get it?

JOE:
Ooooh, FROG. Got it.

FROG:

It's an acronym – mascot kind of thing. Anyway, here you are teaching these nice people all about the Lord's Prayer and how to become totally dependent on God for everything, and you're not following your own advice. You're trying to do this whole retreat in your own power and you're freaking out about it ... AND you're driving everyone crazy. God is with you right now. He wants this retreat to be a success and He's ready to give you all the help you need. Fully Rely On God, remember?

JOE:

You're right Frog. Sometimes I panic and try to do everything myself. I am so ready for God's help.

FROG:

Good, now you're talking. Oh by the way, my name is Albert.

JOE:

(Extends his hand and shakes with Albert) Hi Albert. I'm looking forward to working with you this weekend. Can I get you anything? Some flies perhaps, maybe some nice juicy insects or something?

FROG:

No thanks, I'm good. But hey, let's get this show started. (Start music)
Live from XXX, it's the (Name the event). With your host: YYY.

(Program begins)

THE END