

The Church Thrift Sale

Horizons Skit

Players: Four women

Props: Lots of magazines; empty cardboard boxes, lots of “yard sale”-like items here and there; a couple of tables; a sign that reads something like “First Presbyterian of Omaha Thrift Sale Benefiting the PW Birthday Offering, Saturday from 9 until 2.”

PW 1: “I had no idea just how much work is involved in preparing for a thrift sale. I’m exhausted! Hey! Who moved the price tag stickers?”

PW 2: “I know what you mean! I’ve done lots of projects in my day—from knitting blankets for our local nursing home to helping rebuild a house—and I am still amazed at just how work goes on behind the scenes for just about everything we do!”

PW 3: “How much are we charging for these magazines?” (holds up miscellaneous magazines)

PW 1: “I thought we agreed on 25 cents each or five for a dollar.”

PW 3: (opens magazine, skims pages): “You know, I really enjoy subscribing to lots of magazines but I just never seem to find enough time to read them all.”

PW 2: “I know what you mean! And I never seem to find enough space to store them until I read them!”

[All nod in agreement]

PW 1: (picks up magazine, skims cover): “Did you know that coral is the hot new color for shoes?”

PW 2: (looks over shoulder of PW 1): “Um, I think that was in 1995!”

PW 3: “That is the other problem I have! I’m always out of date and out of touch by the time I read my way through all of the stacks of magazines I have piled up.”

PW 4: “I am trying to simplify my life. You know, find the space and time for the things that matter the most to me and my family.”

PW 1: “Wow! I really could use a big dose of simplicity in my life!”

PW 2: “Me too!” [addresses PW 4] “So tell me, what do you have on your reading table?”

PW 4: “My Bible, of course. A gardening book (we hope this year brings hardier roses). The *Horizons* Bible study. And *Horizons* magazine.”

PW 2: “*Horizons* magazine? Isn’t that just for, you know, PW leaders?”

PW 4: “Not at all! It’s for all of us! Leaders, readers, everyone! Sure, *Horizons* is the place PW leaders will find dedication services about the Birthday and Thank Offering, leader installations, the Celebrate the Gifts of Women liturgy. But *Horizons* belongs to all of us! I mean, who doesn’t want to deepen our exploration of the *Horizons* Bible study? Did you know that each issue of *Horizons* features a Bible study reflection? A devotion? articles on spirituality, health, the life of our denomination?”

PW 3: [surprised] I didn’t know that. [to audience] I wonder what else I don’t know about *Horizons*.

PW 1: [pricing magazines]: “This is curious! I’m pricing all of these magazines but I don’t find a single issue of *Horizons* here! Now that’s saying something!”

PW 4: “I hope it’s saying that everyone saves her issue of *Horizons*. I know I do! It’s gratifying and enlightening to look through past issues of *Horizons* to see where we’ve been and where we plan to journey next. I hope it’s *not* because we don’t subscribe in the first place.”

PW 3: [looks sheepish] “I’m guilty of that. I mean, I just assume that someone else will subscribe to *Horizons*, that my one subscription doesn’t matter!”

PW 2: “I’m guilty too.” [glances at a couple of magazines] “Of all of these magazines, none of them are about us, Presbyterian women of faith.

Horizons magazine is the *only* one that is. Who we are, what we do, what we believe. I think it's time to think about subscribing to *Horizons*."

PW 4: "Simplifying my life is also about saving money too. We each purchase the annual *Horizons* Bible study. But did you know that if you subscribe to *Horizons* magazine, you receive, as part of your subscription, a copy of the *Horizons* Bible study? And you don't have to spend money on postage and handling. So you can spend less than 25 dollars for a year's subscription and receive the Bible study *and* six issues of *Horizons*! [to the audience] Or you can just purchase a copy of the Bible study for \$12.50 by the time you pay postage."

PW 3: [pulls stuffed animal or lamp or other prop out of box]: "Subscribing to *Horizons* is a great deal, but mostly it's a great resource for Presbyterian Women! I'm going to subscribe—[to audience] and tell others to subscribe, too. And I hope that whoever purchases this [hold up prop] does so with the same enthusiasm I have about subscribing to MY magazine, *Horizons*!"

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