

Drama Script

(DRA023)

The Ripple Effect

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DRAMA: “THE RIPPLE EFFECT” (DRA023)

- Aim of Script:** To show people that our actions have a ripple effect upon others – either for good or for bad.
- Use of Script:** In an All Age Worship service the script could be preceded by showing a YouTube video of a stone being dropped into water and then pointing out the ripples that are created by this stone. This could be followed by saying that the things we do in our lives can be a bit like the stone – they can have an effect on other people’s lives either for good or for bad, because our lives are all connected with each other.
- The script could be followed by highlighting the number of people affected by Jack’s accident and by saying that our actions have an effect on other people’s lives. You could then move into a Bible story like the feeding of the five thousand, where one little boy offering what he had to Jesus led to five thousand people being fed – a powerful ripple effect for good. The congregation could be encouraged to offer what they have to the Lord so that their actions can be powerfully used for good in other people’s lives.
- Main themes:** Our actions have an effect upon others, Community
- Biblical references:** John 6:1-13
- Cast:** Narrator, Jack (who mimes), Person with string
- Props:** Card steering wheel, mobile phone, large ball of string

.....
(Enter Narrator)

Narrator: Let me introduce you to Jack. Jack is a manager of a supermarket and every morning he drives himself to work.

(Enter Jack who stands centre stage and waves)

One Friday morning Jack was twenty minutes late leaving home for work because he had overslept.

(Jack picks up the card steering wheel and pretends to drive fast!)

Jack decided to ring his friend Bill, another manager, to let him know that he was going to be late for his first meeting, but instead of pulling off the motorway and stopping to make the phone call, Jack rang Bill while he was driving.

(Jack holds the steering wheel in one hand and picks up a mobile phone in the other hand)

As Jack sped down the outside lane of the motorway, travelling too fast, the car in front braked suddenly.

Jack tried to brake hard but lost control of his car because he only had one hand on the steering wheel.

(Jack mimes losing control of the car, spinning around and then ending up on the floor)

Before he knew it, Jack's car had hit the central reservation, spun through three hundred and sixty degrees and landed upside down on the motorway, pieces of burst tyre and glass sprinkled all over the road.

Fortunately Jack was only bruised and dazed, although trapped upside down in his car!

The traffic on the motorway all came to a halt because his car and pieces of glass and tyre totally blocked all three carriageways. Before long there was a ten mile tailback.

Let me introduce you to some of the people affected by Jack's actions that morning:

(Enter person with a ball of string. They give one end of the string to Jack to hold and then they walk down the congregation unrolling the string and giving it to the people that the Narrator mentions. This works well if the string is criss-crossed down the congregation from front to back showing a "web of connections")

In the car behind Jack was:

George who was taking his mother **Irene** to a hospital appointment. As a result of Jack's accident Irene missed her hospital appointment and had to wait six weeks for another one.

Two cars behind Frank were:

Graeme and **three members of his family** who were on their way to a funeral. As a result of the accident, they missed the funeral service and were very upset.

A few cars behind was:

Alfred who was due in court that day as a prosecution witness. He had seen an old lady mugged and was appearing before the court to give his evidence. As a result of the accident, he missed attending court and so the hearing had to be postponed, which affected the old lady, the Judge, the Jury and all the various barristers.

A few cars behind Alfred was:

Gail, who was on her way to a job interview. She had been out of work for a few months and was really excited about the possibility of getting this job. As a result of the accident Gail missed her interview and the job had already been given to someone else by the time she arrived three hours late.

A few cars behind Gail was:

Eric who was on his way to catch a flight to Brussels for a business meeting with eight other colleagues to make some important decisions about the global future of the company he worked for. As a result of the accident, Eric missed his flight and couldn't get another flight until the next day, resulting in all eight of his colleagues having to find overnight accommodation and re-arranging their busy work schedules.

Helen and **her mother** were travelling to school a few more cars behind.

Helen was due to take one of her A level papers in Biology that day. She was hoping to do really well as she needed four grade A's to take up her University place at Cambridge to study Medicine in the Autumn. As a result of the accident she couldn't take her A level paper and had to re-sit it in the Autumn, meaning her university place was delayed.

In all, as a result of Jack's accident:

- 1306 people were late for work,
- 134 children were late for school,

- 161 appointments were missed,
- 15 trains were missed and
- 20 flights were missed.

Not only were these people affected, but of course Jack needed the care of two doctors and three nurses for his forty eight hour stay in hospital, as well as the services of the police, the ambulance crew and the vehicle recovery crew.

Jack's accident had a big ripple effect on many people's lives.