

# **Ministry** **with** **Mystery** **Messages** **Lecture Notes**

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**Several of these routines can be found in one of my books (including video clips and additional digital downloads) Please consider purchasing @  
[JamieDoyleMagic.com](http://JamieDoyleMagic.com)**

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# Standing-Up Under Pressure

From the book:  
“Tricky Messages for Kids  
Book 4”

## What the Audience Sees:

Several stones representing various trials and struggles are placed into a clear, plastic tumbler. The magician has a jumbo card chosen. It is placed upright on a Bible and the tumbler is balanced on top of the card. The magician steps away from the impossible balancing act showing that the card looks as though it stands up on its own and can hold the tumbler of stones at the same time.



## Scripture References:

*“We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.”*  
2nd Corinthians 4:8-9

*“Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything...”*

*“...Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love Him.”*  
James 1:2-4 & 12

## How it Works:

You are using a flap-card that can be partially unfolded to create a support stand for the entire card as well as a way to hold the clear tumbler.

**Needed:**

- Specially made “flap” card (instructions for obtaining the graphics are at the end of this routine)
- A duplicate of the card.
- Aluminum foil, crumpled to look like small stones and spray painted with gray paint
- A clear plastic tumbler - (looks as close to glass as possible)
- A Large, hardcover Bible.



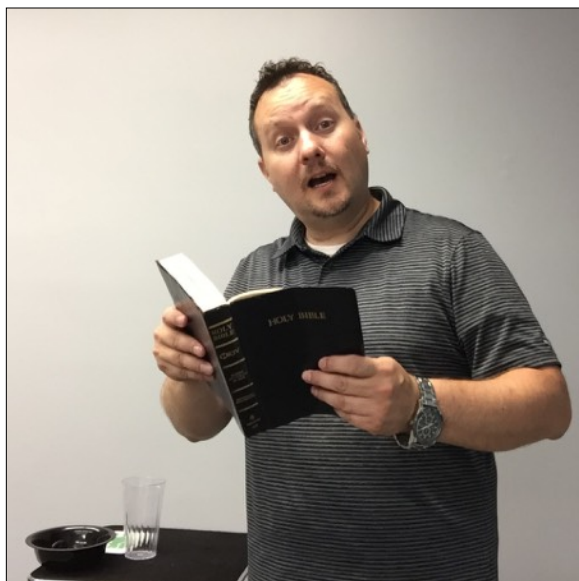
1. Construct a regular card and flap card. The flap card allows it to stand upright...



2. ...and balance the clear tumbler on its edge.



3. Secretly place the flap card into the pages of a Bible.



4. You should be able to page thru the Bible without revealing the flap card.



5. Pick up the regular flap card...





6. Show it to be a picture that represent people.



7. Place it in the pages of the Bible.



8. Display the clear plastic number. Place the fake stones into it.



9. Place all the stones into the number one at a time.



10. Place the Bible on the table and remove flap card.



11. Set it upright on the Bible.

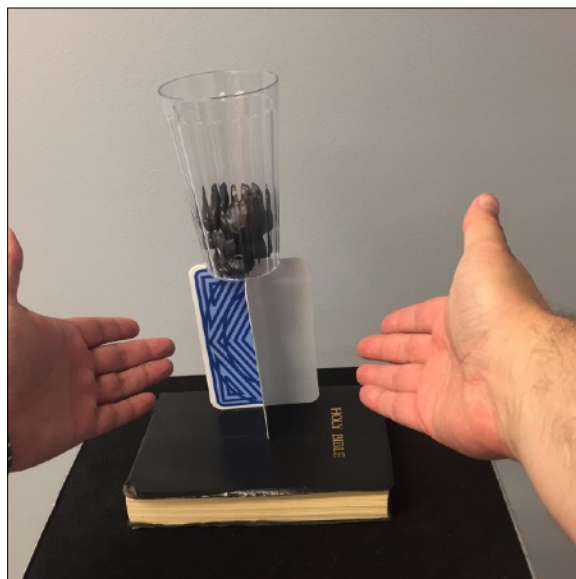


12. While placing the clear plastic tumbler onto the edge of the card, engage the flap and balance it on the front edge and the secret flap.





13. Slowly remove your hands one at a time, being careful not to nudge or bump the Bible, table, card or tumbler.



14. Allow the audience to wonder at how this is possible.



15. Pick up the card at the same time as the tumbler — folding the card as well. Quickly lay the card flat on the table and set the tumbler down on the card.



# God So Loved The World

## What the Audience Sees:

The Magician chooses to show how a trick is done by holding up a news paper that's been rolled into a cone. He pours some red liquid into the cone but it doesn't leak out. He reveals the so-called secret that there is already a glass in the newspaper. He goes on to talk about the bad news in the world as he forms the newspaper back into a cone. He proceeds to place a glass in the newspaper and talks about how God kept telling the world that He would send His son into the world, so they must be ready — but the magician removes the glass and sets it on the table next to him as he states that the world wasn't ready for Jesus to come. He proceeds to pour the liquid into the newspaper as he states that Jesus came any way. The liquid doesn't leak out. The glass is now placed back into the newspaper to represent people who are now ready to receive Jesus. The glass is removed and now it contains the red liquid. The news paper is opened to show that no water remains.

## Scripture References:

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

— John 3:16

"He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive Him"

— John 1:11

## How It Works:

You are using a commercially available trick called "The Comedy Glass in Newspaper"

## Needed:

- You will need A commercially available trick called "The Comedy Glass in Newspaper"
- A section of newspaper,
- Water,
- Food coloring dye
- Clear Pitcher

# Wages of Sin and the Gift of God

## What the Audience Sees:

A gift box is shown as empty and set aside. A large dollar bill is displayed — it's covered with all kinds of sin. The dollar is rolled into a tube and a large handkerchief with a skull and crossbones is shown to represent spiritual death. The gift box is opened and as God's gift of eternal life is discussed a large number of silk handkerchiefs are removed.

## Scripture References:

"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."  
— Romans 6:23

## How It's Done:

You are using a tube attached to the jumbo dollar and a gift box with a hidden compartment (watch the video for details).

## Needed:

- Jumbo "SIN" Dollar (available as a download), with a tube attached
- Gift box with secret flap
- Skull and Crossbones silk
- Many silks of various colors

# FROM PUNISHMENT TO REWARD

*From the book:  
“Tricky Messages for Kids Book 4”*

## Main Point:

Jesus took our place of punishment so we can receive the reward of everlasting life.

## Scripture Reference:

For the wages of sin is death,  
but the gift of God is eternal life  
in Christ Jesus our Lord.

— Romans 6:23

## What the Audience Sees:

The magician shows 2 large strips of paper. The first has the Words: “JESUS” and “REWARD” printed on it. The second has the words: “YOU & ME” and “PUNISHMENT” printed on it. The papers are used to discuss how Jesus has a great reward called Heaven and how “You and Me” have to face judgment. The papers are then cut in half and when they are displayed again, the words have switched places - now the words: “JESUS” and “PUNISHMENT” are on the same slip of paper while “YOU & ME” and “REWARD” are on the other slip of paper. Jesus took our punishment so we could have His reward.

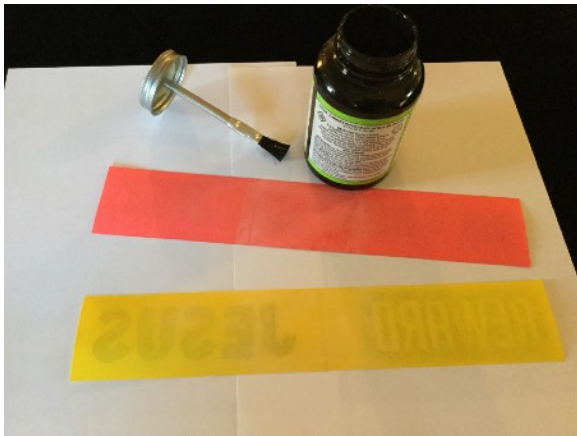


## How it Works:

You are using an old principle from a trick that goes back about 90 years ago called “Clippo”. (I give a more detailed - yet brief history of “Clippo” in the supplements download). The method uses rubber cement and talcum or baby powder.

## Needed:

- The PDF graphics file (in the supplements download) related to this book. You can also create your own using a thick marking pen.
- Rubber cement
- Talcum or baby powder
- Scissors



1. Apply several coats of rubber cement to the center of each strip of paper — allowing each coat to dry before applying the next.



2. Apply talcum or baby powder after the rubber cement is dry.



3. Brush away any excess powder.



4. Have your prepared strips of paper and a large, sharp pair of scissors ready.



5. To make the “Clipp-o” principle work, place the strips of paper back-to-back.





6. Show your volunteer the dotted line so they know where to cut across the papers.



7. Have your volunteer cut straight across the papers in one snip.



8. Display the papers so the audience can see that they have been cleanly cut in half.



9. Open both papers to show that each has restored to the opposite half.

# Christmas Restoration

From the book:  
“Tricky Messages for Kids Book 2”

## Main Point:

*Christmas is about Jesus coming to restore a broken world and our broken lives.*

## Scripture References:

*The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners...*

— 1 Timothy 1:15

*For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.*

— John 3:16

*The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor...*

— Isaiah 61:1



## What the Audience Sees:

The magician shows a glass, Christmas bulb decoration. It's placed in a clear plastic baggie and hit with a hammer until the bulb is shattered. The baggie with the shattered bulb is placed into a Christmas gift bag. After talking about how sin has destroyed so much in this world, a spectator is invited to reach into the bag and remove the baggie. Upon doing so, the bulb is seen to be completely intact and unharmed. The magician finishes by casually showing the bag empty and talking about how Jesus came to bring restoration to the many sin-filled, broken lives.

## How it Works:

You are using a gift bag that has been specially prepared with a secret pocket. This allows the items to be hidden in the pocket so the bag can *seem* to look empty. It's often times called a utility sack.

## Needed:

- 2 matching Christmas gift bags - I prefer a medium sized bag.
- 2 matching glass Christmas bulbs. (or “baubles” if you live East of the Atlantic)
- 2 matching quart-sized, zip-style plastic baggies.
- A small hammer (like one used for small home projects).
- Scissors (to prepare gift bag)
- Glue stick or rubber cement (to prepare gift bag)



1. You will need the prepared gift-bag, hammer, glass ornaments and plastic baggies.



2. Place the bulbs (one in a plastic baggie) in the prepared gift-bag.



3. Place one bulb in a plastic bag in front of the audience



4. Show the hammer.





5. Smash the glass bulb with the hammer. Be sure to hit the bulb from the front so the audience can see what you are doing.



6. Make sure the bulb is smashed into small pieces — you may need to hit the bulb several times.



7. Place the baggie with the smashed ornament into the secret pocket.



8. Hold the secret pocket closed.





9. Remove the duplicate bulb in the duplicate baggie from the main part of the gift bag.



10. Hold the secret pocket closed and briefly show the gift bag as if it's empty.

# A Broken World

From the book:  
“Tricky Messages for Kids Book 2”

## Main Point:

*Jesus came to bring light to a dark and broken world.*

## Scripture References:

*I have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness.*

— John 12:46

*I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.*

— John 8:12



## What the Audience Sees:

On stage there's a lamp. The magician walks on, demonstrates that the lamp works by turning it on and off. He removes the lightbulb and places it in a plastic baggie. Using a small hammer, he hits the bulb until it has been shattered into many pieces inside the baggie. The baggie goes into a gift bag while the magician talks about living in a broken world. A volunteer is invited to remove the plastic baggie. When she does, the lightbulb is restored. The magician replaces the bulb into the lamp and demonstrates that it works once again.

## How it Works:

You are using a gift bag that has been specially prepared with a secret pocket so items can be hidden in the pocket. The bag can seem to look empty. It's often times called a utility sack.

## Needed:

- 2 light bulbs
- 1 lamp
- 2 quart sized plastic baggies (the kind that zip closed)
- 1 switching device (like the paper gift bag described)

- 2 matching gift bags (I prefer a medium sized bag)
- A small hammer (like one used for small home projects)
- Scissors (to prepare gift bag)
- Glue stick or rubber cement (to prepare gift bag)



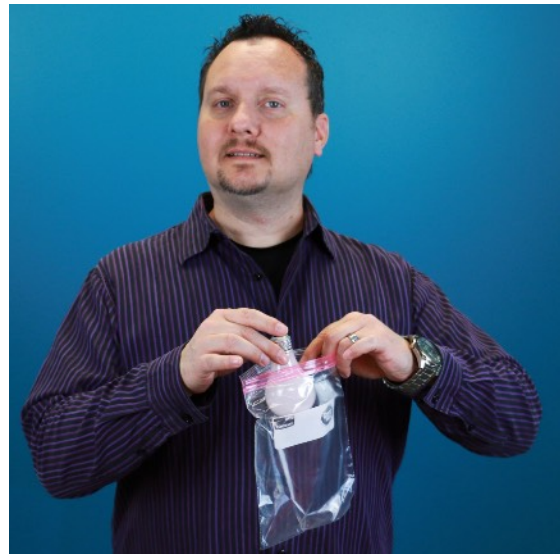
1. You will need the special prepared gift-bag, 2 light bulbs, 2 plastic baggies and a hammer.



2. Put one bulb in a baggie and put it in the gift bag. Place the other bulb and baggie in the gift bag. Put the hammer nearby. Or have the bulb in a lamp to prove it works.



3. Show the audience the light bulb.



4. Place the bulb inside the baggie and zip the baggie closed.





5. Show the hammer.



6. Hit the bulb with a sharp strike. Make sure to hit the bulb from the front so the audience can see what is happening.



7. Display the smashed lightbulb.



8. Place the broken bulb in the baggie, inside the gift bag.





9. Secretly place it inside the hidden pocket.



10. Hold the opening closed.



11. Either reach inside or have a responsible helper carefully reach inside and remove the baggie with the duplicate bulb inside. Screw the bulb back into the lamp and prove that it works again.



12. Casually show the interior of the bag as you make your final remarks.

# The Five Envelope Force (The Only Way)

From the book:  
“Tricky Messages for Kids Book 3”

## What the Audience Sees:

5 Envelopes are held by a spectator and one by one eliminated according to the spectator's choices - the last envelope is found to contain the card that was also predicted or the card that is the only one of it's kind among all the other cards - in this case, the other cards are assumed ways people try to get to heaven and the last card represents Jesus.



## Main Point:

Jesus is the only way to Heaven.

## Scripture Reference:

*“Jesus answered, ‘I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.’”*  
— John 14:6

## How it Works:

This is another effect that is mostly self-working and dependent on 2 things:

1. The volunteer doing ***exactly as you instruct her to do*** - so it's a good idea to use a teen or adult who seems responsible.
2. ***Your ability to give the instructions as part of the performance*** - you need to sell to the audience that everything is happening “randomly”.

## Needed and the Set-Up:

- Make 4 cards that say: BIBLE, PRAYER, MONEY, CHURCH and One that says: JESUS
- Write: YOU CANNOT GO THIS WAY on the back of 4 of the envelopes
- Place the 4 wrong ways to heaven in the envelopes and stack the envelopes so they have their messages face down
- On a 5th envelope write THE ONLY WAY on the back
- Place the Jesus Card into this envelope and put it so the message on the envelope is face down on top of the other 4 envelopes.
- **REMEMBER:** your force envelope always starts on top of the stack.
- There is a PDF available of the graphics for this effect in a separate folder on this disc.



1. With your envelopes loaded, begin mixing the envelopes until your spectator says to STOP.



2. Make sure the FORCE envelope remains on top.

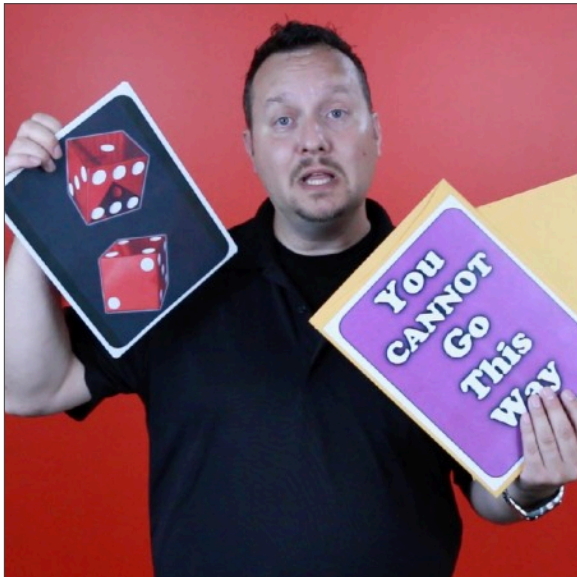




3. Have the spectator name any number 1-5 and you will use that number over and over — moving an envelope from top to bottom (or from front to back)



4. Every time you count to that number the last envelope counted is flipped over.



5. Look at each picture in each envelope, as they are eliminated. Discard the picture — but, keep the envelope.



6. Continue until all but one envelope has been eliminated.



7. The last envelope will be the FORCE envelope.



8. Discard the other envelopes and bring out the picture or message of the remaining envelope.



9. In this case, it's a picture that represents JESUS: The Only Way to Get to Heaven!



# Torn and Restored Bible - Simplified

## BONUS ROUTINE

I'm a huge fan of the standard Bible Tear, made popular by Bob Hill's release of the trick via Dock Haley Magic and the numerous routines in many Gospel Magic books. I'm also a believer in innovation and the possibility of customization. With using a full page method, it opens the door for much creativity!



### Scripture References:

“Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away”

— Matthew 24:35

### What The Audience Sees:

The performer displays a sheet of paper with a picture of a Bible on it. He proceeds to tear the sheet into four separate quarters. The pieces are brought together, folded and crumpled as the performer discusses how people have tried to get rid of the Bible for years. The pieces are unfolded and un-crumpled and are

shown to have restored themselves to reveal the picture once again.

### How It's Done:

*You are using a duplicate copy of the picture that is attached to the back of the original picture.*

### Needed:

- 8.5 X11 opaque paper(Use larger paper if you have a larger audience)
- A process for printing or photocopying
- Rubber cement, glue-stick or double stick tape

### To Prepare:

Using a computer, design two identical pages with a picture of the Bible on it. I like to use a computer and print with a color printer. I like this method because of all the sharp-looking clipart available. Find a good picture of the Bible. (Or use the one provided with this lesson/routine). If you cannot find a picture, use a large font in colors that will be appealing to your audience titled: THE BIBLE — just make sure the paper you use is opaque.

Fold the original (the one that will be torn) into four quarters. Make sure you reinforce the folds in both directions for easier tearing. Glue or tape the duplicate to the back upper quarter as seen in the photos. Crumple the duplicate into a small wadded packet onto the back of the original — be careful not to tear either.

### **How to Make it Work:**

- Holding the page upright, tear it in half from top to bottom, being careful not to expose the wadded-up duplicate.
- Place the torn away section to the front.
- Tear these halves in half so you have quarters — separate your hands and fan out both pieces in each hand so the audience is very aware that you are holding 4 separate quarters.
- Place the pieces together, keeping the duplicate to the back.
- Fold and wad the pieces together.
- In the act of squeezing the wadded-up pieces together, turn everything over so the audience is now looking at the duplicate. Continue to squeeze the pieces together for a moment.
- After some time of discussion or teaching, begin to uncouple the wadded-up duplicate. The torn pieces will remain on the back of the page as you fully open the page to reveal the picture of the Bible.

### **Presentation:**

"We are talking about the Bible today! I love the Word of God. There's a verse found in Matthew 24:35. It says: *"Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away."* This is important because there are those who do not appreciate God's written Word."

***Hold up the prepared picture of the Bible.***

"I brought a picture of a Bible, because it would be very cruel to demonstrate this lesson with a real Bible — you will see why in a moment! There are those who hate the Bible so much that they have claimed that the Bible is just a book full of fake stories and fairy tales..."

***Tear the Bible picture in half.***

"There are places in the world where the Bible has been made illegal."

***Tear one of the halves into a quarters.***

"There are places in this world where Bibles are collected and destroyed."

***Tear the other half into quarters.***

"Evil people think that by doing this they can rid the earth of the Bible. Even here in our own country, there are those who treat the Bible as if it's not worth anything more than trash."

***Crumple the torn pieces together as you state the previous lines. Perform the secret move of turning over the crumpled packet.***

"And yet, despite all of the negative attitude against the Bible, it still remains the number one selling Book in the world!"

***Begin to un-crumple the duplicate as you say the following.***

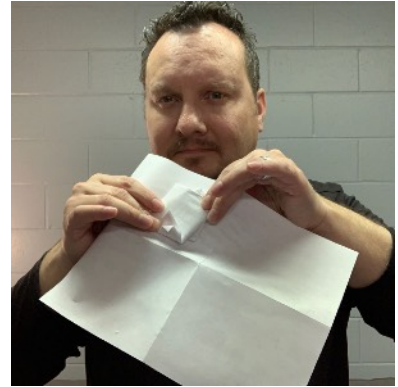
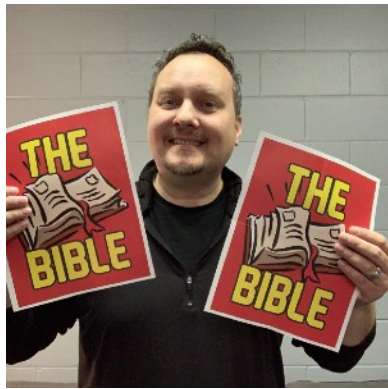
"Besides, even if the Bible was removed from this earth as a physical book, God's word has been established by God, Himself. It can never completely go away!"

### **Other Ideas:**

- **The duplicate could have a different message from the original in order conclude a message or to add a better punch line.** I have also used this method for the "Broken Heart" by simply printing a large red heart on the pages. Use a smaller original and restore it to a larger page with a message or picture on it.
- **You don't have to tear the paper.** You can show one message or picture to the audience, fold it up, and make the change to reveal a new message or picture.
- **Portrait or Landscape.** You can make the original or duplicate in either portrait or landscape depending on the picture or message.
- **Your message or picture could also change size,** i.e. you show a piece of paper 5.5" X 8.5" that says "SIN" Discuss how sin gets out of control. (Fold the paper to match the size of the restoration duplicate). We try to hide our sin problem. Open the restoration duplicate and you are now holding an 8.5" X 11" sign that says in much larger letters "SIN".
- **You can create a "Blend-o" effect.** Bring several smaller pieces of paper together that are of different sizes, shapes and colors... perhaps they all have various pictures or messages on them. They are folded together and become a large picture or message

***Have fun with this effect!***

You can find resources related to this routine at: [JamieDoyle.com](http://JamieDoyle.com)



Using 2 matching pictures, pre-fold one with sharp creases so the tears are easier. Use a glue stick to attach the duplicate to the back of the pre-folded original. Once the glue is dry, fold and crumple the down the duplicate so it's completely hidden on the back of the original.



For performance/presentation, hold the page facing the audience — keep a thumb on the duplicate. Begin by tearing the page in half from top to bottom.





Be sure to separate each piece so the audience is aware that it really has been torn. Place the torn half on the front of the half with the duplicate on its back.



Begin tearing each half into quarters. Move the pieces to the front of the packet so the quarter with the duplicate attached is on the back of the packet.



Begin folding the torn quarters forward, around each other. Make the folds match the crumpled duplicate. Crumple and squeeze the pieces together. During this action, turn the whole packet over so the duplicate is now facing the audience — and continue to squeeze.



Begin to unfold the duplicate, being careful not to show the original pieces. As you open the duplicate, the torn pieces will remain attached to its back.