



Open up!

This drama is based on Revelation Ch 3:14-22, the letter to Laodicea

Family home scene with husband, Michael and wife Carol, about to sit down after evening meal. Michael, already in an armchair is engrossed in the newspaper, Carol comes in from the kitchen

Carol Michael

Michael *(without looking up, grunts a reply)* Yes Dear

Carol Would you like tea or coffee tonight?

Michael *(still engrossed, answers a question he isn't asked)* Yes Dear, we'll go shortly

Carol *(knowing she hasn't got Michael's attention, playfully tosses something light and harmless into his newspaper)*

Miiiiichael!

Michael *(this is a family prank which is taken in good spirit)*

Oh!...I'm sorry Dear.....this is a very interesting article....I think I'll have coffee tonight please

Carol exits and Michael returns to his paper as the Narrator starts reading the bible passage.

Revelation Ch 3:14

The Letter to Laodicea

This is what you must write to the angel of the church in Laodicea:

I am the one called Amen! I am the faithful and true witness and the source of God's creation. Listen to what I say. ¹⁵I know everything you have done, and you are not cold or hot. I wish you were either one or the other. ¹⁶But since you are lukewarm and neither cold nor hot, I will spit you out of my mouth. ¹⁷You claim to be rich and successful and to have everything you need. But you don't know how badly off you are. You are pitiful, poor, blind, and naked.

Buy your gold from me. It has been refined in a fire, and it will make you rich. Buy white clothes from me. Wear them and you can cover up your shameful nakedness. Buy medicine for your eyes, so that you will be able to see.

¹⁹I correct and punish everyone I love. So make up your minds to turn away from your sins. ²⁰Listen! I am standing and knocking at your door.

Reading is interrupted by loud knocking on door

Michael (looking up from his newspaper – a little irritated at being interrupted)

Who can that be ...? why can't they use the intercom ... save me going to the door?

Reading commences again at

..... So make up your minds to turn away from your sins. ²⁰Listen! I am standing and knocking at your door. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in and we will eat together.

Interrupted by Michael

Hold it, not so fastI don't know who you are.....what do you really want if you're selling something, I have it already so don't waste your breath.....and who are you anyway?

My name is Jesus Pause while this sinks in with Michaelwell...are you going to let me in? You and I need to become more acquainted.

Michael Acquainted? Don't I go to church on Sundays well some Sundays anyway and Christmas and Easter.

Jesus

I mean something much more than that. You need to understand why I really came to this world ... and why I am now at your door..... so you can be reconciled with God

Michael

But I live a decent life, I look after my family .. and friends where I can, I work hard, I give a bit to charity I even pay my taxes! What more could you want?

Jesus

You, Michael! Or more correctly, you need methink how your life is moulded by the standards of the world around you. I can give you a whole new direction in life you need to take me on board...YOU need to follow ME.

Michael

That's a bit religious isn't it? Can't I just follow what I feel is just right for me? And I am sincere about what I believe.

Jesus

Well to quote a verse from the bible 'Your ways are not my ways'. But the choice is yours.....you've got to choose..... your way or mine.

Michael

Well, thanks for the offer ... I think I'm doing OK But I'll think about it and maybe get back to you..... you can drop your calling card in the letter box.

Enter Carol with coffee and as she pours it

Who was at the door?

Michael This guy called Jesus He seemed to think I needed him

Carol Oh, he called a few days ago and I had a very interesting chat with him I think he may be right you know. Why didn't you ask him in?

Michael *(reacting against Jesus conversation with a little bit of passion)*

He thought I needed to be rescued from myself, that I'm not good enough, that I need to follow him if I did that, he would start interfering and I can't risk him getting involved in our social life, our lifestyle, my golf, my job, our finances..... well in everything really. Besides this Jesus stuff isn't exactly the in-thing. I reckon we're doing fine as we are

They settle down to read again, Michael clearly uneasy, and after a few moments a loud knocking at the door again.

Michael *(a little irritated)*

There he is again Just ignore him

The knocking starts again briefly, they try to ignore it and then it stops and Michael is uneasy

Michael I'll wash the cups

Michael gets up, collects the cups in a less than calm manner and proceeds to kitchen when he collapses on the floor, scattering cups. Carol reacts immediately finds him out cold and calls an ambulance (sound of ambulance) followed shortly by off stage conversation between Carol and doctor.

Carol *frantically dialing 999*

Quick, I need an ambulance, it's my husband...he's collapsed.

Sound of ambulance if you can manage it, otherwise a pause with all sorts of shuffling in background

Carol Doctor how is he doing

Doctor We did everything we could I'm really sorry.....

Carol You mean ... you mean He'sDEAD?

Sobbing ...and he's gone out there without Jesus!

Sobbing dies away as back on stage, Michael (his spirit) slowly gets up, shakes himself and fumbles around the place, disorientated

Where am I?

Eventually he comes to the door

Ahh! *And knocks loudly – no response – after brief pause, knocks again*

Jesus, are you there, it's me Michael, I want to come in

Pause, knock again

Distraught Is anyone there?

Pause, then tries the buzzer

Michael, quite distraught at getting no answer, disappears off stage calling out

Jesus, where are you now?, I need you

More knocking – then Narrator finishes the reading – cueing here needs to be such that audience don't think this is the end and start applause

Narrator..... So make up your minds to turn away from your sins. ²⁰Listen! I am standing and knocking at your door. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in and we will eat together

²¹Everyone who wins the victory will sit with me on my throne, just as I won the victory and sat with my Father on his throne.

²²If you have ears, listen to what the Spirit says to the churches.

Loud knocking from the other side of the door – pause, silence long enough to create an expectation - the drama then finishes with Jesus voice

Will You open the door?

Allow silence with nobody on stage (long enough for audience to wonder 'is this the end'
- in fact all the following leaves them wondering and reinforces the core message.A

Somebody off stage reads, with impact

Isaiah 55 verses 6 & 7

Seek the Lord while he's here to be found,
pray to him while he's close at hand.

Another silence like 1 above

Knocking repeated

After a short silence the Facilitator comes on stage and takes over.

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