

Name Droppers

by

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CHARACTERS

JOANNA	A woman in her 30's or so. Joanna is new to the city and new to the business community. She is attending the after hours "Meet and Greet" to try to establish good networking relationships.
SALES	An outgoing, talkative man in his 40's.
ACCOUNTING	A professional woman in her late 20's early 30's.
MOM	A woman in her 40's or 50's.
AFRAID	A man in his 30's or 40's. He is full of fear, and that comes through in subtle, but not slapstick ways (he has learned to cover his fear, if not well). He is anxious, hesitant.
ASHAMED	A woman in her 20's. Similar to Afraid, she has learned to hide her shame, but it finds its way out subtly.

SETTING

The setting is a nondescript hotel meeting room. Set decoration includes a nametag table. No other significant set decoration is needed. Props include business cards for each character, plastic cups for some characters, note pads, ipads for others, Laura's cell phone.

TIME

Evening.

THEME/PURPOSE

We all have our identities, fronts we sometimes put up for the benefit of others. We see ourselves as what we do, the roles we play, or perhaps even through our sins and fears. But a person who is in Christ is a child of God more than anything, defined by that relationship with the Father through Christ. We are not what we do or what we've done, but Whose we are. This sketch makes a vivid point about the foolishness in defining ourselves any other way.

SCRIPTURES

2 Corinthians 5:16-19

Colossians 2:13-14

John 1:12-13

SKETCH TIME

8 Minutes

ACT I

SCENE 1

(At lights up, all characters except Joanna are on the stage, paired off and pantomiming conversation. They all appear happy, many wearing their fake business networking smiles. Some have drinks in plastic cups, others are cradling ipads. Throughout the action, they should continue to pantomime dialogue even when they are not involved in the dramatic action.)

JOANNA

(Entering, talking on her cell phone.)
Yes Mom, I'm almost there. I figure if I'm going to make a go of a new business in a new city I've got to get out there and start meeting people. (Pause). No, it's not THAT kind of meet and greet, it's a meeting of business professionals... You know, networking. (Pause). It is NOT speed dating! You need to stop watching The Bachelorette. (Pause) Of course I'm wearing deod... Look gotta go, love you.

(She stops at a nametag table, completes a nametag, puts it on, and approaches the mingling crowd on stage with some hesitation. People are still pantomiming chatting, fake smiling.)

SALES

(Notices Joanna and breaks away from the crowd to introduce himself)

Hey!

(Handing her a business card.)

JOANNA

(Takes his business card, gives him one of hers, and shakes his hand.)

Hi. I'm Joanna. Nice to meet you!

SALES

Joanna?

(He appears confused when she says her name, then snaps out of it.)

Pleasure's all mine, all mine indeed. I'm Sales.

JOANNA

(Hesitant)

Oh you're in sales, With what firm?

SALES

Nope, not IN sales. I AM Sales. That's muh name, don't wear it out!

(Slaps her on the back roughly.)

JOANNA

(Looking at his business card, then to his nametag, then back to his business card.)

Sure enough...your name is...(weirded out) Sales.

SALES

Everyone likes me...I'm very well liked you know. Everybody likes...

ACCOUNTING

(Breaking in on the conversation.)

Hello! I don't think I've seen you around before.

SALES

(To Joanna, referring to Accounting.)

You think she likes me?