



Artistic INTERPRETATION 2

"You Are Here" Skit

The skit involves two actors; and a large colorful paper map with stickers, paper map pins, or other markers to indicate places visited around the world. The actors are called Max and Jesse as these names are commonly used as multi-gendered names, so casting is flexible.

MAX: *Max is standing proudly holding the large colorful paper map. (There could also be a table next to the person, with large markers, oversized map pins, and miscellaneous items to suggest global travel). As Jesse approaches, Max is just beginning to gleefully place his or her map on the table to place more pins on it.*

JESSE: You look pretty happy, Max. What's up?

MAX: I just had the best summer, traveling the world. I am pinning my map so I can recall all of the places I experienced and the amazing people I encountered along the way.

JESSE: You, traveled the world (*In a shocked and not so convinced tone*)? I saw you in the mall all summer. And when you weren't there; I saw you at the Starbucks surfing the internet. Did I miss something here? I didn't even know you had a passport.

MAX: Well, I traveled all the way to Democratic Republic of Congo and my family and I helped with water irrigation projects so folks can have clean water nearby without having to travel miles to fetch it. There was a young girl there who couldn't go to school because she had to spend her time hauling water. But now, she can go to school because of our help. That makes me feel wonderful (*with great exaggeration and emphasis*)!

JESSE: Let me get this straight. You spent your summer helping families in Democratic Republic of Congo get accessible water?

MAX: Yep.

JESSE: You, the same Max that texts me while I am sitting right next to you? You, the same Max that pays your little brother to finish your chores for you? You did all of that?

MAX: Yep. That's right. I am a changed person.

JESSE: In one summer?

MAX: Nope. In one week.

JESSE: Huh? Ok. Now I am really worried about you, Max. In one week?

MAX: Yes, "Week of Compassion". I went to church with my family and we learned all about ways we can help make a difference in the world through our offerings. A gift to Week of Compassion "enables the church to share God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief to those affected by natural disasters, provide food to the hungry, and helping to empower those who are poor and oppressed." It helps people around the world all year long!

JESSE: That's pretty awesome, Max. I am proud of you. In fact, it sounds a lot like the scripture my parents quote all of the time. I think it is from a book named after a guy named Matthew. Matthew quoted Jesus and he said, "For I was *hungry* and you gave me something to eat, I was *thirsty* and you gave me something to drink, I was a *stranger* and you invited me in..."

MAX: Exactly, Jesse. I may not have physically been in all of these places. But through our giving, my family and I were able to touch lives all over the world. When you saw me in Starbucks, I was reading the Week of Compassion stories about these impacted communities on-line and my parents make our family's offering through online giving, too.

JESSE: That makes a lot of sense. I get the full picture now! Matthew also said that Jesus replied, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." So I guess you can say, you not only traveled the world this summer, Max, but you hung out with Jesus, too? Because you are here, God is here, too.

MAX: Yeah. I guess you can say that. Because "WE" are here, God is here!

JESSE: I am going to tell my family about Week of Compassion so we can travel the world, too!

MAX: Hey, Jesse, why don't you help me place these pins on my map and I can tell you more stories about the places I encountered this summer!

JESSE: Sounds like a plan! *(With excitement, Jesse helps Max place more pins on the map)* Maybe afterwards, we can go to Starbucks!



Children gather around a newly installed well in the Democratic Republic of Congo.. Photo: Disciples4Water