



DISCOURAGEMENT

Characters: Giant of Discouragement (stand on small stool to appear as a giant)
 Weary Winona (wearing heavy backpack, carrying shovel)
 Helpful Holly (off-stage, phone voice)
 Narrator (optional)

Props: stool, backpack, shovel, cell phone

Theme: Facing the giant of Discouragement

Verse: "...casting your care upon Him, for He cares for you." (1 Peter 5:7)

Script

Narrator: Today we meet Weary Winona.

(Winona walks in with a heavy burden on her shoulders, and she carries a shovel. She is hunched over, and doesn't see the giant until she is right on him and sees his feet. She looks up slowly...)

Winona *(startled upon seeing the giant):* Who-who-who are you?

Giant: Today my name is DISCOURAGEMENT.

Winona: What do you mean "today"?

Giant: Well I have different names on different days and with different people. Today, for you, my name is DISCOURAGEMENT.

Winona: Well, today is as good a day as any to come face to face with discouragement. I'm so weary and my burdens seem heavier than normal today. I could just go to bed and sleep for a week, so that I wouldn't have to face these responsibilities.

Giant: Well, if you did that, they would just be waiting for you when you got out of that bed! Today IS a good day for DISCOURAGEMENT--I agree. EVERY DAY is a good day for DISCOURAGEMENT! Even if it wasn't overcast, we know the sun would not be shining in your neck of the woods. Life is hard, isn't it?

Winona: Hard, and unrewarding. And these burdens and responsibilities are so heavy, I rarely can look up to see if the sun is shining!

Giant: Ah...just as I intended!

Winona: What?!!

Giant: Oh...uh...I mean "unfriended". Whoever put these burdens on your shoulders should be unfriended!

Winona: I have deadlines I'm going to miss, projects that are unfinished... I don't have time to get my Bible study done, my laundry is piled up, the pain in my knee won't go away...blah, blah, blah. Even rats couldn't compete in the rat race I am in. Every day the hole I dig for myself gets deeper. Every day the burdens bear down, and there is no light at the end of the tunnel. It's all on me, and I feel like giving up. I think I just need a vacation...on a beach...far, far away!

Giant: And, we *know* that's not going to happen.

Winona: Well, you're not much help! Do you even have to discourage me in my dreams??

Giant: Actually, yes I do...

Winona: It is hardly worth pressing on when I am only spinning my wheels. I'm not getting anywhere....

(Winona's cell phone rings)

Winona: Hello?

Holly: Hi, Winona. How are you doing today?

Winona: Today I just feel like I'm can't walk another step. These burdens are so heavy. Last month I was just **disheartened** and in the **dumps**....Last week I was **disappointed** and **disillusioned**. Yesterday I was **defeated** and **distressed**; today I have moved on to **despondent** and **dejected**...*(emphasizes the "d"s as much as possible)*

Giant: And for tomorrow I have.....wait for it.....wretched and miserable!! Oops, I mean **d-d-d** depressed and **dismal**!

Winona: *(responding to giant)* Wwhhhhaaaat?? I'm **doomed**!

Holly: Winona! Listen to me. Look UP!

Winona: UP? When I look up, all I see is that dreadful gian-----

Holly: Winona! I mean UP as in looking to God. Get your eyes off of yourself and your circumstances. Where does the help and strength to face your day come from?

Winona: Well, a vacation would help, I'm sure....

Giant: *(nodding "no", giant mouths "not going to happen")*

Holly: Your help comes from the Lord. Your strength comes from waiting on God. You know He wants to work on your behalf. You can be excited, because when you are weak, He is strong. In fact, His strength is perfected in your weakness. And then His joy becomes your strength.

Giant: *(whispering)* You've tried that...it won't work for you.....

Winona: Joy? In my situation? These burdens are mine to carry, and there is no way out.

Holly: Whoa! Think, Winona! You don't have to carry those burdens! Who tells you to cast all your burdens on Him? Who says His yoke is easy and His burden is light? If you are overwhelmed with heavy burdens, something is wrong. We do go through difficult time, but He is there for you. You will find the rest you crave in Him! Your outward circumstances and responsibilities might not change, but you will find the joy that refreshes in His presence.

Winona: You're right, I'm going to give these burdens to Him *(she removes burdens to lift to the Lord, while the giant acts like he is being strangled)*