“The Tornado”  
By Angela Sanicola and Deanna Blanchard

Description:  
Dan and Wendy return to their home in Joplin, MO after a tornado hit and find only rubble left. After the initial shock, Dan gets angry at God for letting such a horrible thing happen to them. However, Wendy starts to see things differently – with the help of a mysterious woman named Anna.

A powerful illustration of how we are equipped to minister to others after going through a similar trial ourselves.

Characters:  
Dan, the husband  
Wendy, the wife  
Anna

Setting:  
Joplin, MO after the 2011 tornado. Some “debris” on stage – like pieces of wood and other stuff – would be helpful in setting the scene. Also, if possible, show a picture on an overhead screen of the destruction there. (Note: When my church performed this skit, we filmed it as a video.)

Props:  
Bottle of water  
Sandwich  
Backpack (for Anna)

Duration:  
The drama alone is approximately 3 1/2 minutes long. It runs about 5 minutes with the video clip.

Scripture:  
2 Corinthians 1:3-7

The drama opens with a brief video clip, if possible, to set the scene. For example, you could use a portion of this clip: (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r8kg2dEJo_Y&feature=related)

After the video clip ends, show a picture of the destruction in Joplin on the screen.

DAN and WENDY enter. They approach where their house used to stand, but there’s nothing but rubble left.

DAN

(In shock) It’s gone. That tornado took away our entire house! There’s nothing left!

WENDY

Dan, all our worldly possessions were in that house. What are we going to do? (DAN says nothing, so WENDY grabs him.) What are going to do?
DAN

(Pulls away) I don’t know, Wendy! Give me a second, will ya?

WENDY

(Starts crying) Dan, I’m scared. Everything we’ve worked so hard for is gone. Where are we going to live? How will we survive?

DAN

Just stop with the questions already! I don’t know, okay? I just don’t know.

WENDY

(Wipes her eyes and looks around) Maybe we haven’t lost everything. Maybe some of our things can be saved. Like pictures or something. (Starts poking around in the rubble)

DAN

Wendy, stop. There’s no point.

WENDY

There’s no point in trying to save our memories? They’re all we’ve got left!

DAN

Whatever.

ANNA

(Enters, wearing a backpack and carrying a bottle of water) Excuse me.

WENDY

(Jumps, startled) Oh, you scared me! I didn’t know anyone else was here.

ANNA

Sorry about that. I’m just here to help out. Would you like some water and a sandwich?

DAN

You call that help? Water and a sandwich aren’t going help us get our home back.
ANNA

I know how you feel. I...

DAN

What do you mean you know how I feel? How can you possibly understand this kind of loss?

ANNA

My home was destroyed by a tornado last month in Tuscaloosa.

WENDY

Really?

DAN

If that’s true, why are you here? Haven’t you seen enough destruction already?

ANNA

Yeah, I’d say I’ve seen enough to last me a lifetime. But I couldn’t allow a tornado to ruin my life. I had to turn it around into something good.

DAN

(Laughs) Trust me… Nothing good will come out of this.

ANNA

It might look like that at first. I know that’s how I felt when I lost my home too. That’s why I’m here. I saw Joplin’s devastation on the news, and I knew I had to come here and help.

WENDY

I’m kind of hungry. I’ll take that sandwich.

ANNA and WENDY sit down together. ANNA hands WENDY a bottle of water and pulls a sandwich for her out of her backpack.

WENDY

Thanks. I really appreciate this.

ANNA

You’re welcome. (To DAN) Are you sure you don’t want one?
DAN

I’m not hungry…

END OF PREVIEW