

LIQUID

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Choreography: Shannon Parker, Trevor Vanderveen, Tanya Price, Michelle Renaud
Song: Liquid
Artist: Jars of Clay
CD: Jars of Clay
Biblical Reference: John 14:6

Jesus is the only way to salvation. Some of the characters in this drama try to get to the Father through rituals and others try through things like money or friends; but it is only through giving our lives to Jesus that we receive eternal life. This drama portrays various life circumstances such as loneliness or abuse, drug addiction or thoughts of suicide, and the characters are trying to find purpose through outward means. Jesus heals all the characters' individual hurts and shows them that He is the only way. They recognize their satisfaction can only be found in Him and choose to worship Him.

LYRICS

Arms nailed down
Are you telling me something?
Eyes turned out
Are you looking for someone?

This is the one thing
The one thing that I know

Bloodstained brow
Are you dying for nothing?
Flesh and blood
Is it so elemental?

This is the one thing
The one thing that I know

Bloodstained brow
He wasn't broken for nothing
Arms nailed down
He didn't die for nothing

This is the one thing
The one thing that I know

CHARACTERS

Money: preferably female
Lonely: preferably female
Relationship guy: male
Relationship girl: female
Suicide: either male or female
Jesus: male

PROPS/COSTUMES

1 money bill 1 white shirt

OVERVIEW OF ALL MEASURES

(each measure is 4 beats)

- 8 Frozen – standing with backs facing audience
- 3 Walking on beat to positions
- 1 Stop, Freeze
- 4 Jesus turns, dies on cross
- 12 Money
- 8 Lonely
- 8 Relationship couple
- 8 Suicide
- 4 Jesus comes off cross, surveys scene
- 4 Jesus heals Money
- 4 Jesus heals Lonely
- 4 Jesus heals Relationship couple
- 8 Jesus walks over to Suicide and heals
- 4 Jesus summons all characters
- 3 Characters raise hands in praise

DETAILED DRAMA SCRIPT

(see glossary at end of script for explanations of underlined terms)



[8 measures] At the start all characters stand in a horizontal line upstage, backs facing the audience. With their feet together and looking straight ahead, they stand in the following order (left to right): Relationship guy, Relationship girl, Lonely, Jesus, Money and Suicide. The song begins with a slow 'hum'; when the melody begins, characters stand frozen in place for 8 full measures.

[8 measures] On beat 1 of the next measure, all characters turn away from Jesus and walk on beat in a crisscross pattern for a full 3 measures to reach their predetermined positions and form a U-shape. (Jesus is still frozen.) Character positions are as follows: Money – upstage right, Jesus – upstage center, Lonely – upstage right, Relationship couple – downstage left, Suicide – downstage right. Characters form a u-shape so all characters can be seen.

[1 measure] On beat 1 of the next measure, all characters stop in their position; on beat 3 of that measure all characters freeze: Money – facing downstage left, open stance,

hands on hips; Lonely – facing downstage right, open stance, head down, arms crossed across chest; Relationship couple – guy facing stage left, girl facing stage right, standing back to back, arms crossed; Suicide – on low knees, turned slightly towards stage left, hands loosely at sides, head down.



[4 measures] Jesus now turns and dies on the cross. On beat 1 of His first measure of movement, He raises His arms horizontally, hands in fists, while turning counter clockwise, ending facing the audience. Arms still raised, He is crucified on His third measure of movement, hands opening as if being nailed, and head lowering before freezing in position at the end of the fourth measure.

[12 measures] After Jesus is crucified, Money breaks out of her frozen position. Looking behind her to her left, she notices Jesus and wants to get His attention. She does the Catholic cross over herself (fingers to forehead, chest, left shoulder, right shoulder) then puts her palms together in prayer in front of her face, eyes closed. She dramatically looks to Jesus expectantly, hoping she got His attention. When He doesn't respond to her rituals, she becomes frustrated and tries again, this time more aggressively and deliberately. When Jesus still gives her no attention, she puts up her index finger as though she has an idea. She then pulls money from her pocket, admires it, shows it to Jesus, and bends on one knee parallel with the audience (left knee up to stay open to the audience) offering it to Him with her head down, freezing in this position. [Each character will take an entire time allotted to their part, freezing at the end of the last measure.]

[8 measures] Lonely 'breaks out' of her position, looking around to each character. She then seeks attention from each of them; first she goes to Suicide, then to the Relationship couple, then to Money. She does a variety of things to each character in attempts to get their attention (i.e. tapping, waving, reaching out). With each character's lack of acknowledgement, she becomes visibly more hurt, finally going back and freezing in her original position.

[8 measures] Relationship couple 'breaks out'. The girl turns to the guy and taps his right shoulder with her right hand. After he doesn't respond, she taps harder but he shrugs her off, becoming visibly annoyed and angry. The girl pulls the guy's right shoulder once with her right hand. When the guy continues to ignore her, getting even angrier, she pulls on him the same way again. Finally, in exasperation, she pulls him around with both of her hands on his right shoulder. Now facing her, the guy mouths, "What?!" No longer wanting his attention, the girl turns away. With his left hand, the guy grabs the girl's left shoulder, spinning her around, then slaps her across the face with

his right hand. The girl falls to the ground; the guy shakes his fists at her and freezes in position with his fist raised over her.

[8 measures] Suicide 'breaks out', raising her head. She sweeps up drugs from the ground with her right hand and sniffs them from her left palm. Not satisfied, she attempts again. Still not satisfied, she brushes off her hands and raises her right hand to her head, forming a gun with her index finger, pointing to her right temple and freezing in this position.

[4 measures] In the first measure, Jesus lowers His hands. For the next 3 measures He surveys the scene, looking at each of the characters with compassion. He reaches out to them, first to the left and then to the right. He does this while walking forward for a few beats, then backward.

[4 measures] On beats 1-2 ("blood"), Jesus pulls the bill from Money's hands and on beats 3-4 ("stained") throws it to the ground as she looks at Him. In measure 2 (on the word "brow"), He helps her stand. In measure 3 and 4, they embrace and Jesus begins to walk towards Lonely. Money turns to face the audience with hands by her side and a big smile on her face.

[4 measures] On beat 1-2 ("arms", Jesus turns Lonely towards Him and on beat 3-4 ("nailed"), He lifts her chin. Lonely then points to her chest mouthing "Me?" and Jesus nods. In measures 3-4, they embrace and Jesus begins to walk towards the Relationship couple. Lonely turns to face the audience with hands by her side and a big smile on her face.

[4 measures] In the first measure ("this is the"), Jesus gently pushes the guy's fist away from the girl. In the second measure He helps her stand, He brings them together in the third measure, and in the fourth measure the couple embraces. The couple remains with their arms around each other, smiling and facing the audience.

[8 measures] Jesus takes almost 3 measures to notice Suicide, walking over slowly and kneeling down at her left. He reaches in front to her right hand and lowers the gun. Suicide shakes open her hand to symbolize that the gun has fallen out. Jesus helps Suicide to stand and they embrace.

[4 measures] Jesus summons, calling his children with His hands out to them (left to right), walking backwards to His original position. All characters turn and walk back to Jesus, forming a semicircle with the Relationship guy in the centre. Characters on either side of Jesus remain standing; the other three kneel on one knee (high knees) with their backs to the audience.



[3 measures] One their specific beat, characters raise their hands in praise and freeze in position.

- Measure 1, beat 1: Jesus
- Measure 1, beat 3: Money
- Measure 2, beat 1: Relationship guy
- Measure 2, beat 3: Suicide
- Measure 3, beat 1: Relationship girl
- Measure 3, beat 3: Lonely

All characters are frozen in their final positions as the music fades.

GLOSSARY

BREAK-OUT: enter into character



PRAISE: extend hands out and up in front of self, palms up



HIGH KNEES: kneeling up straight, as tall as possible



SLAM: extend both arms to one side at shoulder height, away from body, palms out and face turned away



LOW KNEES: kneeling low, sitting back on one's feet