

Advent 2022 Week #5	
DRAMA Once or Twice By Martyn Scott Thomas © Copyright 2021 by Martyn Scott Thomas. All rights reserved. Used by permission.	
Topic:	Faith, lifestyle
Scripture:	2 Peter 1:3-9
Synopsis:	A man who seldom attends church shows up looking for something more.
Characters:	Simon – a “Chreaster” Stan – his pastor
Props/Costumes:	Casual dress. A row of 3 or 4 chairs.
Setting:	The lobby of a church.
Running time:	3 minutes

[Simon enters and paces uneasily. He sits briefly, then stands and paces again.]

Stan: *[enters, starts walking past Simon, then stops]* Simon? Is that you?

Simon: Oh hi, Stan. *[sits]*

Stan: *[a bit surprised]* What are you doing here?

Simon: *[stands]* Well, it is Sunday, and this is church, so . . .

Stan: Are you dropping off Trish and the kids?

Simon: *[sits]* Yes. *[pause]* I mean, no. *[uncertain]* Kind of both, I guess.

Stan: *[sits next to Simon]* Are you okay?

Simon: I’m alright. It’s just that . . . *[pause]*

Stan: You know you can tell me anything, right?

Simon: Yeah, I know. It’s just that I’ve never felt like this before.

Stan: Like what?

Simon: Well, you know that I’m only here a couple of times a year.

Stan: Yes, I do. And we have a name for that.

Simon: You do?

Stan: Yes. You’re a Chreaster.

Simon: A what?

Stan: A Chreaster. You're someone who only comes to church on Christmas and Easter Sundays.

Simon: That's a little insulting, don't you think?

Stan: Yes, it is. And I apologize. I didn't mean to make light of that fact. I know you're a good man who loves God and loves his family.

Simon: But you're not completely wrong.

Stan: So, I'll ask again. What are you doing here, [*slight pause*] today?

Simon: I'm thinking that maybe I need to be here more often.

Stan: That's good. How often are you thinking?

Simon: I think maybe every week.

Stan: [*surprised*] Well, that's great! What brought this on?

Simon: I don't know. It just feels like I'm missing out on something.

Stan: [*agreeing*] I think you are.

Simon: I mean, I know Jesus was born and died and rose again. And I've always thought that was all I needed. But there are a lot of days in between Christmas and Easter.

Stan: Yes, there are.

Simon: And there's so much more to his story than those two events that I need to learn.

Stan: I think you've come to the right place. And you know we're open every day of the week.

Simon: Really?

Stan: Yes, we have Bible studies, children's programs, adult ministries.

Simon: And anyone can come to those?

Stan: Anyone.

Simon: There are definitely days I really need more of something to get me through.

Stan: It's almost like you need Jesus every day.

Simon: Exactly. So instead of just dropping off Trish and the kids today, I thought I might stick around.

Stan: Well, I'm glad you're here.

Simon: I'm not making any promises. Let's just see how this goes.

Stan: [*stands*] Shall we go into the chapel?

Simon: [*stands*] I guess. So, how does this work? Are there assigned seats?

Stan: [*starting to walk*] No, there are no assigned seats, although some people do have their favorite spots. But families usually sit together.

Simon: [*walking with Stan*] Oh yeah. Right. I guess I should look for Trish.

Stan: That would be a good place to start. I'm sure she's saved a seat for you.

Simon: Do you have one of those sermon things every week?

Stan: Yes. And this week, I'm speaking on 2nd Peter.

Simon: Do you think you can keep it under 15 minutes? My stomach starts growling around 11:45. [*emphasizing*] It could get loud.

Stan: I'll see what I can do.

Simon: Great. [*exiting*] Have you guys ever thought about serving refreshments? It could help supplement your offering.

Stan: [*following Simon*] I'll bring that up at the next council meeting.

[*Blackout*]