

SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS

AND OTHER FAIRY TALE PLAYS

by Douglas H. Olsen



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SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS and OTHER FAIRY TALE PLAYS

PRODUCTION NOTES: HOW TO USE THESE PLAYS

The plays in this packet are meant to be performed, but the nature of the performance may depend on the situation. They can be performed in full costumes with sets and props if so desired, but they have been written with rather simple settings so that they may be adapted to church performances where time, money, and stage are limited. They can, therefore, be done with a minimum of props and set and only the suggestion of costumes (such as animal masks, a crown, or appropriate modern dress). Or they can be read with no props and no costumes directly from script as a Reader's Theatre. They may even be read aloud as part of a Sunday school class or youth group meeting. At the end of each playlet are discussion questions that can be used.

If, however, the plays are to be performed on a simple stage, it is suggested that a door frame, with or without door, be constructed. It can be used with all the plays. Chairs, a cot, and a small table can be added where needed.

Though the plays have serious Christian messages, they are also humorous and the humor can best be brought out by an actual performance with memorized lines. Performers are encouraged to add their own bits of slapstick and even to ad lib. The plays are meant to be entertaining, not dramatic tracts. They are similar to medieval morality plays in which Christian truths are revealed through often allegorical, sometimes humorous and satiric drama.

The plays are rather short and most of the parts are short so that a minimum of time need be spent in rehearsal. A play can be read through aloud two or three times in an hour. Such a run-through from a script, another rehearsal after the actors have memorized their lines, and a dress rehearsal may be all that is necessary (plus prayer) to have a play ready for production. Because of the humorous nature of the plays fluffed lines can sometimes be covered by ad libs.

Do not worry about a shortage of actors in your congregation. When our church performed the plays several of the actors had never done any acting before, yet they did excellent jobs. And don't neglect using senior citizens, teens, and children. The oldest actor we've used was eighty and the youngest was three. It is also fun to have the pastor and his wife, the youth leader, etc., playing some of the roles. On the other hand, some people who are quiet or not too involved in church activities may be seen in a new light when they take roles in a play. (Actors are traditionally basically shy.) In any case, the actors are encouraged to "ham it up" rather than achieve a professional acting style.

Why fairy tales? Fairy tales derive from a Christian culture in the Middle Ages, and the elements of fairy tales are often mythically or symbolically Christian, as well as sometimes overtly Christian, as in the Grimm tale "The Elves and the Shoemaker", in which the couple says their prayers faithfully. Not only is there the conflict of good and evil, but kings, princes, and kingdoms echo the imagery of the Bible. Magic is similar to miracle and living happily ever afterward suggests eternity. Symbolically "Cinderella" is an almost perfect Christian story. Likewise, "The Fisherman and His Wife" — in which the flounder grants the wife's greedier and greedier wishes until being Pope doesn't satisfy her and she wishes to be God — is full of Christian implications. In the plays I have either tried to bring out the inherent Christian meaning or I have used the fairy tales as a vehicle for adding Christian implications. To have done so seriously, however, might only have produced unintentional humor; therefore, they have been done with puns, satire, sarcasm, slapstick, and other forms of humor.

Some of the plays are evangelical presentations of salvation; some are commentaries on contemporary Christian life. But the messages are there, and, therefore, the plays can be performed as part of a church's Christian witness. An hour's program of four or five plays might be done, or individual plays could be used at banquets, Sunday school programs, or church worship services. A series of adult or senior high Sunday school lessons could be done by reading each play aloud and discussing the issues it involves. At the end of the plays are possible discussion questions and related Bible verses.

Have fun!

Snow White and the Seven Deadly Sins

- 1
2
3
4
- 5 **CAST:** Snow White, Queen, Huntsman, Prince Charming,
6 Mirror. Dwarfs: Haughty, Angry, Greedy, Lazy,
7 Lustful, Envious, Hungry.
8
- 9 **SETTING:** Onstage Right is a door frame. Onstage Left is a
10 cot, a small table, a large chair, and a mirror with
11 a speaker behind it.
12
- 13 **SCENE:** Queen's castle. (*Queen is looking into the mirror*)
14
- 15 **QUEEN:** Mirror, mirror, on the wall, who is the fairest of
16 us all?
- 17 **MIRROR:** I give up. Who?
- 18 **QUEEN:** I am, you dummy.
- 19 **MIRROR:** You've got to be kidding.
- 20 **QUEEN:** Watch it or I'll give you seven years bad luck.
- 21 **MIRROR:** Snow White is fairer than you, Lucy.
- 22 **QUEEN:** Snow White! Snow White!
- 23 **MIRROR:** Snow White. Snow White.
- 24 **QUEEN:** I heard you the first time. (*Turning her back on*
25 *the mirror, she calls out the window.*) Huntsman!
26 Huntsman!
- 27 (*The Huntsman enters but remains in front of the stage. He*
28 *marches in like a Nazi, coming to attention with a click of*
29 *his heels.*)
- 30 **HUNTSMAN:** At your service, ma'am.
- 31 **QUEEN:** If you value your life, you'll take Snow White
32 out to the woods, cut out her heart and bring it
33 back to me.
- 34 **HUNTSMAN:** Yes, ma'am. As you wish, ma'am. How would
35 you like it ma'am, in a box, on a platter, or

- 1 HUNTSMAN: (*contd*) cooked in a casserole?
- 2 QUEEN: I don't care. Bring it to me in a plastic baggie so
- 3 I can see it.
- 4 HUNTSMAN: Yes, ma'am. Anything else, ma'am?
- 5 QUEEN: Do you find Snow White more attractive than I am?
- 6 HUNTSMAN: No, ma'am.
- 7 QUEEN: What does a mirror know anyway? It's always
- 8 getting things backwards. Bring me her heart! She
- 9 reminds me too much of her father!
- 10 HUNTSMAN: Yes, ma'am. (*He leaves*)
- 11 MIRROR: It was supposed to have been her liver and her
- 12 lungs.
- 13 QUEEN: I want her heart!
- 14
- 15 SCENE: Woods. Area in front of stage. (*Huntsman and*
- 16 *Snow White enter*)
- 17 HUNTSMAN: I'm supposed to cut out your heart and bring it
- 18 to your stepmother. However, your father and
- 19 mother were always kind to me. The Queen isn't.
- 20 S.WHITE: But if you don't cut out my heart, my stepmother
- 21 will probably kill you.
- 22 HUNTSMAN: That's true. If you don't die, I do. If you die, I
- 23 don't.
- 24 S.WHITE: We could flip a coin.
- 25 HUNTSMAN: I don't have one. Do you?
- 26 S.WHITE: No. I'd really hate to lose anyway.
- 27 HUNTSMAN: So would I.
- 28 S.WHITE: I'm still young. You've already lived quite a while.
- 29 HUNTSMAN: I have a wife and three children to support. But
- 30 I'll kill yonder deer and take its heart back to
- 31 the Queen while you escape.
- 32 S.WHITE: You're going to shoot that sweet deer?
- 33 HUNTSMAN: Either that or you, my sweet dear.
- 34 S.WHITE: Okay, okay, I'm going. (*She leaves*)
- 35 HUNTSMAN: I only hope the Queen doesn't know the

- 1 HUNTSMAN: *(contd)* difference between a deer heart and a
 2 human heart. *(He shoots arrow and leaves)*
- 3 S.WHITE: *(She returns, lost in the woods, goes up Onstage.)*
 4 This really galls me. Why do I have to give up my old soft
 5 palace life for tromping around in the woods, without even
 6 another dress to wear? I should have at least packed a couple
 7 suitcases. And think of the career I'm giving up. With my
 8 beauty I might have been a Miss Universe or a movie star.
 9 *(She notices the house of the Dwarfs)* What a cute little
 10 house. I wonder if anyone's home. *(She knocks at door)*
 11 I'm tired and hungry. Maybe I could go in and wait for the
 12 people to come home. *(The door is locked, but she feels*
 13 *over the lintel and looks under the welcome mat, where*
 14 *she finds a key. She opens the door and enters. She is awed*
 15 *by its untidiness.)* Oh, this place is so messy. Maybe I could
 16 get a job as housekeeper and clean it up. I'm not named
 17 Snow White for nothing. Oh, here's a sandwich on the table.
 18 It doesn't look too bad. Hmmm. *(She takes a bite of it)* Oh,
 19 look at those coins. *(She fills up a skirt pocket with coins*
 20 *from the table)* I should leave some, but I may need them
 21 all. And what a marvelous stamp collection. I wish I had
 22 that. Mine is so small compared to this one. Oh, it has the
 23 1894 hexagonal Lithuanian pink. I must have it. *(She takes*
 24 *it. She sits down on a chair and then gets up angrily.)* This
 25 chair is too hard. Why can't they have a decent soft chair
 26 for a guest. I can't stand it. I'm tired and I'd like to sit on
 27 something comfortable! *(She picks up a man's magazine,*
 28 *perhaps called "Playdwarf", from the floor and leafs*
 29 *through it.)* Oh, my! Very interesting. *(Reads a moment)*
 30 I think I'll lie down. I should clean up a little, but I don't
 31 feel like it. *(Lies down)* This is the life. *(Falls asleep)*
 32 *(Dwarfs come down aisle, noisily singing and enter house.)*
- 33 HAUGHTY: Someone's been making crumbs in my clean
 34 house. I worked so hard and someone comes
 35 along to spoil it.

- 1 HUNGRY: My sandwich has been nibbled on. I'm starved
 2 and my snack is gone. (*He eats a candy bar*)
- 3 GREEDY: My money, my money, my money, my money.
 4 It's gone, it's gone, it's gone.
- 5 ENVIOUS: So what, you've got lots more, but someone took
 6 my 1894 hexagonal Lithuanian pink. I'll never be able to
 7 get another one of those. Now Grumpy will have a better
 8 collection than me.
- 9 ANGRY: (*Very angrily*) Someone's been sitting in my chair!
- 10 HAUGHTY: That's another story.
- 11 ANGRY: No! Someone has been in my chair! I'll kill him
 12 if I catch him. I'll kill him, I'll kill him.
- 13 LUSTFUL: Hmm, someone has also been reading my
 14 magazine. (*He becomes engrossed in it himself*)
- 15 LAZY: (*Yawning*) And someone is sleeping in my bed.
 16 Just when I need a nap.
- 17 ALL: A trespasser. A thief. An indolent girl. A house-
 18 breaker. A burglar. A chick. A Goldilocks!
- 19 S.WHITE: (*Suddenly wakes up, startled.*) Oh! Don't hurt
 20 me. Here — here are your things back. (*She returns the*
 21 *money and stamp; Greedy counts the money as Envious*
 22 *proudly returns the stamp to the book.*) My stepmother, the
 23 wicked Queen, wants to kill me, so I've had to run away. I
 24 don't know where to go.
- 25 HAUGHTY: Well, if you're a princess, I guess you're good
 26 enough to stay here.
- 27 LAZY: Not in my bed.
- 28 LUSTFUL: You can use my bed, my dear.
- 29 ANGRY: She'll sleep in her own bed!
- 30 HUNGRY: Another mouth to feed.
- 31 S.WHITE: I promise I'll work for my keep.
- 32 LAZY: We could use a housekeeper to do all the work.
- 33 ENVIOUS: Even the Hobbits don't have a housekeeper.
- 34 HAUGHTY: So, will you stay?
- 35 S.WHITE: Oh, yes, for a while. This house is so charming.

- 1 **S.WHITE:** *(contd)* A little messy maybe. By the way, my
2 name is Snow White.
- 3 **HAUGHTY:** *(Proudly)* My name is Haughty.
- 4 **ANGRY:** *(Angrily)* I'm Angry.
- 5 **LUSTFUL:** *(Leering)* I'm called Lustful.
- 6 **ENVIOUS:** I'm Envious.
- 7 **LAZY:** *(Yawning)* Call me Lazy.
- 8 **GREEDY:** Greedy. Can you pay for your room and board?
- 9 **HUNGRY:** I'm Hungry, and it seems to me it's time for you
10 to get supper ready.
- 11 **S.WHITE:** Well then, show me the kitchen. *(They all go out)*
12
- 13 **SCENE:** Queen's palace. *(She is at Mirror)*
14 **QUEEN:** *(Confidently lilting, about to be happy.)* Mirror,
15 mirror on the wall. Who's the fairest of us all?
- 16 **MIRROR:** You're not going to like this.
- 17 **QUEEN:** Answer the question, or you'll be ground glass.
- 18 **MIRROR:** The fairest of all is Snow White!
- 19 **QUEEN:** Snow White? Snow White! Snow White is dead!
20 I ate her heart in a pie.
- 21 **MIRROR:** Snow White lives in the forest with the Seven
22 Dwarfs.
- 23 **QUEEN:** Alive! I'll kill her for being alive!
24
- 25 **SCENE:** Dwarfs' house.
- 26 **S.WHITE:** *(At door waving)* Goodbye, goodbye. Have a
27 nice day! *(She begins to sweep with a broom,*
28 *humming "Whistle While You Work".)*
- 29 *(Queen, disguised as an old woman, comes to the door and*
30 *knocks. Snow White opens the door.)*
- 31 **QUEEN:** Hello. Could I interest you in some pretty clothes?
- 32 **S.WHITE:** I don't know. Well, maybe you could. You see, I
33 really only have this one dress, and it is wearing out.
- 34 **QUEEN:** I have some lovely things that will make you very
35 beautiful. They're the latest fashion besides.

- 1 S.WHITE: Well, I don't have much money. But can I try them
2 on?
- 3 QUEEN: Help yourself. Here's a stunning number I'm sure
4 you'll find to be a knockout. *(She hands her a*
5 *dress)*
- 6 S.WHITE: Do you really think so?
- 7 QUEEN: It'll take your breath away.
- 8 S.WHITE: I'll try it. *(Puts it on over her other dress)*
- 9 QUEEN: Even the lilies of the field aren't dressed like this.
10 Let me tighten the belt.
- 11 S.WHITE: I feel so marvelous. If only the dwarfs could see
12 me. Say, aren't dwarfs supposed to be short? Oh,
13 never mind. How much is this dress? Do you take
14 Master Charge?
- 15 QUEEN: Wear it for a while, and then we'll worry about
16 payment. It has a lifetime guarantee, by the way.
17 *(She pulls the belt tight)*
- 18 S.WHITE: I can't breathe. *(She falls to the ground)*
- 19 QUEEN: I can hardly wait to get back to my mirror. *(Leaves)*
20 *(The Dwarfs come home noisily again but don't notice Snow*
21 *White on the floor when they first enter)*
- 22 HAUGHTY: Snow White hasn't finished the cleaning.
- 23 LAZY: How indolent of her.
- 24 ENVIOUS: We should have hired Cinderella instead.
- 25 HUNGRY: Supper isn't ready! And I could eat a unicorn.
- 26 ANGRY: Where is the girl? She should be scolded, beaten.
- 27 LUSTFUL: Look. On the floor.
- 28 HAUGHTY: It's Snow White.
- 29 LAZY: Sleeping.
- 30 ENVIOUS: Is she dead?
- 31 HAUGHTY: *(Bending over her)* No. Let's loosen her dress.
- 32 LUSTFUL: I'll do it.
- 33 HAUGHTY: Never mind. *(He loosens the belt)*
- 34 HUNGRY: She's coming around. Ask her to fix supper.
- 35 S.WHITE: I must have fainted.

- 1 **HAUGHTY:** Where did you get that dress?
2 **S.WHITE:** A nice old lady brought it. Where is she?
3 **HAUGHTY:** It was the queen. Quick, go get the dress off.
4 **HUNGRY:** And fix some supper.
5 **ANGRY:** Let me get my hands on that queen!
6 **ENVOIOUS:** Gee, that dress is prettier than anything we
7 could give Snow White.
8 **GREEDY:** We could keep it.
9 **LUSTFUL:** It fits her nice.
10 **HAUGHTY:** Stop it! Get rid of the dress. Now the queen
11 knows Snow White is here. She'll have to leave. (*Snow*
12 *White finishes taking off dress*)
13 **LAZY:** Can't we guard her? I'll stay home from work
14 and keep watch.
15 **ENVOIOUS:** We could take turns.
16 **LUSTFUL:** Count me in.
17 **GREEDY:** Won't the Queen think she's dead and leave her
18 alone?
19 **S.WHITE:** I'll be all right. I'll be more careful.
20 **HAUGHTY:** From now on, Snow White, you must keep the
21 door locked and open it to no one. (*They go off*)
22
23 **SCENE:** Back at the palace. (*Queen is in front of mirror*)
24 **QUEEN:** All right, Mirror, are you ready?
25 **MIRROR:** Are you going to say that stupid jingle again?
26 **QUEEN:** Mirror, mirror on the wall, who is fairest of us all?
27 **MIRROR:** Queenie, Queenie, not so bright, the fairest of
28 all is Snow White.
29 **QUEEN:** Look again, Mirror. There is no Snow White. I
30 myself have killed her.
31 **MIRROR:** Look, babe, it's like this. I can see into all the
32 homes in the world, wherever there's a mirror. And looking
33 in a mirror right now, as she does quite often, is Snow
34 White in the house of the Seven Dwarfs. Aren't dwarfs
35 supposed to be short? Never mind. You, I admit, are quite

- 1 MIRROR: (*contd*) attractive, an eight or nine on a scale of
 2 one to ten. But Snow White is fairest of all.
- 3 QUEEN: Curses! Foiled again! But I'm not defeated yet.
 4 (*Goes off*)
- 5
- 6 SCENE: Back at the house of the Dwarfs. (*Snow White is*
 7 *again sweeping and singing softly, "Some Day My Prince*
 8 *Will Come".*) (*The Queen enters dressed in modern*
 9 *clothes. She knocks.*)
- 10 S.WHITE: Who is it?
- 11 QUEEN: The Ravon Lady. I have wonderful products
 12 that will make you more beautiful.
- 13 S.WHITE: I'm sorry. I can't open the door.
- 14 QUEEN: Well then, may I leave you a free gift? I have a
 15 magic comb that can make your hair the most beautiful in
 16 the world. Comb your hair with it twice a day and get rid
 17 of the frizzies. Wear it in your hair and your hair will never
 18 be more beautiful.
- 19 S.WHITE: You'll have to put it through the mail slot.
- 20 QUEEN: All right. I'll come back next week, and if you
 21 like you can buy some of my alluring perfumes to catch
 22 the man of your dreams. (*She puts the comb through the*
 23 *slot*) Use it in good health, ha, ha, ha. (*She leaves*)
- 24 S.WHITE: (*Picks up comb, goes to mirror and puts it in her*
 25 *hair.*) What right have the Dwarfs to keep me from looking
 26 beautiful so I can marry a handsome, tall, sexy man some
 27 day. They just want me to stay with them and clean up and
 28 fix their meals. Oh! (*She falls to the floor*)
 29 (*The Dwarfs return, enter the house, and see Snow White*
 30 *on the floor.*)
- 31 HAUGHTY: Snow White is on the floor again.
- 32 HUNGRY: Again no supper ready.
- 33 ANGRY: This has got to stop! Somebody's going to pay!
- 34 LAZY: Someone try to revive her.
- 35 GREEDY: No pretty dress this time.

- 1 HAUGHTY: Look, there's a comb in her hair. Let me take it
 2 out. Maybe I'll save her again. (*Snow White revives*)
 3 S.WHITE: What happened?
 4 HAUGHTY: Did you let anyone in?
 5 S.WHITE: No. The only one who came to the door was the
 6 Ravon Lady and she only gave me a pretty comb through
 7 the mail slot.
 8 ENVIOUS: The wicked queen again.
 9 LAZY: What are we going to do now? This has to stop.
 10 Show White isn't getting any work done.
 11 GREEDY: We can't miss work, and we don't want Snow
 12 White to leave.
 13 HAUGHTY: We should be smart enough to protect her
 14 somehow. Snow White, you must talk to no strangers,
 15 accept no gifts. Keep the house locked at all times and stay
 16 indoors. And let's get rid of that comb. (*Angry goes off*
 17 *with the comb*)
 18 S.WHITE: All right! Whatever you say. I'll trust no one.
 19 (*They go off*)
 20
 21 SCENE: The Queen is at her mirror.
 22 QUEEN: I think I have you this time, Mirror. Mirror,
 23 mirror, on the wall, who is fairest of us all?
 24 MIRROR: You're persistent, aren't you? Roses are red,
 25 violets are blue, the fairest of all sure isn't you. It is, ho
 26 hum, Snow White.
 27 QUEEN: Snow White! (*In a rage*) You lie!
 28 MIRROR: Have it your way, madam. I calls 'em the way I
 29 sees 'em, and Snow White keeps getting fairer every day.
 30 You should see how beautiful her new comb made her hair.
 31 QUEEN: I'll get her yet! I'll get her! Three's the charm.
 32 This time I shall not fail. (*Goes off*)
 33
 34 SCENE: At Dwarfs' house. (*They are leaving for work*)
 35 HAUGHTY: Remember, don't even let anyone know you're

- 1 **HAUGHTY:** *(contd) here.*
- 2 **S.WHITE:** *(At door) I won't. (Dwarfs leave, she closes door.)*
 3 *(Queen appears dressed as herself with basket of apples.*
 4 *She knocks at door. No answer.)*
- 5 **QUEEN:** *(Loudly in disguised voice) No one home? What*
 6 *a pity. And I have such beautiful apples for sale. Why, this*
 7 *one was picked in the Garden of Eden itself. There has*
 8 *never been an apple more delicious. Besides that it has*
 9 *magical properties. It can make you a good person for the*
 10 *rest of your life because it will enable you to determine*
 11 *without a shadow of a doubt what is right and what is*
 12 *wrong. I myself have eaten this kind of apple and I can say*
 13 *the right thing to do is taste the apple. You'll see. I'll just*
 14 *leave this apple here with a note: "Free apple." Whoever*
 15 *finds it may eat it. Ta ta. (She leaves)*
- 16 **S.WHITE:** *(Looking out window) My, that apple does look*
 17 *good. Imagine being able to know for sure if something is*
 18 *right or wrong. Why, I'd always know whether or not it was*
 19 *the queen trying to kill me. I'd know whether it was right*
 20 *to eat this apple. Besides, if it were the queen, she wouldn't*
 21 *leave it where just anyone could eat it. She'd want to make*
 22 *sure I got it. (She opens door and cautiously looks out)*
 23 *What harm could come from an apple? An apple a day keeps*
 24 *the doctor away. (She quickly grabs the apple and darts*
 25 *back into the house, slamming the door. Then she looks at*
 26 *the apple a moment as if undecided. Finally she takes a*
 27 *bite out of it. She grimaces.) Oh, oh. I think it was wrong*
 28 *to eat this apple. (She falls to the floor)*
 29 *(The Dwarfs return, enter house, and see Snow White.)*
- 30 **HAUGHTY:** Snow White!
- 31 **ANGRY:** That's it! I'm going to the palace and tear the
 32 queen limb from limb!
- 33 **HAUGHTY:** I'll revive her again. Give her air. *(He kneels to*
 34 *help her. Hungry picks up the apple and eats it.)*

- 1 HAUGHTY: Wake up, Snow White!
- 2 ENVIOUS: She looks so peaceful.
- 3 LAZY: I wouldn't mind lying down for a nap myself.
- 4 HAUGHTY: Wake up!
- 5 LUSTFUL: Loosen her clothing?
- 6 HUNGRY: (*Finishing apple*) Is she dead? Aren't we going
7 to get any supper?
- 8 GREEDY: She must have an inheritance. I wonder if we'd
9 be entitled to any of it?
- 10 HAUGHTY: I can feel a pulse. It's me, Haughty. Wake up,
11 Snow White.
- 12 LAZY: Why don't you put her in her bed until she wakes
13 up. (*They put her in cot and go off*)
- 14
- 15 SCENE: Palace. Queen before mirror.
- 16 QUEEN: Mirror, mirror, on the wall, who is fairest of us
17 all?
- 18 MIRROR: Well, I haven't seen Snow White looking in a
19 mirror for several weeks now. Therefore, by default, you,
20 O Queen, are fairest of all — though you really don't play
21 fair, so in a sense you are not fair at all. But if you are
22 talking about beauty which can be reflected in a mirror and
23 which is only skin deep —
- 24 QUEEN: Spare me the sermon, Mirror. Just answer the
25 question.
- 26 MIRROR: You, I must admit regretfully, are the fairest of
27 all.
- 28 QUEEN: Ah ha. At last. The most beautiful in the world.
29 I'm number one! (*Holds up one finger*)
- 30
- 31 SCENE: Dwarfs' house. (*Snow White is lying supine on*
32 *the cot.*) (*Prince Charming enters, knocks on door, enters*
33 *house.*)
- 34 PRINCE: Snow White, listen to me. You lie here asleep in
35 your own wrongdoing. You have been proud, greedy,

- 1 **PRINCE:** (*contd*) envious, gluttonous, lustful, slothful, and
 2 wrathful. But though your sins be as scarlet, they can be as
 3 white as snow — yes, dear, you can wear your name justly.
 4 You may live with me in a palace beyond imagining, but
 5 you must give up your old way of life. You must be
 6 unselfish, loving, kind, patient, generous, obedient. I am
 7 going to kiss you. If you wish to follow me, you will wake
 8 up and we will leave this house forever. If you wish to
 9 remain here in your old life, you will not wake up. (*Pause*)
 10 I know you have heard me, so now I will kiss you. (*He*
 11 *kisses her on the forehead*) (*She lies there a moment. Then*
 12 *her eyes open. Then she smiles. Then she leaps up, grabs*
 13 *the prince, and dances off with him.*)
 14
- 15 **SCENE:** Palace. Queen at Mirror.
 16 **MIRROR:** Here we go again, I suppose.
 17 **QUEEN:** I must make sure nobody else has usurped my
 18 place.
 19 **MIRROR:** Get it over with.
 20 **QUEEN:** Since the demise of Snow White, this has become
 21 a real pleasure for me.
 22 **MIRROR:** Yes, but twelve times a day is ridiculous.
 23 **QUEEN:** In that case, I'll increase it to twenty-four times
 24 a day. Mirror, mirror, on the wall, who is fairest of us all?
 25 **MIRROR:** Snow White.
 26 **QUEEN:** Don't joke.
 27 **MIRROR:** I'm not joking. Snow White is fairer than ever.
 28 You're not even a close second.
 29 **QUEEN:** What! Snow White is dead! She is out of the
 30 picture!
 31 **MIRROR:** No. Snow White has been revived by the Prince's
 32 kiss. She can never die now.
 33 (*Queen, in a rage, screams and collapses in a*
 34 *heap to the floor, dead.*)
 35 (*THE END*)

SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS

Bible Verses: Matthew 5:17-30; Ephesians 5:1-5;
Galatians 5:19-26; Isaiah 1:18-20;
Exodus 1-17

1. How is Snow White guilty of all seven deadly sins?
2. Psychiatrist Karl Menninger in his book Whatever Became of Sin? gives a modern interpretation to the seven deadly sins. Pride has become a national virtue ("We're number one!" "Be proud of your country!"); sexual taboos are no longer taboo but are part of the daily media and exploited for money and power; an affluent America indulges in a gluttony of not only food but drugs and alcohol; anger manifests itself in the eruption of violence in many forms in our society, including protests, riots, and just plain rudeness; sloth appears in our reliance on electrical labor saving devices, including TV, apathy ("I don't want to get involved") and a general lack of discipline in education and work; and avarice and envy are connected to our affluence, our feeling that we have a right to buy great quantities of goods because, after all, our neighbors do. What are some specific examples of how each of these seven sins are not only thriving in our society but are deemed "virtues"?
3. How do the deadly sins differ from the Ten Commandments?
4. The forbidden fruit in the Garden of Eden (Genesis 2 and 3) was, of course, not an apple but "the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil". Why do you suppose God didn't want man to know good and evil? How does the life of Snow White before eating the fruit differ from that of Eve?
5. What does Snow White's sleep seem to represent?

SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS (*contd*)

6. Who is the Prince? What does Snow White have to do to go with him? What might that symbolize?
7. The Queen is a Devil figure. Would the Devil have any reason to be jealous of mankind? How can the Devil be defeated?

Little Red Riding Hood and the Devil

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CAST: Mother, Red Riding Hood, Grandmother,
Devil, Woodcutter

SCENE: Little Red's house. Doorframe Stage
Right. Bed, table, and chair in house.

(Mother and Little Red enter)

MOTHER: Little Red Riding Hood, you must take this fruit
to Grandmother. She is feeling very low. These will help
her. *(Mother proceeds to drop fruit and cans which have
been labeled with the names of virtues into a picnic basket)*
First, here's some love . . . *(Drops apple into basket)*, then
there's joy . . . *(Banana)*, peace . . . *(Pear)*, patience . . .
(Orange), kindness . . . *(Can of Peaches)*, goodness . . . *(Can
of Pineapple)*, faithfulness . . . *(Can of Plums)*, humility . . .
(Apricots), self-control . . . *(Prunes)*. There. That'll do it.
They'll lift her spirits.

RED: I'll hurry as fast as I can.

MOTHER: Good. Remember, don't talk to strangers.

RED: I won't.

MOTHER: You won't remember?

RED: I won't talk to strangers.

MOTHER: That's a good girl. And keep to the straight and
narrow path. Don't get off it.

RED: I will.

MOTHER: You'll get off the path?

RED: I'll keep to the straight and narrow.

MOTHER: That's a good girl. And try not to tell Grandma
what big ears she has. She's very sensitive about
them.

RED: I'll try.

1 MOTHER: You'll try to tell her!

2 RED: Goodbye, Mother. We're wasting precious time.

3 MOTHER: Yes, go along. Be careful of the basket. Don't

4 lose anything.

5 RED: I will. I won't. Bye-bye. *(She goes off to area in*

6 *front of stage, walks along back and forth.)*

7 *(Devil appears. He has a forked tail and large*

8 *wolf ears.)*

9 DEVIL: Good morning, Miss.

10 RED: You're a stranger, aren't you?

11 DEVIL: Oh, no. I'm a stranger to no one. Everyone is

12 quite familiar with me.

13 RED: Well, I don't know . . . you look strange to me.

14 DEVIL: Where are you going?

15 RED: I'm on my way to my grandmother's house. She's

16 been rather depressed.

17 DEVIL: Good. I mean it's good you're going to help her.

18 What's in the basket?

19 RED: Some goods for Grandma.

20 DEVIL: Goods! Oh, no. *(To audience)* My business is bad.

21 I must not let her deliver the goods to Grandma. *(To Red)*

22 I don't suppose you'd let me deliver them for you. I'm

23 very quick.

24 RED: No, I wouldn't. Besides, if I talk to Grandma, I

25 could cheer her up. She's been feeling awfully

26 sorry for herself.

27 DEVIL: But feeling sorry for yourself is so much fun. And

28 if you don't feel sorry for yourself, who's going to feel

29 sorry for you?

30 RED: That sounds like the Devil's argument to me.

31 DEVIL: Well, yes. Ah, it's been nice meeting you, but I

32 have to run now. *(To audience)* I know a shortcut through

33 the strawberry patch to Grandma's house. It's a strawberry

34 shortcut. Toodle-oooo. *(Wolf howl)*

35 RED: See you.

- 1 **DEVIL:** Little does she know. (*Devil goes up one aisle*
 2 *and Red goes off another way. The Devil comes back from*
 3 *a different way to Grandma's cottage. Grandma enters in*
 4 *a long nightgown and novelty ears and lies on a cot. Devil*
 5 *knocks.*) Grandmother, grandmother, let me come in.
- 6 **GRANDMA:** Not by the hair of my chinny-chin-chin. Who's
 7 there?
- 8 **DEVIL:** Lucifer.
- 9 **GRANDMA:** Lucifer who?
- 10 **DEVIL:** I'll knock your faith loose-if-er (*Lucifer*) not
 11 careful. (*To audience*) If I can get her to believe that, I've
 12 got her right where I want her.
- 13 **GRANDMA:** Oh, would you? I'm feeling very low, and it
 14 wouldn't take much to knock my faith loose. I think I'm
 15 going through a dark night of the soul. God doesn't seem
 16 to confide in me anymore.
- 17 **DEVIL:** Did it ever occur to you that that might be
 18 because there is no God? May I come in,
 19 Grandmother?
- 20 **GRANDMA:** The door's open. (*Devil enters*)
- 21 **DEVIL:** Why Grandma, what big ears you have.
- 22 **GRANDMA:** Hush your mouth!
- 23 **DEVIL:** No, my dear. I can't hush my mouth. I must
 24 prevent Red Riding Hood from delivering the goods. So, off
 25 you go into the closet. (*He tries to pick her up*)
- 26 **GRANDMA:** Wait a minute. You can't do this. I have my
 27 rights as a grandmother.
- 28 **DEVIL:** You would rather I devour you on the spot?
- 29 **GRANDMA:** On the other hand, I might enjoy a good gloomy
 30 closet right now. (*She goes off with him on her own power*)
 31 (*Red enters and makes speech as Devil returns in a long*
 32 *nightgown*)
- 33 **RED:** I wonder where that wolf went in such a hurry.
 34 He seemed like a fairly nice fellow, though you can never
 35 be sure about a wolf. Or rather, I should say, you can

- 1 RED: (*contd*) always be sure about a wolf. A wolf by
 2 any other name would smell the same, or something like
 3 that. A wolf is a wolf is a wolf. (*To audience*) Don't mind
 4 me, I'm just killing time. (*Ad lib further if necessary until*
 5 *Devil is in bed*) (*Red goes to door and knocks*)
- 6 DEVIL: (*Falsetto*) Who's there?
- 7 RED: Little Red Riding Hood.
- 8 DEVIL: Little Red Riding Hood who?
- 9 RED: (*Looks at audience*) Little Red Riding Hood who?
 10 How many Little Red Riding Hoods could there
 11 be? (*Shouts*) Your granddaughter!
- 12 DEVIL: Oh, that Little Red Riding Hood. Come in.
- 13 RED: (*Enters*) Hi Grandma, I've brought you some
 14 goods to perk you up in an instant.
- 15 DEVIL: Which is it? Instant or perk?
- 16 RED: Even your sense of humor is low, Grandma.
- 17 DEVIL: Well, where I come from there isn't much joking.
- 18 RED: (*Looks at Devil*) Wow, you really are in a bad
 19 way, Grandma.
- 20 DEVIL: (*Primping*) You might say I've come out of the
 21 closet.
- 22 RED: I wasn't supposed to say this, but what
 23 extraordinarily big ears you have, Grandmother.
- 24 DEVIL: The better to hear evil with, my dear.
- 25 RED: And what big eyes you have.
- 26 DEVIL: The better to see evil with, my dear.
- 27 RED: And what a big mouth you have.
- 28 DEVIL: The better to speak evil, my dear.
- 29 RED: I bet you're really not my grandmother.
- 30 DEVIL: Give me the basket, my dear. I'll dispose of it
 31 for you.
- 32 RED: No. As long as I have it, you can't harm me.
 33 What have you done with my grandma?
- 34 DEVIL: She's been shelved for a while. I've decided to
 35 keep her in the dark. Won't you join me for breakfast?

- 1 **DEVIL:** *(contd)* I'm planning to have soul food.
- 2 **RED:** No, thank you. I've already eaten. Besides, I
- 3 think I hear my mother calling me. *(She backs to*
- 4 *door with basket as Devil starts to get out of bed)*
- 5 **DEVIL:** You can't escape me! Don't be afraid. All I want
- 6 is the basket for now. We can make a deal, I'm sure. Let's
- 7 make a deal. I can give you much more than what's in the
- 8 basket. I can give you success, status, pride, wealth,
- 9 popularity, freedom . . .
- 10 *(Woodcutter appears with axe)*
- 11 **RED:** No, no! *(She runs out)* Help, help! Save me!
- 12 *(Devil comes out)*
- 13 **W.CUTTER:** I've heard of a wolf in sheep's clothing, but I
- 14 didn't think it meant a wool flannel nightie.
- 15 **DEVIL:** This is flame-proof polyester. Let me have the girl.
- 16 **W.CUTTER:** No, she has come to me. Devil, I'm going to chop
- 17 you into firewood, roast you on a spit. I'll make you groan
- 18 and weep and gnash your teeth. I'll destroy you forever.
- 19 **DEVIL:** *(To audience)* Something tells me I'd better
- 20 leave. For a while. I'll be seeing you. *(Then sings "in all the*
- 21 *old familiar places, that my thirsting heart embraces" and*
- 22 *runs off with the Woodcutter after him. Red goes back*
- 23 *into the house.)*
- 24 **RED:** Grandma?
- 25 **GRANDMA:** *(Offstage)* I'm here. *(Red lets her out of closet)*
- 26 **RED:** How are you feeling, Grandma?
- 27 **GRANDMA:** Much better. As long as I was in the closet with
- 28 nothing to do, I prayed for help.
- 29 **RED:** And help came.
- 30 **GRANDMA:** Did I overhear you say you brought some fruit
- 31 for me? I have rather big ears you know.
- 32 **RED:** Yes.
- 33 **GRANDMA:** *(Insulted)* Yes, I have big ears!
- 34 **RED:** Yes, I brought you some fruit. Here it is.
- 35 **GRANDMA:** Thank you. You know, when I was in the closet,

1 GRANDMA: (*contd*) I was thinking that instead of feeling
2 sorry for myself, I could use this fruit and start helping
3 others. Isn't that a good idea? Have I really been so bad?
4 RED: Yes.
5 GRANDMA: I have been so bad?
6 RED: It's a good idea. Let's just get Offstage, Grandma.
7 GRANDMA: (*As they leave*) You know, I've often told your
8 mother that Little Red Riding Hood was a silly name to
9 give a child. But sometimes I'm just too critical.
10 RED: I agree.
11 GRANDMA: That I'm too critical!
12 RED: That Red Riding Hood is a silly name. Once in a
13 while I'd like to wear blue or green or stripes or plaid.
14 (*They exit*) (*Devil and Woodcutter come running back and*
15 *dash up aisle and out the back*)

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17 (*THE END*)
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LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD AND THE DEVIL

1. Some states of depression are more deeply rooted than others; some people seem to be depressed often, some hardly ever. What are some causes of depression? What are some cures for depression?
2. How does one incorporate the fruits of the spirit into one's life? (They are listed in Galatians 5:22-23.) If they are "fruits" of the Spirit, shouldn't they be natural to the Christian? How big a role does temperament play in a person's manifesting the fruits?
3. Why does the Devil say he'll have the grandmother where he wants her if he can get her to believe he can "knock her faith loose"?
4. A "dark night of the soul" is more likely to be experienced by monks and nuns in cloister who spend long periods in prayer and meditation, not the person who leads a busy life in the world. Why is that? Why is the contemplative life spent in much prayer nevertheless considered of great value? Do you think the grandmother prays much?
5. Why do you suppose Red is able to recognize the Devil for what he is?
6. Symbolically what might be represented by Red's calling for help and letting the Woodcutter attack the wolf?
7. Do you agree that Grandmother would not be so depressed if she spent more time helping other people? Why or why not?
8. Read and discuss Philippians 4:8.

The Three Little Pigs Build Their Churches

CAST: 1st Pig, 2nd Pig, 3rd Pig, Wolf

SCENE: In the middle of the stage is a door frame. Stage Left there is a cot and a stepladder. The Three Pigs are in the area in front of the stage.

3RD PIG: The Big Bad Wolf is prowling about, seeking whom he may to devour. We'll have to build strong churches to keep him out.

1ST PIG: I'll build a bright new modern church.

2ND PIG: I'll build a magnificent structure.

3RD PIG: I'll build my church with the Bible.

1ST PIG: What! That book of myths and inaccuracies!

2ND PIG: The Bible's nice, but it's on money the church relies.

3RD PIG: We'll see, we'll see who the wolf eats and who eats the wolf.

1ST PIG: I don't think there is a wolf.

2ND PIG: My church will keep the wolf from the door.

3RD PIG: Well then, let's get to work. *(The 2nd and 3rd Pigs go off in opposite directions while the 1st Pig goes up on the stage. He mimes building a house from the outside while he talks.)*

1ST PIG: Here's a nice stretch of sand to build on. The sanctuary will be in the shape of an "S" to symbolize society, for whom my church will be built. A church must be built on good deeds and social works. It must have programs and committees. It must get involved in politics, it must crusade for causes, it must receive all minorities, it must clothe, feed, and give shelter. It must raise people's consciousness. Jesus was first and foremost a revolutionary.

1 **1ST PIG:** *(contd)* The steeple will have a beacon instead of a
2 bell at the top and it will be triangular. It will stand by
3 itself apart from the church building as a sign that this
4 church will go out into the world shining its light, the three
5 sides symbolizing mankind, animalkind, and nature, for my
6 church will save the world from pollution, war, disease,
7 poverty, and prejudice. *(1st Pig goes inside the church. The*
8 *Wolf comes to the door. He should be dressed in gray with*
9 *a forked tail. He knocks on the door.)*

10 **WOLF:** Little pig, little pig, let me come in.

11 **1ST PIG:** Not by the hair of my chinny-chin-chin. *(Aside)*
12 What a silly, unsophisticated thing to say.

13 **WOLF:** Then I'll huff and I'll puff and I'll blow your
14 church in.

15 **1ST PIG:** Wait! There's no need for violence. *(Opens door)*
16 Come on in. All are welcome. Maybe we can work
17 something out.

18 *(The Wolf goes through the door and then growls and*
19 *chases the squealing pig Offstage.) (2nd Pig then climbs up*
20 *Onstage and proceeds to mime building a church as he talks.)*

21 **2ND PIG:** I'm building a magnificent church as a glory to God.
22 The sanctuary will have a fifty foot ceiling, the finest
23 stained glass windows money can buy, and a 3000 seat
24 capacity. I'll build an air-conditioned educational wing,
25 condominiums, apartment buildings, recreation center, old
26 people's home and day-care center. On our farm I'll build
27 bigger and bigger barns. We'll have our own fleet of buses
28 and a TV show. We'll invest in the stock market. After all,
29 doesn't God promise to bless us a hundredfold in this life?
30 And if He doesn't give it to us, we'll get it by holding
31 bazaars, bingo games, raffles, suppers, sales, and so on.
32 After all, you can't expect people to tithe in today's
33 economy; though imagine what this church could do if
34 they did. Nevertheless, my church will be so rich that the
35 wolf will never get through the door.

1 *(The Wolf tiptoes up behind the Pig)*
2 WOLF: Little pig, little pig, let me come in.
3 2ND PIG: Not by the hair of my chinny-chin-chin.
4 WOLF: You fool, I already am in. *(He chases Pig Offstage)*
5 3RD PIG: *(Comes Onstage and starts to build)* I'm building
6 my church on solid rock. Jesus Christ is the cornerstone.
7 The building itself will be a glory to God without being
8 pretentious, but more important is the work of the church.
9 We will preach the Gospel, help the poor, support missions,
10 tithe, instruct our people in Scripture. We will praise, thank,
11 and worship the one God and be united in Spirit. Hard as
12 he might try, the Wolf will not get us. *(He kneels in a pos-*
13 *ture of prayer, hands folded.)* Lord, to you I commit my
14 church. Help me in the building of it.
15 WOLF: *(At door)* Little pig, little pig. Let me come in, or
16 I'll huff and I'll puff and I'll blow your house in.
17 *(Does so without success)*
18 3RD PIG: In the name of our Lord, go away!
19 WOLF: *(Shocked, starts to leave, muttering.)* Whatever
20 happened to chinny-chin-chin?
21 3RD PIG: I think it's time to add a log to the fire. *(He mimes*
22 *putting a log in a fire next to the stepladder as the*
23 *Wolf climbs it.)* This fire never goes out.
24 *(Wolf jumps down into "fire," lets out great yell,*
25 *grabs rear end, and runs off.)*
26 3RD PIG: Against my church, not even the gates of Hell
27 shall prevail. *(Chases Wolf)*
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29 *(THE END)*
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THE THREE LITTLE PIGS BUILD THEIR CHURCHES

1. Look at the first pig's speeches. Just what is wrong with his theology? What is right about it? What then is his real fallacy?
2. What is right and wrong about the second pig's theology?
3. Figuratively how did the wolf get in the second pig's house?
4. The third pig stresses fundamentals of faith. What are some "fundamentals" that various religious groups might add to his statement? Do you think anything has been left out? Is there anything you'd omit from the third pig's list?
5. Who might the wolf represent? Why is the pig an appropriate animal for the first two church builders? Is being a pig in any way appropriate for the third one?
6. Read and discuss the following Bible passages:

1 Peter 6:10
Matthew 10:16
John 10:7-15
Matthew 6:19-24
Luke 12:16-21



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