
MISSION IMPROBABLE

Concept: A spy is sent out with a mission to find the Messiah. After three unsuccessful candidates are interviewed, Spy Control informs Agent X that more information about the Messiah is available in a book, the Bible.

Cast: **Agent X** — sent on the mission
Spy Control — Sends Agent X out on his mission
Messiah #1 — Anemic and Ascetic
Messiah #2 — Bossy and Berating
Messiah #3 — "Love Bomber"

Props: Trench coats, hats, walkie-talkies for Agent X and Spy Control, biblical costumes for Messiahs

*Agent X and Spy Control enter. Mission Impossible theme playing in the background quite loudly.
Agent X and Spy Control move to center stage, standing back to back a few feet apart*

S.C.: *(Attempts to speak into walkie-talkie over the music)* Agent X, do you read?

X: *(Cannot hear what Spy Control is saying)* What did you say?

S.C.: *(Louder)* I said, do you read?

X: I still can't hear you. *(Moves to turn off music)*

S.C.: *(Shouts when music is shut off)* I SAID, DO YOU READ?!

X: Yeah, me and about half the city. I thought this was supposed to be a secret mission; hold it down, will ya?

(Agent X and Spy Control turn back-to-back and begin using walkie-talkies again.)

S.C.: Your mission, Agent X, should you choose to accept it, is to find the Messiah.

X: The who?

S.C: The Messiah, a man who does amazing things. We understand that He spoke to a storm and it stopped, made a paralyzed man walk and fed 5,000 with only 5 loaves of bread and 2 sardines. This man claims to be God. It makes sense because only God can do these things. But the Jewish leaders are really angry about all this. Remember, should you be captured, you and the mission could be in danger. Therefore, Spy Control will disavow any knowledge of your actions. Any questions?

X: Yeah, what does "disavow" mean?

S.C.: That's on a need to know basis, and you don't. Good Luck, Agent X. *(Spy Control exits)*

(Agent X walks around the class, searching for clues to the Messiah. While he is off-stage, Messiah #1 enters and sits center stage. He is pale and weak-looking. Agent X nearly stumbles over him as he returns to the stage.)

X: Excuse me, do you know where I can find the Messiah?

M1: *(Weakly)* Right here.

X: You're the Messiah?

M1: Yeah, I'm him.

X: Well, uh, how do you do?

M1: Oh, not very well. It's a very hard life here on the desert. I have to get up at 3 o'clock in the morning and meditate for three or so hours. Then I have breakfast. Then I pray for six or eight hours and meditate some more. Then I go to bed at about eleven. Then I get up at three to start the whole thing again.

X: Well, uh, do you have any proof that you're the Messiah? Have you run across any paralyzed men lately?

M1: What's that have to do with anything? I don't have to prove anything to you. I know who I am. I say I am the Messiah, so I must be him. Now, if you'll excuse me, I don't have time to talk to you or anybody. I have some meditation to catch up on. Could you give me a lift?

(Agent X helps Messiah #1 to his feet)

X: Have a nice day. *(Messiah #1 leaves and waves him off)* Hmm. He could have been the Messiah — NOT! It doesn't seem like he spends enough time with people to even know what they need, let alone heal them. I guess I'll have to keep looking.

(Agent X wanders around and Messiah #2 enters, Agent X returns to the stage)

X: Pardon me, do you know where I can find the Messiah?

M2: *(Gruffly)* Yer lookin' at him. What d'ya want?

X: Well, I'm trying to find the Messiah.

M2: What are you, deaf? I just said I'm the Messiah. But I sure ain't lookin' fer you. *(Storms off)* *(To kids as he exits)* Excuse me, can't ya see I'm walking here? Outta the way!

X: *(Considers if this is Messiah)* Well... nah. This guy didn't do anything that would show me he is God. He just stormed off. He couldn't stop the storm in himself, let alone on the sea. On with the search, I guess.

(Agent X continues searching the room. Messiah #3 enters and moves to center stage.)

X: Excuse me, I...

M3: *(Interrupts and moves in to hug Agent X)* I LOVE YOU, MAN!

X: *(Pulls himself away, and moves to exit)* Excuse me.

M3: Wait, wait. *(moves offstage)* I really love you, man. *(exits)*

(Agent X re-enters)

X: Boy, I really hope he's not the Messiah. He said the right words, but I'm suspicious. I would have to stick around for a while to see any proof that his love is real.

(S.C. enters. S.C. and Agent X move back-to-back, speaking through walkie-talkies)

S.C.: Did you have any luck in finding the Messiah?

X: Actually, yes. I found three who claimed to be him. But I'm pretty sure that none of them are the real thing. I don't think I have enough information to find him.

S.C.: We've come across a book that provides valuable information as to his identity.

X: A book, eh? What's a book?

S.C.: Well, it's made of paper, it has words in it and you read it. But that's not important right now. What is important is that this book is called the Bible. I have to take you back to Central to review it. It will give us the evidence we need.

X: Okay. Hey, what's all the commotion over there at that tomb? Looks like someone is dressed as a mummy. Let's go see what's going on.

(Agent X and Spy Control Exit)