

THE CASE OF THE "FISHY" LOOKING TOOLS

In advance: Provide the children of the church with various materials which would be purchased with One Great Hour of Sharing funds. At a designated time, have them bring the tools to the front of the sanctuary. (*If they are used to sitting down during this time, let them do so.*) Also give young people or older children the script to read. These readers could come up with the children or just rise from their seats in the congregation to read their parts. If young people or children are readers, you'll probably want to "run through" the skit a couple of times before actually doing it.

A character based on Sherlock Holmes of Sesame Street enters. (*Watch Sesame Street to find out more about him! Or you might locate him in the library.*)

Sherlock Hemlock: There's something fishy going on here. This is a church. There should be offering plates and hymn books and a choir here. And I see those. But I also see hoes and rakes and blankets and seeds and a whole lot of other things. Those aren't used by churches. What's going on?

Reader #1: But, Mr. Hemlock, they are used by churches. The money we give to One Great Hour of Sharing is used for things like we have here to help people around the world...

Reader #2: ...hoes and rakes to help people grow food in the Dominican Republic...

Reader #3: ...blankets to keep people warm after Hurricane Hugo or the earthquake or when disaster strikes anywhere...

Reader #4: ...seeds to grow food and trees in Senegal...

Reader #5: ...pots and pans to prepare food for poor children in Mexico...

Reader #6: ...maps and games and movies and books to help us learn more that we can do...

Reader #7: ...wrenches to help farmers build wells in the Philippines...

Reader #8: ...food to feed the starving in Sudan and Somalia.

Sherlock Hemlock: Ah. The mystery is solved. I see that God's work goes on outside the church too. Now the question is, can't we do more?

Leader: Let's pray. Thank you, God, that we can be part of your work all over the world through our One Great Hour of Sharing offering. Help us share more so that there will be more joy. In Jesus' name. Amen.