

1. *Prepare the message and the messenger:* pray, allow God to give you a message to share.
2. *Prop stand/prop arrangement:* Just don't pull stuff out of your bag...it helps to have things in order for really quick access. Your prop stand can reveal some juggling items to heighten interest and hide other items to keep the surprises! But the main thing is that it is organized for easy access.
3. *Location:* find a good space that a crowd can gather without causing an obstruction; make sure that you take the legal steps to secure that space.
4. *Professional/Unique look:* You don't have to wear a tux, a crazy tie or a clown outfit...maybe just bright green shoes with a t-shirt that matches, maybe a derby hat. Find a look that says, "I'm not just someone who plopped down here with my juggling stuff...this is what I'm here to do."
5. *Portable sound system:* There are many good systems. I use the Fender Passport. It all snaps together into one unit, even the wires and microphones are kept inside. This system also has a 2 hour rechargeable battery that you can buy extra for when you don't have that electrical hook-up.
6. *Variety of props and tricks:* An audience will watch someone yo-yo or juggle 3 balls for a few minutes if you know enough tricks and a little longer if you're a world champion, but not much longer. A good rule of thumb is to have variety in your routines. Within a ball, ring or club juggling routine a good way to choose the order of your tricks is to follow this order: fast, slow, high, low. In other words, do a fast trick like chops, then a slow trick like the pendulum, then a one-high pirouette, then a low three reverse cascade. For variety of props consider what you can do: balls, clubs (rings and scarves are usually a bad choice for street performing unless you're inside), cigar boxes, contact juggling, odd items (bowling ball, ping-pong ball and a torch at the same time), giant Chinese yo-yo's, Chinese rhythm sticks, ball spinning/large ball juggling/rolling, unicycling, partner juggling...Also, have crowd pleaser/getter tricks.
7. *Spontaneity* (planned and not planned) Laugh at yourself...Have drop lines/comedy for the moment like, "Don't worry, I have a back up plan...everybody back up." Or, stop juggling, pick up a large juggling instruction manual and read it quickly and say, "O, that's where I went wrong...let's see if I can get it this time." When the wind blows hard right when you're about to start a trick say, "Don't worry juggling in the wind is a breeze!" If a kid runs up on stage have a plan for what you're going to say or do...have fun with it when something that is not supposed to happen....happens. Also, build up your tricks before you do them!
8. *Background music:* if you don't like any dead space this really helps! If you thrive on the moments that get quiet to see what God will have you say...don't use any. It does put an audience at ease if it's the right music.
9. *Volunteers, Volunteers, Volunteers* (and be polite to them!) Find ways to involve the audience!
10. *Body language says a lot!* When on the street, typically there is no stage...elevate yourself once in a while. Stand on a bucket or your case every once in a while just to say what you have to say. It builds anticipation and makes them think you do have something to say. Smile! Have fun at what you do...even when you drop. Let your tone show them that what you are sharing is true and very important!

Beginning Juggling-----Kathy and Nathan Dorrell (www.crazytieguy.com)

Step one: Take one ball and throw it from your right hand to your left. Release the ball from your hand just past your waist. Let the ball peak just above your head and a little bit to the left. Catch the ball in your Left hand about waist level. Repeat this throwing with your left hand (peaking above your head and a little to the right.) While doing this, keep your focus “up”. Don’t look down at your hands too much. Looking down will keep you from seeing the whole juggling pattern when we move on to 3 balls. Do this for at least 5 minutes so that both left and right hands are very familiar with this throw and catch.

Step two: Hold two balls, one in each hand. Do the same first throw as above with your right hand. As that ball peaks, before it comes down, throw the ball from the left hand just as you threw it in step one. It should travel on the inside of the ball that is coming down to avoid colliding. (Not over the top of the ball, but more under and on the inside of the ball.) It should go the same height, just above your head on the right side. Then, catch left, catch right. Say it out loud as you do it: “right, left, catch, catch.” Stop. Then try to make a slow continuous cycle: “Right, left, catch, catch. Left, right, catch, catch.” Practice this for at least 5 minutes. **NOTE: Do not hand one ball from one hand to the other, both hands throw...this is a big mental barrier that has to stop in order to get to the basic three ball juggle.**

Step three: Add ball three. Start with two balls in your good hand and begin throwing one of those first. I start with two in the right. If you’re left handed change my directions here...to be throw from the left first. This time instead of a slow pattern with a pause...the third ball will take the place of the pause. It’s still not fast, it’s just steady. It is the same as above “Right, left” but instead of catch, catch right after...we’ve got another ball to throw. “Right, left, catch, right, catch, left, catch, right, catch...” Just remember, before you catch the second ball, throw the other ball from your right hand. Try to stop after three throws. After you can do that, try for four throws...then five...It’s better now to not say the “catch”. Just say, “Right, left, right, left, right, left...” Verbalizing while you attempt to juggle helps your brain process what’s happening and helps you leap over mental barriers. It could take minutes, hours or days, but if you persist in your efforts, you can learn!

A FEW SIMPLE THREE BALL MESSAGES:

1. God's perfection and man's imperfection: I stand before you today an imperfect man. And since I'm going to juggle these three balls, and I'm not perfect, something could happen. Can you tell me what that is? (let the audience answer) That's right, I might drop. But if I do, I want you to say "Praise God!" as loud as you can...if you want to praise God today. Because even though none of us are perfect, He is! And we should praise Him because He is perfect! Here goes...(make sure you drop several times!) You see, the Bible says, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." (Rom. 3:23) We all mess up in life...we all do things that we aren't supposed to do. We fall short of the glory of God...but the glory of God is that He is perfect! He is the GREATEST!...
2. Comparing Jugglers and Christians: Did you know that jugglers and Christians are a lot alike? You see, a lot of people learn how to do this with 2 balls. (juggle two balls in two hands) And they're satisfied and say, "at least I learned how to juggle." But did you know that by definition, juggling is only juggling when you have more objects than the number of hands you are using? That's right. 2 in 2 hands is not juggling. But just like that, a lot of people are satisfied with just going to church and believing in God. The Bible says in James 2:19, "So you believe there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that and shudder." You see it's not about going to church and believing with your mind. The Bible says that the important thing is our relationship to God, through Jesus. "That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord" and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead you shall be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified and it is with your mouth you confess and are saved." Don't settle for anything less than truly being a child of God! Turning from your sin, believing with your heart and knowing Him as Lord!
3. Following His Instructions: Compare a juggling instruction book to the Bible...we need His instructions.
4. Using our talents for God: How many of you have something that you're good at or that you really like to do? What are those talents? (ask several of the people who have their hands up.) Did you know that God gives each of us our talents? A talent that He has given me is the talent of juggling! Check this out (juggle). Now that wasn't a talent that any of you mentioned. But each one of the talents you mentioned can be used to honor God just like I can use juggling to honor God. The Bible says, "So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." 1 Cor. 10:31
5. Persistence in Prayer: Have you ever read the story about the persistent widow that Jesus told? Luke 18:1 says "Jesus told them a parable to show them that they should always pray and never give up." Jesus told that parable about the woman and the unjust judge to teach them about prayer. A lot of times as Christians we don't take prayer seriously. Someone asks us to pray for something (take one ball in your hand and look at it) we say we will and MAYBE we give it a gentle lift up to heaven (throw it up and let it plop on the ground.) Or maybe we might take some of the requests we get a little seriously (take three and throw them up a few times and let them plop on the ground.) But that's not the kind of prayer life Jesus wants us to have. He wants us to continually lift requests to his throne. Just like it takes a little persistence to juggle, prayer is meant to be a persistent and constant lifting up of everything before God.

Advanced Juggling For Jesus

by Kathy and Nathan Dorrell

www.crazytieguy.com

The web is a great resource for learning juggling tricks! You will find lots of information and links on www.juggling.org There is also a "Juggling Mall" on this page that you can find lots of great juggling equipment (possibly in your area.) However, lots of the links are old. I recommend internet or mail ordering from renegadejuggling.com or higginsbrothers.com

Sources for Christian Routines:

<http://www.crazytieguy.com/stories.htm> (Explore our website for more ministry stuff and links to good sites)

Christian juggling books for sale:

For the first three books, send orders to: David Cain; 6215 Kyles Station Rd.; Hamilton, OH 45011; (513) 779-2750

"The Beginners Guide to Christian Juggling" by David Cain. David's first book is \$8 in the US and \$10 internationally (shipping included.) Make payable to David Cain. It includes 10 routines that anyone can do if they have a strong three ball cascade.

"The Handbook of Christian Juggling Routines" David Cain's second book contains routines for all levels of juggling skill. It contains 50 Christian routines. The second book is \$23 (shipping included.)

"Juggling for Jesus" (just printed February 2003) David Cain's 3rd book contains routines for all levels of juggling skill including many that can be basic or advanced. It contains another 50 routines with all sorts of props. \$23 (includes shipping.)

"Throwing Up. . . Gracefully" by Darren Collins is an instructional juggling book that contains basic juggling instructions as well as 20 faith sharing routine ideas. Darren's book is very comical as well. For his book, send \$13 to Darren Collins; PO Box 2947; DeSoto, TX 75123

"Juggling With a Gospel Message" by Sheldon H. Rhodes. This book has 29 routines for basic jugglers. You will also find it helpful if you have a higher level of skill. It is available through The Puppet Prospectors, Inc.; 10230 East State Rd.; Nashville, MI 49073; (517) 852-1851.

"Dewey's Gospel Juggling Skits" by Ralph Dewey. This is a 16 page booklet with several good routines in it. It is available from Dewey's Good News Balloons; 1202 Wildwood Dr.; Deer Park, TX 77536, also ask about other copies of Dewey's material that have juggling routines in them.

The Christian Jugglers Association: shares lots of Christian juggling routines among members etc.

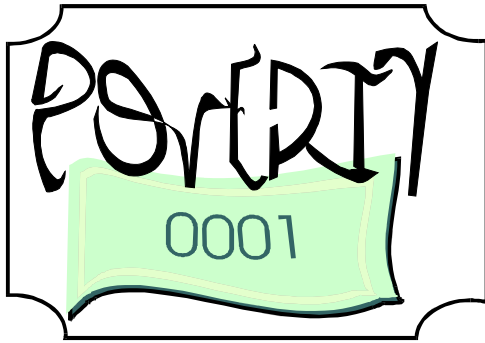
Membership is cheap and worthwhile if you're a juggler who really wants to share the Good News with your gifts! Applications available here...or from the website below. Give to me with \$8 or send to David Cain.

<http://www.christianjugglers.com>

Tips for learning how to practice productively:

1. Pyramid practice. In other words, if you want to learn 4 balls, start with a small short flash for the longest time, then a little more, for a shorter time, then one time as long as you can. So you make 2 throws or 4 throws and catches 10 different times. Then do 4 or 6 throws 5 times, then 6 or 8 throws 3 times... Then once juggle as long as you can. Then work back through the pyramid. This helps discourage bad habits.
2. When learning a trick, break it down to one throw that you can practice with one club or ball...
3. Practice persistently. If you can devote 2 hours a day, great...if not choose what you can do and do that. It's consistent practice that sees progress.
4. Allow God to guide your practice...devote your time to Him!

Drawing Bible Stories With a Surprise for the Eyes
With Kathy and Nathan Dorrell----www.crazytieguy.com



Poverty to Riches: Did you know that even though God owns everything—the cattle on a thousand hills, all the riches of the earth—that God made a vow of POVERTY? No, He did not promise that if you follow him you will have prosperity on earth like many preach. But He did become poor on this earth...so you could have RICHES in heaven! 2 Cor. 8:9 says, “For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.” (This is a mirror message best done on an overhead projector.) Through his poverty...you can have the RICHES of heaven!

Water to Wine: John 2: Share the story from the Bible, but first start by saying Jesus did his first miracle with regular old water...the same stuff that comes out of our showers (as in picture 1) Then as you tell the story add a line to represent a vessel. Then add a line to represent filling them to the top. I then add a drip to the end of the “r” by saying, “remember they were just filled with water, the same stuff that drips out of our faucets.” Then turn over to show that He turned it into “WINE.”



1 GATE

The Gate: People commonly believe today that there are many ways to heaven, not just 1 GATE to heaven. (Elaborate on ways people think they'll get in) Jesus taught about heaven in many ways. But, He taught that there is one gate to heaven. He said, “I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved.” Read John 10:1-21. Have you made the steps through the gate to heaven? You can right now...they are steps of faith! Believe in JESUS, trust in Him! These are the first steps through the gate

The Woman at the Well: John 4: Tell the story, as you tell it, add the appropriate part of the picture for each part of the story. Don't skip any part of the story because I haven't written it here...I'm just writing the parts that have a drawing to do with them. 1. Jesus came to the well with nothing to draw water out of the well with. 2. A woman came to the well with a vessel to get water with. 3. Jesus said he had living water (his bucket) 4. The woman said, “well, you Jews say you have to go to the temple to worship...but we say, not in the temple but up (arrow) on this mountain.” 5. Jesus said, “I tell you the truth, a time is coming where true worshipers will neither worship on this mountain (draw a line threw the mountain and a line on each side of the middle mountain...makes a sash and a body) nor in the temple (scratch out the temple, your scratches should connect from about the side of the ear to the chin on each side...making Jesus' beard and mouth.) But true worshipers will worship in spirit and truth. The woman said, “I know the messiah is coming, when he comes he'll explain everything to us.” Jesus said, (turn the drawing upside down) “I who speak with you am he.” (Tell the rest of the story!)

