



Makeover

Production Notes

A three-act serial skit used with a retreat theme entitled "He Makes All Things New."

SUMMARY: In Act I, we meet Needy DeDe. She feels unlovely and unlovable, and she has a terrible scar on her arm from past hurts. She is listening to the lies of the enemy, and decides that the answer is to pursue self-improvement by finding out what the Worldly Makeover Mall has to offer. In Act II, DeDe visits many stores at the Worldly Makeover Mall, discovering what the world has to offer, but there are so many choices, and no guarantees. Finally in Act III she stops at "New Creations" for a makeover. Here she finds out what God has to offer, and how He can meet all of her needs.

THEME: God wants to transform you from the inside out.

CHARACTERS AND COSTUMING:

This skit was purposely written with a number of small parts that allowed many women to participate by giving them a small part. If you don't have enough people, you have several options: Some of the parts can be combined (for example, Spa1, Spa2 and Spa2); or, you could cut out one or two of the stores in the "Makeover Mall" entirely (for example, Higher Degrees (the education store)).

Narrator

Needy DeDe - DeDe has a scar on her upper arm that she keeps hidden at all times; she needs a bridesmaid's dress and some old sweats or jeans/t-shirt

Whisperer - we call this character the whisperer, as she represents the voice of the enemy in our heads. Dressed in black, she should be like a cat, sneaking up to whisper in DeDe's ear from all angles. (Note: If you ever saw Endora, Samantha's mother in the old TV show "Bewitched," we modeled the Whisperer after her, and the way she would just show up at various time to give her opinion.)

Commercial voice(s) - TV Voice #1, TV Voice #2

Guide #1

Spa1

Spa2

Spa3

Surgeon

Organic

Gym

Educator

Bookstore

Lucky Linda

New Age

Hostess
Guide #2
Binder (*no speaking parts*)
ER Nurse

SETTING AND PROPS

ACT I

The stage is set up as DeDe's living area. There should be a place where she can change clothes (possibly use a dressing divider of some sort), a full-length mirror, a TV, chair and a table with a box of chocolates, cold cream, pimple cream, cell phone

ACT II

The Worldly Makeover Mall in Act II is made up of 8 "storefronts" represented by the signs below.

Signs and Supplies:

L'Image Salon and Spa (tray with spa cremes/lotions and small brown bag)
Simply Soy Supplements & Organics (vitamins and bigger bag)
Nip 'n Tucker's Surgery Clinic (stack of papers)
Goodbody's Gym
Higher Degrees (scholarly glasses)
Books Abounding (backpack and 5 books)
Lucky Linda's Casual Affairs (stack of DVD's)
The Karma Konnection (crystal necklace)
New Creations

ACT III

There is a chair on stage, representing DeDe's car, with something circular that can be used as a steering wheel. There is one sign, for New Creations.

TIMING:

Act I - 10 minutes
Act II - 20 minutes
Act III - 20 minutes



MAKEOVER

Act I "Meet Needy DeDe"

Narrator: Meet our star, Needy DeDe. She has nothing that particularly distinguishes her from everyone else on the planet. There's nothing particularly outstanding about her. She has no special talents, no claims to fame. She has a hum-drum job, but it pays the rent. She has friends, but she's not sure that anyone would miss her if she just quiet joining them at lunch. She longs for a relationship with "that special someone," but she feels unlovely because of a terrible scar on her arm, and unlovable. She is ready for some changes in her life.

(DeDe walks in, dressed in a bridesmaid dress, looking tired and frustrated, ready to get out of her clothes-- talking to herself.)

DeDe: This is the last time, I swear. "Always a bridesmaid, never a bride." These brides pick out gowns that look great on everyone but me. Besides being uncomfortable, they look hideous and cost a fortune! Yeah...I'm sure I'll be able to wear THIS dress again *(sarcastic)*! Well, never again! Weddings! The only guy that asked me to dance tonight was the ring bearer. I'd have to wait twenty years before he's marriage material! Oh, I can't wait to get this dress off. *(goes behind dressing divider, throws dress over)* That's better. Where are my old comfy sweats? Here they are...Aahh! I can wear these tonight. I know they look bad, but I have nowhere to go tonight anyway. Who's going to see me?

(DeDe comes out, dressed in sweats, and looks at herself in the mirror)

DeDe: Oh! Look at my hair! I'm having a bad hair day, and it looks like I'm getting a pimple right on my nose. Where did those bags under my eyes come from? Let's see--where's my cold cream? *(puts on her face)* Where's that pimple cream that never works? *(finds tube and puts a spot on her nose)* What am I going to do about this hair? Augggh!

Whisperer: Wow, DeDe. You're the picture of frumpiness. It's more than a bad hair day for you, darlin'--you're downright ugly. Your situation looks hopeless to me. You need a makeover...and not just on your face and hair! Your whole life needs a makeover!

DeDe: *(turning around in front of mirror)* I am ugly--It's true, I need help everywhere. I've got to start going to the gym again. Maybe I should dig out that stair-stepper in the basement. I need to get serious.

Whisperer: Serious? Your situation is beyond serious, honey...it's CRITICAL. Go ahead, keep looking in that mirror and analyzing the problems you can see. But honey, your problems go deeper than that!

DeDe: I do. I need a total makeover. Maybe then I would feel better about myself. If I was beautiful, people would love me and want to be with me. Maybe my Prince Charming would be more likely to find me if I stood out in the crowd.

Whisperer: What I'm saying is that you need to look a little deeper, darlin'. The outside definitely needs improvement, but what's inside is BOR-ING! How are you gonna keep your Prince Charming interested? You have no special interests or talents. You're DULL. When did you last read a book that you could talk about intelligently? You don't even listen to the news.

DeDe: I need help. My whole life stinks. I've accomplished nothing so far in my life, except to hang onto a job that bores me. My life consists of sleeping, eating and working. How depressing is that? What a failure!

Whisperer: Maybe those Godiva chocolates would make you feel better.

DeDe: Hmm...chocolate. That might make me feel better. I forgot about that box. I'd better finish them off before they get old and stale. *(sits in chair, eats a chocolate, picks up the remote control, points and clicks)*

TV Voice #1: And after this commercial break, we'll return to "Love Connections" and find out WHO Muffy has chosen as her "love connection" today. *(DeDe points and clicks the remote again)*

TV Voice #2: Your attention please! Does your life consist of sleeping, eating and working? Do you look in the mirror, only to turn away in despair? Do people ignore you? Are you empty inside? Do you feel inferior? Are the only parties that you are invited to "pity parties?" Then make an appointment at the "Worldly Makeover Mall!" We have what you need. Call 1-800-M-A-K-E-O-V-E-R. Call today!

Whisperer: Sounds like just what you need....the Worldly Makeover Mall.

DeDe: That sounds like just what I need...the Worldly Makeover Mall. Maybe this will give me the boost I've been needing. I think I'll call right now for an appointment *(dials phone as she says the number to herself)* 1-800-MAKEOVER.

Narrator: So Needy DeDe thinks she has found an answer--the Worldly Makeover Mall. Can the world supply what DeDe needs to truly make the changes she desires? Join us tomorrow to see what the Worldly Makeover Mall has to offer.



MAKEOVER

Act II "What the World Has to Offer"

Narrator: Needy DeDe is about to embark on her quest for beauty. She doesn't really know what she wants, but she knows that she's not happy the way she is now. In the mistaken belief that the world has answers that will satisfy her, she has made an appointment at the Worldly Makeover Mall.

Guide: DeDe, welcome to the Worldly Makeover Mall. I will be your guide today. We have numerous stores here--stores to meet every makeover need. Today is the first day of the rest of your life *(said with great meaning)*.

DeDe: Today I just want to look around and see what is available in the way of makeovers. I'm really ready to make changes in my life.

Guide: Let me give you a brief rundown. We have a spa, a gym, a bookstore, a cosmetic surgeon, a natural foods store, a dating service, educational opportunities, and a new age guidance center. If we went to another lever, we have a "Taste of Religions" center, several motivational seminars, a palm reader and even a stockbroker.

DeDe: A stockbroker? How does a stockbroker do a makeover?

Guide: He doesn't. He just promises you enough money in your personal portfolio that no one will care what you look like.

DeDe: I don't have any money to invest; I had to withdraw money from savings to come today.

Guide: Yes, well, we'll just visit a few of these places and see what you think. I have to warn you that each storeowner thinks that her shop is the best. Where would you like to start? We can start with the outside and work in, or start on the inside and work out!

Whisperer: Start with that body of yours. Let's change that frumpy first impression.

DeDe: I guess maybe I should start with the outside...something to make me more physically attractive

Guide: Well, I have several places that specialize in physical makeovers. Why don't we start at the Spa?

(They walk to L'Image Salon and Spa where the Guide and DeDe are met by three people: Spa1, Spa2, and Spa3)

Guide: Hello. This is DeDe. She is touring the Worldly Makeover Mall today, looking at her options for a total makeover.

Spa1: Well, you've certainly come to the right place. People who don't start with their outward appearance usually regret it.

Spa2: *(interrupts)* We need to start first on that hair. Isn't it something? *(feels DeDe's hair)* Oh my, you'll definitely need some deep, DEEP conditioning. You'll need some special products in order to repair the damage. Look at those split ends. We need to brighten that mouse color, too, Honey. Highlights would be nice.

Spa3: No, no. We'll want to work on her complexion first. We can certainly improve that dead and lifeless skin! We'll begin with a complete facial. We have creams for those bags, honey, don't you worry!

Spa1: No, we need to begin with a full-body massage, using our special exfoliating creams and oils. And, honey, you've got to try our cellulite cream--it works wonders!

Whisperer: You need it all. Sign up now.

DeDe: Do you guarantee to make me beautiful? *(three spa employees look at one another questioningly)*

Spa1: Your expectations should be based on the reality of what you have to work with. But we can sure improve upon what nature gave you!

Whisperer: Beauty is only skin deep. But UGLY goes all the way to the bone.

DeDe: Can you do anything about this scar? *(all spa ladies gasp, horrified, when DeDe lifts her sleeve)*

Spa3: Ooh, that is an ugly one, isn't it? You do need to hide that! Don't worry. We have quality heavy-duty makeup and cover-ups. We'll show you how to hide it. I know you're just touring today, but I would really suggest that you browse our lotions and creams today and get started on a skin regimen immediately.

DeDe: Well, okay. *(they turn from audience as Spa3 shows her their tray of lotions and creams)*

Spa3: You absolutely need this and this and this...

(DeDe turns and comes out with a small brown bag)

DeDe: Wow, this is a small bag, but it cost a small fortune. Wrinkle cream, eye cream, a facial mask, cellulite cream, special mineral formulas. I'll try it at home--I hope it helps

Whisperer: You would be better off if the bag were big enough to put over your head.

Guide: Shall we try the Nip 'n Tucker's Surgery Clinic next?

DeDe: Whatever you think.

Guide: Let me introduce you to the resident cosmetic surgeon in the Worldly Makeover Mall. This is DeDe. Today she is touring the mall to find out what the Worldly Makeover Mall has to offer. She would like a short consultation to find out what you could do for her.

Whisperer: Short? This could take all day!

Surgeon: DeDe, it's nice to meet you. The first order of business is what kind of insurance you have. Do you have an HMO, POS or PPO? We need to guarantee payment, but we'll take care of that after you fill out all the paperwork and releases. Let's see *(walks all the way around DeDe, looking her over)*. Well, Mother Nature sure didn't do you any favors, did she? But a nip and a tuck here and there can make a big difference. A chemical peel might do wonders for those fine lines around your eyes. *(DeDe touches her eyes, self-consciously)*.

Whisperer: She's talking about wrinkles.

DeDe: A chemical peel doesn't sound too pleasant.

Surgeon: Oh, but it will take years off your face. We worship youth in this country, and for you, that acid burn would be an absolute necessity.

DeDe: Well, I'll think about it. By the way, can you do something for this scar?

Surgeon: *(gasps loudly)* I don't do scars. Scar tissue does not respond well to cosmetic surgery. Have you considered wearing long sleeves?

DeDe: Do you guarantee that I will be beautiful?

Surgeon: *(horrified)* Heavens no! That is why we have you sign ten of our Form 306's.

DeDe: What is Form 306?

Surgeon: It is our "Release from Responsibility and Patient Expectation."

DeDe: Ohhhh.

Surgeon: Here. Take these forms (*handing her a stack of papers*). Read these releases carefully, and have them signed if you decide to return.

Guide: Let's try the health food store next. I know many people who swear by the natural and organic solutions at Simply Soy Supplements and Organics.

Whisperer: Just what you need...more food.

Organic: Welcome to Simply Soy Supplements and Organic Foods. We pride ourselves in getting your body back to its healthy, natural state. We'll teach you to cleanse your body by grinding your veggies to a liquid pulp and drinking it down, thereby supplying all your daily nutrition and fiber requirements. After that, we'll train you in steaming your organic produce, eating your hormone-free Greek yogurt, and ...

DeDe: Grinding? Steaming? It sounds like you want me to cook. Cooking is not in my schedule. If it's not frozen, canned or takeout, I don't eat it.

Organic: Well, we do have the Organic Sprout and Soy TV dinner. We also offer a variety of natural beauty treatments. (*look DeDe up and down*) Hmm, for you, perhaps our all-inclusive plan will be necessary.

DeDe: Do you guarantee the results?

Organic: I guarantee my products to be free of genetically modified ingredients and to be the most pure, natural and environmentally friendly in the entire Southwest. What I can't guarantee is how your body will respond.

DeDe: Do you have anything for this scar?

Organic: (*horrified gasp*) I suggest that you get on a vitamin and mineral program right away. Don't wait. You will need an herbal wrap for the scar, vitamin B12, B6, B3 and Zinc for skin healing. Then some de-ionized mineral water to replenish and rehydrate the cells. Perhaps we can at least tone down the scar a bit. You should purchase some supplements right now?

DeDe: What do you suggest? (*turns around, comes out with larger shopping bag*)

Whisperer: Hey, that bag will fit over your head..

Guide: Well, any ideas where you would like to go next? Shall we try the gym?

DeDe: (*groans loudly*) I hate exercise!

Gym: I heard that. Don't worry, we'll get you on an exercise program immediately. We'll begin with the treadmill, stair stepper and free weights; swim laps every other evening. Weekends, you can alternate jump rope and stationary bike. You should see results in six months.

DeDe: Six months?!! I need to see improvement sooner than that! Do you guarantee results?

Gym: Do you guarantee self-discipline in every area?

Whisperer: Six months of self-discipline? Tell this joker to hit the road! Wouldn't some Oreos taste good right about now?

DeDe: Um, I think we should move on. Maybe I need to work on my mind...

Guide: Have you considered expanding your mind through education?

Whisperer: Why not? You've expanded everywhere else...

Educator: Welcome to Higher Degrees. May I ask what degrees you currently have?

DeDe: I graduated from high school. And I've taken about 9 hours at a junior college.

Educator: Oh, my...junior college (*spoken as if junior college was the low of the low*) You need to pursue further education! You've allowed your education to remain so limited. Expand your mind. Join the elite of academia. (*gives DeDe scholarly glasses*) You never need to feel inferior again. The world respects those who have those letters after a name. Doors will open to you as you climb the academic ladder. Put some years into your education--the time you spend on an education is never wasted! Let's get you on the fast track to a degree--take a look at these college catalogs.

DeDe: But will someone love me?

Educator: I can't promise love, but you'll wow them with your worldly wisdom. And you will earn their respect.

DeDe: (*hesitantly*) I've never been much of a student. But I do like to read...is that a bookstore?

Bookstore: Did I hear you say that you like to read? Oh, I have just what you need. This whole wing of the bookstore has been dedicated to self-help books.

Whisperer: Just what you need!

Bookstore: I promise you, I have the books you need to re-create yourself. Here's a complementary backpack--listen to these titles (*as she holds up each book, she reads the title and then puts the book in DeDe's backpack*)

You're Smarter than You Look
How to Make People Like You in 90 Seconds or Less
The Idiot's Guide to making intelligent conversation
14000 Things to Be Happy About
The Positive Power of Negative Thinking

DeDe: That's great. Those all apply to me.

Bookstore: And if those books don't work, we have aisles and aisles more.

DeDe: This backpack is already so heavy. I'm going to need a book for what to do when you throw out your back because your backpack is too heavy. (*looking ahead*) What is that? "Casual Affairs" - is that a dating service? Let's go there next.

Lucky Linda: Have you found it hard to find that special someone? Everyone wants a soul mate. We can match you up with the man who will...

DeDe: (*interrupting*) Can you guarantee that he will love me forever?

Lucky Linda: Love? Love is a risk. Love is taking a chance. Love is a fleeting thing. All we can hope to do is get you some dates. We're not in the business of love and forever. But we do have these DVD's for you to preview. We can't define where your relationship will go on a spiritual level.

Whisperer: You'll be lucky to get a relationship on any level!

DeDe: Spiritual level. Hmm, maybe I've been looking in all the wrong places. Maybe I need to start by doing what Oprah says--by "feeding my spirit."

Guide: Well, the Karma Konnection may have what you are looking for.

New Age: Salutations! My name is Krystal Ball. You're searching. That's good. But I can tell just by looking at you that your body, mind and spirit are not in harmony. The answer lies in "self-realization" of the "divinity within." The Divine Consciousness is in everything. You just need to be enlightened. Your human consciousness needs to be expanded. You desire a makeover. We do to a third-level metamorphosis. We explore your potential. You will be exalted. You will be like God.

Whisperer: Aah, finally...(*proudly*)...That idea originated with me. This gal's after my own heart.

New Age: As your human consciousness becomes more god-like, you reach the New Age state of "nirvana." *(hangs a crystal around DeDe's neck)* You can begin by changing your environment. I'll introduce you to Feng Shui.

DeDe: Will HE love me?

New Age: No, Feng Shui is not a man. Feng Shue is a style that harmonizes heaven and earth. You are so not harmonious!

DeDe: But will someone love me?

New Age: It will take time for you to reach that dimension. You will discover your spirit guide who will lead you toward the free-will choices that will move you to higher dimensions of living.

Whisperer: Hey...you're at the lowest dimension there is right now. What have you got to lose?

DeDe: I'm not sure about that. Thanks anyway. *(turns to Guide)* I'm just more confused than ever. The world has so many choices, my head is spinning. The only thing they all agree upon is that I am no beauty.

Whisperer: I've been telling you that all your life!

DeDe: I can't carry much more. I wanted a makeover, but now I just feel burdened by it all, and more hopeless than ever. I'm sorry. I've got to get away from here and consider my options.

Guide: Well, those are just a few of the answers that the Worldly Makeover Mall has to offer. We haven't even see the Religion area or the Palm Reader.

DeDe: I think I'm just going to head home and think it over. Thanks for your help.

(waves goodbye and leaves)

Narrator: DeDe's quest for answers at the Worldly Makeover Mall has left her disillusioned and disappointed, and carrying more burdens that she started out with.



MAKEOVER

Act III "What God Has to Offer"

(DeDe is driving home in her car)

Narrator: Needy DeDe has just left the Worldly Makeover Mall--more confused than ever. We join her in her car on the way home...

DeDe: *(hand on forehead)* Oh, what a day. I want to tear my hair out! I thought I would find a new direction for my life, but instead I feel like I've been spinning my wheels. Now I'm exhausted and confused. Instead of feeling like I've had a fresh start, I feel overburdened by all the new things I have to do to be beautiful, intelligent and popular. Even if I did everything, no one guaranteed that I would be beautiful or loved. I guess true love is not meant for me *(wipes away a tear)* Life is so unfair. *(changes tone to prayer)* God, if You're up there, a little consideration on Your part would have been nice. You could have passed out a few of those good genes to me!

Whisperer: What was that--a prayer? God is way too busy for such shallow concerns as spas and makeup. DeDe,.....REWRITE

DeDe: It seems like God has always been too busy to give me the desires of my heart. Hey! What does that sign say? *(she notices another storefront that she is approaching)* "New Creations." I wonder what that is? I'm gonna have to stop here and see what this is all about!

Whisperer: DeDe, you're tired, you've already ...

DeDe: No, I can't go home like this. I'm going to stop here.

(DeDe parks car, gets out and enters New Creations, carrying all her bags, backpack, etc.)

Hostess: Hi! Welcome to New Creations. How may I help you?

DeDe: *(huffing and puffing from all her burdens)* Excuse me. Can I get a makeover here?

Hostess: Well, yes. I guess you could call what we do a "makeover." We prefer to call it a "new creation" because we initiate a work in your life where old things are passed away and all things become new.

DeDe: That sounds like what I'm looking for--a new me. At least that is what I spent all day looking for at the Worldly Makeover Mall. Those shops seemed to have something to offer,

but none of them give guarantees. Nobody seemed interested in me except as a potential paying customer. All I really want is someone to love me just as I am.

Whisperer: It's not gonna happen, darlin'. You need a lot of work just to get up to "minimum lovable" level.

Hostess: That is the basic desire of all human hearts, DeDe. And I have good news for you. Jesus has always loved you. He offers you unconditional love.

DeDe: You've hit the nail on the head. What I want is unconditional love.

Whisperer: Impossible! That kind of love does not exist.

DeDe: I started my day thinking I needed to become more beautiful and more interesting, but when I started looking at what the world had to offer, everything just seemed like a temporary fix. There were no guarantees of love and acceptance.

Hostess: Here, we deal with truth and forever guarantees. You are in the right place. Let me relieve you of some of those burdens.

Whisperer: Oh no! She can't take those. Those burdens hold your hope that things will change!

Hostess: We want you to be free of burdens, and there is one burden that you may not even know that you are carrying--it is the burden of sin. At New Creations, we start by transforming your heart, by dealing with the burden of sin. That sin is what is separating you from a relationship with Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Jesus became man, and He lived a sinless life on earth. But He was rejected and crucified on the cross by the very people He loved and came to save.

DeDe: I've heard that story before.

Whisperer: That's right, DeDe. It's just another "story." Time to head home. You're getting sleepy..very, very sleepy (*as if trying to hypnotize*)

Hostess: Aah, but the story doesn't end there. You see He rose from the dead. He conquered death and sin and offers us eternal life with Him. And He would have done it all just for you. He longs for His beloved bride...

DeDe: His bride?

Whisperer: No way, not you. Always a bridesmaid, never a bride. Remember?

Hostess: Jesus knows us intimately and loves us immeasurably. We need only to be willing to repent, so that He can take that burden of sin from us. He longs for a relationship with us...

DeDe: I long for a relationship! How do I get rid of this burden of sin?

Hostess: Well to truly have a relationship with God, you must first humble yourself before Him and admit that you are a sinner. You must ask for His forgiveness and accept His gift of salvation.

(Whisperer is trying to physically pull DeDe away)

DeDe: I truly want to have a relationship with God, but I've already spent most of my money today. How much does all of this cost?

Hostess: Jesus already paid the price for the transformation of your heart with His death and resurrection. He offers His gift of salvation *(the Whisperer is waving wildly, motioning for DeDe to leave, mouthing "NO, NO!")* Would you like to accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior? Would you like me to pray a prayer with you?

DeDe: Yes, I truly want that relationship with Jesus.

(They pray together for a minute, heads together. As they finish praying, Binder quietly comes in with rope and begins tying Whisperer's hands behind her back)

DeDe: I do feel loved--and free from all my burdens! Is my heart transformed? Is the work finished? It was so easy..

Whisperer: *(hoarsely)* Nothing's different. Same old DeDe to me...

Hostess: You are now a "new creation in Christ." But God is not done with you yet. This is but the beginning of your journey. I am confident that He who began a good work in your life wants to finish it. He wants to change you into the image of His Son, Jesus. It is a process that takes time, but He is very patient. We are not just a day spa; your makeover isn't done in a day. Instead, you are given a lifetime membership for the process of sanctification to be complete.

Whisperer: A lifetime membership! The process takes time? You can't stay on an exercise program for more than a week!

DeDe: Will I ever be beautiful?

Hostess: You're already beautiful in God's eyes. You just can't see it right now. And God gives us a promise that "He makes all things beautiful in His time." DeDe, do you have a Bible?

DeDe: No, I don't.

Hostess: Here is a Bible for you to keep. Everything in this book is true.

DeDe: Thanks you. Do you guarantee I'll be beautiful?

Hostess: Absolutely--in His time. DeDe, now that your are a new creation, let me introduce you to your Guide who will take you on the next step of your journey of transformation. *(to Guide2)* This is DeDe. She is a new creation in Christ.

Guide2: DeDe, welcome to the Daily Walk. We have several rooms to visit.

DeDe: This looks like a washroom

Guide2: You're correct. First we see the Washroom. During the course of a day, everyone gets dirty. We need to wash with the water of the Word Daily. This book gives you instructions for getting clean, and it is so easy. All you do is confess your sins. You'll be visiting this room often on your Daily Walk.

(Binder quietly comes in with rope and begins tying Whisperer's feet to a ball and chain)

Whisperer: I knew this was suspicious. Now they want to brainwash you.

(Guide2 pretends to open a door and enter another room)

Guide2: This is our Mind Renewal room. This part of New Creations is vital for helping you to change from the inside out. Much will change in your way of thinking - including the way you think about yourself - as you are transformed by the renewing of your mind.

Whisperer: Give Him power over your mind? Ridiculous!

(Binder quietly tries to tape Whisperer's mouth)

DeDe: I bought a lot of books at the Worldly Makeover Mall bookstore,

Guide2: Well, you will soon discover that the wisdom of this world is meaningless. There are many books that you might choose to read to encourage you on your daily walk. However, only one contains the inspired Word of God. That book should be read daily. It will feed your mind with the things of God.

Whisperer: *(ripping off the tape)* But it won't feed your tummy...

DeDe: How long do I spend in the Mind Renewal room?

Whisperer: You don't even have time to be standing here...it's time to go home...your feet are swollen...you're favorite TV show is on...you have other books to start reading! Where's your backpack, Woman??

Guide2: Well how long you spend is up to you. Some days we have more time than others, but it is important that you set aside at least a little time each day to spend in God's Word. Reading and contemplating God's Word will refresh you for the whole day. And that is how you will get to know God.

DeDe: That sounds like something I can manage.

Guide2: Now, here is our Body Room. Your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit which now lives in you. You must glorify God in your body and in your spirit which now belong to Him.

DeDe: Do I have to exercise? (*whining*)

Guide2: It's good to exercise your physical body--it will benefit you a little. But put your efforts toward exercising yourself to godliness. All of your strengthening exercises will result in endurance through the hard times and strengthening your resolve to purpose in your heart to make decision that would glorify God.

DeDe: (*peers in*) What are those two things I can see in there?

Guide2: Oh, you must be talking about the altar and the cross. As we follow Jesus, we are asked to deny ourselves and our flesh and take up our cross and follow Him. We need to die to sin and put our own will and our selfish desires on the altar.

DeDe: Do you remove scars?

Guide2: Let me see. (*DeDe shows her the scar; Guide2 shows great compassion*) Oh, honey, you've had some deep hurts in your past, haven't you? We don't remove scars, but we have cosmetics we use that will make them beautiful to you and meaningful to others when you are willing to share your scars. We want to use your scars. Your Savior will give you much comfort and consolation, and He will use you to comfort others who have gone through similar things.

Guide2: "The next room is the Emotional Rescue Room. We affectionately call it "ER." Let me introduce you to our ER nurse. This is DeDe.

ER Nurse: Hi, DeDe. Emotional Rescue is especially important for women. We have a virtual ocean of emotions in us. God gave us our emotions, but it is easy for us to let them control us.

You see in this room separate booths for "anger," "depression," "rejection," "impatience," "envy and jealousy"....and it goes on and on.

Whisperer: All the fun stuff!

ER Nurse: Over time, you'll probably visit all of these booths. Mostly, people visit during times of trial and tribulation. God has great truths to teach you here. During the hard times, His purpose is to reveal to you the joy and peace that can undergird you. We can count it joy through trials and tribulation, knowing that it is working patience in us. Even though our emotions change from day to day, our stability comes from knowing the One who never changes.

DeDe: (*peering in*) Does that say...Party Room?

ER Nurse: It says "Pity Party Room."

Whisperer: Let's party! I love a good pity party!

DeDe: Oh my. I need to spend some time here. It is so easy for me to get depressed and entertain myself with a pity party. You're saying He can even change my emotional responses?

ER Nurse: Oh yes! When Jesus lived on earth, He was touched with the feeling of our weaknesses, and yet He didn't sin. He wants to give us the fruit of the Spirit, and help us deal with and conquer our natural and sinful responses. It all takes time, as you can imagine. But He is patient with us beyond measure.

Guide2: Now we have one last room. Let's head over to the Spirit room. You may not understand it yet, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. You want to be beautiful, but it is the meek and quiet spirit which is, in the sight of God, of great price. Man looks on the outward appearance, but God looks on the heart. There is a beauty of holiness which is indescribable.

DeDe: I want to commit to a membership here. I want it all. I want to change, but I am so glad Jesus loves me no matter what. But I think His love makes me want to change--just to please Him. But I have to ask....How long is all of this transformation going to take?

Guide2: You can count on His promise that He makes "all things beautiful in His time." You're going to have to trust Him, and wait on His perfect timing.

DeDe: Okay then....LET'S GET STARTED!

Narrator: DeDe found her answer--not at the Worldly Makeover Mall, but in becoming a new creation and allowing the Holy Spirit to guide her transformation through her daily walk. "He makes all things beautiful in His time!"