

BOTTOM OF THE FIRST

by JOHN COSPER

GENRE: Comedy

SYNOPSIS: A baseball coach must convince his team not to give up in the big game when they find themselves down after the first half of the first inning.

DIRECTOR'S TIP: Play up the humor of the fact that the players are so easily defeated. They should act as if it's the bottom of the 8th, and they are down by 100 points.

TIME: Under 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 4

TOPIC: Christian Living

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Galatians 6:9

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

SUGGESTED USE: Youth Ministry

CHARACTERS:

KYLE, JON, & WADE- ballplayers
COACH

PROPS: Bench, baseball gloves, bats

COSTUMES: Baseball uniforms and caps

SOUND: Wireless microphones

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: A baseball dugout

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The players enter the dugout, very disgusted and frustrated.

KYLE: I can't believe it! This is the worst game ever!

WADE: Did you see those guys? They were creaming us out there!

JON: Creaming is putting it mildly.

WADE: Guys, we can't go out there again. They're going to kill us.

KYLE: I know! They're so fast and strong. And they hit the ball so hard.

JON: My mom's out there, guys. If I go out there and play... I'm gonna be so embarrassed. I won't get dessert for a week.

KYLE: I vote we quit.

WADE: I quit too.

JON: Tell the coach, game's over. We're done.

COACH enters as the players start taking off their hats and cleats.

COACH: Okay, boys. Our turn at bat.

JON: Sorry, Coach, we quit.

COACH: You quit??

KYLE: Dude, we're not going to play any more.

COACH: What are you talking about?

JON: Coach, look at those guys. Look at the score. There's no way that we're going to beat these guys.

WADE: Yeah, Coach. This game is as good as over.

COACH: What do you mean over? It's the bottom of the FIRST!!!

Pause, to let the joke sink in with the audience.

WADE: So?

COACH: So? The game's just beginning.

KYLE: But Coach, look at that score. They're so far ahead.

COACH: They have two runs, Kyle. TWO RUNS!!