

CAN I GET A WITNESS?

by TROY SCHMIDT

GENRE: Comedy

SYNOPSIS: A comedic look at witnessing, using nine different scenarios that show how Christians fail to evangelize effectively.

DIRECTOR'S TIP: The success of Can I Get a Witness? obviously is not in the staging or the set as much as it is in the characters. It is vitally important that the actors be aware of each scene and how the characters need to be portrayed. Be certain that the actor playing Terry understands each role and the importance of voice, mannerisms and the way in which he carries himself in each vignette.

TIME: Over 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 2

TOPIC: Evangelism

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: 1 Peter 3:15

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

SUGGESTED USE: Worship Service, Bible Study

CHARACTERS:

SIMON—The witnessee. Any age.

TERRY—The witnesser. Any age.

PROPS: Table with a tablecloth (decorated with a restaurant candle and salt and pepper shakers, 2 chairs, a Bible, a tract, a fly swatter)

COSTUMES: Modern dress

SOUND: Wireless microphones

LIGHTING: General, possible use of spotlight

SETTING: Restaurant

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A restaurant anywhere in the world. Simon and Terry start each scene sitting at the table unless otherwise indicated. A pause occurs after each scene, allowing time for the audience to read the "THOUGHT" for the scene just completed and the "TITLE" for the next scene.

TITLE: The Rambo Approach

SIMON: So, what's new?

TERRY: What's new? I'll tell you what's new! (*Explodes*) You haven't accepted Jesus as your savior! When are you going to do it? Huh? What's the matter? You chicken? You afraid of God?

TERRY beats SIMON with a Bible in a rampage.

TERRY: Afraid he'll make you feel bad for your sins? Huh? Let's go. Let's do it right here and now. Give yourself to Christ. C'mon. Do it! What do you have to say?

SIMON: Uh...Check, please.

THOUGHT: Be firm with your belief, but flexible in your approach.

TITLE: The Perry Mason Approach

TERRY: So, tell me, Simon, what did you do this weekend?

SIMON: Saturday we went to the beach with the kids. Stopped by the grandparents for dinner. Ate at a great restaurant right on the coastline. Sunday did some shopping. Worked around the house.

TERRY stands, contemplating, examining his witness.

TERRY: Let's try to refresh your memory. Where were you Sunday from, say, 10 to 1 o'clock?

SIMON: Cutting the yard?

TERRY: Ah-ha! I knew it! So you weren't at church! Why not?

SIMON: I don't know, I—

TERRY: (*In his face*) Is it because you don't believe in God?

SIMON: Well, I do, I mean I think I do, but...Maybe I don't!

TERRY: Ah-ha! Just as we thought. You are not sure of your salvation. That means we find you guilty of lack of belief. Next case!