

THE SECRET LIFE OF WALTER SCHWETTY *by John Cospers*

GENRE: Comedy

SYNOPSIS: A man is shocked to see two critics review his life on TV—especially when they delve into his private life.

TIME: 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 3M, 1F

THEME: Christian Living

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Mark 7:6

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

SUGGESTED USE: Sermon Illustration

CHARACTERS:

WALTER—an average guy

MARIE—his wife

CLIFF and BILL—critics on TV

PROPS: Chairs, an easy chair, a TV, a remote control

COSTUMES: Suits for Cliff and Bill; shirt and tie (loosened) for Walter; casual work clothes for Marie.

SOUND: Four wireless microphones

LIGHTING: Stage left and stage right lighting, if possible

SETTING: Walter's living room

DIRECTOR'S TIP: Cliff and Bill can be on stage, or on video tape on a projection screen (live off stage or taped), or simply off stage voices, depending on your technical capabilities.

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Lights up on an easy chair at stage left facing stage right. WALTER enters stage left, sits down in his comfy chair.

WALTER: What a day.

WALTER turns on the TV. Lights up on stage right. CLIFF and BILL sit in movie theatre-type seats, facing the audience as if talking to a TV camera.

CLIFF: And thanks for joining us. Tonight we're going to be reviewing this life of Mr. Walter Schwetty of Davenport, Iowa.

WALTER sits up.

WALTER: Huh?

BILL: That's right, Cliff. Walter Schwetty was born thirty-nine years ago in Wisconsin. Went to the University of Wisconsin, graduated in the top five percent of his class, and went on to work for the accounting firm of Weissmuller and Johns.

WALTER: Honey! They're talking about me on TV.

CLIFF: Walter worked his way up in the firm quickly, to where he is now the branch manager in Davenport.

MARIE enters.

MARIE: What's going on?

WALTER: Shhh, listen.

BILL: He and his wife and three kids live in a very nice home they bought for just under two hundred grand. Walter's a respected member of the community, and a deacon in his church.

MARIE: Why are they talking about you?

WALTER: I don't know!

CLIFF: It's interesting, because as we all know faith is an important part of Walter's success.