

## THE BIG SHOCKING NEWS

by John Cospers

**GENRE:** Comedy

**SYNOPSIS:** Parents brace themselves for bad news when their daughter comes home, and react in shock when their child wants to enter full-time ministry.

**DIRECTOR'S TIP:** Avoid portraying Bob and Susan as over-the-top stereotypes: the more true to life they are throughout the scene, the more payoff there will be to the comically explosive finale.

**TIME:** Under 5 minutes

**CAST BREAKDOWN:** 3

**TOPIC:** Purpose

**SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:** Luke 14:25-35

**CHURCH YEAR SEASON:** Any

**SUGGESTED USE:** Worship Service, Ordination Celebration, Youth Event

**CHARACTERS:**

BOB and SUSAN—well-meaning parents

MARY—their daughter

**PROPS:** Living room set

**COSTUMES:** Modern dress

**SOUND:** General

**LIGHTING:** General stage

**SETTING:** Bob and Susan's living room

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*The setting is BOB and SUSAN'S house. They anxiously await their daughter's arrival home from college for a visit, as she has told them she has "surprising news."*

**BOB:** She's here. Now remember what we talked about.

**SUSAN:** I know. No tears, no yelling. No matter what, we love our daughter, and we will support her. What do you think it is, Bob?

**BOB:** I honestly don't know. But we've been through every scenario. And we're prepared, right?

**SUSAN:** I think so.

**BOB:** We thought of everything. We did role-playing with the neighbors. We're ready for whatever shocking, terrifying news our daughter brings us. I hope.

*MARY enters.*

**MARY:** Hey guys.

*BOB and SUSAN hug their daughter as they greet her.*

**SUSAN:** There's my girl.

**BOB:** How are you, sweetheart?

**MARY:** Good, good. Glad to see you two.

*Awkward pause.*

**MARY:** I should get right to it, shouldn't I?

**SUSAN:** YES! *(Covers her mouth, wanting to conceal her nerves)* I mean, if you want.

**MARY:** Oh, I definitely need to share this. You two have been my best friends all my life. I love you, and...you need to hear from me. As you know, it's been kind of a rough semester for me. I've been distracted, stressed, and it's obviously shown in my grades.

**BOB:** We know, honey. We've been there. But as a former C student, I can promise this semester won't affect your chances of getting into med school.

**MARY:** Well, I know, but...well, there are other things. Things I've just learned about myself that might...well, that might put a kink in the plan.

**SUSAN:** Oh my goodness. Sweetheart...you don't need to say another word.

**MARY:** I don't?