

LifeLine Productions

P.O. Box 9401 Santa Rosa, CA 95405

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The Old Man

Introduction

LifeLine Productions is dedicated to presenting the Gospel message and Biblical truths in an entertaining and thought-provoking form. We aim to plant seeds in the hearts of those who do not know Jesus Christ as Savior, and to challenge and encourage believers to a stronger walk with their Lord.

We are thankful to you for ordering this script. It is our prayer that your drama group, youth group or whatever type of group you have will be effective with this material and that God will use our collective work for His good. You are on the front-line; you have the opportunity through your performance to touch someone and lead them to Christ. May God bless your faithfulness in this task.

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The Old Man

Theme: Eph 4:22 – “You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires.” Prayer.
The Old Man (TOM) represents our sinful nature and how it tempts us to do what is wrong.

People: 2

Props: Chair, sports hat, coat, keys, phone, preferably a door.

Scene: The stage is setup with a coat draped on a chair and a hat under the chair. A phone is on one end of the stage. The Old Man stands on the opposite side of the stage as the phone. As he stands, his eyes are closed and his hands are in front of him as if he were standing close to a window. He is very still. TOM never speaks. His directions are in [brackets]. Bob never acknowledges the presence of TOM or even sees that he is there.

At the end of this script are Bob’s words without TOM’s direction, for easy reading.

(Phone rings, Bob enters and answers it.)

Bob: Hello. Oh, hi Frank. Pretty good. How are you doing? Good, good. Oh nothing much hanging around the house. Why? The game tonight. Oh I'd love to see the game, but Monday nights are reserved for my wife. Yeah that was fun last year, yeah and the year before. But tonight is reserved for my wife. Well, I've been do this since I became a, well, since I became a Christian. Um, a Christian. Well I've been meaning to tell you about it. No. No I promised her we'd go somewhere special tonight. No, no I definitely can't come over and watch the game tonight. Yeah, I'd love to see the guys again, but I just can't. No. I can't make it. No, there's nothing you can say that will change....

TOM: [Opens Eyes...wide.]

Bob: Tickets? Oh. You have tickets to the game? Oh, so, we're going to GO to the game.

TOM: [Rips open the imaginary box that TOM is in.]

Bob: First row! How did you? You're kidding me!

TOM: [Runs over to Bob all excited for him.]

Bob: No you don't understand Frank. I promised my wife we'd go out.

TOM: [Tries to wave to him NO NO NO don't say NO!]

Bob: No I, can't...We can go to the locker room after the game and see the players?

TOM: [Brings his knuckles to his mouth in excitement.]

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Bob: I don't know. I really shouldn't...

TOM: [As Bob is hesitating, TOM is trying to coax Bob into going. There is a transition between coaxing and mimicking pulling a rope that is tied to Bob. The stronger TOM pulls the more Bob gives and moves toward TOM.]

Bob: ...I promised my wife...I don't know...well, it's only once. OKAY!

TOM: [Almost falls over as there is no more resistance.]

Bob: When are you leaving? Ten minutes!!

TOM: [Both Bob and TOM check their watches. TOM flashes the okay sign.]

Bob: That should be fine. Okay! I'll see you in ten.

TOM: [Flashes the YES sign, like he just scored a 3-pointer in basketball.]

Bob: Oh WOW! Off to the big game! Let's see, what am I going to need?

TOM: [Taps Bob's hip pocket.]

Bob: Money!

TOM: [Bob pulls out wallet and checks his money situation. TOM looks in and gives the thumbs up.]

Bob: Yeah that's enough. It's what Brenda and I were going to go out on, but...

TOM: [NAAAHHH]

Bob: Oh well. Let's see, my hat. That's been lost for months. I haven't been able to find...

TOM: [While Bob is speaking his lines, TOM goes over to the chair and lifts it showing the hat.]

Bob: There it is. WOW. I can't believe I found this. It's a sign from God.

TOM: [As Bob is talking, TOM grabs the coat and helps Bob put it on.]

Bob: Brenda will understand. This must be God's will. Okay, a quick look in the mirror...

TOM: [Bob looks directly at TOM. TOM gives the double A-OK sign.]

Bob: Ahh I always look so...

TOM: [Throws keys in the air for Bob to catch.]

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Bob: ...macho in my hat. Okay! Let's go. The Game!!

TOM: [Starts to push Bob out the door to herd him out, but Bob makes an abrupt turnaound.]

Bob: I can't just leave. Brenda doesn't know where I am.

TOM: [Mimicks writing a note.]

Bob: I can leave a note. What do I say?

TOM: [Panick look on TOM's face.]

Bob: (*Writing note.*) "It was an emergency."

TOM: [Mimicks being hanged.]

Bob: "Life and death." Well it is. How many times in your life do you get seats this good? People kill for those. "Had to go. Be back tonight...late. Love Bob." That should do it.

TOM: [A little nudge for not being considerate.]

Bob: Oh...(writes) "don't worry." Okay, let's go.

TOM: [Starts to push Bob out the door to herd him out, but Bob makes an abrupt turnaound.]

Bob: I can't do this. I promised Brenda we'd go somewhere special tonight.

TOM: [Desperate to think of something to keep Bob on track, he flashes his hand showing all five fingers in front of Bob's face. There is no break in Bob's delivery of his lines during this, but his conviction not to go is gone when he continues his line.]

Bob: But it's been 5 months since I've been with the old crowd. 'Course, they'll be getting drunk. I can't be doing that.

TOM: [Flashes his thumb and fore-finger to show "Just a little."]

Bob: I could drink in moderation. What a great witness. They'd be getting drunk and see me and say, "Hey your drinking in moderation, tell us about God."

TOM: [While Bob is going through the previous line, TOM goes to the door, opens it, walks back to Bob and starts to push him out the door.]

Bob: Yeah, Brenda will understand. How many times do I get to witness to my non-Christian friends like this. This is where God wants me to be.

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TOM: [When Bob finishes the line, TOM pushes him out the door and slams it shut. Turns around and starts to slap his hands together as if wiping dust off them to show a job well done. Just then the door bangs open, Bob enters and takes his coat off and throws it on top of TOM who has to struggle to get it off.]

Bob: I can't do this. I made a promise! I gotta call Frank.

TOM: [Panicks when he hears that. Runs over to Bob. Signals, NO NO NO NO!]

Bob: (*Picks up phone and dials*) Hi Frank. Hey, I can't go.

TOM: [In desperation, either starts to chew the phone line or put's his hands on the antenna.]

Bob: Ooh bad connection. No. I promised my wife we'd go out tonight. The Bible says to let your yes be yes and your no be no and if my wife can't trust me, who can? Thanks for the offer huh? Say hi to the guys for me. Bye.

TOM: [Panick and desperation set in. TOM goes to the other side of the stage to think things through.]

Bob: This is tough. I gotta pray.

TOM: [For TOM, the absolute worse thing that could happen is for Bob to pray. When he hears this, he runs over to Bob waving, NO NO NO. As soon as Bob starts his prayer, TOM hits an imaginary wall.]

Bob: Dear Lord. This is really tough.

TOM: [As Bob is praying, TOM is pushed back by this wall to his original position.]

Bob: There's a large part of me that wants to go to this game. Forgive me for being selfish. Help me to put my wife first.

TOM: [The wall becomes a room that is getting smaller and smaller as TOM fights for space.]

Bob: Thanks for keeping this temptation to what I could handle, and thanks for putting away my old man. In your name...

TOM: [Just before Bob closes, TOM is in the original space where he started, his hands are in their original position, and slowly, he closes his eyes.]

Bob: ...Amen.

End

Bob's Lines

Hello. Oh, hi Frank. Pretty good. How are you doing? Good...good. Oh nothing much hanging around the house. Why? The game tonight. Oh I'd love to see the game, but Monday nights are reserved for my wife. Yeah that was fun last year, yeah and the year before. But tonight is reserved for my wife. Well, I've been do this since I became a, well, since I became a Christian. Um, a Christian. Well I've been meaning to tell you about it. No. No I promised her we'd go somewhere special tonight. No, no I definitely can't come over and watch the game tonight. Yeah, I'd love to see the guys again, but I just can't. No. I can't make it. No, there's nothing you can say that will change

Tickets? Oh. You have tickets to the game? Oh, so, we're going to GO to the game. First row! How did you? You're kidding me! No you don't understand Frank. I promised my wife we'd go out. No I, can't. We can go to the locker room after the game and see the players? I don't know. I really shouldn't...I promised my wife...I don't know...well, it's only once. OKAY! When are you leaving? Ten minutes!! That should be fine. Okay! I'll see you in ten. (*hangs up*)

Oh WOW! Off to the big game! Let's see, what am I going to need? [tap hip pocket] Money! Yeah that's enough. It's what we were going to go out on, but, oh well.

Let's see, my hat. That's been lost for months. I haven't been able to find...there it is. WOW. I can't believe I found this. It's a sign from God. Brenda will understand. This must be God's will.

Okay, a quick look in the mirror. Ahh I always look so [keys] macho in my hat.

Okay! Let's go. The Game!! [turn around] I can't just leave. Brenda doesn't know where I am. I can leave a note. What do I say? "It was an emergency. Life and death." Well it is. How many times in your life do you get seats this good? People kill for those. "Had to go. Be back tonight.... late. Love Bob." That should do it. [nudge] Oh, "don't worry". Okay, let's go.

I can't do this. I promised Brenda we'd go somewhere special tonight. [hand] But it's been 5 months since I've been with the old crowd. 'Course, they'll be getting drunk. I can't be doing that. [little] I could drink in moderation. What a great witness. They'd be getting drunk and see me and say, "Hey your drinking in moderation, tell us about God." Yeah, Brenda will understand. How many times do I get to witness to my non-Christian friends like this. This is where God wants me to be.

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Hi Frank. Hey, I can't go. Ooh bad connection. No. I promised my wife we'd go out tonight. The Bible says to let your yes be yes and your no be no and if my wife can't trust me, who can? Thanks for the offer huh? Say hi to the guys for me. Bye.

This is tough. I gotta pray. Dear Lord. This is really tough. There's a large part of me that wants to go to this game. Forgive me for being selfish. Help me to put my wife first. Thanks for keeping this temptation to what I could handle, and thanks for putting away my old man. In your name, Amen.