

Witnessing, Baby

By Doug Irving & Gary Randolph



Theme and Purpose

People are often frightened of witnessing, afraid that they will offend or say the wrong thing. Actually, there are a lot of poor ways to witness. Yet God moves in mysterious ways and uses the foolish things of men to confound the wise. The most important thing about witnessing is to do it enthusiastically with your whole heart.

Cast list	<p>Steve – Middle-aged Christian man, a little uptight. Steve is dressed in work jeans and a flannel shirt, like Al Borland in Home Improvement.</p> <p>Chris – Christian man, a little younger than Steve. In personality Chris is similar to Chris Farley or to John Candy's character in Planes, Trains, and Automobiles - sometimes erratic and a little irritating. Chris can be dressed more outrageously. Perhaps painter's overalls with a bandana. Perhaps safety-glasses, hard hat, and breathing mask.</p> <p>Passerby 1 -- a woman.</p> <p>Passerby 2 – either a woman or a man.</p> <p>Passerby 3 – either a woman or a man.</p>
Approximate Running Time	3 minutes
Scene Description	Steve and Chris are standing on a street corner as people walk by. You can take a minimalist approach to staging without any "street" props; the sight of passers by moving back and forth will suggest the street. If you wish you can dress the stage with a park bench, trash can, or traffic cones.
Prop List	A small aerosol spray can A wallet
Other Production Notes	None
Related Scriptures	Matt 28:19-20, 1 Cor 1:27, Luke 19:10, 1 Tim 1:15, Acts 1:8
Song Suggestions	Use Me (Brooklyn Tabernacle), Field of Souls, Into All The World, Go Light Your World

Steve and Chris are standing together (on street corner) facing the audience. They pantomime looking at passersby.

Chris: *(yelling)*

Good news! Get your good news right here! I've got good news for all you low down, no good, dirty rotten sinners!

Steve: *(looking shocked)*

Chris! What are you doing?

Chris:

Well, we're supposed to be street witnessing. So we're on a street, and I'm spreading the good news, man. *(excitedly)* Witnessing, Baby! Wooh! Steve and Chris. Chris and...

Steve:

Well, you have to be a little more seeker-friendly.

Chris:

What do you mean?

Steve:

Well, for instance, don't call them "dirty rotten sinners."

Chris:

Oh. Hey, that's a good point.

Steve:

The good news isn't about condemnation. The good news is that God loves people.

Chris:

Cool! *(yelling)* God loves you! God loves all you low down... I mean... all you people. God loves you! GOD loves you! God LOVES you! GOD loves YOU and YOU and ...

Passerby 1 (a woman) walks past. Chris grabs her by the arm and puts his arm around her.

Chris: *(enthusiastically)*

You are loved, baby! Wooh! Do you know that you are loved? Let me tell you who loves you.

Passerby 1: *(wrenching herself out of Chris's grasp and pulling out a spray can)*

Let go of me, creep, unless you want to get a face full of pepper spray.

Chris: *(letting go abruptly and raising hands)*
Hey, I don't want to get hit with pepper spray ever again!
I was just wanting to tell you about...

Passerby 1: *(waving spray can)*
I'm warning you, you little maggot...

She backs away, as Chris screams like a little girl and runs behind Steve.

Steve: *(with irony)*
Well, that went well. That's not necessarily what you would call advancing the gospel.

Chris: *(moving carefully from behind Steve)*
Is... is she gone?

Steve:
You don't want to scare people, maggot... I mean, Chris. People are scared enough by life... like that poor girl... whose fear you just made worse, by the way.

Chris:
Her! What about me? She wasn't the one going face to face with a loaded pepper spray.

Steve:
Lookit, the point is that we're talking about people's eternal soul here. Life and death.

Chris:
You are so right, man. Life and death. Life... and Death.

Chris lets out a low whistle.

Steve:
Exactly! People are dying, and they don't know where they're going to spend eternity.

Chris:
Whoa! Salvation is like eternal life insurance.

Steve:
Well not ...

Passerby2 walks past. Chris grabs Passerby 2 by the arm and turns him/her around.

Chris: *(cordially)*

Excuse me, sir. *(suddenly intense)* Are you prepared to die?

Passerby 2: *(terrified)*

Hey, man, don't kill me! *(pulls out wallet)* Here take my wallet. Just don't hurt me, okay?

*Chris takes wallet and Passerby 1 runs off stage.
Steve is mortified.*

Chris:

Well... *(looking at wallet)* I guess we've got something for the offering plate.

Steve:

Chris, you can't scare people into heaven. The gospel isn't just a "get out of Hell free" card. It is about hope. Hope of eternal life. But also hope that gets us through trials today.

Chris:

Once again, you are so right! Well, it's back to the witnessing. *(yelling again)* Hope for living! Hope for living! And get out of Hell free!

Steve:

Chris!

Chris: *(continues yelling)*

Good news! Turn or burn!

Steve:

Chris!!

Chris:

It's about love! It's about hope! It's about E-TER-NAL life, baby!

Steve:

Chris! Chris! Chris!

Passerby 3 walks up and stops.

Chris:

Get your eternal life insurance right here! Good news! Good...

Steve:

Chris, SHUT-UP!

Chris: *(deflated)*

... news. *(offended)* Well. I thought this was important, Steve. I thought the gospel was worth shouting out. I haven't heard you spreading any good news.

Steve:

It's only good news if you say it in a way that someone can hear, Chris.

Passerby 3: *(to Steve)*

You know, maybe you ought to lighten up.

Chris:

That's what I keep trying to tell him.

Steve throws him a look

Passerby 3:

I mean, at least the brother is enthusiastic. He doesn't make much sense, but he is enthusiastic.

Steve:

He's nothing if not enthusiastic. He's not much other than enthusiastic.

Chris: *(clueless)*

Wow. Thanks, man.

Passerby 3:

The truth is, I could really use some hope for living.

Steve:

You mean... he struck a chord? *(Passerby 3 nods)* With you? *(Passerby 3 nods)* With all that yelling about e-ter-nal life, baby? *(Passerby 3 nods)* Well. *(looks at Chris)*

Chris: *(shrugs)*

I guess God moves in mysterious ways, man!

Steve:

That He does, Chris. *(to Passerby 3)* We should talk. *(Steve puts arm around Passerby 3 and leads him off stage)*

Chris: *(watches them walk off stage)*

Yeah, baby! It's missions, baby. Steve and Chris. Chris and Steve. What a team! That's what I'm talking about.

(yelling) Hope for living! I got your hope for living right here!

Fade to black

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Preview