

SIMPLY GOD

by Sandy Johnson



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SIMPLY GOD

A sketch collection for women

by Sandy Johnson

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The pure simplicity of God's love for us is at the heart of these funny yet poignant sketches. They are particularly suited for women's ministry events, such as conferences, Mother's Day, devotions, Sunday school, etc. You'll connect emotionally with the message and the ever-so-colorful messengers!

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Simply God

*“When one tugs at a single thing in nature, he finds it
attached to the rest of the world.”*

— John Muir

Summary

A woman unplugs from all the technology in her life, only to find she has no life. All alone one day, she ends up in a park with nothing but a little hope. An angel appears to show her the way back to herself, her life, and God.

Characters

Eva — She is a modern-day working woman. She has reached a crossroads in her life and feels nervous and anxious about it. She’s about to make a big change.

Angel — She is the kind of guardian angel who has a sense of humor and can lead a needy human back to God in a sweet, gentle way.

Props

Two shopping bags for the angel. Bags contain yarn, knitting needles, tea bags, and a sun tea jar.

Setting

A park. You will need a bench.

Costumes

Eva is dressed in work clothes, ready for the office. The angel should be in all white, whether it is a simple white dress or pantsuit, or a typical white gown complete with wings, although Eva doesn’t notice them.

(EVA enters, talking to herself.)

EVA: Don’t worry. You’re going to be OK. You will be fine. You can do this. Who cares what they say now? Life as we know it is over. So, look at that. A sweet, simple, plain little bench, just for me. I can sit. I can look at the trees. Lots of trees. I can look at the sky. I can breathe. Wait! What was that? Did something beep or vibrate or ring? No. Wait! That was a buzz. I heard a buzz! I know that buzz!

ANGEL: *(Enters with shopping bags.)* Hello. Do you mind if I —

- 1 EVA: Shhhh!
- 2 ANGEL: Excuse me?
- 3 EVA: Oh, never mind. I heard a buzz. Did you hear that
- 4 buzz? I thought that was my phone — but of course I
- 5 don't *have* my phone. Silly.
- 6 ANGEL: Mind if I sit here?
- 7 EVA: Well ... sure. OK.
- 8 ANGEL: Are you OK?
- 9 EVA: Oh, yeah. Yes! I'm fabulous. Absolutely wonderful.
- 10 Perfect! I will be, I hope. Did you hear a little sound just
- 11 then, like a "ding-ding"? A text message notification
- 12 thing, maybe?
- 13 ANGEL: No. I think that was a bird.
- 14 EVA: Oh. OK.
- 15 ANGEL: It's good just to rest here for a minute. I've been
- 16 shopping all morning! My dogs are tired!
- 17 EVA: Your dogs? Oh, your feet. Well, it must be really nice to
- 18 go shopping. Don't know when I'll be doing *that* again.
- 19 ANGEL: Actually, shopping takes some work, and I feel like
- 20 I could have been doing something perhaps more
- 21 worthwhile and memorable this morning instead of
- 22 going to the stores, looking for things, standing in
- 23 line —
- 24 EVA: The sweet smell of the fragrance counters, the colorful
- 25 allure of dozens and dozens of purses and bags and
- 26 shoes, and the thrill of finding just the right Egyptian
- 27 cotton sheets ...
- 28 ANGEL: You know, I find that really funny, the whole
- 29 Egyptian cotton thing.
- 30 EVA: Why?
- 31 ANGEL: I don't know. I've known a lot of Egyptians, trust
- 32 me. I knew the ones who didn't even *have* sheets. But
- 33 they had tombs. (*EVA is typing in her lap.*) What are you
- 34 doing?
- 35 EVA: What? Oh! I don't know. I don't know what I'm doing. I
- 36 need to type something, or text something or click on it
- 37 or put my fingers on some kind of screen and move
- 38 things ...

- 1 ANGEL: Do you remember that sweet, gentle little rain this
2 morning?
- 3 EVA: Uh ... yes. I think I was on my third cup of coffee and
4 tending to my farm.
- 5 ANGEL: You have a farm?
- 6 EVA: Oh, sure. It's called Farmville.
- 7 ANGEL: Wow. That must be a lot of hard work. Do you live
8 at Farmville?
- 9 EVA: My boss said I did.
- 10 ANGEL: Farm life can be wonderful.
- 11 EVA: Oh, it's not a real farm.
- 12 ANGEL: It's not? It's pretend?
- 13 EVA: Yes. It's a computer game. And I can make it rain there
14 anytime I want.
- 15 ANGEL: But when it rained this morning, didn't you smell
16 how sweet the air was? You can't pretend that.
- 17 EVA: No. I don't usually go outside. I walk out of my
18 apartment on the tenth floor to my parking garage, and
19 I drive to the parking garage of my office and walk into
20 that building without ever going outside, every day.
- 21 ANGEL: Well, then ... Look right there.
- 22 EVA: At the sun? Those UV rays are bad for you!
- 23 ANGEL: No, right there. Right through those two trees.
- 24 EVA: What is that? Hey, that's a rainbow! Wow. I don't think
25 I've seen one of those in person since I was little.
- 26 ANGEL: What do you mean, "in person"?
- 27 EVA: I used to have a rainbow screensaver on my laptop.
- 28 ANGEL: I take it you're talking about a computer again?
- 29 EVA: Well, yes.
- 30 ANGEL: Personally, I think the rainbow — a real live
31 rainbow — is one of God's most amazing things. He has
32 some great sky tricks, but the rainbow is just so special.
33 He made it so that it has a different meaning to each
34 person.
- 35 EVA: I love how you talk about God like you know him.
- 36 ANGEL: Talk to somebody every day, and you really *do* get
37 to know them.
- 38 EVA: Yeah, but it's God, not just some person. You know ...

- 1 *(Big voice)* *I'm God.* How do you talk to that?
- 2 ANGEL: A lot like I'm sitting here talking to you. Every day.
- 3 EVA: I'm sorry, I guess I don't really talk to that many
- 4 people anymore. As in, just sit and actually talk-talk-
- 5 talk.
- 6 ANGEL: What do you mean?
- 7 EVA: I mean, I text people on my phone, and I instant
- 8 message them and write comments on Facebook.
- 9 ANGEL: Your face has a book?
- 10 EVA: Are you Amish or something?
- 11 ANGEL: No. Why?
- 12 EVA: You seem a bit —
- 13 ANGEL: A bit what?
- 14 EVA: Simple.
- 15 ANGEL: Simple?
- 16 EVA: Yes. Forgive me. I don't mean anything bad by that,
- 17 especially now.
- 18 ANGEL: No offense taken. You see, I like simple. In fact, I
- 19 have to admit, I'm really drawn to the simple things.
- 20 Now if that makes me Amish, that's fine. But, yes, I'm
- 21 pretty simple.
- 22 EVA: Not me. That's my problem.
- 23 ANGEL: If you're feeling that way, just look at the rainbow.
- 24 EVA: The rainbow is not always going to be there. You can't
- 25 just command up a rainbow.
- 26 ANGEL: Then look at that flower garden over there.
- 27 EVA: It's beautiful. It makes me think of my grandmother's
- 28 flower garden — a *real* flower garden. I would go out
- 29 there and help her gather bouquets for her Sunday
- 30 dinners when I was little.
- 31 ANGEL: You know, some of those flowers are annuals and
- 32 some are perennials.
- 33 EVA: What does that mean?
- 34 ANGEL: The annual flowers must have their seeds planted
- 35 every year and the soil reworked, and then they grow,
- 36 bloom, and die at the end of the season. They don't
- 37 return.
- 38 EVA: I thought all the flowers died at the end of the season.

1 ANGEL: Not really. Perennials lose their blooms like the
2 annuals, and they may even appear to die, but they
3 come back in all their beauty and glory the next year.
4 No seed planting or reworking their soil.

5 EVA: So you should only plant perennials?

6 ANGEL: Oh, no. I'm not saying that. We wouldn't want to
7 give up the thrill of growing six-foot-tall sunflowers, or
8 we wouldn't have sunflower seeds. And I, personally,
9 cannot live without my zinnias — they are a complete
10 delight and bring the big fat worker bees to the whole
11 garden. It's just that at the end of the day, it's
12 comforting to know that there are flowers you can
13 count on to come back without all the effort it takes to
14 raise them up in the first place.

15 EVA: Are you sure you're not some happy Amish farm lady?

16 ANGEL: I don't even have a virtual farm.

17 EVA: I don't have one anymore either. I don't have anything.
18 I've walked away from it all — my whole world. My
19 computers, pods, pads, phones, and flat-screens.
20 They're all gone now.

21 ANGEL: What about friends and family? Did you walk away
22 from them?

23 EVA: No — at least I don't think so. I just haven't really seen
24 them face to face in quite a while.

25 ANGEL: Then you're one of the blessed.

26 EVA: Blessed? I wouldn't call me blessed.

27 ANGEL: If you still have friends and family who love you
28 and care about you, then you, my dear, still have
29 everything. Plus — and this is a big bonus — God will
30 always love you.

31 EVA: God. I haven't talked to him in a long time either. I
32 used to know him, when I was younger.

33 ANGEL: So right now, you're an annual. We've just got to
34 plant the seed again and give you water and sunshine
35 to get you growing.

36 EVA: Right. Then I'll just die when winter comes. Because
37 I'm an annual. I don't last.

38 ANGEL: Oh, but that's not true. Not everyone knows this,

- 1 but in the right climate, an annual can transform itself
2 into a perennial.
- 3 EVA: Oh. That's a good tip!
- 4 ANGEL: You're welcome!
- 5 EVA: So, other than the fact that you've been shopping all
6 morning, do you really enjoy the simple life?
- 7 ANGEL: I do. I love rainbows and gardens, butterflies, a
8 juicy pear right off the tree, and lots of sunshine. And as
9 for the shopping, I was actually buying a few things for
10 some friends.
- 11 EVA: Of course. I should've known you weren't shopping for
12 yourself. Did you get anything good?
- 13 ANGEL: One of my friends loves to knit, so I picked up some
14 sparkly yarn for her and some nice bamboo knitting
15 needles.
- 16 EVA: Oh, that's heavenly.
- 17 ANGEL: Thank you! Then another friend wants to make
18 some sun tea, so I got her the supplies. I'm sort of
19 famous for my sun tea.
- 20 EVA: Sun tea. Why does that sound so good right now?
- 21 ANGEL: Oh, it's very easy to make. No technology required
22 for the sun tea or the knitting. Just some sun and some
23 yarn.
- 24 EVA: I love that yarn. I wish I had gone shopping with you.
25 I always end up buying stuff I just get tired of.
- 26 ANGEL: You seem to be feeling better. A little less anxious?
- 27 EVA: I do feel better. I haven't simply sat down and talked
28 and looked at the sky and flowers in ages. It's like
29 therapy for the soul. I'm in therapy. I suddenly want to
30 go dig in some dirt, real dirt, and take a walk after the
31 rain.
- 32 ANGEL: You can't do that in Farmville. Not really.
- 33 EVA: And you know, not that I'm trying to get rid of you, but
34 when I'm alone, I might give that talking-to-God thing a
35 whirl. I hope he remembers me.
- 36 ANGEL: He knows every hair on your head. I think he'll
37 remember you.
- 38 EVA: Can I ask you a favor?

- 1 ANGEL: Anything. That's why God sent me —
2 EVA: Sent you?
3 ANGEL: A message this morning.
4 EVA: How did God send you a message?
5 ANGEL: Through the flowers. Flowers have messages.
6 EVA: OK. How does that work?
7 ANGEL: The rose, for instance, means true love.
8 EVA: Oh, yeah.
9 ANGEL: Lavender means loyalty. Daisies mean innocence.
10 EVA: So you could plant a whole garden of messages. That's
11 amazing! That's better than any computer game I've
12 ever heard of. So, what was God's message to you today?
13 ANGEL: The lavender. I saw a garden of lavender when I
14 went for my morning walk. One little innocent daisy
15 was growing off to the side. It told me that someone who
16 is very innocent needed a lot of loyalty in her life when
17 everything else had let her down and left her alone.
18 EVA: Now that puts instant messaging to shame.
19 ANGEL: Whew. Yes it does. Instant messaging will never be
20 lavender-scented, either. So what did you want to ask
21 me?
22 EVA: Do you think you could teach me how to knit?
23 ANGEL: Come with me. We'll make some delicious sun tea
24 and learn all about it. *(They start to exit.)*
25 EVA: I think I'm going to like the simple life. I'm still kinda
26 worried about my farm, though. Wait! Did you hear a
27 buzz?
28 ANGEL: That was a bee.
29 EVA: Oh! That was a bee! Yea, bees! By the way, I'm Eva.
30 What's your name?
31 ANGEL: You can call me Angel.
32
33
34
35
36
37
38

Ruth and Ruby

*“All our dreams can come true, if we have the
courage to pursue them.”*

—Walt Disney

Summary

Ruby is a woman living in the present who is out in her garden one day, contemplating the biblical story of Ruth, when Naomi and Ruth appear to her. She learns lessons from this story that will apply to her own life. At times, both Ruby and Naomi tell the story. Ruth remains a true character in the story.

Characters

Ruby — Modern-day woman.

Ruth — A young Moabite widow from the Bible story.

Orpah — Another young Moabite widow and a sister-in-law of Ruth.

Naomi — Ruth and Orpah’s mother-in-law, an older widow.

Props

Baskets for all of the characters. This connects them to the harvest, and “harvesting your joy” is a central theme to this sketch. You will also need a real infant or a doll.

Setting

No set is needed. The field and garden settings are implied.

*(RUBY carries a basket and mimes the action in her garden.
RUTH does the same when she is miming gleaning from the
field.)*

RUBY: I don’t remember where I was the first time I met Ruth. I was unhappy with some things going on in my life. What’s new? My future looked like too much work, and I was ready to go back to the tried-and-true things ... easy things. I kept wondering what God’s plan for my life was, instead of trusting that there was a plan and I should keep working and striving for it. But of course I have to make things more complicated. I think I was out in my garden when I first saw Ruth and the other two women. Ruth, you know, is not just a book in the Bible. She was a real person. She had heartbreak and loss and love and longing — and she had all of this

before she knew God. Before she ever became the grandmother of King David — a direct descendant of Jesus. I was gathering flowers (*Picks up the basket*) and thinking about her amazing story, and then there she was, so vivid, right before me. Ruth was already a widow, yet she was still young and beautiful. She and the other daughter-in-law, also a young widow, were living in their native country with their foreign mother-in-law who urged them to stay in Moab, go back to their own mothers, and find new husbands. She practically shooed them away from her! You see, Naomi, the mother-in-law, had also lost her own husband, and so she was traveling back to her hometown of Bethlehem. This return to her native people, this journey all by herself, would be very difficult. I think you could safely say she was in a bad mood.

NAOMI: (*Ruth 1:11-13*) Return home, my daughters. Why would you come with me? Am I going to have any more sons, who could become your husbands? Return home, my daughters; I am too old to have another husband. Even if I thought there was still hope for me — even if I had a husband tonight and then gave birth to sons — would you wait until they grew up? Would you remain unmarried for them? No, my daughters. It is more bitter for me than for you, because the Lord's hand has gone out against me!

ORPAH: I am sad to lose my husband and my life with you. I love you, dearest Naomi, really I do. But I do not understand your god, nor do I want to. I'm going back to Kings Highway, where my family once did a good trade. I may find my new husband there. I still want a family of my own. I want big, strong sons who will never die. Good-bye, Naomi.

NAOMI: Orpah, do not call me Naomi. Call me Mara, because the Almighty has brought misfortune upon me.

ORPAH: Good-bye, then. Come on, Ruth — we must go. Our lives are not with her now. She has chosen to be bitter and alone. We must leave her, no matter how we feel.

1 We have our own gods, male and female gods, who will
2 look after us.

3 **RUBY:** Don't go, Ruth! (*NAOMI, RUTH, and ORPAH turn and*
4 *look at RUBY and freeze.*) Sorry. I get carried away. It's
5 strange, and I don't know why, but I don't want Ruth to
6 go back with Orpah. Oh, and by the way, Orpah is the
7 woman in the bible that Oprah was supposedly named
8 after, but her mother misspelled it. That's the story I've
9 heard ... not that I want to go around repeating gossip.
10 I don't think I would name my child after someone like
11 Orpah. I'm sure she felt the same as Ruth, because she
12 tried to stay with Naomi. She just didn't try very hard.
13 And at Naomi's second urging, she willingly left and
14 went back to her goods and her gods. (*ORPAH hugs*
15 *RUTH and NAOMI, and slowly and sadly walks away, but*
16 *when she gets a little ways from them, she happily skips away.*)

17 You see, there's a difference between feeling and
18 doing. Sure, you feel certain things, but do you do
19 something about it? I wonder whatever happened to
20 Orpah. Because you'll notice, this book of the Bible is
21 called Ruth. There are no books called Orpah.

22 **NAOMI:** (*Speaking to RUBY*) The old folk tales I've heard say
23 that Orpah only shed four tears, when she was four
24 miles outside of Moab, and that she went on to have
25 four sons: Goliath and his three brothers. And the
26 fortune-tellers say that someday one of the world's
27 richest and most famous women would be named after
28 her, but not spell her name correctly! Not that I listen to
29 old folk tales or fortune-tellers, especially after the way
30 the Lord has dealt with me. Amen.

31 **RUBY:** Naomi must have been a fascinating person. How
32 many people would choose to stay with their mother-in-
33 law? But I'm getting ahead of myself.

34 **RUTH:** (*Ruth 1:16-17*) Don't urge me to leave you or to turn
35 back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you
36 stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your
37 God my God. Where you die I will die, and there I will
38 be buried. May the Lord deal with me, be it ever so

1 severely, if anything but death separates you and me.
2 (*RUTH and NAOMI travel on together and exit. RUTH enters*
3 *from another side of the stage alone and mimes working in the*
4 *field, gathering the scattered grain.*)

5 **RUBY:** I couldn't believe it. Where did this heartbroken
6 young woman who had barely begun to experience life
7 get this kind of pure and simple loyalty? All I can think
8 is that somehow, in this hopeless situation, she felt
9 God's hand on her. Just as the barley harvest was
10 beginning, Ruth and Naomi arrived in Bethlehem. This
11 all had to be strange and a bit scary to Ruth. Remember,
12 Ruth was a Moabitess, a foreigner! This was a big deal
13 in Bethlehem. Remember the song? "O, Little Town of
14 Bethlehem." You know how little towns are. Word
15 spread all over town pretty fast that not only had
16 Naomi gone off to Moab and lost her husband and her
17 two sons, but now she was back with a foreign
18 daughter-in-law. It was pretty bad. Ruth knew she had
19 to do something. She actually went out into some
20 random field and behind the harvesters of that grain,
21 she worked morning to night to get the scattered little
22 scrappy leftovers, just to provide some food for Naomi
23 and herself.

24 **NAOMI:** Ah. Ruth and I had nothing. And I know that I said
25 that the Lord had brought misfortune upon me. I was
26 bitter. But looking back, I know the Lord Almighty
27 smiled upon on us. You see, that very field, of all the
28 many fields, happened to belong to a relative of my
29 dead husband. But not just any relative. Boaz. He was a
30 man of the Lord, strong, handsome, and kind. That day,
31 when Ruth worked long and hard in the heat of the sun,
32 barely gathering anything that we could eat, Boaz
33 noticed her. He saw her determination. He asked the
34 foreman about her, and the foreman was already
35 impressed with Ruth's hard work and devotion, the way
36 she worked steadily from early in the morning, with
37 only a short rest. So Boaz went to her. He offered her
38 food, water, and his protection so that the men in the

- 1 field would not harm her. Ruth then humbled herself
2 before Boaz.
- 3 RUTH: (Ruth 2:10) (*Bowing down*) Why have I found such favor
4 in your eyes that you notice me — a foreigner?
- 5 NAOMI: That's my Ruth.
- 6 RUBY: What did you say, Naomi?
- 7 NAOMI: Yes, Ruby, I said it. My Ruth! I realized that
8 through all of my loss and pain, the Lord Almighty had
9 given me a beautiful gift in my foreign Moabite
10 daughter-in-law! So many people in town just made fun
11 of us. But Boaz looked at everything Ruth had done —
12 all her faithfulness, hard work, and humility — and he
13 said, "May the Lord repay you for what you have done.
14 May you be richly rewarded by the Lord, the God of
15 Israel, under whose wings you have come to take
16 refuge" (Ruth 2:12).
- 17 RUBY: Wow. I feel so ... ashamed. We live in such a high-
18 demanding, disposable society now.
- 19 NAOMI: Disposable?
- 20 RUBY: That means if you don't like something, or if you've
21 used it all up, you can just throw it away and replace it.
- 22 NAOMI: Must be nice, Ruby.
- 23 RUBY: No, it's not. I get too caught up in it. I let myself get
24 too easily disappointed. And when that happens, you
25 start treating people like they can be thrown away and
26 replaced, and pretty soon you start treating your life
27 that way. But I see now, that's a lie. Ruth has shown me
28 that the truth is simple. The truth is in following the
29 Lord. That's where your reward is. Your reward is not
30 in the fake things — the fake gods.
- 31 NAOMI: Like the place where Orpah went. I made a mistake
32 in sending her there.
- 33 RUBY: It was her mistake. You were in despair. You didn't
34 know what you were saying.
- 35 NAOMI: The Lord looked after us, and took us under his
36 wings, like Boaz said! Boaz was wonderful to us. He
37 truly was a man of God. Nice to look upon too! Ruth was
38 kind to him. But Ruth was always kind.

- 1 RUTH: May I continue to find favor in your eyes, my lord.
2 You have given me comfort and have spoken kindly to
3 your servant — though I do not have the standing of one
4 of your servant girls.
- 5 RUBY: Awww! Ruth considered herself lower than one of
6 the servant girls!
- 7 NAOMI: When Ruth was gone working for so long, I didn't
8 know who she was working with until she came home
9 with all of this bounty. (*RUTH and NAOMI come together*
10 *On-stage.*)
- 11 RUTH: I have brought you roasted grain, and the fine
12 leftovers of a feast I have enjoyed, thanks to a kind man,
13 the owner of the field!
- 14 NAOMI: And you're not even a servant girl! This is unheard
15 of. Where did you glean today? Where did you work?
16 Blessed be the man who took notice of you!
- 17 RUTH: It was a well-run and organized operation, and the
18 man was so kind, and he brought me in with the servant
19 girls. He made sure I had plenty of cool water and a fine
20 meal. He told the harvesters not to embarrass me or
21 rebuke me, but said they should pull out some of the
22 healthy stalks from their gathering, just for me. The
23 name of the man I worked with today is Boaz.
- 24 NAOMI: (Ruth 2:20) The Lord bless him! He has not stopped
25 showing his kindness to the living and the dead. That
26 man is our close relative; he is one of our kinsman-
27 redeemers.
- 28 RUBY: Yea! Now Ruth and Boaz can get married and live
29 happily ever after!
- 30 NAOMI: (*To RUBY*) Not so fast. (*To RUTH*) You go rest, my
31 daughter. Tomorrow you can go with Boaz's servant
32 girls. It will be good for you, because in someone else's
33 field, you may be harmed. (*RUTH exits.*)
- 34 RUBY: Wait a minute! I thought Ruth just lived happily ever
35 after!
- 36 NAOMI: I realize, Ruby, that in your world, things just seem
37 to come easy and are dis- what did you call it?
- 38 RUBY: Disposable?

- 1 NAOMI: Yes! But at this time in Bethlehem, things are done
2 differently.
- 3 RUBY: I've heard a lot about Bethlehem.
- 4 NAOMI: Ancient laws were a bit complicated, but my
5 daughter Ruth continued to be faithful, devoted, and
6 hardworking. She did not take the kindness of Boaz for
7 granted. But she did everything that I asked of her.
- 8 RUBY: Like what?
- 9 NAOMI: Your garden is beautiful, by the way.
- 10 RUBY: Oh, thank you. I worked really hard on it. I started
11 the seeds months ahead of time in my greenhouse. I
12 watched them, watered them, and coaxed them along.
13 In the meantime, I made a plan for the whole garden
14 and where everything should go, and then when my
15 plants were healthy and the danger of frost had passed,
16 I planted everything into the ground. Now I have
17 everything I need out here.
- 18 NAOMI: That sounds a lot like our lives. Although Boaz
19 looked favorably upon my daughter Ruth, we still had
20 some seed planting and planning to do in order for
21 Ruth to be successfully married. And I could feel God's
22 blessing all along the way. This made me happy each
23 day, as Ruth continued to work and I made a nice home
24 for us. But I just knew that God had brought us this far,
25 and he had a lot more in store for us.
- 26 RUBY: What was your plan?
- 27 NAOMI: One night I advised Ruth to wash and perfume
28 herself and put on her best clothes. In other words,
29 dress like a bride, and appeal to Boaz in order to give
30 her the protection of marriage. I had specific
31 instructions on how she was to do this, according to our
32 customs. She could have thought it all very strange.
33 This is not how they did things in Moab. But Ruth
34 listened to me and trusted me.
- 35 RUBY: And Boaz?
- 36 NAOMI: Boaz responded favorably. I think he had Ruth in
37 his heart by then. He commended her for being a noble
38 woman.

- 1 RUBY: And then he asked her to marry him?
- 2 NAOMI: Ruby! Are you not listening? This is not how we do
3 things in Bethlehem. Our lives are obviously much
4 more complicated than yours.
- 5 RUBY: You're not kidding. I think they actually are!
- 6 NAOMI: Boaz was a kinsman-redeemer in our family, but he
7 was not the closest one.
- 8 RUBY: You mean another man could have married Ruth?
- 9 NAOMI: I mean another man *should* have married Ruth.
10 This was the way it should go.
- 11 RUBY: So Boaz called the guy up and got rid of him, right?
- 12 NAOMI: Ruby. Where do we live?
- 13 RUBY: Oh. Ancient Bethlehem. No phones.
- 14 NAOMI: No addresses. Boaz, as busy as he was, continued to
15 make sure that Ruth and I were well cared for. He went
16 up to the town gate and sat there and sat there, possibly
17 for days. This is how it was done. He had to wait until
18 the kinsman-redeemer, who was closer to us, came
19 along. Boaz had to talk to him. Then he had to meet
20 with ten elders of the town.
- 21 RUBY: I hate meetings. I'd rather go on a picnic.
- 22 NAOMI: Meeting with the elders of the town was not exactly
23 a picnic. But Boaz got through it all.
- 24 RUBY: And then the happy ending?
- 25 NAOMI: And then the wonderful blessing of the Lord
26 Almighty! Boaz acquired the property of my husband
27 and sons, and made it possible to maintain my family's
28 name with the property! This is how it is done —
- 29 RUBY: I know. Here in Bethlehem. (*RUTH enters, holding a*
30 *baby.*)
- 31 RUBY: Oh! What else was acquired!
- 32 NAOMI: Of course, Ruth became the bride of Boaz, and the
33 Lord blessed them with my grandson. Blessed be the
34 Lord! I hope the Lord blesses you in everything *you* do,
35 my dear Ruby. Don't take anything for granted. Be
36 thankful, hardworking, and humble.
- 37 RUBY: Thanks, Naomi. Thanks, Ruth.
- 38 NAOMI: Let us go, my dear daughter. I have bread rising in

1 the sun for our celebration feast. This baby will be
2 blessed! (*RUTH and NAOMI exit.*)

3 RUBY: Well, that Naomi was really something. But Ruth still
4 amazes me. Ruth was a Moabite. She came from a line
5 of people who were despised, in conflict, and worshiped
6 fake gods. To move to Bethlehem meant that Ruth was
7 a nobody. She was lower than a servant girl. She took
8 risks for her mother-in-law, and she worked hard every
9 day. Ridiculously hard. I wonder when she lay down at
10 night if she worried or if she had any hope. One thing's
11 for sure: Ruth loved the Lord. She didn't just say it. She
12 showed it. When she told Naomi "Your God will be my
13 God," she meant it. God took her under his wings. Boaz
14 said it. As the story of her amazing life unfolded, it was
15 clear that she was a chosen woman. Her reputation
16 went from being the strange foreign woman who was
17 lower than a servant girl to a noble, devoted woman
18 with a blessed future. People loved her, and she was
19 blessed with a husband who was a prosperous man of
20 God, and then her first child. A child who would grow
21 up to become the father of a king.

22 If only I could be like Ruth! What am I doing? I should
23 be enjoying my garden. It's a blessing! I should be
24 getting things done around here. My work is a blessing!
25 I should appreciate my family, and I just waste my time
26 worrying about silly problems. Problems that the Lord
27 can definitely handle.

28 If Ruth can go from being lower than a servant girl to
29 the grandmother of a king, I think I have hope. And in
30 the meantime, I'm picking those tomatoes over there. I
31 have a lot to do! Today a servant, tomorrow, who
32 knows? Except God!

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Holding Hands

“Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.”

Romans 12:4-5

Summary

This sketch is a visual image of the body of Christ. Together we can make each other stronger — or suffer by making each other weaker. We are one in the Lord and can rejoice in our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Characters

Young Guy — A new Christian looking for brothers and sisters in Christ.

Woman #1 — Happy, strong Christian.

Woman #2 — A growing Christian who can be cynical.

Man #1 — A stagnant Christian who needs to grow and love.

Man #2 — A philosopher type who is at peace with fellow Christians.

Man #3 — Very happy, excited Christian man.

Woman #3 — A motherly person.

Young Girl — A babe in Christ.

Woman #4 — She is lost in the world and then found.

Extras — Additional actors can take part to make the chain look bigger.

(Opens with rainforest-style music in the background. MAN #1 enters first and takes a stance on the empty stage as if he's in a bad mood. WOMAN #2 enters and links hands with him. She likes him. Then WOMAN #1, MAN #2, WOMAN #3, and MAN #3 all enter and begin linking hands. It is best not to sway, but while holding hands, the cast may look at each other and around at God's glorious world, as if they are on a mountaintop. Each time someone enters the chain, everyone has their own reaction, whether it makes them excited or even ill, according to their character.)

YOUNG GUY: *(Stumbles up to the hand-holding chain On-stage.)*

Hey — hey! Let me in. Let me in. Come on. Hurry! (The

1 *GROUP seems a little reluctant to break the chain and let him*
 2 *in.) What is wrong with you people? I need a refuge.*
 3 *Can't you see that if you don't let me in right now, the*
 4 *world will just swallow me up and I'll be lost forever?*
 5 *Please!*

6 **WOMAN #1:** *(At the end)* Hey! Over here. We've got a weak
 7 spot in the chain. I think you could make it stronger.
 8 Come on. Hurry!

9 **YOUNG GUY:** Finally! Thank you. You saved my life. *(As soon*
 10 *as he joins the chain, he vocalizes his physical relief, as if he*
 11 *had been in pain before and now feels much better. However, a*
 12 *chain reaction works its way down the line, as EVERYONE*
 13 *reacts with pain, or a laugh, or a sigh, or cough to his joining*
 14 *the link.)*

15 **MAN #1:** See? That's why we can't keep letting them in!

16 **WOMAN #2:** That's why *you* can't keep letting them in. You
 17 can't handle it.

18 **MAN #2:** It's not that he *can't* handle it. He doesn't *want* to
 19 handle it. He's barely holding on himself, but he won't
 20 admit it.

21 **WOMAN #2:** Yeah. We're doing all the work. A Christian's
 22 work is never done!

23 **MAN #1:** Oh, great. Here comes another one.

24 **WOMAN #2:** See? There's always another one.

25 **YOUNG GIRL:** *(Enters from behind the chain and desperately*
 26 *looks for an opening, as if she's running from something*
 27 *frightening.) Is there — is there a place for me? Did*
 28 *someone save me a place? Please! Answer me. Is my*
 29 *mother here? Mom? Can I please ... Mom?*

30 **WOMAN #3:** I'll be your mother. Come this way. I'll ease you
 31 right in, and the others will never know. You'll fit right
 32 in. It will be wonderful! I'll help you. You'll grow. *(The*
 33 *GIRL eases in, and there is a chain reaction down the line to*
 34 *her joining.)*

35 **MAN #1:** I don't feel so good. Is there something going
 36 around?

37 **WOMAN #3:** Nothing you can't handle.

38 **WOMAN #1:** You know, most people think that the worst

1 part is the ending. Like it sort of ruins everything.
 2 WOMAN #3: I know, and that's the funny thing. It doesn't
 3 have to end.
 4 WOMAN #1: I guess this chain does reach for eternity.
 5 MAN #2: The spirit — joy, peace, and love — can live forever.
 6 It's one. One body.
 7 YOUNG GUY: But don't fall out of the link. It's hard to get
 8 back. And it really messes up some of the others, even
 9 when they're connected. (*WOMAN #4 enters and spins*
 10 *around slowly down the aisle.*)
 11 WOMAN #1: Oh, no. Do you see that?
 12 YOUNG GIRL: What?
 13 MAN #2: (*Points to WOMAN #4.*) It's another one. Lost.
 14 Spinning around where the world takes her.
 15 MAN #1: Come on, now. Just ignore her. She'll spin away
 16 with the world, and we'll never have to see her again.
 17 WOMAN #3: I know. If we hang on to each other real tightly,
 18 I think we can reach out to her.
 19 MAN #1: Hey, come on. I'm barely hanging on.
 20 MAN #3: You finally said it!
 21 MAN #2: With God you can rest in your weakness. Your
 22 weakness is his strength!
 23 WOMAN #2: And ours!
 24 MAN #1: Yeah, but come on! Are you going to dump me for
 25 her?
 26 MAN #3: Hmmmm. Tempting!
 27 YOUNG GUY: Look, dude. Just stay with it. Put a little more
 28 grip into it. It'll be a fun ride! It's like going fishing. It's
 29 so cool.
 30 YOUNG GIRL: Yeah! Let's go. Let's reach out to that girl!
 31 WOMAN #3: (*To WOMAN #4*) Take his hand! Take his hand!
 32 MAN #3: (*To the spinning WOMAN #4*) Here! Grab my hand.
 33 Don't worry. Jesus won't let go of you! (*The chain begins*
 34 *to spiral around so that the end person reaches out farther*
 35 *toward the congregation. WOMAN #4 is spinning down the*
 36 *aisle and gets scooped up by the chain. The reaction then*
 37 *dominoes down, as each person falls or almost topples over.*
 38 *They are all still holding hands when they get back up and into*

- 1 *position. Everyone, even the doubters, are laughing and*
2 *breathless, but happy.)*
- 3 MAN #3: Wow. It's amazing! Every time someone comes to
4 Jesus, it's so ...
- 5 WOMAN #3: Comforting?
- 6 YOUNG GUY: Awesome?
- 7 WOMAN #1: Strengthening?
- 8 MAN #2: Peaceful?
- 9 MAN #1: Mind boggling?
- 10 WOMAN #4: Life saving!
- 11 MAN #3: Yes! All those things and more! It's incredible.
- 12 WOMAN #4: You all helped change my life! Now let's tell
13 others. I don't think I can keep this good news to myself
14 for another minute!
- 15 YOUNG GIRL: Hey, yeah! Let's go find some others that
16 need saving!
- 17 MAN #1: OK, that last thing *was* kind of fun. It turned out
18 pretty well! But do we have to beat this into the
19 ground? I was just getting comfortable again. (*CHAIN*
20 *begins walking slowly Off-Stage together and singing the*
21 *phrase, "Go, Tell It on the Mountain."*)
- 22 MAN #1: OK, OK! I'm going! I said I'm going! I'll do the
23 telling, but I won't do the mountain climbing.
- 24 YOUNG GUY: Come on, dude! You're breaking my heart!
25 (*EVERYONE stops.*)
- 26 MAN #1: I'm breaking your heart? You're breaking my back!
27 Why does this have to be so hard?
- 28 YOUNG GUY: Don't you get it, dude?
- 29 MAN #1: Oh, please. What do you know?
- 30 YOUNG GUY: I may be new here, and I may not be the oldest
31 or the wisest, but I have love. It's as simple as that.
32 Huge love. The kind of love that moves mountains. This
33 I know, my brother. Because it's Christ's love, and it's
34 powerful — more powerful than the biggest bomb. More
35 powerful than a star's explosion. He made us, just like
36 he made the stars. And you have it too, my brother. The
37 strength of the heavens! But you choose to ignore this
38 gift. And if you keep ignoring it, you will become

1 hardened, like an arthritis in your soul. Your pain will
2 be immense. We won't let go of you — not for a minute,
3 but it will hurt, and you'll be the one to let go. Your hate
4 and confusion will possess you, and you'll become a
5 deep, black hole that tries desperately to pull in
6 anything and everything in its path to join in the
7 destruction. I don't want to let go of you, brother, and I
8 will break my back hanging on to you, but I can't let
9 Satan's gravity bring me down.

10 WOMAN #2: Wow.

11 MAN #1: Hey, look. I am just ... I am just what I am. I don't
12 know. I don't even hear myself talking anymore.
13 Everything I say seems to come out of pain and
14 disappointment.

15 WOMAN #2: You just need some joy. That's all he's saying.

16 YOUNG GUY: Yes! Joy!

17 MAN #1: Joy? What joy? I'm perfectly happy.

18 WOMAN #2: No, you're not! Oh, please!

19 WOMAN #1: I'm happy! And yet I know there's a difference
20 between joy and happiness.

21 YOUNG GUY: That's right!

22 MAN #1: What? Are you kidding me? What's the difference
23 between joy and happiness?

24 WOMAN #1: The world can be a happy, happy place. But the
25 world can also be dark, scary, lonesome, and full of
26 grief. You've seen how people can just spin around,
27 endlessly lost. Jesus goes to all those places. He brings
28 his love, comfort, and forgiveness everywhere he goes.
29 And even if you're not happy with what's going on in
30 your world, if you have Jesus with you, then you have
31 the gravity of his joy. You have joy to hang onto, no
32 matter what!

33 YOUNG GUY: You still have joy, I know you do. Come on!
34 Tap into it. Reach down and get that joy. It doesn't
35 matter if you're happy today or sad.

36 MAN #1: I don't have to put on a fake smile and be Mr.
37 Happy, but I can be joyful?

38 ALL: (*Ad-lib*) Come on! Come with us! Please!

MAN #1: Fine! You know what I have to say to you all? I'm sick of this. I'm completely sick of feeling this way. Let's go save some people!

YOUNG GUY: (*To MAN #1*) Dude! I love ya, man! Let's go! Let's go fishing! (*They exit, singing.*)

MAN #1: There's someone spinning around! I'm going in!

Simply the Best of Friends

"Most of the shadows of this life are caused by our standing in our own sunshine."

—Ralph Waldo Emerson

Summary

Mrs. Doogoody and Mrs. Snobgrass are two church ladies who are always trying to get each other's goat. Their negative personality traits reflect the negativity in all of us, whether it's envy, jealousy, or simply trying to outdo others. In the end, they always realize that loving each other is the real path to grace, although they remain stubborn.

Characters

Mrs. Grace Doogoody — Gracious, sunny, and sparkling, with a bite to her wit. Never without her hat and gloves on. In her fifties or sixties.

Mrs. Mercy Snobgrass — Quick-witted and very friendly with a snobby undertone. Her outfits always have something sparkly on them — some kind of sequins or glitter. Also in her fifties or sixties.

Lisa — A young mom who enters toward the end of the sketch.

Claire — Lisa's friend who has older children and dresses fashionably. She also enters toward the end of the sketch.

Props

Mrs. Snobgrass and Mrs. Doogoody each carry a Bible, handbag, and church tote bag. Lisa and Claire each have purses. Lisa also carries a diaper bag.

1 **Setting**

2 Church. No set is needed.

3 (*MRS. DOOGOODY and MRS. SNOBGRASS can make their*
4 *entrances at the same time from the back of the*
5 *congregation/auditorium or from opposite sides of the stage. If*
6 *entering from the congregation, they can ad-lib with the*
7 *audience.*)
8

9 **MRS. DOOGOODY:** Well, hello, Mrs. Snobgrass! Lord bless
10 you! Hello! I see you're moving a little more slowly than
11 last week.

12 **MRS. SNOBGRASS:** Is that you, Mrs. Doogoody? Is it? Oh,
13 angels be! Greetings, Mrs. Doogoody! I do love your hat
14 as always, my dear! Your taste is like no one else's on
15 this earth, I do believe. But did you get that hat at a
16 yard sale, perhaps? With my glasses on, I can see a little
17 more wear and tear than what might be appropriate for
18 an outing. Oh, dear!

19 **MRS. DOOGOODY:** Well, sweet lady, you'd do well to cut
20 down on the yard sales yourself. I'm just thinking of
21 your health. My personal milliner designed this hat for
22 me as a one-of-a-kind, dearest. She thinks yard sales are
23 a bit desperate, too. I told her how you live and breathe
24 them. I, of course, adore that outfit you have on. It's
25 blindingly beautiful. It's amazing how you can turn
26 your second-hand treasures into glitter gun ensembles.
27 And somehow, everything always matches on you. Why,
28 I'll bet that when your children were growing up, they
29 all glittered and matched too.

30 **MRS. SNOBGRASS:** Why, yes — especially my twin boys.
31 They had sparkling personalities, and they looked just
32 alike! (*They both break out in a big fake laugh.*)

33 **MRS. DOOGOODY:** Well, my, my, my. You are so funny! Such
34 a great big ... wit. So, my goodness — how are you? How
35 are you on this especially beautiful day? Did you take
36 all your pills?

37 **MRS. SNOBGRASS:** Well ... I can't complain. You know,
38 after visiting the twins at law school and medical school

1 respectively and helping my daughter frame one of her
2 gold medals, I rushed right over here to see if the pastor
3 or staff needed any help before delivering one hundred
4 cream pies, which I made this weekend, to the charity
5 kitchen, and then volunteering at a couple of the
6 hospital wards. I guess you could say being selfless,
7 giving, and humble is my real medicine.

8 MRS. DOOGOODY: Well ... I know a ward you should have
9 visited a little longer — at least mentally.

10 MRS. SNOBGRASS: Oh? Maybe you'd like to pull yourself
11 out of your fast food coma and away from *Guns smoke*
12 reruns and come with me next time.

13 MRS. DOOGOODY: That could get a little crazy. You
14 know ... with my own tightly packed schedule of
15 volunteer projects and committees. And of course, since
16 I'm the covered dish fellowship chair and organizer of
17 Parents' Night Out, not to mention choir practice, I've
18 barely time to work on my big solo. I don't know who
19 you're thinking of with the cheeseburgers and TV
20 watching. Maybe you're thinking of yourself!

21 MRS. SNOBGRASS: Oh! When did they let you in ... I mean,
22 when did you join the choir?

23 MRS. DOOGOODY: Years ago! I sing solo.

24 MRS. SNOBGRASS: Well, I guess you sing "so low" that I
25 don't hear you.

26 MRS. DOOGOODY: It's a pity, Mrs. Snobgrass, that you don't
27 sing.

28 MRS. SNOBGRASS: Well, I do make a joyful noise unto the
29 Lord.

30 MRS. DOOGOODY: Yes, and there's a reason he called it
31 joyful *noise*.

32 MRS. SNOBGRASS: Well, Mrs. Doogoody, it's true that not
33 everyone in the choir sticks out quite like you do.

34 MRS. DOOGOODY: It's a gift. I'm a very strong soprano.

35 MRS. SNOBGRASS: Oh? I didn't know you were Italian!

36 MRS. DOOGOODY: No, no, dear. Really now, Mrs. Snobgrass.
37 A soprano has a higher voice, you know, and we usually
38 carry the melody. The lead, if you will. We often provide

1 a suddenly exciting high-pitched ending to many of our
2 songs. And, of course, the alto section consists of the
3 lower voices who usually provide the harmony to back
4 up our leads.

5 MRS. SNOBGRASS: Well, I would never accuse you of
6 providing harmony!

7 MRS. DOOGOODY: Someone has to carry the song, you
8 know.

9 MRS. SNOBGRASS: I thought all you did was carry the sheet
10 music out for the pianist. As for me, however, I
11 personally prefer the altos, with their beautiful, deep,
12 rich vocalizations, and their dramatic depth of tune.

13 MRS. DOOGOODY: I will have you know, Mrs. Snobgrass,
14 that I am proud to be a choir member, and because of my
15 statuesque height and vocal strengths, you'll often see
16 me in the back row of the soprano section where my
17 voice can properly ring out.

18 MRS. SNOBGRASS: Well, I'm sure everyone is very thankful
19 that you're on the back row ... especially the altos.

20 MRS. DOOGOODY: We do need more choir members, and
21 especially more altos. Do you know of anyone?

22 MRS. SNOBGRASS: *(Suddenly talking in a low alto voice)* Do you
23 mean someone in particular?

24 MRS. DOOGOODY: Well ... yes ...

25 MRS. SNOBGRASS: Do you mean someone who has a special
26 flair for style and technique?

27 MRS. DOOGOODY: Yes ...

28 MRS. SNOBGRASS: Someone who could bring an incredible
29 presence to the choir and fill the loft with sounds that
30 have never graced the human ear before? A truly
31 velvety-rich, natural alto-born vocal strength ...

32 MRS. DOOGOODY: Look — we just need some warm bodies
33 up there.

34 MRS. SNOBGRASS: Pardon moi? *(Pronounced "mwah")*

35 MRS. DOOGOODY: I mean, we're looking for people who
36 want to sing for the Lord and do that each week. That's
37 it. We don't care what they look like or what they wear.
38 We just need them to slap on a choir robe and be ready

- 1 to praise.
- 2 MRS. SNOBGRASS: A robe?
- 3 MRS. DOOGOODY: Sure.
- 4 MRS. SNOBGRASS: What color?
- 5 MRS. DOOGOODY: What do you ... what do you mean, what
- 6 color? You go to church here! Haven't you ever noticed
- 7 the choir before?
- 8 MRS. SNOBGRASS: Well, yes. There is one lady who always
- 9 wears a hat ...
- 10 MRS. DOOGOODY: That's all you've noticed?
- 11 MRS. SNOBGRASS: Listen now, I often close my eyes during
- 12 the choir specials so that I can really get into it and
- 13 listen to the message.
- 14 MRS. DOOGOODY: Mmmm-hmmmm. I see. Really get into it.
- 15 OK. You listen to the message. OK. So tell me this: what
- 16 was last week's sermon about?
- 17 MRS. SNOBGRASS: Excuse me? Are you quizzing me like I'm
- 18 in a first grade Sunday school class?
- 19 MRS. DOOGOODY: To tell you the truth, I think you could
- 20 learn a few things from those first graders, Mrs.
- 21 Snobgrass. They hold hands when they walk down the
- 22 hall like true, supportive friends. And when they receive
- 23 a snack, they are grateful and excited, unlike your
- 24 behavior upon tasting my apple pie entry for the fair.
- 25 MRS. SNOBGRASS: Well, since we're on the subject, when
- 26 they sing, they sing at the top of their lungs for the Lord,
- 27 and they don't worry about who has the solo or the lead
- 28 part. And for your information, last week's sermon was
- 29 on First Corinthians. The pastor said our new bodies
- 30 will be different.
- 31 MRS. DOOGOODY: Thank goodness. You have hope.
- 32 MRS. SNOBGRASS: Well! That was an insult — pure and true
- 33 as could be! You'd better quit choir and join that new
- 34 prayer group! (*LISA enters.*)
- 35 LISA: Oh, hi, Mrs. Snobgrass! Hi, Mrs. Doogoody!
- 36 MRS. DOOGOODY: Hello, Lisa. How are you, dear?
- 37 MRS. SNOBGRASS: Hello, Lisa. You look so pretty, honey!
- 38 Doesn't she look absolutely sweet and pretty, Mrs.

1 Doogoody?

2 MRS. DOOGOODY: Why, Mrs. Snobgrass, she is just the
3 picture of health and happiness.

4 LISA: Well, goodness — thank you! Oh, I've been so tired,
5 running after my kindergartner and my toddler. I've
6 missed you lately at choir practice, Mrs. Doogoody!

7 MRS. SNOBGRASS: Oh, not going to practices? Why, yes —
8 she just hates missing choir practice.

9 LISA: And Mrs. Snobgrass, we worried about you last week
10 when you didn't show up with the five cream pies you
11 were going to make for the fellowship.

12 MRS. DOOGOODY: Oh, five cream pies, was it? Not one
13 hundred? Well, she just hates not being able to deliver.

14 LISA: I figured you two were probably taking care of each
15 other, though. A couple of the ladies and I were talking
16 about how much we've admired your friendship and
17 loyalty to each other throughout the years. You two
18 were always the ones everyone could count on to
19 decorate the lobby, make the coffee, or just be there to
20 hold someone's hand. You two are pure and simple
21 examples of God's love.

22 MRS. SNOBGRASS: Us?

23 MRS. DOOGOODY: You're talking about us, right here. Mrs.
24 Snobgrass and myself?

25 LISA: Well, of course you two! I admire both of you so much.
26 I tell you, as I go through my busy life, I get to a point
27 where I envy one of my friends because her kids are
28 older and she has a little more freedom, or another
29 friend who is all dressed up and actually looks nice, and
30 here I am, just grabbing whatever and trying to get
31 here on time. I start to feel jealous, and it's like Satan
32 just gets ahold of me. I want to lie and not bother to tell
33 my friend she looks pretty, or brag to my friend with
34 the older kids how great it is to have little ones and too
35 bad she doesn't, just to try and make her envious of me.
36 I tell you, ladies, I don't know why I do these things, and
37 I feel like a horrible person. I'm the one making life too
38 complicated. I just need to love my friends. It's that

- 1 simple. I mean, how do you two do it? How do you keep
2 your long friendship so sweet and simple?
- 3 MRS. DOOGOODY: (*To MRS. SNOBGRASS*) Well, I-I-I'm
4 sorry, honey!
- 5 MRS. SNOBGRASS: (*To MRS. DOOGOODY*) No! No! I'm the
6 one! I'm the one who's sorry!
- 7 MRS. DOOGOODY: Big hug! (*They hug and cry for a few*
8 *seconds.*)
- 9 LISA: Wait a minute — are you two all right?
- 10 MRS. DOOGOODY: Oh! Yes. Mercy be. Yes, Lisa, we're fine. I
11 just forgot to tell Mrs. Snobgrass I was sorry about
12 something.
- 13 MRS. SNOBGRASS: Yes, yes. And me too. We just like to, you
14 know, clear the air sometimes. I guess that's our secret.
- 15 MRS. DOOGOODY: After all, good friends really are hard to
16 find.
- 17 MRS. SNOBGRASS: Hard to find and sometimes hard to
18 keep, if you let bad feelings and Satan get in the way.
19 We must work at our friendships all the time, because
20 they're very important. And if you stay as strong as you
21 can in the Lord, he will bless you abundantly with
22 friendship and guide your thoughts and behavior
23 always.
- 24 MRS. DOOGOODY: That's right!
- 25 MRS. SNOBGRASS: Now, Mrs. Doogoody, you go on and get
26 up there to choir practice and let your voice ring!
- 27 MRS. DOOGOODY: And Mrs. Snobgrass, I will count on
28 looking out and seeing your shining, sparkling smile
29 and presence as we praise the Lord together.
- 30 MRS. SNOBGRASS: Meet you for lunch after the service,
31 dear! My treat!
- 32 MRS. DOOGOODY: Yes! Wonderful! 'Bye, Lisa dear! (*MRS.*
33 *SNOBGRASS and MRS DOOGOODY exit. MRS.*
34 *SNOBGRASS leaves her tote bag behind. CLAIRE enters.*)
- 35 CLAIRE: Hey, Lisa.
- 36 LISA: Claire! I'm so glad I ran into you!
- 37 CLAIRE: Was that the ladies —
- 38 LISA: Mrs. Snobgrass and Mrs. Doogoody.



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