

“On the Church Sign: A Message of Love”

by
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What A committee meeting to plan phrases for the church sign reveals that we may have become complacent about God's love.

Themes: God's Love, God's Grace, Just for Fun, Valentine's Day, Church Culture

Who Audrey
Dan
Krista
Jess
Ben

When Present Day

Wear (Props) All characters wear casual present-day clothes.
Table (folding-style ideal)
5 chairs
Five laptops and/or notepads and pens

Why John 3:16, Romans 8:12-39

How Characters can be of varied adult ages.

Time Approximately 3 minutes

Lights up. Audrey, Dan, Krista, Jess, and Ben are seated around a table, each with a laptop or notebook and pen.

Audrey: All right, guys, thanks for coming. Dan? You want to open us up in prayer?

Dan: Sure. Dear Heavenly Father, you know our committee has an important decision to make tonight. Please direct our discussion and help us to make the right choice. In your name, Amen.

All: *(echoing)* Amen.

Audrey: *(straightening up dramatically)* So.

Dan, Krista, Jess, and Ben simultaneously flip open their notepad or laptop.

Audrey: *(soberly)* What's going on the church sign?

Krista: Well, we can't beat Third Baptist. *[Or insert a generic-sounding church name]*

Jess: Yeah, but that's because they broke the cardinal Church Sign rule.

All: NO...POLITICS.

Audrey: That's okay, we're going to take the high road. Pastor just finished a series on prayer. How about something like, "Come on in, we're prayer-conditioned"?

Dan: Or, "You're tallest when you're on your knees".

Jess: How about, "Which gets more use? Your prayer closet or your shoe closet?"

Ben: What? Who would have a *shoe* closet?

Audrey, Krista, and Jess raise their hands.

Ben: Never mind.

Krista: How about, "God always answers knee-mail"?

Jess: We did that last year.

Audrey: The next sermon series is on Revelation. There's a lot of end-times phrases we could pull from.

Krista: *(slowly and somberly)* "Gnashing of teeth".

Jess: Eww! What's that?

Krista: It's an end-times phrase.

Ben: On the church sign? That's what we want people to see? Come on in, there's gnashing of teeth?

Krista: Not *here!* I meant—never mind.

Jess: How about, "Get right or get left"?

Dan: I thought we said no politics.

Jess throws her hands up incredulously.

Audrey: Maybe we should come back to Revelation. We've got time on that one. Other ideas?

Dan: Here's a good one: "God sent you a text message. It's called The Bible."

Everyone groans.

Krista: Or, "Read the Bible! It prevents truth decay!"

More groans.

Krista: Get it? Truth decay? Like tooth decay?

Jess: *(to Krista)* What is it with you and teeth?

Audrey: Or how about a personal challenge? You know, like, "The best vitamin for a Christian is B1."

Dan: "If you were put on trial for being a Christian, would there be enough evidence to convict you?"

Jess: "Live your life so that non-believers will question their non-belief."

Audrey: "We're not called to be like other Christians. We're called to be like Christ."

Krista: "You are sodium chloride."

Jess: What?!

Krista: *(defensively)* You know, the salt of the earth.

Audrey: *(catching up on her notes)* Well, those are some good ideas. Ben, you've been pretty quiet. What do you think we should put on the church sign?

Ben: "God loves you."

Everyone looks up, expressions prompting him to continue.

Ben: That's it. "God loves you."

Audrey and Dan look at each other and start laughing.

Jess: That's it?

Krista: But that's so boring.

Ben: How is that boring? *(Silence)* If I tell you the Person who built the entire galaxy loves you, that's boring?

Audrey: I just think she means—

Ben: *(cutting her off)* If I say, "Audrey, with all the seven-point-something-billion people in the world, God loves *you*", is that boring?

Audrey: Not exactly.

Ben: If I say, Dan, Krista, God chose you as his son and daughter before the beginning of time? Or if I say, He knows how much hair is on Jess's head and how many purple shoes are in her shoe room?

Jess: *(correcting)* Closet.

Ben: And that's *BORING?*

Dan: *(after a pause)* You have a point.

Audrey: Yeah, you do. Okay. *(Gestures with her hand as if scanning the words on a sign):* "God loves you."

The others write it in their notebooks or type on their laptops. There is a brief pause.

Krista: So how do we make that catchy?

Ben buries his head in his hands. Lights down.