

“Spiritual Resolution: Join a Ministry”

by
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What When Annie volunteers to help in the toddler room at church, she discovers that her gifts are not suited for crying kids and messy diapers. This comedic skit is part of the Spiritual Resolution series and fits perfectly into a series about New Year's resolutions.

Themes: New Year, New Year's Resolutions, Ministry, Duet

Who **Annie-** a young professional (20's-30's) who is relatively new to the Christian faith. Has a flair for the dramatic.
Connie- humorous representation of her conscience (should be played by someone older than Annie)
Nora (offstage voice only)- nursery worker

When Present day; Church toddler nursery

Wear (Props) Changing table with pad
Box of cereal
Stack of diapers
Sound effect of babies/children crying
Annie and Connie wear present-day dress-casual clothes.

Why 1 Corinthians 12

How This is a comic script, and it's okay for actors to exaggerate reactions. All children are mimed and implied. Unless you want to use real toddlers. On stage during your worship service. Right before the sermon. What could go wrong? (Please let us know if you do this.)

Time Approximately 4 minutes

Background noise of babies/young children screaming is heard. Lights up. Annie is standing beside a nursery changing table, somewhat disoriented, holding a stack of diapers in one arm and a container of cereal in the other.

Annie: *(singing as if to calm herself)* "Kumbaya, my Lord... kumbaya...kumbaya my Lord, kumbaya..."

Nora: *(voice offstage)* Annie, would you mind grabbing the paper towels? LeeLee just spilled her water.

Annie: Oh sure! Paper towels... *(She looks at the items in both hands and shakes her head)*

Nora: *(offstage)* And I think she'll need a new outfit. Her diaper bag is the pink one.

Annie places the diapers and the cereal on the changing table, then turns to suddenly address a small child:

Annie: No, Carter! That's Henry's sippy. See? Right here on the masking tape, it says—never mind, you can't read. Nooooo—no no no, stop crying! Look, that blue one is yours!

Nora: *(offstage)* Then when you're done with LeeLee, go ahead and change Mia, too. Woo hoo, I can smell her from clear across the room.

Annie: I think they can smell her from the sanctuary. Pink diaper bag... come here, Mia, I need to change you... Carter, NO! I know she took your train, but you can't just hit her.

Nora: *(offstage)* I'm going to go grab more crackers. You'll be fine for a minute, right?

Annie: Use your words. Say "I DON'T LIKE THAT". Rosie, give him the train. GIVE HIM—look, you can have the green one! That one's just as— *(Closes her eyes briefly as crying starts again)* "Someone's crying, Lord... kumbaya.... Someone's crying, Lord...kumbaya..."

Connie enters.

Connie: Hey there, Annie! It's me, your Conscience! Toddler room, huh? That lullaby working?

Annie: Conscience? What are *you* doing here?

Connie: Just checking in. The bigger question is, what are *you* doing here?

Annie: I made a resolution to join a ministry at church. Which you ought to know, since you're my conscience and all. Here, change her.

- Connie:** I don't do diapers.
- Annie:** You think I do?!
- Connie:** Well, you signed up for it.
- Annie:** I thought it was a good ministry to start with. I mean, how much can I mess up a little kid? *(Thinks quickly)* Don't answer that.
- Connie:** Well, you signed up for *something*. A lot of people wouldn't even do that.
- Annie:** They're smart. Come here, LeeLee, your turn.
- Connie:** You know, some people like working with little kids. Some people like working with adults. And some people like working with computers, or guitars, or bagels and cream cheese.
- Annie:** What's your point? Besides making me hungry.
- Connie:** Looks like there's some cereal on the changing table. *(Annie winces)* My point is, there are "many gifts, but the same Spirit." There're lots of different ministries for a reason. Sometimes, you don't know where to serve until you try something.
- Annie:** You're saying I should try something else.
- Connie:** I'm saying if your gifting is toddler nursery, you should stay here. Otherwise, finish your commitment and then consider some other options.
- Annie:** I don't like toddlers. *(Suddenly realizes what she just said and turns to address the child she's helping)* I mean—except you, of course.
- Connie:** That just might be your answer.
- Annie:** I like organizing things. And sending out information. And putting people places.
- Connie:** So why aren't you talking to people in the church office?
- Annie:** I don't know. I thought "ministry" meant some huge sacrifice. Getting your hands... *(she wrinkles her nose)* messy.
- Connie:** It *is* a sacrifice to invest your time and energy in God's work, whether your hands are literally messy or not. You don't have to throw yourself into something you're not good at.
- Annie:** Well, I didn't say I'm not *good* at this...

Connie: Honey. You just put LeeLee's clothes on Mia.

Annie: That's LeeLee.

Connie: No, that's Mia.

Annie: Oh for heaven's sake. Kids all look alike.

Connie: I think God made you good at administration, so you could administrate. I think he made someone else good with toddlers so that they can work in here. Think about it.

Annie: I will. Hey, could you hand me the wipes—

Connie: Gotta run. *(She exits)*

Nora: *(voice offstage)* Okay, I'm back! You want to do the lesson or I should I?

Annie: I think...does it involve diapers?

Lights down.