# "UNDERCOVER BOSS"

By Terry Stanley

## Synopsis

This sketch is a parody of the hit reality TV show "Undercover Boss". In this episode Jesus is going undercover. He will disguise himself as a visitor to see first-hand how His churches are operating. Jesus visits Back-Siding Baptist Church, and finds his church in complete disarray.

## Scripture

Revelation 3:15,16 "I know all the things you do, that you are neither hot nor cold. I wish you were one or the other! But since you are like lukewarm water, I will spit you out of my mouth"

## Ministry Lesson

Many churches today do not follow Christ's teaching. The Word has been watered down. Their worship services are not glorifying God and lifting up Jesus, but catering to the desires of the congregation and the whims of the Pastor. What if Jesus visited your church? What would he see and what would he say to you?

## Ministry Focus

Christian Fun

#### Genre

Comedy

## Cast

- Jesus
- Pastor
- TV Announcer
- Church Usher (Female)
- Sister Hillard (Female-senior)
- Deacon Henry (Male)
- Brenda (Female)
- Husband
- Pregnant Wife
- Church members (as few or many as you like)

## Setting

A Church

## Props

- Cell phones
- Magazine
- Nail polish
- Make-up kit
- Walking cane
- KFC box, with a chicken leg
- Two fake pregnant stomachs
- Neck pillow
- Disinfectant spray

#### Costume

- Clergy robe Pastor (optional)
- White robe, eyeglasses, sweater Jesus

- Normal attire - remaining cast members

# Director's Note

Make this sketch fun! Take the characters, representing the church members, "over the top"; the crazier the better.

#### UNDERCOVER BOSS

## SCENE: HEAVEN AND A LOCAL CHURCH

Jesus is standing in heaven. The TV show announcer is standing inside a local church on earth.

## TV ANNOUNCER

Hello and welcome to this live recording of the hit reality TV show "Undercover Boss". Today, Jesus Christ is going undercover!

AS THE ANNOUNCER CONTINUES, JESUS STANDS AND REMOVES HIS WHITE ROBE AND PUTS ON A SWEATER AND EYEGLASSES.

## TV ANNOUNCER (CONT'D)

Jesus will disguise himself as a visitor to see first-hand how His churches are operating.

## JESUS EXITS HEAVEN

Today, Jesus will visit Back-Siding
Baptist Church in [name of your city].
The morning service is about to begin.
Let's see what happens.

## TV ANNOUNCER EXITS

<u>CHURCH USHER ENTERS</u> AND STANDS AT ENTRANCE (STAGE RIGHT). SHE IS CHEWING GUM IN AN EXAGGERATED MOTION. SHE IS ALSO CARRYING A PURSE STRAPPED AROUND HER SHOULDER.

<u>DEACON ENTERS</u> AND SITS ON THE FIRST ROW (STAGE LEFT). HE IS CARRYING A NECK PILLOW. AFTER SITTING DOWN, HE PLACES THE PILLOW AROUND HIS NECK AND FALLS ASLEEP.

CHURCH MEMBERS ENTER. THEY ARE LAUGHING AND TALKING.

## USHER

(Inpatient) Okay everyone, c'mon, hurry up. I don't want to be in church all day. (Waving members in) Just grab a seat. You gonna hear the same sermon no matter where you sit.

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CHURCH MEMBERS TAKE A SEAT. THE USHER OPENS HER PURSE AND PULLS OUT A MIRROR TO FIX HER HAIR AND MAKE-UP.

AT THE SAME TIME, OLD SISTER HILLARD NOTICES THAT ANOTHER MEMBER IS SITTING IN HER FAVORITE SEAT.

## SISTER HILLARD

Uh, excuse me, but this is my seat.

#### BRENDA

But the usher said just take any seat.

## SISTER HILLARD

Any seat but this one.

SHE USES HER WALKING CANE TO MOTION BRENDA TO MOVE. BRENDA COMPLIES. SISTER HILLARD PULLS OUT A CAN OF DISINFECTANT FROM HER POCKETBOOK. SHE SPRAYS AROUND THE CHAIR BEFORE SHE SITS DOWN.

## JESUS ENTERS

THE USHER IS PRE-OCCUPIED WITH HER APPEARANCE AND DOES NOT NOTICE JESUS.

JESUS CLEARS IS THROAT TO GET HER ATTENTION

## USHER

(Looks up) Oh my bad. C'mon in and let me show you a seat. (She points) See that seat right there. Take that one.

JESUS SHAKES HIS HEAD IN DIS-BELIEF AND WALKS TO HIS SEAT.

ALL THE MEMBERS ARE ENGAGED IN SOME ACTIVITY: READING A MAGAZINE, TEXTING ON THE PHONE, PUTTING ON NAIL POLISH, ETC.

## **JESUS**

(To Sister Hillard) Excuse me. What times does your service start?

## SISTER HILLARD

It should have started 10 minutes ago.

(Shouting to the Deacon) Deacon Henry!

Deacon Henry!

DEACON HENRY IS ABRUPTLY AWAKENED FROM HIS SLEEP. HE JUMPS UP.

## DEACON HENRY

Uh, uh, Amen! Amen!

## SISTER HILLARD

Deacon, the service hasn't started yet.

Where's the Pastor? He's late again.

DEACON PULLS OUT HIS CELL PHONE.

## DEACON HENRY

I'll give him a call.

## **JESUS**

(To Sister Hillard) Is your Pastor usually late?

## SISTER HILLARD

Only on Sundays!

## **JESUS**

Well, is he a good preacher?

#### SISTER HILLARD

(Excited) Oh he's great. He preached a powerful sermon last week.

THE OTHER MEMBERS JOIN IN EXPRESSING THEIR EXCITEMENT OVER LAST WEEK'S SERMON.

## **JESUS**

(Happy) Really! What book did he preach from?

## SISTER HILLARD

The Book of Egyptians!

JESUS SHAKES HIS HEAD IN DISAPPOINTMENT

## DEACON HENRY

(Speaking on phone) Hello, Pastor.

We're all here waiting for you to start

the service. (Listens) Alright, see you

in a minute. (Speaking to the

congregation) The Pastor is on his way,

put everything away.

THE MEMBERS START PUTTING AWAY THEIR MAGAZINES, PHONES, ETC. WHILE MURMURING; "MY SONG WAS ON", "I WAS ALMOST FINISHED, ETC."

## PASTOR RUSHES IN

A NAPKIN IS TUCKED IN PASTOR'S NECK. HE'S CARRYING A CHICK BOX FROM KFC. HE ATTEMPTS TO FINISH EATING THE CHICKEN BEFORE HE REACHES THE PULPIT. HE PUTS THE FOOD DOWN AS HE STEPS FORWARD TO THE PODIUM.

## PASTOR

Let the church say "Amen".

MEMBERS SAY "AMEN"

Say "Amen" again.

MEMBERS SAY "AMEN"

Truly it's a blessing and privilege to be in service one more time. Can I get a witness?

MEMBERS AD-LIB THEIR AGREEMENT.

Now, before we start service I want to acknowledge our visitors. Do we have any visitors in the house?

JESUS STANDS UP BUT THE PASTOR DOESN'T NOTICE HIM.

Since we don't have any visitors, lets...

## DEACON HENRY

Pastor! Pastor! (Pointing) We have a visitor.

## PASTOR

(Shocked) We do! (He whispers to Deacon) What should I do? We haven't had a visitor in years.

## DEACON HENRY

(Whispers back) I don't know. Ask him to come up.

## PASTOR

(Recovers) Well praise the Lord! Come up front dear brother.

JESUS COMES FORWARD. THEY SHAKE HANDS.

Sit down on the first row. We want to welcome you and make sure you enjoy the service.

## DEACON HENRY

...and give during the Offering.

MEMBERS SHOUT OUT "AMEN", "WE'LL HAVE A GOOD OFFERING TODAY", "HE LOOKS LIKE HE HAS MONEY", ETC.

## PASTOR

Now this is Prayer Sunday and we have a couple who wants prayer. Where are they?

HUSBAND AND WIFE COME FORWARD.

THE WIFE IS PREGNANT. SHE IS HAVING TWINS, BUT INSTEAD OF HAVING ONE LARGE BELLY, SHE HAS TWO SMALL BELLIES; ONE ON TOP OF THE OTHER.

## PASTOR

(To the Husband) What's your prayer request my son?

## HUSBAND

My wife is having twins and I want to pray for a successful delivery.

THE WIFE STEPS FORWARD NEXT TO THE PASTOR. SHE RUBS BOTH STOMACHS TO VISUALLY EXPOSE THAT SHE HAS TWO BELLIES, NOT ONE.

## WIFE

(Excited) I'm gonna name this one Abraham, and this one Lincoln!

## PASTOR

Oh my Goodness, you definitely need prayer. (To the congregation) Let's all stand and prepare to pray for our dear sister.

THE PASTOR PATS A RHYTHMIC BEAT ON THE PODIUM AS HE BEGINS HIS PRAYER WITH LINE DANCE INSTRUCTIONS. THE MEMBERS, INCLUDING THE HUSBAND AND WIFE, FOLLOW THE PASTOR'S DIRECTIONS.

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Bow your head. And close your eyes. Put your right leg out. Now bring it back. Put your left leg out. And bring it back. Slide to the left. Slide to the right. Reverse. Reverse again. Let's pray. Dear Lord, please bless these bumps...I mean babies. Amen!

THE MEMBERS SHOUT "AMEN", "HALLELUJAH", ETC. THE HUSBAND AND WIFE RETURN TO THEIR SEATS PRAISING GOD.

JESUS SHAKES HIS HEAD IN DIS-BELIEF.

## PASTOR (CONT'D)

You may be seated. It's preaching time. Dear brothers and sisters, I received this Word during the church picnic last week, and I wrote it down on a napkin.

PASTOR PULLS OUT A WRINKLED NAPKIN FROM HIS PANTS POCKET.

I decided to title this sermon, "Resist the Devil and Eggs".

As the Pastor continues his hilarious sermon, Jesus decides he has seen enough. Jesus shares his thoughts with the congregation to help them become better Christians and a better church.

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