

# Disappointment: “The Worthless Bum”

Description: This short skit raises the questions, “How do you deal with disappointment?” and “What do you do when all of life seems to fall apart?” The skit, however, does not attempt to provide an answer for these questions but opens a wide door for a discussion or a sermon on the subject.

Suggested Discussion Text: Luke 24:13-35--The disciples on the road to Emmaus.

Style: Humorous dialogue

Cast: Mike: “The Worthless Bum”

The Boss

The Wife

The Mother

The Secretary

*(The Boss is centered on stage. He is sitting behind a desk with his feet propped up.)*

The Boss: *(The Boss is tough and harsh.)* Send that Mike Buckley guy in.

*(Pause. Then there’s a knock at the door. Mike, “The Worthless Bum,” enters. He looks like a nerd. His shirt is partially untucked, and He has handkerchiefs stuffed in his pockets. He speaks with a nasal-congested sound, and is continually wiping his nose and sneezing throughout the entire drama. The boss rises as he enters. Mike sneezes, appears to blow his nose and then drops the klixex on the floor.)*

Mike: You wanted to see me?

The Boss: That’s right.

Mike: Uh, what did you want to see me about, boss? *(He drops another klixex to the ground.)*

The Boss: That’s just the problem, Mister. *(Pointing at the klixex.)* You’ve been dropping your little snot rags all over the place.

Mike: But I can’t help it. I got allergies. I..

The Boss: You’ve killed seven employees of mine in the last week.

Mike: But I can’t help it, boss.

The Boss: Well, I don’t have to take this any more. You may have allergies, but what you don’t have *is a job!* *(The Boss turns Mike around.)* Get out of here, you

worthless bum! *(The Boss kicks Mike in the rear. Mike rolls forward. Then exits.)*

*(Mike reenters and approaches a door, looking very sad and nerdy.)*

Mike: Oh man. I lost my job again. I don't know what I'm going to do. At least I can go to my wife.

*(He gives the audience a grinning smile that says, "So what? I lost my job, but my wife still loves me." As he arrives at the door, he speaks.)*

Mike: Hi, honey. I'm home. *(He disappears into the door, and a moment of silence follows.)*

The Wife: *(Very loud and shocked)* What?! You lost your job again.

*(A moment of silence follows. The door opens. As he stands in the doorway, she kicks him in the rear. He falls. She throws to him a luggage bag.)*

The Wife: Get out! You worthless bum.

Mike: Gee. That's the fifth wife I've lost this week. Now what am I going to do? *(He looks disturbed but then suddenly brightens.)* At least I can go home to my mom.

*(He sneezes, blows his nose and drops the rag, and then continues to wipe his nose anywhere and everywhere as he approaches a door on the other side of the stage.)*

Mike: Hi, mom. I'm home. *(He disappears into the door and another moment of silence follows.)*

The Mother: *(Very loud and shocked)* What?! You lost your job and your wife again.

*(A moment of silence follows. The door opens. As he stands in the doorway, he looks at the audience and waves, as if to say, "We've been here before. Haven't we?" He bends over a little, waiting for the kick. She kicks him in the rear. He falls. She throws his luggage at him.)*

The Mother: Get out! You worthless bum.

Mike: Oh no. I'm so disappointed. I don't know what I'm going to do. *(He sees a phone book.)* I know. Maybe there's someone I can call. *(He begins thumbing through it.)* Disappointed. *(He brightens and looks up with a smile.)* Hey, that's me. Call 1-800-DISAPPOINTMENT. Boy, that's a long number! *(He pulls out phone from no where)* Oh, here's a phone too. *(Then pretends to dial.)*

The Secretary: *(She is filing her nails and waving her hands as if trying to dry fingernail polish. Her nails, throughout the conversation, receive her full attention. She appears to hear a phone ring. She answers and speaks with a*

*heavy Northern accent.*) Yeah. Disappointment Hot Line.  
Mike: Is this the Disappointment Line?  
The Secretary: Yeah.  
Mike: Well, I'm disappointed.  
The Secretary: What are you disappointed about?  
Mike: Well, you see, I lost my job today.  
The Secretary: You lost your job?!  
Mike: Yeah. Again.  
The Secretary: *Again!*  
Mike: Yeah, and I lost my wife today.  
The Secretary: You lost your wife too?!  
Mike: Again.  
The Secretary: *Again!*  
Mike: Yeah, and my mom kicked me out of my house today.  
The Secretary: Your mother?!  
Mike: Again.  
The Secretary: *Again!*  
Mike: I'm so disappointed. I don't know what to do.  
The Secretary: Gosh, I don't know. Your life stinks, you worthless bum. (*She hangs up.*)  
Mike: (*He looks very disheartened. He hangs his head.*) Now what am I going to do?  
(*He freezes.*)

Written by: Mike Buckley, Jerry Jackson, and Candy Bell  
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