“Snake in the House”
by
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What

When someone is hiding a poisonous snake in a kitchen cabinet, it’s not that different from when we hide sin in our lives. This skit makes the point in a funny way. **Themes:** Sin, Confess, Forgiveness

Who

Jake
Brian

When

Present

Wear (Props)

Casual clothes, or football team jerseys
Styrofoam cup
Sound effect- baby crying
Setting is a living room and kitchen area- go as big or as small with this as you want.

Why

2 Corinthians 4:18

How

Everything is pantomimed when this skit was originally performed. We push 2 chairs together to make the couch in the middle of the stage and then place the imaginary kitchen stage right with the cabinet against the “4th wall”. That way the “finding the snake” moment has the actor facing the audience and they can have fun with the physicality of that moment.

Feel free to change the team and player’s names to fit your area. (But we all know God’s favorite team is the Cowboys.)

A final “tag” is included at the end of the skit that clearly communicates the point of the skit. Feel free to change those lines to fit within the context of your service.

Time

Approximately 7 minutes
Brian and Jake sit in front of the TV watching a Cowboys football game. Brian’s daughter is asleep in another room. Dak Prescott completes a long pass and the two friends high five and chest bump as quietly as possible. Both men speak in whispers.

Brian: First down. Did you see that pass? Dak is a stud. The defensive back was a hair late, and he threw it on a rope.

Jake: I think he’s going to win MVP this year.

Brian: What?

Jake: I think he’s going to win MVP this year.

Brian: I can’t hear you.

Jake: (speaking in a louder whisper) He’s going to…nevermind.

Brian: You know, nobody’s talking about it, but I think he’s going to win MVP this year.

Jake rolls his eyes. Reacting to dropped pass on the TV, Jake jumps out of his seat.

Jake: (yelling) Catch the ball!

Brian: Shhhhh! (Long pause as both men listen to see if the baby is awake) Are you crazy? You’re going to wake up Liv.

Jake: (knowing he’s messed up) My bad.

Brian: Come on, man. You know the rules. When we watch the game at my house, you’ve got to stay quiet.

Jake: I know.


Jake: My bad.

Brian: Yesterday, she was napping and I tried to open up a bag of chips… I was like a stinkin’ chips ninja. I opened the bag, no noise. Got into the living room, no noise. Took one bite, with my mouth closed, she heard me chewing and came in here asking for chips. “No nap” and I had to share my chips.

Jake: It won’t happen again.

Big play on the TV. They are both visibly upset, but neither person makes a sound.
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Brian: I can’t believe we’re going to have to kick a field goal. We were inside the 10. You can’t win on field goals.

Jake: Can I get something to drink?

Brian: Yeah, we’ve got Dr. Pepper or water. You know where the cups are.

Jake: Yeah.

Brian: Just don’t make any sound.

Jake: I know.

Jake goes into the kitchen (stage right) and tries hard not to make a sound. He can’t find a cup.

Jake: (whispering into the living room) Pssst, Brian. There aren’t any cups.

Brian: They’re in the cabinet.

Jake: There aren’t any there.

Brian: They must all be dirty. I think we have Styrofoam ones under the microwave.

Jake: What?

Brian: Check the bottom cabinet underneath the microwave.

Jake: I can’t hear you.

Brian acts it out while Jake guesses.

Jake: Microwave…under… (full voice) Oh, under the microwave.

Brian: Shhhhhh!

They listen for Liv, but she is still asleep. They both sigh in relief. Brian motions for Jake to stay quiet, and then goes back to watching the game. Jake opens up the bottom cabinet (facing 4th wall or the audience) and sees a large snake. He freaks out but doesn’t make a noise. Brian is still watching the game, oblivious to what is happening. Finally, Jake closes the cabinet door. He rushes into the living room and stands in front of the TV. He is visibly shaken.

Brian: What?

Jake: There is a huge rattlesnake in the cabinet.

Brian: No there’s not.
Jake: Do you think I'm making this up?!
Brian: No, I mean he's not a rattlesnake. He's a copperhead.
Jake: Wait. You know about it?
Brian: Yeah, I put him in there. His name is Phil.
Jake: What?!
Brian: Shhh…stop freaking out.
Jake: Stop freaking out? I almost got bit by a rattlesnake.
Brian: I told you, Phil’s not a rattlesnake, he’s a copperhead.
Jake: I don’t care what kind of snake it is you idiot. It almost bit me.
Brian: He didn’t almost bite you, you drama queen. He’s basically harmless.
Jake: IT’S A POISONOUS SNAKE!
Brian: Shhhhh…chill out.
Jake: Why is there a snake in your kitchen?
Brian: Ok. Just listen. I was mowing the other day and I saw Phil. At first, obviously, I was terrified because he was lunging at me, and I was going to kill him but then—I don’t know—we just kind of got attached. know he’s a little bit dangerous, but I figured I could just keep him in the house, locked away, where he won’t hurt anyone.
Jake: That’s insane. It’s in the bottom cabinet in your kitchen.
Brian: Yeah, but no one ever goes in that cabinet.
Jake: I went in it. Just now. I did. And almost died.
Brian: Come on. He’s harmless. Just watch. (Brian walks into the kitchen and opens the cabinet. He is bobbing and weaving as he speaks) Phil likes to jump at you a little, but you just got to be faster. The trick is juke with the head and grab with the hand. Juke and grab. Juke and grab. (Grabs cup and shuts door) It’s not rocket science. (Sets cup on the counter)
Jake: What are you thinking?
Brian: What?
Jake: Kill the snake!
Brian: No, I like him. Besides, I’m telling you, he’s not going to hurt anyone.

Jake: What if Rachel comes in here and gets a cup?

Brian: She hates Styrofoam cups, says they’re “bad for the environment”.

Jake: What about Liv?

Brian: I told her not to go into that cabinet. And I put my foot down.

Jake: And that works?

Brian: Sometimes.

Jake: And what if it gets out?

Brian: He won’t.

Jake: You put it in a stinkin’ cabinet under your microwave. It’s not Fort Knox! (Jake sees the snake slithering towards him. He jumps up on the couch.) Oh my gosh. It’s there.

Brian: Ok…Ok…Chill out. Don’t spook him. Just stay calm.

Tense moments as the snake moves closer. Finally, the snake lunges forward. Brian catches the snake and Jake screams and runs out of the room. The baby is now awake and Brian is annoyed as he holds the snake.

Brian: Great. Now the baby’s awake. Thanks a lot Jake! What a jerk.

Brian goes into the kitchen and throws the snake into the cabinet. He freezes as he closes the cabinet door. Beat.

*Optional Ending

ACTOR playing Brian is now speaking directly to the audience.

Actor: It would be crazy to leave a deadly snake in your cabinet. Anyone can see that it’s dangerous, that it could get out, that it could hurt you and the people around you. Yet, we do this all the time with sin. We realize it’s dangerous, but we convince ourselves that we have everything under control, that no one will get hurt. So rather than killing it, we hide it and try to keep it close. The puritan pastor John Owen once said that “(you) must be killing sin. Or sin will be killing you.” Is there sin in your life that needs to be put to death today? If so, lay it at the feet of Jesus, let him kill that sin, and in its place, let Him breathe the gift of new life.