

A script from



## “Getting to Know You ”

by  
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- What** Over a birthday dinner at a restaurant, a well-meaning wife gives her husband the unexpected gift of a session with communication counselors. Theme: Communication, Good intentions, Love, Marriage, Husbands, Wives, Valentine’s Day
- Who** Sean-Husband  
Denise-Wife  
Kathleen-Female Communication Counselor  
Dan-Male Communication Counselor  
Carl-Waiter
- When** Present
- Wear (Props)** Table  
4 Chairs  
2 Foam Bats  
Pad and Paper for Communication Counselors
- Why** Proverbs 15:1, Proverbs 29:20, Ephesians 5:21-28
- How** While Denise feels Sean is a poor communicator, she loves Sean and Sean loves her. The scene takes place in a restaurant, so the actors should start with subtlety and allow the energy and tension to build.
- Time** Approximately 8-10 minutes

**Denise** is sitting in a restaurant waiting for her husband **Sean** to arrive. **Dan** and **Kathleen** are also sitting at the table. **Sean** enters.

**Sean:** Hi babe.

**Denise:** *(Stands to hug him)* Oh, hi, honey. *(Pause)* Well, sit down.

**Sean:** *(Sits)*

**Denise:** How was your day?

**Sean:** It was fine.

**Denise:** Did you have a lot of meetings today?

**Sean:** *(To Dan and Kathleen)* I'm sorry but I don't think I have met you two. I'm...

**Dan&Kath:**...Sean.

**Sean:** Yeah. Denise, can I talk to you over here for just a minute?

**Denise:** Sure.

**Sean:** *(Gets up- Dan and Kathleen follow)* Could you guys excuse us for just a minute?

**Denise:** Oh, honey, whatever you have to say to me you can say in front of Dan and Kathleen.

**Waiter:** Hi guys, welcome to the Broken Watch Café. My name is Carl. *(Writes name in crayon)* What can I get you to drink?

**Denise:** I'll have water in a glass with a straw, but I don't want the water from a tap I want it from a bottle...with lime if you have it, but if you just have lemons...then nothing.

**Sean:** Water.

**Waiter:** *(Waiting for more details)*

**Sean:** ...from a faucet.

**Dan:** Kathleen, my wife, and I will have iced tea with two packets of Splenda each.

**Waiter:** Okey dokey, I'll be right back.

- Sean:** (To **Dan** and **Kathleen**) I'm sorry, but do I know you guys from somewhere?
- Denise:** Honey, just try to communicate like we always do. Just pretend Dan and Kathleen are not here.
- Sean:** Denise, I've always appreciated your "I love Lucy-ness", but what in the...
- Denise:** Dan and Kathleen are communication counselors.
- Sean:** What?
- Denise:** I got you communication counselors for your birthday. Happy birthday, honey!

*Dan and Kathleen pass out birthday cards, blow horns and confetti*

- Sean:** Oh fabulous.
- Denise:** Sean, you keep saying you don't get me, and I can't get you, so I hired communication counselors to help us out. They are going to stay with us until we understand each other.
- Sean:** No offense, Dan and Kathleen, I'm not sure you are going to want to stay with us until Jesus comes back.
- Dan:** (Hits **Sean** lightly with a foam bat)
- Sean:** Did you just hit me?
- Dan:** Yes I did, this is what we call in the communication world the "motivator".
- Denise:** Awesome. Hit him again.
- Kathleen:** (Hits **Denise** lightly with another bat)
- Denise:** Hey?
- Kathleen:** Saying that you enjoy your husband's pain is not something you should communicate to your husband, Denise. But let's not get too focused on us. You and Sean just talk as if we're not here. And if you need our advice or if we think you are using some poor communication skills, we will "motivate" you. And go...
- Waiter:** Here you are. And what can I get for you tonight?
- Sean:** I would like a burger and some...

**Waiter:** Oh I'm sorry, we only have desserts and coffee here at the Broken Watch Café...

**Sean:** Okay, I'll have...

**Waiter:** We typically just bring a little bit of everything, that seems to be the habit of people here at the Broken Watch...*(Walks away)*

**Denise:** Hey, *(Looking for name)* Carl, we have a birthday boy on our hands.

**Sean:** Don't do that.

**Waiter:** I'll see what I can do. *(Exits)*

**Denise:** *(Getting back on task)* How was your day?

**Sean:** Fine.

**Dan:** *(Hits Sean)*

**Sean:** What?

**Dan:** Simply saying fine is non-descriptive and something you would say to a stranger. Describe your day in more detail.

**Sean:** I got up took a shower, got dressed, got stuck in traffic for about 35 minutes, you know I hate 285. I can't believe they call that thing a bypass. What are you bypassing? It certainly isn't traffic.

**Dan:** *(Hits Sean)*

**Sean:** Aww. You said give her more information.

**Dan:** I said speak to her in detail, not bore her to death.

**Waiter:** *(Brings out desserts)* Here you go.

**Kathleen:** Denise, why don't you give it a try?

**Sean:** Yeah beat her for a while.

**Dan:** *(Hits Sean)*

**Sean:** *(Grunts)*

**Denise:** Okay, honey. Since we've got the counselors here tonight, there is something I have been meaning to talk to you about. You see, I don't

think you realize how difficult my days are at work, then with the kids, plus soccer and...

**Kathleen:** *(Hits Denise)*

**Denise:** What?

**Kathleen:** Starting the conversation with the things Sean does wrong isn't the route you want to take.

**Sean:** Yeah.

**Denise:** *(Takes the bat from Kathleen and hits Sean)*

**Dan:** Hey, that's my job. *(Hits Sean again)*

**Kathleen:** Denise, why don't you start by putting your husband ahead of yourself and start the conversation by asking him an intriguing question that can deepen your relationship. For instance, why don't you ask him what his best and worst childhood memory is?

**Denise:** Oh, I don't know, he doesn't usually...

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**ENDING:**

**Sean and Denise hit them on the head.**

**Sean:** Would you quit badgering her? Just say you're sorry.

**Dan:** But she doesn't understand that...

**Sean:** *(Hits again)*

**Dan:** Wait a minute...I need her to know...

**Sean:** *(Beats, beats, beats)* Just say you're sorry.

**Dan:** But...

**Sean:** *(Starts to hit him)*

**Dan:** Okay, okay...I'm sorry.

**Kathleen:** Well, it's about time.

**Denise:** (*Hits Kathleen*) Just say I accept your apology or I will beat you like a rug.

**Kathleen:** I accept your apology. Oh honey. (*They embrace.*)

**Dan:** Thank you so much. You guys have been so much help.

**Kathleen:** Yes, thank you. How can we ever repay you? We have worked on this issue for years. If you two don't mind I think we need some decompression time...

**Dan:** Yes, let's get out of here.

**Denise:** But what about our session?

**Kathleen:** Consider it on the house. Let's go, honey.

**Dan:** (*Walking out hand in hand*) I love you...

**Kathleen:** Me too.

**Dan:** You know you never really say, "I love you." You always say "me too." I feel that communicates a lack of commitment that makes me feel a little unsettled.

**Sean:** (*Starting to say something, can't find the words*)

*Waiter comes out clapping singing Happy Birthday.*

**Waiter:** Can I get you guys anything else?

**Sean:** No I think we have had quite enough.

*Lights out. The end.*