

A script from



“Untie the Donkey: Comfort”

by
Don Bosley

- What** Two of the Lord’s disciples are sent to fetch the donkey that will carry Jesus into the city. Problem is, the donkeys refuse to be untied - in this case, from their comfort. (Note: The *Untie the Donkeys* skits can each be played stand-alone, or as a five-week series culminating on or near Palm Sunday.)
Themes: Surrender, Worldliness, Spiritual Bondage, Faithfulness, God’s Purposes, Palm Sunday
- Who** Bart
Andy
Perry
Reader
- When** Present...more or less.
- Wear
(Props)** Lawn chair
Ice Chest
Hitching post that says “*Comfort*” on it
Rope
Phone
- Why** Matthew 6:25-34; Matthew 8:18-22; James 4:4
- How** The rope is the key piece of imagery, with one end looped around Perry’s neck and the other tied to the hitching post. Liberated from bondage to be used for Christ’s purposes, we often tie ourselves right back up again. The untying and retying can be a fun physical shtick that pounds the point. Some troupes have put Bart and Andy in biblical garb to emphasize their disciple identity, but they can also be played in modern-day clothing.
- Time** Approximately 4 minutes

Perry is sitting in his lawn chair with his feet up— sunglasses on, headphones on, an ice chest next to him. He appears to be sunning himself with his eyes closed. He has a length of rope looped around his neck, and the other end tied to a hitching post that says "Comfort".

Reader: "As they approached Jerusalem, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, 'Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, tell him that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away.'"

Bart and Andy enter, not yet seeing Perry.

Bart: How about an elephant? That's regal!

Andy: The Lord wants a donkey.

Bart: Lots of kings ride on elephants! I mean, talk about power, baby! A good elephant will make you jump back a step, you know what I'm sayin'?

Andy: I think the Lord probably has enough power on his own.

Bart: Elephants know how to trumpet. Get himself a little fanfare rolling into Jerusalem, right?

Andy: He didn't say to go untie an elephant. He said go untie a donkey, one for this specific purpose.

Bart: *(shaking his head)* I think it's bad branding, man.

They approach Perry, who remains lost in his music. They watch him bobbing his head for a moment.

Bart: *(whispering, to Andy)* OK, seriously? You're telling me that the Lord's going to be carried into the city by this?!

Andy gives him a stern look and begins untying the rope from the hitching post.

Perry: *(relaxed)* Ho-ho-ho, hands off the goods, there, mister.

Andy: Sorry.

Perry: Fingerprints. *(wiping down rope and post with a rag)* Blow my resale. Now what are you guys sellin'? Magazine subscriptions? Feed the hungry? *(looking them over)* Clothes drive?

Andy: Well, actually, we've been sent by the Lord. He has need of you today.

Perry: *(reaching for his wallet)* All right, how much?

Andy: Beg pardon?

Perry: Happy to help a good cause. Tax-deductible, right?

Bart: Actually, the Lord isn't really looking for sponsors. What he wants is to ride in on your back and take the city!

Andy: *(untying rope)* We're here to take you back to him.

Perry: Uh-huh. I see. One of those hear-the-spiel-before-you-get-the-deal schemes, huh? Well, tell him no, thanks. *(retying the rope)* I'm good.

Bart and Andy look at one another, confused.

Andy: Perhaps you misunderstood. The Lord...

Perry: Guys, enough, all right? I'm not letting anyone lead me anywhere, so just ease up. Pull up a lawn chair. Have an iced frappuccino. *(tosses them each one from the ice chest)*

Andy: But the Lord has need of you today.

Perry: Hey, I can appreciate the guy's dilemma. I can. But it's not for me, OK? Look around, boys— wife, kids, dog, car, 401(k), Netflix. *(thumbs up)* Checked all the boxes. Let's not complicate things.

Bart: But, don't you care that the Lord wants you to carry him into the city?

Perry: It's not that I don't care, I'm just waiting for it to...pencil out.

Andy: Pencil out?

Perry: You know, budget-wise. Time-wise. Convenience-wise. Listen, if the Lord's going to give me all these blessings, it'd be a sin for me not to sit here and enjoy them, right? *(looks at his phone screen)* Wup, hold on.

Perry answers phone with a suave smile.

Perry: Hey, baby. *(suave)* How you doin'? *(listening)* Yeah? All right, all right *(listening)* Yeah ... Yeah ... *(laughing)* Yeah ... What? Oh, no, no ... yeah ... yeah *(listening)* oh, heck, yeah ... I mean, like, hell-OOOOOOO! Right? Yeah! ...

Bart: *(to Andy)* Psst ... Psssst!

Andy: What?

Bart: Untie him!

Andy: What?

Bart: Untie him! While he’s not looking!

Andy: We can’t do that! He has to *want* to be untied.

Bart: What are there, rules to this? *(turns to Perry)* Hey, you. You wanna be untied?

Perry: *(into phone, not hearing him)* Yeah. Yeah, sure.

Bart shrugs and begins to reach for the rope. Andy frowns and slaps his hand.

Perry: *(to phone)* Hold on, baby. *(to Bart and Andy)* Hey, you guys play squash? I’m taking lessons at this little gym down here.

Bart: The Lord’s gonna play squash with you if you don’t get off the phone and get your donkey self-moving down to where he’s waiting!

Andy: What he means is, the Lord is calling you to come, and the life that he has for you is far, far better than what you have here. *(untying the rope)*

Perry: I like you guys. You’re persistent, I’ll say that for you. But I’m fine.

Bart: There’s more to life than squash and Netflix!!

Perry: True. There’s Thai food, which I love, and this neighborhood has one of the best Thai joints for miles.

Bart: You’re not coming because of the Thai food?!

Perry: *(tying rope again)* You know what they say: It’s the Thai that binds! *(laughs at his own joke)* Listen, you guys, I can see you’ve got a good heart, but really...I’m good. Talk to some of these other donkeys around here. They need what you’re offering a lot more than I do. *(whisper aside)* A lot of *them* have got nothing.

Bart: *(whisper back to him)* You’ve got nothing!

Perry: When you’re done, stop back by! We’re having a few people over later. The Paintball Channel is having a celebrity kamikaze shootout at 5:30! It’ll be great. *(returns to phone)* Yeah, baby. I’m back...

Bart and Andy begin walking away.

Bart: What a donkey! He’s totally tied up to his comfort!

Andy: I suppose a lot of them are. But somewhere out there is one who is willing to be used for the Lord’s purposes.

Bart: *(as they exit)* What kind of weird creature insists on staying tied up like that?

Andy: Maybe...one who doesn't *know* he is?

Lights out.

SCRIPT

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