“Welcome to Church: No Luggage Required”
by
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**What**
A comical “welcome to church” sketch designed to put church visitors at ease and to encourage church members to bring their friends. **Themes:** Comedy, Evangelism, Hospitality, Visitors, Outreach, Welcome, Duo, Ensemble

**Who**
Woman – Befuddled everywoman
Man – Befuddled everyman
Greeter – Male or female; friendly and amused, but not condescending

**When**
Present

**Wear (Props)**
Contemporary clothing
Two shoulder bags
Two large suitcases, one filled with Bibles
Large trunk
Cell phones
Happy face pins; “Welcome to ________ (church name)” sign
*May be done with a few pieces of furniture to suggest a home, or on a bare stage

**Why**
Deuteronomy 10:19; Matthew 25:35; Hebrews 13:1

**How**
Saturday Night Live-style sketch comedy. Man and Woman should be played completely in earnest, as though preparing to visit a mysterious foreign country.

**Time**
Approximately 4 minutes
Man is packing large suitcase. Woman enters, dragging even larger bag and a trunk.

Woman: ‘Bout ready? We leave *(looks at watch)* in three minutes! Clothes?

Man: Yep. Got on my grandpa’s wingtips. He always wore these when he went there. White shirt, grey suit—should be safe.

Woman: What if we get there and find out those are the wrong style? We’ll stand out like sore thumbs! *(Points at her bag)* I brought six changes of clothes. There have to be places there where we can change, right? Oo, did you pack a heavy coat? You never know what kind of whether we’ll run into.

Man: Right. *Whether or not we’ll say the right things…*

Woman: *Whether we’ll sing in the right kind of voices. And you cleaned up, right? I mean your act.*

Man: As much as I could. *(Points to bag)* Plus, I bought that new cologne, “Smell-Like-a-Rose.” Don’t want anyone getting a whiff of the real me! What else are you bringing?

Woman: A guilt girdle. To help suppress all the things I’m ashamed of or embarrassed about. Got your passport?

Man: Yep. *(Digs it out of bag, shows it to her)* New photo.

Woman: Nice. It doesn’t look like the real you at all. That should get us in.

Man: I hope so. But just in case, I bought these happy face pins to remind us to put a positive spin on what we say, no matter how we actually feel.

Woman: Oo, speaking of what we say… *(Takes phone out of her shoulder bag)* I bought this Language Translator app. Try a phrase.

Man: OK, um, “Hello.”

App: *(Recording or off-stage actor on microphone)* “Hallelujia!”

Man: “Thank you.”

App: “You blessed my socks off!”

Woman: Which reminds me—you packed a Bible, right? They’ll never let us in without that! But what if we have the wrong version?

Man: *(Opens another large bag)* Don’t worry, I bought every version there is! *(Pulling them out and handing them to her)* NIV, NASV, ESL, New King
James Version, Old King James Version, Middle Aged but Still Active
King James Version, Revised Standard Version, Revised Version of the
Revised Standard Version; oh, and—and on my phone—the Constantly
Being Revised Standard Version. Plus, I’ve got the TLB (the Living Bible)
and the NTLB.

Woman: What’s that?

Man: Not sure. Night of the Living Bible? Well, are we ready? Oh, where are
the kids?

Woman: In the trunk.

Kid’s voices: (Recording or off-stage on microphone) Hi, Dad!

Woman: (Continued) I wasn’t sure if we had the right type of kids. Anyway, they’re
fine. I threw in snacks and video games.

Man and Woman drag luggage off stage. Greeter enters with “Welcome to
__________” sign. Man and Woman entering, dragging luggage.

Greeter: Good morning! Welcome to… (sees bags, smiles knowingly). Oh, you
won’t need those.

Woman: But we were going to change into—

Greeter: That’s not necessary. You can be yourself here.

Man: Really? Just be us?

Greeter: Yep. (Calling off stage as s/he tosses bag) Hey, Mike, you want to put this
with the rest of the luggage?

Woman: What a relief! Thank you so much! I mean… (“Translating”) “You really
blessed my socks off!”

Usher: (Amused) You’re welcome.

Man and Woman leave.

Greeter: (Bends down and taps on trunk) Hey, you want to come out and go to
church with the other suitcase kids?

Kid’s voices: (Recording or off-stage on microphone) Yeah!

Greeter: (To audience and/or on-screen) Welcome to church: No luggage required.