

“When Fear Compels You”

by
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- What** This duet presents a counseling session with a person who is struggling with fear. The scene can easily be performed socially distanced on stage or on video.
- Themes: Fear, Confession, Sin, New Year
- Who** Minister
Phillip
- When** Present
- Wear
(Props)** Actors should wear casual clothing.
The setting is an office with two seating areas.
- Why** Psalm 56:3-4, Joshua 1:9, Matthew 6:34, John 14:27
- How** Two characters seated. The Minister is focused on listening and guiding patiently while the person who enters is anxious about “dangers” and “threats” all around, whether real or not.
- Time** Approximately 2-3 minutes

Minister enters. Then Phillip enters full of fear and nervousness.

Minister: Hello. How can I help you?

Phillip: *(anxious)* Don't get too close. I don't do well when people get in my space.

Minister: I will not get any closer. You are OK.

Phillip: How do you know I am OK? *(looking around)* Is there a camera in here somewhere?

Minister: There is no camera. Just have a seat and let's talk.

Phillip: *(nervously checks out chair and then sits)*

Minister: Now. Why have you come in today?

Phillip: Well, I woke up this morning and everything seemed to be going all right and then it happened.

Minister: What happened?

Phillip: I got the milk out of my refrigerator for my cereal and I froze in fear.

Minister: About what?

Phillip: The expiration date, what else? *(getting anxious)* It said December 28, 2020. That was four days ago!

Minister: Well, did you drink any?

Phillip: No way!

Minister: What's the problem then?

Phillip: It has been sitting in my refrigerator with all my other food! What if it has infected everything else? What if I have eaten contaminated food?

Minister: I don't think that's how it works. Besides, it is only four days past the date. I am sure you're OK. I mean, there are many other things that are worse than milk that is a few days old.

Phillip: What? Oh no, you may be right. It may be worse than I thought.

Minister: What are you talking about?

Phillip: Yesterday...I was riding in my car to work...and I ran over this speed bump too hard. And then it happened! Oh, no that has to be it!

Minister: What?

Phillip: I hit the bump so hard that I swallowed my gum!

Minister: And?

Phillip: Well, this is terrible! That's why my stomach is hurting!

Minister: I don't think—

Phillip: That piece of gum will be collecting dust in my large intestine for seven years! I'm doomed!

Minister: How do you know that?

Phillip: My mother told me that when I was five. I know it's true!

Minister: You are going to be OK. I think you just need to relax. It's good that you came to church. There are a lot of people here who can help you.

Phillip: *(looking around)* Where? Are they listening to us now? I'm afraid of meeting new people. I might say the wrong thing or do something silly. Then they would ignore me or make fun of me.

Minister: Why would they do that?

Phillip: Well, if they looked at me closely and saw this bulge in my stomach from the piece of gum I swallowed, they would be freaked out.

Minister: You'll be fine.

Phillip: No, I need to go. If I wait much longer, the traffic on Main Street will get worse. Do you know how many wrecks there are in this city every hour? *(starts leaving)* And if I got in a wreck and had to go to the hospital, there probably wouldn't be a room for me. Everybody in town has the flu. And... *(adlibs while walking out)*

Minister: *(calling out after Phillip)* Feel free to come talk again!

Lights fade.

Optional transition: A time of prayer could follow this sketch focusing on confession of fear in one's life and prayer for God's mercy.