

# "Funeral for Sin"

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**Synopsis:**

Gladys is writing the obituary for her son. He recently died to *sin*. This sketch leads the audience through the procedures of preparing for a funeral. Instead of grieving the physical death of her son, Gladys believes in holding a 'living' funeral to celebrate his spiritual death to sin.

**Scriptures:**

Romans 6:11

**Ministry Lesson:**

Sin no longer has power over us after we accept Christ as our Saviour.

**Ministry Focus**

Salvation, Spiritual Victory

**Genre:** Comedy**Cast**

Gladys - Adult female  
Gavin - Teenage son  
Uncle Charlie - Adult male

**Costumes:**

Normal everyday wear for age group

**Props**

Table and 2 chairs  
Pen and Paper  
Portable CD player  
Telephone

**Time:** 7 mins.**Sound Effect**

Telephone ring

FUNERAL FOR SIN

INT. KITCHEN

GLADYS IS SEATED AT THE KITCHEN TABLE IN DEEP THOUGHT ABOUT WHAT TO WRITE. SHE BITES DOWN ON THE END OF THE PENCIL, TAPS AGAINST THE TABLE, BUT NOTHING COMES TO MIND. SHE NEEDS HELP.

**GLADYS**

(Shouting)

Gavin! Gavin! Can you come down here?

I need some help.

GAVIN ENTERS. HE'S WEARING EARPHONES AND LISTENING TO HIS CD PLAYER.

**GLADYS**

Gavin, I don't know what to write. I really thought I knew more about you.

GAVIN IS INTO HIS MUSIC

**GLADYS**

Gavin!

GAVIN PULLS OFF EARPHONES

**GAVIN**

Huh?

**GLADYS**

Boy, take those things off your head. I need your help. I need to finish this obituary. You know your funeral is tomorrow.

**GAVIN**

C'mon Ma, do we have to?

**GLADYS**

Yes, it's a family tradition. Now sit down and tell me something bad about yourself.

**GAVIN**

Ma, this is stupid. I'm not even dead!

**GLADYS**

Yes you are, you just don't know it.

**GAVIN**

(Frustrated)

Ma!

**GLADYS**

Look, I just need a few more sins and I'll be done.

**GAVIN**

I thought an obituary was supposed to say something good about a person?

**GLADYS**

That's for the public, this is for our private family funeral. So tell me about all the sins you've committed.

**GAVIN**

(Reluctant)

Awe Ma.

**GLADYS**

Now Gavin, don't be embarrassed. The bible says we all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. *(puts on eyeglasses and gets in writing posture)* Now I have a few things down that I know of, the general stuff; being disobedient, lazy, telling little lies here and there, but I want to know about some good juicy sins.

**GAVIN**

*(takes a big sigh)* Alright, Well, I...I  
didn't always do my homework.

**GLADYS**

*(stares for a moment)* Now Gavin, that's  
not a sin, that's just being stupid.  
Now 'fess up! Let it all hang out.  
Spill the beans or your guts or  
whatever.

**GAVIN**

(Thinking)

Okay, one time Tyrone and I, well...

**GLADYS**

*(Excited, eager to write)* Yeah, Yeah!

**GAVIN**

We were at this store and we needed some  
money...

**GLADYS**

Oh yes, tell it baby!

**GAVIN**

And we saw this old lady with about four  
or five hundred dollars in her  
pocketbook. While she was paying the  
cashier she dropped a \$20 bill.

**GLADYS**

*(Writing feverishly)* C'mon Son,  
confess.

**GAVIN**

So when she walked away, me and Tyrone  
ran toward her and we...we picked up  
the \$20 bill and kept it.

(MORE)

*(with shame)* We really should have given it back to her but we didn't.

**GLADYS**

(Disappointed)

You can't sin no better than that? If that's the best you can do, then we're going to have a boring funeral service tomorrow.

UNCLE CHARLIE ENTERS

**CHARLIE**

Hey, anybody home?

**GLADYS**

Yeah, c'mon in Charlie.

**CHARLIE**

I just stopped by to pick up the program for the funeral tomorrow. I can make some copies at the church. *(to Gavin)* How you feeling Gavin?

**GAVIN**

I feel fine Uncle Charlie.

**CHARLIE**

Good. *(examining Gavin)* You look better already.

**GLADYS**

I'm having a time trying to write his obituary.

**CHARLIE**

Let me see what you got. *(takes pad, reads)* Not bad, but a couple more sins wouldn't hurt.

**GLADYS**

I know. *(takes back pad)*

**CHARLIE**

*(to Gavin)* When we had my family funeral it was a BIG celebration. The list of sins in my obituary was as long as my arm. Oh, I did it all; lied, unfaithful to my wife, thief, drug user, oh I was terrible.

**GLADYS**

We sure were glad you died, otherwise you never would have stopped.

**CHARLIE**

If I remember correctly, your obituary wasn't too short either.

**GAVIN**

(Shocked)

Ma!

**CHARLIE**

My sister wasn't always sweet and innocent. All those wild nights at [list several local nightclubs or bars].

**GLADYS**

Well, since I died, I've changed. I don't do those things anymore.

**CHARLIE**

That's true.

**GLADYS**

*(to Gavin)* Now I know you haven't lived long enough to sin like Uncle Charlie, but I have to put something down.

**CHARLIE**

C'mon Gavin, just jot down a few young  
sins.

**GAVIN**

(Reluctantly)  
Alright.

GAVIN GRABS PEN AND PAD AND BEGINS TO WRITE.

SFX - PHONE RINGS - GLADYS ANSWERS

**GLADYS**

Hello, well Hi Pastor. (*looking at  
Gavin*) Yes, he's still here. (*listens*)  
I know, it was so sudden, I really  
didn't expected it. (*listens*) It's  
comforting to know that he died while  
you were preaching. (*listens*) Yes...yes...  
we'll be sure to be there on Sunday.  
(*looking at Gavin*). He'll never be the  
same, I can already see a change in him.  
(*listens*) God bless, see you Sunday.

GAVIN HANDS PAD BACK TO GLADYS.

**GLADYS**

Finished? (*she reads*) Oh, this is good.

**GAVIN**

I still think it's dumb. Why can't I  
just get baptized like everyone else?

**GLADYS**

Water baptism symbolizes the  
resurrection of your new nature, but our  
family holds a funeral for the death of  
your old sin nature first.

**CHARLIE**

(Anticipating)

Well, let's hear it.

\*\*\*\*\*

- End of Preview -

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