

"ASSIGNMENT: WITNESS!" Page Samples #1
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(MUSIC INTRO: **Track #1 on CD.**)

(Enter ANGEL. He is walking with an attitude of determination. He reaches the center of the stage, stops, looks around, then reaches into his shirt or robe to take out a cell phone. He punches a button and waits for the ring.)

VOICE: *(Offstage on mike.)* Angel Assignments Headquarters.

ANGEL: Good morning, Chief! Angel Marcus checking in. No occurrences to report, all quiet on my watch.

VOICE: Excellent! And you'll be happy to know, Marcus, that the Most High has chosen you for a very important assignment today.

ANGEL: *(Excitedly.)* His will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven!

VOICE: I knew you'd be happy! At precisely 8:21 AM today, you and your charge Mark will come into brief contact with one Joe Smith. Joe has been the subject of prayer by a believing friend and he is targeted for salvation. But his life is also scheduled to end today at 2:53 PM! Your assignment is to get your man Mark to witness to him at the bus stop. It will be his last chance to hear the gospel before he dies, so needless to say, a lot is riding on you and your man. Of course, the Holy Spirit will be there to convict Joe but your man Mark is responsible for getting the Word to him. How spiritually receptive is Mark, by the way?

ANGEL: Mark started out the day with prayer and Bible reading, so he seems ready for service. But he still has a fear of witnessing that might slow down the process.

VOICE: That's not good... Joe doesn't have much time left and the contact will be brief. It's urgent that your man respond and act quickly!

ANGEL: I'll be on him like ugly on a demon.

VOICE: Speaking of which, remember that the enemy is aware of the prayers going up for Joe, too. They'll be on the defensive against any attempts to rob them of their prize. So keep your guard up!

ANGEL: Will do. I have to go, here comes my charge.

VOICE: Understood. Holiness unto the Lord!

ANGEL: And victory in His name!

(The ANGEL puts the phone back into his shirt. Enter MARK. He walks across the stage to the bus stop where he sits down on one end of the bench. The ANGEL follows him and stands slightly behind him to one side. The ANGEL checks his watch, then looks toward the opposite side of the stage. From that direction enters JOE, who has a folded newspaper under his arm. He walks up to the bench and sits down on the other end.)

MARK: *(Nodding.)* 'Morning.

JOE: *(Nodding back.)* 'Morning.

MARK: Looks like it might rain later.

JOE: *(Glances at the sky.)* Yeah, it does. *(He opens the newspaper and reads.)*

(The ANGEL moves closer to MARK and bends over to speak in his ear. MARK does not look at him,

because he cannot see him. But the ANGEL's words act as suggestions that MARK can choose to act upon.)

ANGEL: Listen to me, Mark. That guy needs to hear the Good News that Jesus saves!

(As the ANGEL speaks, MARK looks up as if listening to an inner voice. MARK glances sideways at JOE.)

ANGEL: You've met him here several times before and you've never said anything about Jesus to him. Don't you think it's about time you did?

(MARK shakes his head slightly as if dismissing a thought, and looks down the street as if to see if the bus is coming yet. The ANGEL frowns and begins to pace back and forth behind the bench, his hands clasped behind his back and a worried expression on his face. Then he stops, brightening visibly. He goes back to MARK's side with a sly smile.)

ANGEL: *(To himself.)* We'll see if this hits a nerve. *(To MARK)* So, you're not even going to speak a word for the Lord. This could be this guy's last chance to hear the Gospel. Do you want it on your conscience if he dies lost?

(MARK looks worried and is fidgeting.)

ANGEL: What's so hard about sharing the Good News? *(He examines his fingernails and speak nonchalantly.)* Could it be that you're... *(He pauses, then whirls toward MARK and delivers the coup de grace.)* **...ashamed of Jesus?**

(MARK has a stricken look on his face at the thought. He then gets a determined look and speaks to JOE, who is still reading the paper.)

MARK: Any good news?

JOE: *(Slightly surprised.)* Huh?

MARK: In the newspaper.

JOE: Oh. Same as always. Nothing but bad.

MARK: Yeah, the world does seem to be getting worse all the time. Makes you wonder what it's coming to, doesn't it?

JOE: You know, you're right. I worry about it sometimes.

MARK: By the way, my name is Mark. *(Reaches over his hand to shake.)*

JOE: *(Lowering paper, he reaches to shake hands.)* I'm Joe. *(He returns to reading the newspaper.)*

(Just then, a rapid patter of footsteps can be heard offstage, getting louder and closer.)

(Begin Cut #2 on CD to herald and accompany the DEMON's entrance.)

(Finally a DEMON runs on-stage and skids to a stop to stand behind and to the side of JOE. Neither JOE nor MARK react to the DEMON's presence. The DEMON is out of breath and leans over with his hands on his knees as he pants.)

ANGEL: Well, well, well! If it isn't the "jogger from hell."

DEMON: *(Taking breaths in between every few words.)* So! My source was right! Trying to steal what's mine, huh?