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### **What's for Lunch?** By Rick Artis

(Part 2 of the 'Been There, Done That' series, or stand alone script.)

**Scripture:**

1 Tim 4:13-16

13 Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching. 14 Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through a prophetic message when the body of elders laid their hands on you. 15 Be diligent in these matters; give yourself wholly to them, so that everyone may see your progress. 16 Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers.

**Theme:**

Missing the message

**Applications:**

Church attendance is an active, participatory event.  
Easy to miss the message as 'life' crowds in

**Cast:**

3 men- 1 for off-stage Pastor's voice  
2 women

**Setting:**

Church pew during service

**Time:**

Sunday morning

**Characters:**

Mark and Betty Snider  
Tom and Janet Bellman  
Pastor's voice

**Performance time:**

Approx 4-5 minutes

If using this segment as part of the larger BTDT series: Two of the 'soldiers' slip into the pew after performing their skit and chat with each other and their wives, missing the point of the sermon. Same format, character dialogue is interrupted by voice over and they go on as if they hadn't heard it.

If stand alone: Rewrite first few lines to something topical within your church.

When one character has a line the other pair continues silently 'talking', giving the impression that both conversations are nonstop.

Mark- Man, am I glad that's over.

Tom- Me, too. Seems like we've been rehearsing for weeks. And it's only a four minute skit.

Mark- It was really tough getting up this morning. If the skit hadn't been on the agenda, we probably would have skipped church today.

Tom- Janet and I were thinking the same thing. We had a lot going on this week.

Janet- *(to Betty, 'this week' for both said simultaneously)* This week we had so much to do. Tom was out of town Monday and Tuesday. Jenny had school play practice very night. Timmy had two orthodontist appointments. I had to take off work early for both of them. And that doesn't even include the junk that was on my schedule.

Pastor- Today's passage is 1st Timothy 4:13-16. Turn there with me please. *(due to distraction of conversation, all four turn late, after hearing others turning)*

Betty- I know what you mean. We had three soccer practices and a meeting with Jamie's teacher. Mark had to work late almost every night and almost missed the anniversary dinner for his parents. And then I had to redo my mammogram 'cuz they messed up the first one. What a pain. I can't believe those guys...

Mark- *(simultaneous 'those guys')* Those guys were saying they just opened the new Nicklaus course out by the freeway. It's supposed to be spectacular. You want to get a foursome together for next weekend?

Tom- Sure. I know Bill will want to go. Maybe the Pastor could join us.

Mark- Uh...Maybe another time. I was thinking Sunday morning. You know it's way less crowded early on Sunday.

Tom- Yeah. Good idea. What about Jim Spellman? I hear he's pretty good.

Betty- *(simultaneous 'Pretty Good's')*... Pretty Good. I asked him, "Did you say 'pretty good'?" I tell you, it was the best presentation we've had in our firm in over two years. And he called it 'pretty good'. I just can't believe that guy. I know he's held me back from at least two promotions. I should be looking for a new job, but who has time?

Pastor- The Scripture says, 'Be devoted, be diligent in these things.' What things? The public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching...

Janet- How frustrating. You know our top brass have started tossing out the phrase, 'right sizing'. That's got to mean layoffs are coming. I get the feeling I may be on the block. When Jenny was in the hospital for that week, they started making noise about missing too many days. I'm more than a little nervous.

Mark- *(together on 'a little nervous')* A little nervous? I was shaking in my shoes. I was standing in front of the entire Board of Directors. Who wouldn't be scared? I had 15 minutes to outline our entire global strategy for the next two years. But I got through it. They didn't ask too many questions. So, I think I did ok.

Tom- At least your company has a global strategy. Mine's barely staying afloat. Hey, look at this. I didn't know you were up for joining the building committee.

Mark- (*sarcastically*) And I'm so excited about it. Another monthly meeting to go to. I don't really relish the idea of spending an entire evening talking about carpeting and the restrooms and the plants.

(Continues...)