

7 Days Left to Witness

A novel that will have a lasting effect on your
Christian Witness!

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7 Days Left To Witness is the “what if” story in which the key Characters, Jim Russell, Sharon O’Brien and Marcus Thompson have received a personal message from God. “He is coming back to Earth in 7 days. While he has revealed the time of his coming to each, they are precluded from revealing the day of his coming. “7 Days Left To Witness”, Is the story of the trials they face as they try to lead others to God!

Main Characters

Jim Russell-Age 45:

Successful Businessman-Married to wife-Janet for 22 years-3 Children-David ages 18 Donna age 15 Tyler age 6. Both are active in the church. Jim sits on the building committee. He is a building contractor with his own firm. He employs 25 people of various beliefs and background. While his employees are aware Jim attends the local Baptist Church, he has chosen to minister only when approached by someone in need. He is keenly aware to be careful in dealing with others in a business setting. While he would like to do more for Christ, his position as a leader in the local business and his dependence on public contracts is always in the back of his mind. Janet sings in the church choir, teaches a Sunday School Class, participates in neighborhood witness groups, participates in the Church' Soup Kitchen and is first to volunteer when anyone needs a hand. To say the least if the church door is open, or there is a need Janet is there. Their Son, David attended church at every turn until recently. He considers himself to be a Christian, yet he is confused by feelings he has regarding attending church on a regular basis. He was voted "most popular" student at the local public High School and has friends inside and outside the church. He has come to realize many friends outside the Church are good and decent people. One in particular, Naomi, recently transferred to his high school. She is outgoing and shares David's concerns for other student, but she and her family do not attend church. Donna sings in the youth choir, is on the Cheer Squad at school and has a close circle of Christian friends at the public school as well. Several in the group are active in various school activities and they all use this platform to share their faith. Tyler has not yet come forward. While he is constantly at his Mother's side and participates in many church related activities, he is shy by nature and Janet prays this all thing that is holding him back.

Sharon O'Brien-Age 25:

Sharon is single and does not attend church. She works as a teller at the local bank. Sharon has a close circle of single girlfriends, they spend their evenings and weekends going on outings looking for 'that special someone'. Through the years some have married and have fallen away from the group, some have remained single and a couple have been divorced and returned to the single scene. Sharon feels fortunate to have these close friends in her life.

Marcus Thompson-Age 55

Marcus is evening news anchor a local Television Station. He has attended church on an occasional basis. While he considers himself to have lead a Christian life, he does not have an ongoing relationship with God. Marcus is not married, as his focus has always been on career. He prefers to be alone when not on the job and does not have close friends. He has a variety of workplace acquaintances and avoids religious discussions at work.

Marcus' Story-Scene 1: Marcus' Contact with God

Setting: Evening Newsroom, Channel 10.

Marcus closing the newscast, "That's your evening' news, we invite you to join us tomorrow. Stay tuned to the National Newscast, coming up after the commercial break. This is Marcus Thompson." Marcus removes his earpiece, turns to Jeff Snyder the Evening Weatherman and says, "See you tomorrow." Jeff speaks, "Good night, Marcus." Jeff would like to invite Marcus to dinner but already knows the answer. Marcus is kind of a loner. Marcus exits the newsroom and takes the elevator to the parking garage. He strides quickly to his private parking place, gets in to his car, as he reaches to turn the key a light appears inside the car, from the light a voice calls his name, "Marcus". Marcus hears the voice. He looks around. He is blinded by the light.

“Who’s there?” he asks. A voice comes from the light, “It is I.” Marcus has spent too many years in the News’ Business to be fooled by a practical joke. He tries to reach for the door, but cannot move. Several seconds go by as Marcus considers and then discards every Earthly rationale! Marcus speaks in a trembling voice, “Yes, Lord?” “Marcus, I have come to let you know a wonderful and terrible secret...I have come to let you know the rapture is near. I have come to let you know I am coming in 7 days.” Marcus sits silent for a moment. He is lost in thought and prayer. “Is this indeed the Lord? Could this be the Christ?” Jesus speaks again, “Yes, Marcus, it is I,” the voice assures him again. I have come to let you know that I am coming in 7 days and I have a job that only you can do!” Marcus sits for a moment and absorbs the power of this moment. He hears the words again, “I have a job that only you can do!” Humbled, Marcus looks toward the light and asks, “What would you have me do, Lord?” “Marcus, you are so much more than you realize. People trust you. Not just for the news you provide, but also for your honesty. I need for you to tell them of my coming.” Marcus eagerly responds, “Of course, Lord. I will tell them all that I have seen, I will tell what you have said!” The voice responds from the light, “No, Marcus. You must not tell the time of my coming. You must not tell you have gazed upon my face. For it is written, “For only by Faith, will Man be saved.” Marcus recalls the rest of the words, “A wonderful and terrible secret.” “What a burden to bear,” he thinks. He asks, “But Lord, if I cannot tell of what I have seen, how can I convince them to come to you now?” The voice responds, “Marcus, the message of my coming was written long ago. Tell all who will listen and each shall be added according to his faith.” Suddenly the car went dark. Marcus sits in silence for a moment. He glances at the clock on the dashboard, 6:35.

Marcus’ Story-Scene 2: Marcus’ Encounter with Ryan

Setting: Parking garage

Marcus backs out of his parking space. As he circles the garage to exit he sees Ryan Jenkins, an intern with the station standing over his old car with the hood up. “Interns...” Marcus thinks to himself. “A few minutes ago, I would just drive on by, but now I feel I need to stop!” He pulls into the space next to Ryan and gets out. He can see the surprise on Ryan’s face. He speaks first, “battery?” “Pretty sure”, responds Ryan, “I have some jumper cables if...”his voice trails off. Ryan is sure Marcus isn’t about to use his fancy import to jumpstart his old jalopy. “No problem,” Marcus says. Ryan, stunned by Marcus’ generosity, just stands there. “Well, get the jumpers,” says Marcus smiling. After they get the car running Ryan turns to thank Marcus. “Mr. Thompson,” He starts. But Marcus interrupts, “No Ryan, from now on it’s Marcus.” Marcus takes a deep breath as he hears the words once again, “Marcus, you are so much more to me than your job. People trust you.” Bolstered by the words, Marcus begins to speak, “Ryan, we are all God’s children. I want you to know that God is coming soon. I want you to know he loves you and wants to forgive your sins. I want you to know what he has done for me.” “For you?” asks Ryan. That’s right Ryan, when I was lost, he waited, while I wandered, he waited and now he has saved my soul!” “How?” asks Ryan. “He called my name and I believe, he calls us all, Ryan. He calls us all to him. We just have to hear and believe.” Marcus doesn’t know it but God has prepared Ryan’s heart. Ryan asks, “How can I be saved?” Marcus remembers the words and says, “Only by faith can man be saved, Ryan, you must believe and ask him to forgive your sins and come into your life.” “I want to be saved,” Ryan said. Marcus heart is pounding, his mind is racing, he trembles and says, “Ryan, let’s pray for God to come into your life.” They bow their heads to pray.

Marcus’ Story-Scene 3: Marcus’ Plans for Tomorrow

Setting: Interior, Marcus Car

Marcus' hand is shaking as he reaches to start the car. Shaking so bad he can't get the key into the ignition. He stops and takes a deep breath. He is alone with his thoughts. "Alone?" he thinks, "I have been pretty much alone my entire life. Who do I tell?" Once again he hears the voice of God, "Tell all who will listen and each shall be added according to his faith." "That's what I will do. I will tell everyone I meet that I have found God and tell all that will listen, he is coming soon." He thinks. Marcus drives away, satisfied with his plan. He has no idea the "larger plan God has for his life."

Marcus' Story-Scene 4: Marcus' First Witness of the Day

Setting: Just outside the door to Marcus Townhome-Townhome is in affluent neighborhood, spoils of success. Marcus exits his unit and runs into his neighbor, Bob Davis. Bob is taking his poodle out for a walk.

"Good morning Marcus," says Bob. "Marcus flashes his trademark smile and responds warmly, "Good morning to you as well. Beautiful day, isn't it?" Surprised by Marcus response, Bob responds in kind, "Beautiful day!" There is an awkward silence. Marcus knows this is an opportunity to let Bob know of his faith. "Bob, I know I haven't been an overly friendly neighbor. I just want you to know I will be different from now on. You see, Bob, I recently renewed my faith in God and I know now how important it is for me to treat others as he would have me do." Bob interrupts, "Look Marcus, that's great and all, but if I don't get this dog out pretty quick, we are going to have a mess." He spins away and takes off down the hall, leaving Marcus to wonder, "Did he hear me at all?"

Marcus' Story-Scene 5: Marcus Reveals His Faith

Setting: News Director's Office-Marcus walks in to sit at the table. Around the table are Don Abrams, News Director, Lisa Evans, his assistant, Jerri Smith, Producer and Ryan Jenkins. They are talking among themselves.

As Marcus takes his seat, Ryan speaks first, "Good morning Marcus!" He chimes, cheerily. The room goes quiet as the others wait for Marcus' response. They have heard him scold interns before. "Good morning, Ryan!" Marcus boomed back. There is an awkward silence. Marcus smiles at Ryan. Ryan smiles back. Marcus speaks, "Good morning to everyone else!" He takes his seat. Don begins the meeting, "It looks like the top story so far..." His voice trails off. Don started his career as a reporter, he has to know, "Marcus, no offence to Ryan, but since when did you go on a first name basis with Interns?" The room is quiet for a moment. Marcus knows this is his time to speak to them all. "Folks, last night something incredible happened to me. Jesus came into my heart. I realize now, that I truly must treat all people as he would have me treat them. I ran into Ryan and he and I had a few minutes to talk. He and I are Brothers in Christ." For just a moment the room is quiet. Then, it seems, everyone speaks at once. "Exactly, what did you say happened?" asked one. "Why didn't you have this great epiphany when I was an intern?" said another sarcastically. "Does this mean you're going to start praying at the start of the show?" chimed another. Don interrupted, "Hey everyone, let's not start unloading on Marcus." Marcus speaks again, "It's alright Don. We are all News people, here, curious by nature. So let me just say before we begin the meeting, I am a different person today and forever. I have found God and believe his message. I would like you all to believe and would love to talk to you about him. Please come see me if you would like to know more." Don grins and speaks, "On with the other news". Marcus can't help but note there seems to be a twinkle in Don's eye, "Is he a believer, too?" Marcus wonders.

Marcus' Story-Scene 6-Marcus' Encounter In the Lunchroom

Setting: Interior, Employee Lunchroom-Marcus pays for his lunch and turns to find a table

As Marcus walks across the lunchroom floor toward his “usual” solitary table, he can feel several sets of eyes on him. Word has gotten out. He chooses instead to sit at the “interns” table.

“Good afternoon, everyone!” he booms! Ryan looks up and says, “Please, Marcus. Join us.”

The other Interns all shift nervously in their seats and glance at each other in bewilderment.

Marcus sits down. He quickly bows his head and says a silent prayer. As he opens his eyes and raises his head, he smiles at Ryan and looks toward the others and says, “Folks, I appreciate you

all letting me have lunch with you today. Hopefully, I can join you all more often.” One of the interns, Carol McGinley speaks first, “Mr. Thompson, I.” Marcus interrupts her and says,

“Please Carol, from now on Call me Marcus. Look, everyone, I am sure you have heard by now about the change in my life. I promise to treat you all differently in the coming days. As I am

sure you have heard that God has changed my life. I just want all of you to know, He can do the same for you. For now, let’s all enjoy a wonderful lunch. If anyone would like to talk with me

more about what God has done for me, please stop by my office anytime.” With that said,

Marcus begins to eat his meal. He can see the looks of interest on a couple faces. He prays quietly to God, “Lord use me as you will.” Then Marcus goes back to his meal.

Marcus Story-Scene 7-Dinner at Luigi's

Setting: Interior Luigi's Fine Italian Restaurant-Restaurant is classic Italian' theme. Marcus has just taken a seat at his private table. Luigi approaches.

“Marcus,” Luigi greets him, “Your usual dinner tonight?” Marcus takes a deep breath, smiles and says, “Luigi, my old friend, I would love the usual fare, but dinner will never be the same!”

Curious, Luigi asks, “What do you mean?” Marcus smiles again and says, “Luigi, I found God

last night and nothing will ever be the same!” “Found God?” asked Luigi. “Yes, he came into my heart last night and I will never be the same. I am trying to tell all my friends so they will know God loves them, too.” Perplexed at hearing his old friend talk religion, Luigi turned to one of the waiters and said, “Carlos, for our old friend Marcus, the usual tonight.” With that he retreats to the kitchen. Marcus can see Luigi peak out from the kitchen from time to time as he enjoys his meal. He wonders, if he has driven his friend away? As he finishes the last bite from his plate and sets his napkin on the table, he sees Luigi approach from the kitchen. “Marcus, I want to thank-you for your business, old friend. Will you be coming back again, tomorrow?” Marcus relieved. He feared he would only have the one opportunity to speak to his friend. “Of course, I will be back, tomorrow, Luigi and if you have just a few minutes, perhaps I can tell you more about what God has done for me.” Marcus searches Luigi’s face for a clue to what he might be thinking. There is an awkward silence. Finally, Luigi responds, “Marcus, I can always take a few minutes to visit with an old friend.” With that, Luigi walks back toward the kitchen. As he leaves the restaurant, Marcus isn’t certain if Luigi is just being polite to a customer or, if he is curious about God. Marcus promises himself to be sure to try to tell Luigi of God’s love.

Marcus Story-Scene 8-Payday at the Newsroom

Setting: Marcus Office-Marcus is setting at his computer-Like every Friday he is online making sure his paycheck has been deposited. Carol McGinley steps in and closes the door.

“Mr. Thompson, Marcus, can you tell me more about God?” Marcus reaches for the New Testament he has kept in his desk drawer for over 20 years. “Never thought I’d use this,” he thinks to himself. He closes the computer screen. He begins to tell Carol how God loves her.

Marcus Story-Scene 9-Payday at the Newsroom

Setting: News Director's Office-Marcus walks in to sit at the table. Around the table are Don Abrams, News Director, Lisa Evans, his assistant, Jerri Smith, Producer and Ryan Jenkins. They are talking among themselves. Marcus is late.

"Sorry I'm late," he announces. Jerri looks up from her notes and speaks, sarcastically, "and what were you and Carol talking about?" Marcus looks at Jerri. He smiles at her and says, "Jesus, if you must know." "Jesus, who?" she asked in an even more sarcastic tone. Before Marcus can respond, Don interrupts, "look Jerri, I don't think it appropriate for us to pry into Marcus' and Carol's personal business. Let's get on with our meeting." Marcus isn't quite so sure he appreciates the help from Don. He wanted to try to reach Jerri. "Jerri, if you want to stop by later we can finish our conversation!" he declared. Don calls the meeting to order.

Marcus Story-Scene 10-Payday at the Newsroom

Setting: Newsroom-End of Show-Marcus is signing off-

"That's your evening' news, we invite you to join us Monday. Stay tuned to the National Newscast, coming up after the commercial break. This is Marcus Thompson."

As Marcus leaves the set, Jerri approaches and says, "So, Mr. Newsman, what's all this Jesus stuff with you lately anyway?" "Jerri," Marcus responds, "I have found God and I want you and everyone to believe in him." "Really, everyone?" then why don't you simply put it on the Evening News?" shot back Jerri. Marcus is stunned by the directness of Jerri's challenge. "Put it on the Evening News?" he thinks. He recalls the words he heard once again as Jerri walks away, "I have a job that only you can do!" As Marcus heads toward the elevator he wonders, "Am I supposed to put this on the air?"

Marcus Story-Scene 11-A Saturday like no other

Setting: Hallway outside Marcus' Townhome-Marcus has just pickup up his morning paper-As he turns to reenter Bob Davis exits his unit with his poodle, for their early walk.

“Good morning, Marcus,” said Bob. “A blessed good morning to you as well,” returned Marcus. Marcus hesitates for a moment, still unsure if Bob heard him earlier in the week. Before he can respond, Bob speaks again, “Marcus, I heard you the other day. I may be getting a little older, but I am not deaf,” he joked with a smile. “I’m sorry Bob,” said Marcus, “I just wasn’t sure how you might feel about the change in my life.” “Marcus, I am happy for you,” said Bob, “I didn’t say anything back because I am not used to hearing people share their faith so openly. With all this political correctness stuff, I am never sure how to react. I was saved years ago and God has been very good to me.” “Bob, I am glad to hear you are saved. I had just gotten saved and couldn’t wait to tell someone! You were one of the first people I saw.” Bob responded, “Who are you going to tell today?” Marcus was taken aback by the question. While he was comfortable in sharing his story one on one or in small groups of acquaintances, today he was scheduled to attend and emcee a major fundraiser. The annual “Fun Run and Dinner Dance”, had always been one of Marcus’ favorite events. There would be hundreds of people in attendance. As the emcee, Marcus would have the opportunity to speak of his faith. He asked himself, “Is this what God meant when he told me he had a job that ‘only I could do’?” “Bob, you have been a Christian for years. Today I am emceeing the annual Fun Run and Dinner Dance. What do you think I should do?” He asked. Bob took a moment before responding, “Marcus, I don’t think any of us knows exactly what to say or when to say it. I do believe God expects us to spread our faith. The difficult part, for me, has always been to determine when, where and how to share my faith in an unsaved world. I am the last person you should ask. You are the kind of public figure that can do many great things for God. What you have to ask

yourself is, ‘What risks am I willing to take in order to spread his word?’ In times like this, I suggest you take your question to the source. Let’s say a quick prayer together and ask God to guide us each through our day.” With that Bob laid his hand on Marcus’ shoulder and both men closed their eyes to pray.

Marcus Story-Scene 12-A Saturday like no other-Running for God?

Setting: City Park-Marcus is at the podium-Several hundred runners wait for the official start of the race-Marcus has just arrived and is approached by Mayor Allen.

“Marcus, Father Christian cannot make it today! His daughter is sick. Who is going to give our ‘blessing to the runners’, today?” he says excitedly. Marcus realizes God has revealed his will and says, “Mayor, I will be happy to say a brief prayer today.” Mayor Allen is a little surprised. Marcus has never been particularly religious. “Marcus,” she asked, “are you sure?” Marcus smiled and nodded his head, “Absolutely, Mayor Allen, God has given me eternal life, of course I’ll pray to him.” Mayor Allen responds, “Marcus, remember there are runners of many faiths here today.” “I know,” said Marcus, “I’ll be careful with my prayer.” With that, Marcus stepped to the loudspeaker and began to speak, “Ladies and Gentlemen, we want to thank each of you for your participation in this years’ fundraiser. I am pleased to announce we have over twenty-nine thousand dollars in donations collected so far!” The crowd applauds. Marcus continues, “As you all know, we normally begin the race with a word of prayer from Father Christian of St. Jude Diocese. I am sorry to announce he is unable to make today’s event due to a sudden illness in his family. Since he is unable to make it today, if you will all take a moment and bow your heads, I will offer a prayer of thanks. Lord, we thank you for all your blessings. We thank you we are able to participate in this event today and ask you to provide a safe travel home for all. We thank you for the monies we have raised and for the care and comfort you provide. And

Lord, I ask you to touch each person here as you have touched me this very same week and come into their lives, for it is you who offers eternal life. Thanks again for all your blessings, amen.”

As Marcus concluded his prayer he looked toward the mayor. She was shaking her head in bewilderment. She walked up to Marcus and said, “Well, that was interesting! Thought you were going to start preaching, for a moment.” “I really wanted to, Mayor,” said Marcus, “I wanted to let everyone know what God has done for me this week and how only he can save them. But I realize I can’t. Hopefully, though, someone out there was touched by how much he cares.” “Well, let’s just remember not everyone believes in the same God,” said the Mayor as she turned away. Marcus left the podium torn between the joy in bringing God’s message to the public and knowing there was so much more they need to hear. He also knew there were only a few more days for them to hear it!

Marcus Story-Scene 13-A Saturday like no other-Dinner and a Dance

Setting-Palace Ballroom-Hyatt Regency Hotel-Ballroom Entrance-As Marcus enters the Ballroom he runs into Don Abrams and his wife Jeannette as he enters Don speaks, “Well Marcus, will you be saying the blessing for the meal tonight?” he asked. Marcus is not surprised Don has already heard. He knew someone on the news crew from the Fun Run would tip him off. “No Don, we already have another clergyman lined up for tonight. However, I will be saying a prayer to God myself,” he said smiling. Don laughed and smiled at his wife. Marcus could see the light of God in her eyes. Don said, “Marcus, I am so glad you have gotten close to God. But please don’t forget, our job is to report not to preach.” They enter the ballroom and Marcus goes to the dais.

Marcus Story-Scene 14-Dinner and a Dance

Interior of Ballroom: Marcus sits at the dais-Next to him is Mayor Allen and her date-They have finished their meal and Marcus is preparing to start the award ceremonies from the days' race. As he rises from his seat the Mayor tugs on his sleeve. "No preaching!" she says. As Marcus steps to the microphone, he knows what he must do. He gathers his thoughts and says, "Ladies and Gentleman, we hope you all enjoyed your meal this evening and it's time to get on with the awards. Before we present the first award, I just wanted to take a moment to apologize to anyone my prayer this afternoon offended. That was not my intent. Rather, my intent was to share within my prayer my belief in God and to offer him to any who choose to listen. Should anyone here want to hear more, please feel come see me after tonight's ceremonies. Now, let's get on with the show." As Marcus finishes speaking he can see the Mayor shaking her head disapprovingly. He glances toward Don and Jeannette. Don is smiling. Jeannette appears to be praying. Marcus isn't sure, but he thinks he has done what God would have him do. "For the first time," he thinks to himself, "Am I willing to risk whatever it takes to tell others of God? After all, he has only three more days!"

Marcus Story-Scene 15-First and Last Sabbath

Setting: Channel 10 News Parking Garage-Marcus is getting out of his car-He sees Ryan Jenkins exiting the elevator to head toward his car. He approaches Ryan.

"Good morning, Ryan." He greets him. Ryan is surprised to see Marcus at the station on a Sunday. He asks, "What's going on?" Marcus responds, "I'm going in to put a piece together about God and the Second Coming!" "Who approved that story?" asked Ryan. "No one yet," said Marcus. "But Marcus, you can't use company facilities for this without approval."

cautioned Ryan. Marcus knows that Ryan is right. Using company facilities without prior approval could get him fired, but he knows there are only a couple of days left! He turns to Ryan

and says, “Ryan, we don’t know how much longer it will be til Jesus comes. This is something I must do.” Marcus turns and walks away from Ryan toward the elevator. As he nears the elevator he can hear the sound of footsteps approaching. “Hold that elevator Marcus. Why don’t I go up and help you?” said Ryan and he stepped into the elevator.

Marcus Story-Scene 16-First and Last Sabbath

Setting: Production set-Channel 10 Newsroom-Sunday is a quiet day in the building. Marcus and Ryan have been able to use one of the quiet rooms to record a message. As he concludes his Message to my Listeners, Don Evans walks into the room. “Someone has tipped him off,” thought Marcus, “probably the same person that tipped him off about the race!” Don has a frown on his face. He turns to Ryan and asks him to leave the room. He turns to Marcus and says, “Marcus, I hope you realize the seriousness of this behavior. I have to report this! I know you think the most important thing for you to do right now is to tell others of God. But what are you thinking? You can’t use the station to do this! I intend to confiscate all the tapes of this. These belong to the station.” Marcus is determined. “Don, you don’t understand. I have to try to tell as many people as I can. I am the only one who can!” Don is beside himself. He shakes his head and turns to leave the room. When he reaches the door he turns back toward Marcus and says, “Marcus, if you try to use station property again, I’ll have to recommend we let you go!” As Don leaves the room Marcus wonders aloud, “God, what do I do now?”

Marcus Story-Scene 17-First and Last Sabbath

Setting: Hallway outside Marcus’ Townhome-Marcus has returned home, dejected. He runs into his neighbor, Bob Davis.

“Marcus,” asked Bob, “I didn’t see you at Luigi’s for lunch today?” Marcus shook his head and told Bob how he had tried to record a message to air on the station. Bob listened patiently.

When Marcus had finished speaking, Bob said flatly, “Well, why don’t you tell the audience, live? They can’t stop you then.” Marcus mulls the possibility over for a moment. He says, “But Bob, as soon as I do, I know I’ll get fired!” Bob nods his head in agreement. “Probably,” he responded quietly, “but one thing is sure. If you do tell everyone on the air, a lot of people will hear you!” Bob walked away from Marcus and entered his townhome. Marcus stood in the hallway for a moment, running through the scenario. “If I do this, I will probably be fired. If I don’t have I failed God? As Marcus enters his apartment, he hears the words again, “Marcus, you are so much more than you realize. People trust you.” The door closes behind him.

Marcus Story-Scene 18-Rainy Days and Mondays-Marcus Thompson

Setting: Outside Marcus’ Townhome-Marcus runs into Bob again on his way out the door.

They exchange good mornings and the Bob says, “Well Marcus? What are you going to do for God, on a rainy day like today?” Marcus answers, “I don’t know, Bob. If I go on the air I’ll be fired. But, if I don’t try to tell others, I will have failed God.” Bob smiles and says, “Let go, Marcus. Let go of the decision and let God lead you.” With that Bob turns and walks away.

Marcus thinks, to himself, “I sure am seeing a lot of my neighbor, since God came into my life!” Marcus realizes God is using Bob to help him. He looks upward and says, “Thank you Lord, for putting Bob in my life.” Marcus opens his umbrella and scampers toward his car.

Marcus Story-Scene 19-Rainy Days and Mondays-Marcus Thompson

Setting: News Director’s Office-Marcus walks in to sit at the table. Around the table are Don Abrams, News Director, Lisa Evans, his assistant, Jerri Smith, Producer and Ryan Jenkins. They are talking among themselves. Marcus walks in and takes his seat.

As the others finish their conversations, Don speaks. “Good morning, Marcus.” “Good morning to you all.” said Marcus. Don continues, “Marcus it looks like the top National story of the day

today, will be the economic numbers and the top local story will be the impact locally. I was just discussing with the others some recent research that indicates our local viewers would like to know more about the news staff. I thought we could let Ryan lead off with a piece about his hobbies and interests tonight. Lisa has a piece she would like to do about her family on Tuesday and you could have Wednesday. Marcus is stunned. God has provided a way. “Great!” he says. “Just remember, Marcus, we don’t want to alienate our audience by being too controversial!” said Don. As he left the room, Marcus felt blessed by the opportunity. But challenged by what he should say.

Marcus Story-Scene 20-Rainy Days and Mondays-Marcus Thompson

Marcus’ Office-Ryan Thompson pops in-

“Marcus, can I ask you something?” he asks. Marcus looks up from his computer. “Sure,” he says. “Marcus, are you going to air the piece we recorded on Wednesday?” he asks. “I think I will,” said Marcus. “Well then, I just want to take a moment to let you know how much I have enjoyed working with you,” said Ryan. “Why do you say that?” asked Marcus. “Well, I know you want to tell others about God but, that piece is over the top. Perhaps we could get together and edit it some,” said Ryan. Marcus took a moment to mull over Ryan’s words. “Perhaps I could tone the message down a little,” he said. “Why don’t we get together on Wednesday afternoon and edit.” “Great,” said Ryan as he walked out of the office.

Marcus Story-Scene 21-Last Full Day to Witness-Marcus Thompson

Setting: Outside Marcus’ Townhome-Marcus is leaving his home an hour early to work on rewriting his presentation. He runs into Bob Davis

Bob speaks, “Good morning Marcus. You’re off early today.” “Good morning Bob. I have a project I’m going in early to work on a re-write today. You may remember the other day I

mentioned I was unsure about going on the air to talk about God. Well, God has opened a door and I intend to walk through it.” “What do you mean?” asked Bob. “Well,” continued Marcus, “yesterday at the station each of the members of the crew was offered the opportunity to make a tape to let the viewers know a little more about us. I’m going to take the tape I made about my relationship with God. One of my friends at the station is going to help me to edit it some today, in order not to be too controversial. What do you think?” Bob frowned and scratched his chin, thinking for a moment before he spoke, then he responded, “Well Marcus, it sounds like you have a good plan. Just try to keep in mind one thing. If, you want to reach people with the truth of God, you can’t water down the message.” With that said, Bob turned and walked away, leaving Marcus to ponder his words.

Marcus Story-Scene 22-Last Full Day to Witness-Marcus Thompson

Setting: Marcus office just before lunch-Marcus has been working on his re-write all morning. Try as he may he has been unable to write a satisfactory piece. He is frustrated. Ryan pops in “Marcus,” he says, “I just found out we aren’t going to be able to get the set time to re-do your piece for tomorrow! The regular sets have been booked by others and I just did an equipment check on the equipment for our set. There is a problem and we won’t be able to edit until tomorrow afternoon.” “That’s alright, Ryan,” said Marcus, “I am having difficulty in finding the right words. I think I’ll access the script from my home computer, tonight and work on the script from there.” Ryan nods his head and leaves the room. Marcus looks at the script on his computer. He thinks to himself, “Wow, I’ve been working on this all morning and don’t want to change a word. Bob was right. It’s hard to tell others you believe in God, without being direct.”

Marcus Story-Scene 23-Last Full Day to Witness-Marcus Thompson

Setting: Marcus Townhome-Marcus is in the Den-The clock on the wall shows 2 O'clock AM.

Marcus is resting his head in his hands. The room is quiet. We hear him praying softly.

“Lord, I have been unable to find the words to change this piece. I need to get some rest before I try again. Please, Lord, help me find the words tomorrow.” We see a dejected Marcus make his way toward the bedroom. The room goes dark.

Marcus' Story-Scene 24-Judgment Day!

Setting: Marcus Bedroom-Alarm sounds-Slowly Marcus sits up in bed and turns off the alarm-

After a few moments we he looks toward God and prays aloud-softly

“Lord,” he prays, “Lord, help me today to find the words to fix this piece as YOU see fit!” We then see Marcus head toward the shower.

Marcus' Story-Scene 25-Judgment Day!

Setting-Marcus Office-2:45 PM-We see Marcus and Ryan sitting at Marcus' computer-Ryan turns to Marcus' and speaks.

“Well Marcus,” he says, “That is a wrap! I think this is going to be perfect! Isn't it great that God seemed to put the words on the screen for us, today?” “Yes it is,” a smiling Marcus answered. At that moment the door burst open and Don the News Director strode in. He said, “Marcus, Ryan, a plane just crashed at the airport. I need you both to get right out there. I need to have you onsite for a report in twenty minutes. This could go National!” Marcus turned toward Ryan and they both shook their heads. For a moment they hesitated. Finally, Ryan said to Marcus, “Well, maybe God has a different plan!” They both nod their head in agreement and head out the door.

Marcus' Story-Scene 26-Judgment Day!

Setting: On site-Main Terminal-City Airport-Marcus and Ryan have been on site all afternoon. It is a bad scene. We see people milling around. Some are crying. Others stare blankly into space. Marcus is just about to go on air for the evening news. Don speaks into Marcus earpiece “Marcus,” he says, “looks like we’ll go with the current on site update first and then come back to you at five minutes past the bottom of the hour for another update and for some interviews with family members. The Network will pick up is picking up the feed then. We’ll have to drop the personal piece we had planned for today, anyway. We’ll reschedule for later in the week. “Later in the week,” Marcus thinks to himself, “there is no later in the week.” Marcus shakes his head and readies himself to go on air. He prays to himself, “God, what would you have me do?”

Marcus’ Story-Scene 27-Judgment Day

Setting: On site-Main Terminal-City Airport-We see Marcus readying to go on-air for the Network feed-The clock on the wall behind him shows 6:34:35 we see it counting up toward 6:35-Once again, we hear Marcus’ voice-praying

“Lord, if the time is now, I hope I have done enough to please you. But Lord, if it be your will, please grant one more day. One more day so I can to try to get my ‘Witness Piece’ on air.” With that the clock strikes 6:35 and the scene going dark. After a few moments the lights come back up on the set. We see Marcus, sitting in front of a camera. As the camera zooms in, we hear him speak, “This is Marcus Thompson, signing off for the Lord. You see, in this story, I was given the gift of eternal life by God and was told the moment of his coming. This is only a story! In real life and for the real afterlife, Jesus said that no one knows the time of his coming. In real life, we are to witness for him as if today is the day of his coming! Who will you tell about God, today?”

