

# GETTING THE FULL PICTURE

By Rod

*This sketch seeks to emphasise the importance of regular attendance at church. Those who only come occasionally fail to get the full picture.*

## CAST

Andy            *A regular attender of church*

Barry           *An irregular attender at the same church*

*Andy is seated in a pew. Barry arrives and heads for the empty seat next to Andy.*

- A. Hi there Barry, I haven't seen you for a while.
- B. It's good to see you, Andy. Is anyone sitting here or may I join you?
- A. Be my guest. So what have you been up to?
- B. *[Sitting down]* Oh this and that. I've been pretty busy one way and another.
- A. I must say I have really enjoyed the series on the Ten Commandments.
- B. Ten? Are you sure? I think I've only counted about five.
- A. I am pretty sure there are ten. Let me see. The first one was about having no other gods.
- B. Oh yes, I remember that one. The vicar spoke really well. I came away thinking how brilliant it is to be a Christian. It deepened my commitment.
- A. Then there was the one about not making any idols. The curate did that one.
- B. That is funny, I don't remember that. *[Thinking]* Oh I know that was when I'd just got my new car. It's a 2005 Ferrari F450 Spider.
- A. Wow.
- B. It was in reasonable nick but I needed to clean it and polish it. Caused quite a stir in our road. Everyone wanted to have a look.
- A. I am sure it did. Anyway the third commandment was about not taking the Lord's name in vain. Not swearing and that.
- B. Oh I remember that one. I've really tried not to say "Oh my God" any more.

[Type text]

- A. I agree. You here it everywhere: on the telly, in the street, at work. It is a way we Christians can stand out. As is our attitude to the Sabbath.
- A. Our attitude to what?
- B. Sundays as we heard in the fourth commandment. People treat it just the same as any other day.
- A. Oh I reckon that was the weekend I had a work crisis. I worked all Saturday and by the time Sunday came around I didn't feel like going to church.
- B. Oh, well the fifth commandment was about...
- A. And the next weekend I went away because my parents had arranged a special lunch. They expected me to help entertain their boring bunch of geriatric friends. Yawn yawn. So I hastily organised to stay with an old friend in Eastbourne. Parents can be such a pain. Sorry, what did you say the fifth one was about?
- B. Honouring your father and mother.
- A. Oh, *[Getting the point. Pauses then tries to change the subject]* But I remember the one on murder. It was very challenging.
- B. Oh why?
- A. Well I must confess that I have had some murderous thoughts about the bloke next door.
- B. Why is that? Have his leylandi grown too big or something?
- A. No, it's because he's got this gorgeous wife. With him out of the way I reckon I'd have a chance to .. you know.. nudge nudge wink wink.
- B. I guess that means you missed the following week as well.
- A. Yes, that was the weekend he was away on business. I got out the Ferrari - it's always a winner with the ladies - and tried a charm offensive. You know vroom vroom.  
What was the seventh commandment anyway?
- B. Do not commit adultery even in your heart.
- A. Oh dear, but I do recall a week when we looked at a commandment about not stealing. Which one was that?
- B. That was number eight.

[Type text]

- A. *(Phone rings)* Sorry, I need to take this. It is my boss. *(On phone)* Hello, Gerald how are ... Oh the Bindenberg report. Er.. yes I am working on it right now. I am at my desk. Sorry about the delay but John has only just given me the information. *(To Barry)* Actually he gave it me on Wednesday but I clean forgot. A good chance to dump John in it as I am after his job. *(To phone)* Yes, don't worry it will be on your desk first thing tomorrow. Bye.
- B. I guess that means you missed number nine last week - on not lying?
- A. What? Oh yes, Mustn't tell a lie - eh geddit? I just fancied a lie in for a change. 10.45 is so early on a Sunday.
- B. Still, you are here now.
- A. Not for long. I reckon I'll have to go and finish that report. Although it has been a good series this one on the commandments. It has really helped me sort out my life.
- B. Bits of your life.
- A. OK, bits of it but needs must. *(Gets up to go)*
- B. Oh don't go.
- A. I have to. If I am going to get John's job I need to nail that report.
- B. But the tenth commandment could be just what you need.
- A. Why what is it about?
- B. Do not covet what others have.

*THE END*