

# THE WEAKEST LINK

By Rod

*This sketch is designed to illustrate the fact that Christians who make a firm stand should expect persecution. It ends with some words of Jesus from John 15 vv 18 and 20.*

*The format should be as similar as possible to that of the quiz programme 'The Weakest Link but it may be better to have the 'Ann Robinson' to one side so that she does not have her back to the audience.*

## CHARACTERS:

- ANN ROBINSON (The chairwoman)
- JOSHUA
- 6 FELLOW CONTESTANTS (A,B,C,D,E,F)
- THE VOICE OF JESUS

.....

*The weakest link music plays.*

'Ann Robinson' Well everybody, something's wrong. The team clearly isn't gelling. You're not being successful are you? You're not pulling together.  
But the question is, "who is holding you back"? Who is letting the side down? Who is the weakest link?  
You now have the chance to vote for the person you think is surplus to requirements. The one who is expendable. The one to be dispensed with.

*The team now write on their cards.*

AR Right, the voting is over. It is time to reveal who you think is the weakest link.

*The players vote in turn holding up their cards and calling out the name.*

A..... Joshua  
B..... Joshua  
C..... Joshua  
D..... Joshua  
E..... Joshua  
F..... Joshua  
Joshua All of us

- AR Well, the team has voted. A....., why Joshua?
- A..... He says he does no work on Sundays. How can anyone be successful in this day and age unless he works on Sundays. He's obviously got no stamina or drive. I just don't think he's up to the challenge of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.
- AR And what about you, B....., what are your reasons for picking Joshua.
- B..... It was an easy choice really. He's got religion. He says he goes to church and claims he's a Christian. Everyone knows that Christianity is only for weak people – for those needing a crutch. He's clearly weaker than the rest of us
- AR Okay. And C....., why did you nominate Joshua for the scrapheap.
- C..... I've seen him reading the Bible. And what's more he says he believes what's written in it. I ask you! How ridiculous! No intelligent person believes those fairy stories these days. He clearly cannot think for himself. He's an intellectual featherweight.
- AR D....., you too voted for Joshua. Why was that?
- D..... He doesn't swear which really annoys me 'cos I like a good expletive or two to add colour to the day. And he even had the nerve to ask me not to say 'O God' because it upset him. (*Sarcastically*) It offended his delicate senses. How namby pamby can you get? Talk about weak!
- AR Quite a case is building against Joshua. What about you, E....., what were your reasons?
- E..... He really gets up my nose. He once implied that he thought there was something wrong with me – just because I don't believe all that Christian rubbish. I think he said that God , whoever he is, (*he looks round to the other for their approval of this 'joke'*) would call me a 'sinner'. What a cheek. I'm no worse than the next man. We can all do without that sort of talk.
- AR And finally, you, F..... What have you got against Joshua?
- F..... He's often said to me that he believes that Jesus died on the cross so that I could be forgiven. Me! What a joke! I've done nothing to be ashamed of. And even if I had I wouldn't need the help of some sandal wearing hippy who lived 2000 years ago.

Anyway, all Jesus did was wander around talking about 'turning the other cheek' and 'loving thy neighbour'. Love thy neighbour! Huh, he should try living in our street. That attitude wouldn't get you very far. You'd be trampled under foot. Joshua's whole attitude to life is airy fairy and weak.

AR Well, Joshua, the verdict of the team is unanimous. And I have to say that I agree with them. You even voted for 'all of us'. You couldn't even make your mind up about that. That was pretty indecisive wasn't it?  
The team have said so and there is no doubt that you are the weakest link. Goodbye.

Joshua May I say something?

AR No, it's too late.

Joshua But I must explain why I voted for 'All of us'.

AR Very well. But be quick.

Joshua Thank you. I do believe that we are all weak. We all need help. But I have found that Jesus can help me and I believe that he can help you all too.

A..... There he goes again.

B..... Telling us we're weak....

C..... ... and in need of help.

D..... He's the one that's the wimp, not us.

E..... We don't have to listen to anymore of this drivel.

F..... Yeah, that's right. Let's get rid of him ourselves.

AR Go ahead team. Remove the weakest link.

*Group point way for Joshua to go while chanting, "Weak, weak, weak,"*

*[ALTERNATIVE, MORE POWERFUL ENDING :-The group grab Joshua and pull him to the front. Some grab his arms and pull him into the crucifix position. Some stand in front, but to the side of him and deliver punches to the stomach so he slumps forward. Finally one delivers a heavy 'crowning' blow to the head so he is rendered motionless – but supported in the crucifix position as Jesus would have been. All freeze.]*

Voice through PA If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first. No servant is greater than his master. If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also.