living biblically

"Pilot"

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INT. CHURCH - CONFESSIONAL BOOTH - DAY (D1)  
(CHIP, FATHER GENE)  

FATHER GENE, 40, HISPANIC, UPBEAT AND GOOD-HUMORED CATHOLIC PRIEST, SITS INSIDE. CHIP CURRY, 40, MEANS WELL BUT OBSESSIVE AND A LITTLE HIGH-STRUNG, KNOCKS, ENTERS AND SITS.  

CHIP  
Hey, man. Are you open?  

FATHER GENE  
Church is always open. We're like Heaven Eleven.  

CHIP  
(LAUGHS, THEN) I'll start. Hi. Chip Curry. Lapsed Catholic. I'm not here to confess, is that weird?  

FATHER GENE  
Little bit, yeah. If you're not confessing, we're just two grown men talking in a tiny closet.  

CHIP  
(SMILES) True. Okay, let me think, ah... I definitely don't honor my parents. We talk on the phone and I don't listen to a word they say. Once my mother told me she had hemorrhoids and I shouted "I love it!!"  

FATHER GENE  
(UNDERSTANDING CHUCKLE) Okay. Go on.
CHIP
Couple times a year, I like to get a little... well, stoned, Father. I buy ice cream and Cheez-Its and just eat it all Muppet style. (MIMES EATING) How does the church feel about marijuana?

FATHER GENE
We don't love it.

CHIP
I figured, yeah. (THEN) Is it a sin to make fun of ugly babies on Facebook? Cuz I do that a lot. I've even got an "ugly baby voice" that I do for my wife, cracks her up.

FATHER GENE
All God's children are beautiful. That said... may I hear the voice?

CHIP
Absolutely, it's like (VOICE) "Goo-Goo Ga Ga, I'm not a great lookin' kid! I'm two and I'm a two!" You get it. (THEN) Look, for the most part, I'm a good man. I just want to be a great one. And I know it sounds crazy, but the real reason I'm here is that I've

(MORE)
CHIP (CONT'D)

decided to live my life one hundred percent by the Bible.

FATHER GENE

You mean in general, right?

CHIP

Oh no, Father. To the letter.

GENE TAKES THIS IN FOR A MOMENT. THEN CRACKS UP LAUGHING. *

FATHER GENE

To the letter! (CONTINUES LAUGHING) *

TITLE CARD: “LIVING BIBLICALLY”

CUT TO:
ACT ONE

SCENE A

INT. DIVE BAR - EVENING (FLASHBACK) (N2) (CHIP, LESLIE, MS. MURPHY, MOURNERS) *

FATHER GENE (V.O.)

So, Chip, how did you come to the decision to live your life this way?

CHIP (V.O.)

It all started when my best friend Ray died. We'd been close for thirty years, so... it pretty much sucked.

A POST-FUNERAL RECEPTION. A LARGE PHOTO OF RAY, 40, IS PROPPED UP ON THE BAR. DRUNK MOURNERS REMINisce, AND LAUGH. A WOMAN LIGHTS A CANDLE BY RAY'S PHOTO. LESLIE, 35, CHIP'S WIFE, SARCASTIC AND COOL, APPROACHES WITH WINE FOR HERSELF AND WHISKEY FOR CHIP. HE POUNDS IT LIKE A SHOT.

LESLIE

Easy, tiger. Chip, honey -- maybe you should find a way to say goodbye to Ray?

CHIP

Eh, what good's that gonna do?

LESLIE

You gotta grieve, boo.

A DRUNK MOURNER, 50, BUMPS INTO HER.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

This guy's doing some serious grieving. He also apparently thinks my name is Trixie.
CHIP
(SMILES, KISSES HER) I love you.

LESLEY
Uh, duh. Come say hi to Ray's mom.

CHIP AND LESLEY APPROACH MS. MURPHY, RAY'S MOM, 75, SWEET. THE DRUNK MOURNER TALKS TO HER.

MS. MURPHY
Why do you keep calling me Trixie? *

MS. MURPHY'S FACE LIGHTS UP WHEN SHE SEES CHIP AND LESLEY. SHE HUGS THEM BOTH.

MS. MURPHY (CONT'D)
Chippy! Leslie! Bless your hearts. My Ray-Ray loved you both so much.

LESLEY
Well, we loved him too. I know it's cliche, but he's in a better place.

MS. MURPHY
No he's not. Raymond's in Devil Country now. (NODS) Satan City.

CHIP
No. Why would you say that?

MS. MURPHY
(SHRUGS, CASUAL) Because he is, dear. He stopped going to church.

CHIP
Yeah, well, so did I...

MS. MURPHY
Oh. So you'll see each other again.
SHE SMILES AND PATS CHIP ON THE ARM. HE LOOKS VERY UNSETTLED AS SHE MOVES TO THE NEXT MOURNER.

CHIP (V.O.)

The compassionate words of Ray's mom did nothing to make me feel better. So I tried to lose myself in my job.

CUT TO:
SCENE B

INT. NEWSPAPER OFFICE - BREAK ROOM - MORNING (D3)
(CHIP, MS. MEADOWS, VINCE, CHERYL, GARY, ANGRY EMPLOYEE, EXTRAS)

CHIP (V.O.)

I work at a newspaper, reviewing movies, it's the best. But unfortunately, I work with this guy...

BREAK ROOM. CHIP AND HIS CO-WORKER/FRIEND, VINCE, 40, AFRICAN-AMERICAN, DRINK COFFEE AS GARY, 40, DOUCHEBAG CO-WORKER, FINISHES A STORY AND SHOWS THEM A PHOTO ON HIS PHONE.

GARY

Got drinks with this chick Josie from Crossfit last night. Hottest caboose I've ever seen. (THEN) After my wife's, of course.

CHIP

Yeah, our wives are friends, Gary. I'd rather you not CC me on all your sexploits.

GARY

Heyyy. Whoa. Bro code, right? Bro?

CHIP

(CONFLICTED) Sure, bro.

GARY GOES FOR A HIGH-FIVE. CHIP SIGHS AND RETURNS IT.

GARY

(TO VINCE) Just a little bit of locker room talk, dog!

GARY WALKS OUT AND VINCE TURNS TO CHIP.
VINCE
How is it that I'm single but that *
dude has a wife and a mistress? (THEN) *
Hate Gary. Hate Gary! *

CHIP
Oh, he's the absolute worst. If Gary *
was a Christmas song, he'd be "Simply
Having a Wonderful Christmastime."

VINCE
How about this? If Gary was a computer
program, he'd be that Adobe update
thingy that pops up every five seconds
while you're trying to write.

CHIP LAUGHS HOLLOWLY AND SHOVES HALF A DONUT IN HIS MOUTH.

VINCE (CONT'D)
How you holding up, man?

CHIP
(MOUTH FULL) Good.

VINCE
Uh-huh. Look, I know we don't usually
get... deep. But if you need to talk
about your friend... I'm here.

CHIP NODS THANKS AND SHOVES THE OTHER HALF IN HIS MOUTH. AN *
ANGRY EMPLOYEE, 45, STOMPS OUT WITH A BOX OF BELONGINGS. *

VINCE (CONT'D)
Meadows just fired him. Dude came in
to a post-it note on his computer

(MORE)
VINCE (CONT’D)

screen, just said "Turn Me Over." Then
the other side said "See Me." Why the
extra step? *

CHIP
Cold. She's killing everybody off! I *
can't lose my job, man.

VINCE
You won't. You've got passion. You're the
best writer here, and everyone knows it.
People still talk about your eighty-
thousand word review of Tyler Perry’s
Social Madea. Meadows wouldn’t fire you.

MS. MEADOWS, 50, NO-NONSENSE AND "OVER IT" BOSS WHO HAPPENS
TO BE A LESBIAN, IS WALKING BY, OVERHEARS AND POPS IN.

MS. MEADOWS
What wouldn’t I do? (THEN, NOTICING)
Is that the last donut, Chip?

CHIP GUILTILY SHAKES HIS HEAD "NO." CHERYL, ODD, DRAMATIC,
ENTERS SO QUIETLY THAT EVERYONE JUMPS WHEN SHE SPEAKS.

CHERYL
It is the last donut. He always eats *
the last one. And he never brings any
for the office.

CHIP
I drove you to IKEA, Cheryl. And
you're gonna play me like this?
VINCE
Like this, Cheryl?

MS. MEADOWS
Enough! Cheryl, you need to wear a
bell if you're gonna sneak up on
people like that. (TO CHIP) And you.
Where's your review of the reboot of
the reboot of the Spider-Man reboot?

CHIP
Sorry, I know it's late but I've been
going through a lot lately and --

MS. MEADOWS
I've got problems too, Chip. My
girlfriend is taking improv classes,
believe me, I've got problems. But I
get my work done on time, don't I? Do
better.

CHERYL
(STILL IN MEADOWS' SPACE) Yeah!

MS. MEADOWS
Cheryl? Bell. (WALKS UPSTAIRS)

CHIP
Still think she wouldn't fire me?

VINCE
No, she'd fire you.

CHIP SHOVES THE REST OF THE DONUT IN HIS MOUTH.

CUT TO:
SCENE C

INT. CHIP AND LESLIE'S APARTMENT - EVENING (A WEEK LATER) (N4)
(CHIP, LESLIE)

CHIP SITS ON THE COUCH IN BOXERS AND A ROBE WATCHING TV. LOTS
OF SNACKS AND MANY BEER BOTTLES LITTER THE COFFEE TABLE.
LESLIE ENTERS THE FRONT DOOR IN SCRUBS AFTER A DAY AT WORK.

CHIP

Hey, babe. How was work?

LESLIE

Not great. Had to tell a patient he
had super gonorrhea. Gotta tell ya, he
didn't find it all that super!

CHIP

(LAUGHS) Wouldn't think so, no.

LESLIE

Can you turn this off real quick?

CHIP NODS AND TURNS THE TV OFF.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

Chip. I love you to the moon and back.
And I know you’re in mourning and I
know work's stressing you out but you
gotta come back to me, now, okay? I
need you. Because honey? Brace
yourself -- ya girl’s pregnant.

CHIP OPENS HIS MOUTH AND A DOLPHIN-ESQUE NOISE ESCAPES.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

And I know the plan was to wait til we
got our money in order, but it

(MORE)
happened. And I’m really excited.

Chip? Thoughts?

CHIP

(JACK NICHOLSON) "Why would a married
man need condoms?" I said.

LESLIE

(Laughs) You did say that, didn't you?
I believe you also told me to "trust
your timing." (Then) You're supposed
to give me a hug now.

CHIP

(Jumps up and hugs her) Yes! Sorry,
what am I doing? I'm here. I'm with
you. All the way. I'll be better,
babe. I will.

LESLIE

I know you will. I mean, I don't know
you will, like, at all, it's actually
a pretty big concern, but you better.

CHIP

You're concerned about me? Why?

LESLIE

(Looks around) Seriously?

CHIP

What, the beers? (Holds up half-full
beer) They're gone. (Chugs it) Okay,

(More)
CHIP (CONT'D)

now they're gone. (SHE LAUGHS) I'm
gonna be the best dad ever!

LESLEI

I'd be happy with "pretty good."

CHIP

We know nothing about babies.

LESLEI

Well, I know some things--

CHIP

We gotta learn everything about
babies! We need books! Gerberses!
Tickle Me Whatever the Hell! I gotta
get on this.

CHIP DROPS HIS ROBE, PUTS ON A JACKET, STARTS FOR THE DOOR.

LESLEI

Chip? Pants.

HE LOOKS DOWN AND REALIZES HE IS WEARING A JACKET AND BRIEFS.

CHIP

Not feeling the Winnie the Pooh look?

LESLEI

Oh, I'm feeling it hard, Winnie, I'm
just worried Piglet's gonna pop out.

CHIP NODS, GOES TO PUT ON PANTS.

CUT TO:
SCENE D

INT. BOOK STORE - LATER (N4)  
(CHIP, GRACIE, EXTRAS)

CHIP APPROACHES THE CASHIER AND SETS A BASKET OF BABY BOOKS ON THE COUNTER. GRACIE, 45, AFRICAN-AMERICAN CASHIER, STARTS TO RING HIM UP.

CHIP

Excuse me... (OFF NAMETAG) Gracie. Do you have any books for when you're sort of just an overall disaster as a person but are also going to be bringing a human child into the world?

GRACIE

Honey, I've been divorced four times, I bought stock in Blockbuster Video, and I work in one of America's last book stores. You don't want my advice.

CHIP

Fair enough.

GRACIE TAKES A BIBLE OUT OF HIS BASKET AND GOES TO SCAN IT.

CHIP (CONT’D)

What is that, a Bible? That's an accident, I didn't mean to get that.

GRACIE

(POINTS TO THE SHELF) You don't want it, put it back.

CHIP STARTS TO WALK IT OVER TO ITS SHELF THEN LOOKS AT IT CURIOUSLY. HE OPENS IT, LEAFS THROUGH FOR A MOMENT.
CHIP
You believe in signs, Gracie?

GRACIE
Again, you're asking the wrong girl, I escaped from a cult six months ago.
FYI, if anyone ever starts a sentence with "It's not a cult"? They are about to describe a cult.

CHIP WALKS THE BIBLE BACK UP TO THE COUNTER, NODS, AND HANDS IT TO HER TO RING IT UP.

GRACIE (CONT’D)
Uh-huh.

CUT TO:
SCENE E

INT. CHIP AND LESLIE’S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - LATER (N4)

CHIP ENTERS AND HANDS LESLIE A SACK OF CHILD CARE BOOKS. HE HOLDS THE BIBLE IN HIS FREE HAND.

CHIP

Got us some parenting books. Did you know babies have to be burped? I thought they were just lazy. Also (RE: BIBLE) picked up this bad boy. Pretty excited about it, actually.

LESLIE

The Bible? But you're not religious. Are you? We gotta start talking about more than just The Bachelor.

CHIP

No, I'm just... Bible-curious. I need a little help. We’re having a baby. Ray died. Our President was in Home Alone Two. It’s a lot.

LESLIE

I get that. Just... remember when you got obsessed with nunchucks for like six months?

CHIP

Um, you say “obsessed,” I say “attained a level of nunchaku mastery

(MORE)
CHIP (CONT'D)

rivaled only by the Okinawan farmers who originated the art!"

LESLIE

Chip?

CHIP

I just want to be great. For the kid.
For you. Promise I won’t get obsessed.

SHE KISSES HIS FOREHEAD AND HEADS FOR BED.

LESLIE

Yeah?

CHIP

Yup.

LESLIE

Yep?

CHIP

Yep.

THEY CONTINUE THIS AS LESLIE GOES INTO THE BEDROOM. ONCE SHE IS OUT OF SIGHT, CHIP OPENS THE BIBLE, REACHES INTO THE COUCH, PULLS OUT A NUNCHUCK, AND TWIRLS IT AS HE READS. HE’S VERY GOOD AT NUNCHUCKING.

CHIP (CONT’D)

Still got it.

CUT TO:
INT. CHIP AND LESLIE'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN - NEXT MORNING (D1)
(CHIP, LESLIE)

LESLIE SITS AT THE TABLE IN SCRUBS, FRUSTRATED WITH STUDENT LOAN PAPERWORK. CHIP ENTERS, AMPED UP.

LESLIE

Well well well, there's my babymaker.
You didn't come to bed last night.

CHIP

(BARELY CONTAINED EXCITEMENT) I know!

LESLIE

(LOOKS HIM OVER) Uh oh.

CHIP

You know how I do that master cleanse every year? I drink the mix of lemon juice and cayenne pepper for two weeks and I drop like twenty pounds?

LESLIE

Of course, yeah. You pooped your pants at Rite-Aid that one time.

CHIP

I want to do that... for nine months!

LESLIE

Poop your pants at Rite-Aid? They banned you, remember?

CHIP

No. I want to live my life strictly according to the Bible until our non-

(MORE)
CHIP (CONT'D)
ugly baby arrives! And I gotta do it
all in, like a soul cleanse. I can’t
explain it exactly but I feel it. This
is something I need to do.

LESLIE
Is this because of what Ray's mom
said? You really think you're gonna
burn for etern?

CHIP
It’s a lot of things. I mean, I
certainly don’t want to go to Hell.
You know I like my seasons.

LESLIE
I know you do. It's just... changing
your life like this changes my life
too. Don't you get that? Are we still
gonna have fun? I'm not throwing out
my rap albums. You know how I love my
filthy filthy sex rap.

CHIP
C'mon, I'm not suddenly the preacher
from Footloose. By all means -- shake
your ass! Show me what you're working
with!

LESLIE
(SHAKES IT) Oh, you know I will.
CHIP

There it is! Look. Les. I realize this sounds nuts, but I really believe it will make me a better father to my son or daughter. Hopefully son.

LESLIE

Well, what if I don't want to raise our kid Catholic? I work in medicine, I've studied science my whole life. Sorry, but I prefer facts to faith. Where's your proof?

CHIP

Warm chocolate chip cookies. Sunsets. Orgasms. You really don't believe in a higher power?

LESLIE

If you saw the things I see all day, you might not either. If there is a God, and, hey, I'm not ruling it out -- didn't He also create super gonorrhea? And if so -- why, Chip?

CHIP

It's a good question.

LESLIE

Here's another one... couldn't you maybe go to church one time before making this huge commitment?
CHIP
I’m going! Today. Even made an
appointment.

LESLIE
They have those?

CHIP
Not generally, no, they were very
confused when I called. Babe, don’t
worry. Please? It’ll be the same
awesome marriage we’ve always had.

HE KISSES HER, OPENS THE FRONT DOOR, THEN TURNS BACK.

CHIP (CONT’D)
Except, of course, if it goes beyond
the nine months, I won’t be able to
touch you while you’re on your period.
And if you get too crabby I’m supposed
to go live in the desert. You know.
Bible stuff. Okay. Toodles, noodles!

CHIP SMILES, WAVES, AND QUICKLY EXITS. LESLIE STANDS THERE
FOR A BEAT, THEN CROSSES, OPENS THE DOOR AND YELLS AFTER HIM.

LESLIE
Are you gonna start listening to Creed?
Because I will leave you! I have my limits.

CUT TO:
SCENE J

INT. CHURCH - CONFESSIONAL BOOTH - PRESENT DAY (D1)
(CHIP, FATHER GENE)

WE ARE NOW CAUGHT UP WITH CHIP’S NARRATION.

CHIP
And that was this morning and now here we are. Sha-bam.

FATHER GENE
Wow. Hey Chip, do you know any short stories? You do realize it’s gonna be impossible to truly live by the Bible?

CHIP
See, I would think a priest would want people to live by the Bible.

FATHER GENE
Yeah, in general. Not a hundred percent! It's not possible. You're already in breach with your clothes.

CHIP
Why? Cuz I’m not wearing underwear?

FATHER GENE
No but thanks for that. You’re mixing fabrics. Leviticus says “Do not wear clothing woven from two different kinds of thread.”
CHIP
That's a hot tip man, see, this is the stuff I need! I'm gonna be calling on you a lot, my friend.

FATHER GENE
Oh, goodie!

CHIP
(LAUGHS) What should I call you, by the way? Never got your name.

FATHER GENE
Take my card. Father Eugenio Alberto Del Castillo Cabeza de Vaca. (OFF CHIP'S LOOK) Father Gene is fine. Chip. I tell my Sunday schoolers -- Bible stands for "Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth." That's it.

CHIP
(TAKES CARD, STANDS) Basic has never worked for me. I gotta go all the way.

CHIP POCKETS THE CARD, CLAPS HIS HANDS, AND EXITS.

FATHER GENE
Maldita sea, ese tipo está loco.
INT. NEWSPAPER OFFICE - BULLPEN - NEXT MORNING (D5)
(CHIP, MS. MEADOWS, VINCE, CHERYL, GARY, EXTRAS)

SPFX: ELEVATOR DOORS OPEN. CHIP ENTERS, HOLDING DONUT BOXES,
DRESSED TOTALLY IN WHITE FROM HEAD TO TOE. HEADS TURN.

CHIP

Donuts in the heezy! Killer blouse,
Cheryl!

CHERYL

(BEAMING) Thanks! Would you believe
someone left it at the Y?

CHIP

Kinda, yeah! Feelin’ it, girl!

CHIP ENTERS THE BREAK ROOM WITH THE DONUTS AND OVERHEARS GARY
TELLING ANOTHER GROSS STORY TO A MORTIFIED VINCE.

GARY

Had that chick Josie meet me here at
the office. Public stuff turns her on
so we snuck down to the parking
garage. Made sweet love on the hood of
a Ford Fiesta. Talk about a fiesta, am
I right, son?

GARY EXITS. VINCE CROSSES TO CHIP AND PERUSES THE DONUTS.

VINCE

Stupid Gary. If Gary was a shoe, he'd
be a Croc! (NO RESPONSE) If Gary was a

(MORE)
VINCE (CONT'D)

juice, he'd be prune. (NO RESPONSE)
Now you do one.

CHIP
I'm afraid I'm not going to be able to participate in hating Gary anymore.

VINCE
(BIG GASP) But you love hating Gary!
What is up with you? And what's up with the threads, man? You look like a business casual ghost.

CHERYL WALKS UP BEHIND THEM UNNOTICED AND EAVESDROPS.

CHIP
I'm just not mixing my fabrics anymore. Long story but... I've been trying to follow the Bible.

AS CHERYL STARTS TALKING, CHIP AND VINCE JUMP, STARTLED.

CHERYL
Free donuts is a great start, Chip.
Yummers. Thou shalt not mind if I do!
(GRABS A DONUT) Thank you for these "hole-y" treats! (TAKES BIG BITE)
Forgive me Father, for I have snacked!

VINCE
We got it, Cheryl.

CHERYL WALKS OFF ENJOYING HER DONUT.
VINCE (CONT’D)

(AMUSED) Bible, huh? I thought you
were about due for one of your little
obsessions. I still have a nunchuck
scar on my back from the last one.

CHIP

(SHARPLY) This isn't nunchucks!

VINCE

(SINCERE) Alright, man. I believe you.

CHIP

Sorry, I'm just... I'm really serious
about this. I’m trying to get myself
on track here. Between us -- Leslie’s
pregnant!

VINCE

Whaaat? See, I told you, married
people need condoms too.

CHIP

This has been a week of revelations.

VINCE

My man. Congratulations! Good for you.
Get your house in order.

GARY RE-ENTERS THE BREAK ROOM, GRABS A DONUT.

GARY

Hey. Chip. Don’t know how much you
heard back there but as always, bro
code, right? Thanks, bro.
GARY EXITS. CHIP OPENS HIS BIBLE, FLIPS THROUGH.

CHIP

I just realized something. I'm gonna * have to tell Leslie about Gary screwing around, aren't I?

VINCE

Oh, no. No no no no no.

CHIP

I know. (TAKES OUT GENE'S CARD) I'll consult my priest about it.

VINCE

Oh, you got a priest? Good idea, ask him then.

SPFX: ELEVATOR DOORS OPEN.

VINCE (CONT’D)

Nobody knows marriage like guys who can't get married. (THEN) Now I'm stressed. Fritter me.

CHIP HANDS VINCE A FRITTER. MEADOWS ENTERS FROM THE ELEVATOR. *

MS. MEADOWS

I'll take one too. I'm having the worst day. Just went down to the parking garage to get my purse -- giant dent in the hood of my Fiesta!

CUT TO:
SCENE L

INT. DIVE BAR - LATER (N5)
(CHIP, LESLIE, RABBI GIL, FATHER GENE, BARTENDER, EXTRAS)

GENE SITS AT THE BAR WITH RABBI GIL, 40, TRIES TO STAY
POSITIVE BUT ALWAYS IN CRISIS. GENE HAS A VODKA, GIL WHISKEY.
CHIP ENTERS, OUT OF BREATH, STILL DRESSED IN WHITE.

CHIP

(FAST) Thanks for meeting me, this guy
I work with, Gary, not my fave, he's
cheating on his wife. And his wife is
friends with my wife, who's gonna be
here any minute. Biblically... what
should I do?

RABBI GIL

(EXTENDS HAND) Rabbi Gil Ableman.
Never met someone at the beginning of
a psychotic break before, I always
catch the tail end.

FATHER GENE

Hola, Chip! I see you took my "no
mixed fabrics" note. With a vengeance.
(THEN) I should have been more clear,
it doesn't have to be all white. You
can just wear like 100 percent cotton.

RABBI GIL

Or all denim, that's a sexy look.
FATHER GENE

As for your problem, the Bible says you’re supposed to stone adulterers. But of course you're not going to do that in 2017.

RABBI GIL

This may come as a shock, but my people would say to stay out of it. The Talmud states "Evil gossip kills three: the one who says it, the one who listens, and the subject of the gossip." In other words, you really can’t win here, and you may have just killed us all. Gene? Buy you a drink?

FATHER GENE

Vodka rocks.

RABBI GIL

It sure does.

CHIP

Am I allowed? What would Jesus drink?

FATHER GENE

He'd probably order a water, turn it into wine. Save eight bucks, give it to the poor.

Leslie enters, smiles, waves, and crosses to them.
CHIP
If you guys could make my new lifestyle seem as normal to her as possible, that would help me out tremendously.

RABBI GIL
We'll try but you look like a Klansman on vacation.

FATHER GENE
(TO LESLIE) You must be the most patient woman in the history of time.

LESLIE
(LAUGHS) Pretty much, yeah. And you're Chip's priest? (OFF GENE'S NOD) Chip having a priest cracks me up, I consider him Catholic in the same way I consider the Olive Garden Italian.

RABBI GIL
Gene, seriously, can a man get an intro? Rabbi Gil. Leslie, dear, how are you handling Chip's totally normal new life? (WINKS AT CHIP)

LESLIE
Well, I am not religious at all and he's gonna be "clipboard outside of Trader Joe's" religious so I'm not sure how we're gonna raise a kid together, but other than that...
FATHER GENE
I wouldn't worry. Take Gil and me. We have very different faiths, we believe in them very strongly, and yet we’re what my niece calls “BFFs.”

RABBI GIL
Oof, all the abbreviations with this generation -- say words. Be a person. I'm sorry, Gene, she's a lovely girl but she's stupid.

FATHER GENE
(TO CHIP AND LESLIE) Listen, you two both want your child to be a kind and loving human being, right?

CHIP/LESLIE
Absolutely.

FATHER GENE
See? You're gonna be fine. World needs more of those.

CHIP AND LESLIE SMILE AT EACH OTHER.

LESLIE
We're late for dinner. It was great meeting you guys but mama need pasta!

CHIP
Alright, I got your number, Gene.

FATHER GENE
Happy to help, Chip.
LESLIE

Yeah, you say that now. Do you know
how many questions this man asks? And
you two are his answer guys now.
His... God Squad, if you will.

CHIP, FATHER GENE, AND RABBI GIL LAUGH.

RABBI GIL

How do you like this? A priest, a
rabbi, a lapsed Catholic, and a
nonbeliever walk into a bar and...
They make new friends.

HE PUTS HIS ARMS AROUND THE THREE OF THEM.

RABBI GIL (CONT’D)

The instinct's gonna be to make me
Ross because I'm somewhat Jewish but I
really feel I'm more of a Chandler and
let me tell you why...

CUT TO:
SCENE M

INT. NICE RESTAURANT - LATER (N5)
(CHIP, LESLIE, GARY, JOSIE, EXTRAS)

CHIP AND LESLIE SIT AT A TABLE. THE WAITER BRINGS OUT A HUGE PIECE OF CHOCOLATE CAKE AND SETS IT BETWEEN CHIP AND LESLIE. CHIP LOOKS LONGINGLY AT IT, THEN PUSHES IT AWAY.

CHIP


LESLEI

Hey, more for mama. I’ve been calling myself "mama" a lot lately.

CHIP

You’re glowing already, you know that?

LESLEI

(RE: HER FACE) This old thing? (THEN) You’re glowing too. It makes me so happy to see you charged up about life again. It’s been a while.

CHIP STARES OFF AND THEN HIS FACE REGISTERS HORROR AS GARY AND HIS MISTRESS, JOSIE, 22, VERY HOT, ARE SEATED AT A TABLE IN THE SAME SECTION, NOT NOTICING CHIP AND LESLIE.

CHIP

Oh, you gotta be kidding me.

LESLEI

What. What are you looking at?

LESLEI TURNS AND SEES GARY AND JOSIE.
LESLEY (CONT’D)

Wait, that’s Gary. That’s Gary and that’s not Tracy. Who is that girl? And why is his hand on her shapely bottom?

CHIP

Okay, just calm down...

LESLEY

Calm down? I’m pregnant, dude, I’m calming up! Come over there with me.

CHIP

Oh, please don’t.

LESLEY STANDS AND APPROACHES GARY’S TABLE. CHIP JUMPS TO HIS FEET AND FOLLOWS HER. GARY LOOKS CAUGHT.

LESLEY

Hey, Gare!

GARY

Chip. Leslie. Hey. This is Josie. My... assistant.

JOSIE GIVES AN AWKWARD LITTLE WAVE.

GARY (CONT’D)

Tell her, Chip. Tell her how they gave me an assistant down at the paper.

LESLEY

They’re firing people left and right and they gave you an assistant?
GARY

Yeah! Isn’t that right... bra?

LESLIE WHIPS HER HEAD AROUND TO CHIP, A DEER IN HEADLIGHTS.

LESLIE

Yeah, bra. Tell us. Is Josie here --
who is absolutely beautiful, sweetie,
you are -- is Josie Gary’s assistant?

GARY

Hey, Chip. Answer your friggin' wife,
man!

LESLIE

*Thou shalt not lie, Chip. Isn't it *
time to practice what you preach? *

CHIP NODS SOLEMNLY. HE REACHES INTO A POTTED PLANT AND PULLS * OUT ONE OF THE ROCKS THAT SURROUND THE BASE. HE STARES AT IT * FOR A MOMENT.

LESLIE (CONT’D)

Chip, baby, what are you doing with that rock?

CHIP HAULS BACK AND THROWS THE STONE AT GARY’S HEAD! IT * BOUNCES OFF AND HE GRABS IT IN PAIN.

GARY

Ow!! What the hell?!

LESLIE GASPS AND LETS OUT A SHOCKED LAUGH. CHIP GRABS LESLIE’S ARM AND DRAGS HER BACK TO THEIR TABLE.

CHIP

Still think our lives'll be boring?

CHIP THROWS SOME CASH ONTO THEIR TABLE AND THEY RUN FOR THE DOOR. HE POINTS AT GARY AND WHISPERS INTENSELY AS THEY EXIT.
CHIP (CONT’D)

Adulterer! Shame!

LESLIE

I’m telling Tracy!

SHE RUNS OUT AFTER CHIP.

CUT TO:
MEADOWS POURS A COFFEE IN THE BREAK AREA. CHIP ENTERS THE OFFICE THROUGH THE ELEVATOR IN SUNGLASSES, DRESSED MORE NORMALLY, AND LOOKS AROUND WARILY AS HE CROSSES TO VINCE.

CHIP

Gary's not here yet, is he?

VINCE

No one has asked me to smell or pull his finger yet, so nope.

CHIP SETS HIS BACKPACK DOWN, SEES A POST-IT ON HIS COMPUTER. HE TAKES IT OFF, READS. THEN TURNS IT OVER AND READS.

CHIP

Oh, no.

VINCE

What's up? What's it say?

CHIP

(SWALLOWS, THEN READS ALOUD) "See me."

CHIP LOOKS AROUND, THEN CROSSES TO MS. MEADOWS.

CHIP (CONT'D)

Please don’t fire me. I’m sure you have rules about throwing a rock at a co-worker, but --

MS. MEADOWS

You threw a rock at a co-worker?

VINCE

You threw a rock at a co-worker?!
CHIP
Alright, everybody calm down!

MS. MEADOWS
I wanted to see you because the office is going cuckoo bananas about your new Bible thing.

CHERYL
(APPEARING) It's completely inappropriate!

MS. MEADOWS
(JUMPS) Where do you come from?

CHIP
I really stirred the pot, huh? Listen, I'm sorry --

MS. MEADOWS
Are you kidding? I love it. I haven't seen the office this fired up about something since Brenda gave everybody head lice. You wanna write about it?

CHIP
What are we talking about here?

MS. MEADOWS
Three additional articles a week. And more money of course.

CHERYL
I want more money!
MS. MEADOWS

Cheryl? (OFF CHERYL'S NOD) Go away.

CHERYL HUFFS AND WALKS OFF BUT CONTINUES EAVESDROPPING.

MS. MEADOWS (CONT’D) *

I've always thought you had more than *
movie reviews in you. You're the best *
writer here.

SHE TURNS AND BUMPS INTO CHERYL.

CHERYL

Thanks a lot!

MS. MEADOWS

Damn it, Cheryl! *

SPPFX: ELEVATOR OPENS. MEADOWS HEADS UPSTAIRS.

CHIP

Bible, baby!

CHIP STARTS BACK TO VINC, THEN ABRUPTLY STOPS AS GARY ENTERS FROM THE ELEVATOR, LOOKING STEAMED. GARY WALKS AT CHIP, CONFRONTATIONAL.

GARY

I got something to say to you, maniac--

CHIP GARY

Hey. About the stone, I -- Thanks.

CHIP

I don’t know what I was thinking and --

Did you say “thanks?”

GARY

I told Tracy everything. I’ve been a bad person. We’re gonna go to

(MORE)
GARY (CONT'D)

counseling. So. Thanks. (RE: FOREHEAD)

Still real pissed at you though, bro.

GARY WALKS OFF. CHIP IS BLOWN AWAY.

CHIP

Bible, baby.

VINCE

You're making more money, you're happier, and you got to throw a rock at Gary? Shoot, I might have to try this Bible thing my damn self.

END OF ACT TWO
CHIP APPROACHES THE ALTAR, PROPS A PHOTO OF HE AND RAY UP BEHIND THE CANDLES AND LIGHTS ONE AS HE TALKS.

CHIP

I’m really gonna miss you, Ray. And I know you’re up there in Heaven. Regardless of what your mom says. (THEN) Okay, well, you probably got a Prince concert you’re going to with John Candy or something cool like that. Love you, buddy. Big time.

CHIP WALKS TO THE SIDE WHERE LESLIE IS EATING A CHEESEBURGER.

LESLIE

Sorry, didn’t want to interrupt but I was starving. Hey, I know it’s super early but... let’s name the baby Ray.

CHIP

(HUGS HER) That’s awesome. Yes. I love it. But what if it’s a girl?

LESLIE

Raylene?

CHIP

Please boy please boy please boy...

THEY EXIT. WE REVEAL FATHER GENE HAS WATCHED CHIP’S PRAYER. IMPRESSED BY HIS COMMITMENT, HE FLIPS THE LIGHTS OUT, EXITS.

END OF EPISODE