



“THE “TO –DO” LIST”

(the 2nd of a 3 part series)

Written by Joe Rieger

CAST

Joey LaFrance

Twelve year old boy who is trying really hard to earn his way into heaven

Puppet 1 (Terrence)

Joey’s concerned friend who is “in the know” about Jesus and salvation

Puppet 2 (Todd)

Joey’s friend who is preoccupied with food, but still knows the truth about Jesus

SETTING:

Boy’s room with a chair and a puppet stage

Enter Joey LaFrance, rushes to a chair in his room and grabs an incredibly long list and begins to read items and check them off.

JOEY:

Okay, I read twenty books on religion – check, I washed Mrs. O’Reilly’s car – check, I washed Mrs. O’Reilly’s cat – check, I ...

Enter two puppets, pop heads up from puppet stage

TERRENCE:

Hey Joey, what are you doing?

JOEY:

Oh, I’m going through my “to-do” list and checking off what I’ve done.

TERRENCE:

“To-do” list? What’s up with that? And why is it so ...

Joey pulls towards the top of the list and it rolls down across stage

TODD:

Long

JOEY:

It’s all about heaven you guys. If I accomplish everything on this list – all these good deeds – I just might get into heaven.

TODD:

How far have you gotten?

JOEY:

So far I’ve done all these (holds up small portion of the list) ... but I still have all these to go (holds up the long portion of the list).

JOEY:

Oh no ... not that.

TERRENCE & TODD

What's wrong?

JOEY:

The next thing on my "to-do" list is to eat all my fish for supper.

TODD:

Yuck! I hate fish.

JOEY:

Me too and tonight my mom's making cod or scrod or some other slimy thing.

TODD:

That's totally gross ... plus, fish smell funny.

JOEY:

Yeah, I know.

TODD:

They smell kinda like – like, well kinda like fish.

JOEY:

That's brilliant Todd. Where do you come up with this stuff anyway? Never mind, don't tell me. Remember guys, it's all about getting into heaven. For that, I'll do whatever it takes... even eat fish.

TODD:

I like French fries ... is that on the list?

TERRENCE:

This is absolutely ridiculous Joey. You can't earn your way into heaven ... especially by eating fish.

JOEY:

You can't?

TODD:

I like cookies ... chocolate chip cookies ... the really big ones.

TERRENCE:

Nobody is good enough to get into heaven on their own - no matter how many good things they do.

TODD:

What I really love though is ice cream. I loooooo-ve ice cream – chocolate chip.

TERRENCE:

Todd! Enough already with the food... give it a rest! Can't you see that this is more important than stuffing your face? Joey has it all wrong. He thinks that if he reads all the right books and does all these good deeds, he'll earn his way into heaven.

JOEY:

Sounds like a plan to me. What's wrong with it?

TERRENCE:

Hel-lo, for starters it won't get you into heaven – that's what's wrong!

JOEY:

Hey, what makes you such an expert on heaven? What, were you touched by an angel or something? Get it, touched by an angel –like the T.V. show? *(Joey laughs at his own joke and Todd joins in)*

TODD:

Good one Joey! Yeah, what were you touched by an angel? Ha ha ha ha.

TERRENCE:

Oh that's hilarious *(said sarcastically)*. Knock it off Todd! *(Todd stops laughing instantly)* You're supposed to be helping me out here! Keep it up and I'll give you a wet willie.

TODD:

No, not a wet willie!

JOEY:

Great idea! How about a double wet willie? (Joey puts his two index fingers in his mouth and then sticks one in each of Todd's ears and twists his fingers back and forth).

WET WILLIE!

(Joey stops wet willying) So, Angel Boy - why won't my plan get me into heaven?

TODD:

(Todd raises his hand as if in school) Oh-oh-oh, I know this one ... I know this one.

TERRENCE:

Go ahead Todd, tell him.

TODD:

Because no one is good enough to get into heaven on their own. The Bible tells us in Romans 3 "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." That includes you too, Joey ... sorry about that big guy.

JOEY:

Wait a minute. If nobody's good enough to get to heaven on their own and we can't earn our way in, what can we do?

TERRENCE:

I'm glad you asked Joey. You see, God loves us so much that He sent His Son to make a way where there was no way. When Jesus died for our sins, He paid the price to get us into heaven. It's God's gift to us.

JOEY:

A gift? You expect me to believe that?

TODD & TERRENCE:

(Both nod their heads up and down to indicate – YES)

JOEY:

Are you sure you're not making this stuff up? Maybe you guys are just goofing on me again. Just like the time when you told me that Johnny Damon of the Red Sox was coming to our school to sign autographs. You really had me

going. That was just plain mean!

TERRENCE:

We were wrong to do that Joey, but this time it's no joke. Heaven, salvation, eternal life, whatever you want to call it – is a gift from God! You don't believe me? Then read it in the Bible. Ephesians chapter two:

8For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-- 9not by works, so that no one can boast.

“Not by works” - those aren't my words, they're God's. Good deeds on your “to-do” list won't cut it! It's that simple.

JOEY:

So all of the stuff that I did on my “to do” list was a complete waste of time?

TERRENCE:

Well maybe washing Mrs. O'Reilly's cat was a waste of time, but helping people and obeying your parents - that's always a good thing to do. Plus it pleases God.

TODD:

But it still won't get you into heaven. You still need Jesus for that.

(As if he just remembered something important) Whipped cream! Now there's a dessert topping.

TERRENCE:

Todd, we'd better get you home for dinner.

JOEY:

I don't know about all of this. I've got a lot to think over. Thanks for stopping by guys.

TERRENCE:

Jesus is waiting for you Joey, but He won't force Himself on you or anybody else. It's a free choice that only you can make. Bye.

JOEY:

Bye

(Puppets disappear)

TODD:

(Voice only from below the puppet stage) I can't believe that I forget to mention corndogs. What was I thinking?

THE END (OF SKIT # 2)