

When Trouble Comes

by Allison Gulliam

Introduction to a Sermon on Trouble

John: As we begin . . .

Angie: (*Coming thru choir door*) Pastor! As I was on my way to church I went by your house. Someone has run into your pickup and it looks like it's been totaled.

John: My pickup? Blue or brown?

Angie: The brown one. No one's around, but it's a mess!

John: Oh, no! My pickup! (*Strikes pose*)

Jean: John! John! I thought you'd want to know. You just got a call to say a grass fire has destroyed your deer lease. Everything's gone!

John: Everything?

Jean: Yes, the cabin—the deer stand. I thought you'd want to know as soon as possible.

John: No cabin! No deer stand! (*Strikes pose*)

Jonna: Dad, there's something I need to tell you.

John: Could things get worse?

Jonna: Amanda and Shannon didn't want to tell you that all three of us are moving. Of course, that means grandkids, too.

John: This can't be happening. Does this have to be?

Jonna: I'm afraid so, Dad. There's nothing we can do about it. Sorry!

John: (*Shakes head*) Sorry, indeed! (*Strikes defeated pose*)

Allison: Uh, John, I hate to tell you, but Jennifer & Will & Kono & I were going by your house, and Lucy (*speaking to the audience*) that's his dog—a stray dog, mind you (*back to John*) didn't follow us. (*audience again*) I always feel like Alice on the Yellow Brick road with everyone following along (*back to John*) that's why I noticed that she's missing. I hate to be the bearer of bad news, John, but I think Lucy is missing.

When Trouble Comes, cont.

John: With everything else that's happened, I don't doubt that even my dog is missing. *(Makes way slowly to his seat.)*

For more on worship, contact allison@sweetgospel.com