**Alley**

**Scene 3 (At the Mike and Alley Alston’s House)**

*(Lights Up)*

*(Pastor Mike Alston and his wife Alley are coming in from church)*

**Pastor Mike**: (*Taking off his suit jacket and untying his tie)* Good service today huh babe?

**Alley**: Oh yes the spirit really moved….and that choir, Oh just amazing!

**Pastor Mike**: And the sermon?

**Alley**: Oh yes of course…God always uses you honey.

**Pastor Mike**: That didn’t sound too convincing.

**Alley**: What do you mean?

**Pastor Mike**: I don’t know it just sounded so generic.

**Alley**: *(hugs him)* Oh I’m sorry baby….(*Sarcastically*) You are a great preacher and you always bring a great word and…

**Pastor Mike**: (*Interrupts Alley*) Alley we’ve been married for 20 years and I know when you’re just saying things and when you really mean it…And honestly, I feel you’ve been a little disconnected from my sermons lately so tell me what’s wrong?

 **Alley**: Can I be honest?

**Pastor Mike**: Please do.

**Alley**: Well honey, don’t get me wrong, I enjoy your preaching every week, but there is definitely a difference in your preaching lately. I mean God has blessed us with a growing church so you are definitely doing a lot of things right, but….

**Pastor Mike**: Come on, but what?

**Alley**: But I miss the old preacher!

**Pastor Mike**: The old preacher?

**Alley**: Yes! The old Pastor Mike! Honey you still preach the word of God every week, but when we first started, not only did we stand for Holiness and righteous living, but you preached it like it was your last sermon.

**Pastor Mike**: And I don’t now?

**Alley**: I’m not saying you don’t at all, I’m just saying your preaching now is safe, more geared to making everyone happy and comfortable.

**Pastor Mike**: Well honey what would you suggest? It’s not my job to make people feel guilty when they come to church.

**Alley**: No it’s not, but it is your job to preach the whole truth without apology! It is your job to tell the people everything God say’s…what’s right, what’s wrong…What’s godliness, what’s ungodliness. I’m not saying the people need to feel guilty, but they should feel convicted.

**Pastor** **Mik**e: Alley when I first started pastoring this church there were fifteen people; fifteen spirit-filled people. So my preaching was one-dimensional, but now with so many believers I have to be neutral.

**Alley**: Why? Why do you have to be neutral? I remember where we started, but how do you think we got “so many” members? The church grew from you preaching the uncompromising word of God. Jesus won more souls than any man and with love and kindness he stood his ground and preached the truth no matter how it made people feel.

**Pastor Mike**: Yes Alley but times change!

**Alley**: I know Mike, but God doesn’t! His word is the same yesterday, today and forever. Mike I just fear for the church today. I feel like churches are becoming social gatherings for motivation and inspiration to encourage and prepare people for this life only; but who’s teaching and preaching a word that will prepare people for the life after this one?

**Pastor Mike**: Alley, are you saying I’m not preaching the word?

**Alley**: No honey I’m not. It’s not what you’re saying, it’s what you’re not saying. For example: Remember in bible study a few weeks ago when that Indian women said she believed in Buddha? What did she ask you?

**Pastor Mike**: She asked if those that worship and serve Buddha and wouldn’t serve another god could go to heaven?

**Alley**: Right! And how did you answer her?

**Pastor Mike**: I told her I wasn’t God and I couldn’t say who was going to heaven or not.

What’s wrong with that response; I’m not God!

**Alley**: I know you’re not God, but Mike, you are the mouth-piece of God. Now you can’t say who’s going to heaven or not cause at the end, it’ll be between man and God, but as a preacher, I feel it was your job to tell her John 14. Tell her that Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life! And No man can come to God. No man can get to heaven, but by Him….

**Pastor Mike** (*getting upset*) So now you’re preaching to me?

**Alley:** Mike calm down, don’t get your heart rate up.

**Pastor Mike**: I’m okay!

**Alley:** I’m not preaching to you, I just want you to be careful not to compromise.

**Pastor**: (*taking her by the hand and sitting her on the couch)* Look Alley, our church has many homosexuals, liars, cheaters, and adulterers; I know this! I know them! But isn’t it good that they come to church and feel God and Love God?

**Alley**: Yes Pastor Mike that is good but it won’t be good for them if they don’t change and only the word can change them. You are the Preacher called to preach that Word to them!

**Pastor Mike**: Honey look, you want me to preach like I used to, but if I go back to that where will that leave us financially?

**Alley**: Excuse me!

**Pastor Mike**: Honey look (Wait, that’s not what I meant…

**Alley**: No Mike, what did you say “Financially” Are you preaching for the money? Are you afraid that if you call a sin, a sin, they are gonna stop giving?

**Pastor**: Honey Wait…

**Alley**: No! I would rather live in rags and hear my husband preach the convicting, powerful word of God that will change lives, then sit on these expensive seats and watch you sell yourself to the Devil of lies. Mike Alston you need to repent! You need to tell God you’re sorry!

**Pastor**: Alley you just don’t understand. I am doing nothing wrong! I am giving people hope for a great life.

**Alley** (*walking out*) Yeah, but which life? What does it benefit a person to gain everything in this world and Lose their soul. I love you sweetheart, I’m going to bed!

**Pastor:** Yeah go to bed. You’re not making any sense! *(He sits down on couch and notices bible on the table in front of him)*