



Hook, Line, and Sinker

Sketch

[**Please provide:** four actresses and four copies of the sketch for the actresses.]

Characters:

Tammy Trout – hooked on coffee, fast talking, carries mug of coffee, and lunch sack
Sandra Salmon – taken in by latest line on TV to lose weight
Wilma Walleye – has a sinking feeling about everything, weighed down with life
Mary Minnow – shares the Gospel with her friends, carries lunch sack

Props: Table (optional) and 4 chairs, coffee mug, soup bowl, three lunch sacks, and a Bible

Setting: Scene takes place in a coffee shop where four friends meet for lunch.

[**Tammy** and **Sandra** are seated at table. Coffee mug, one lunch sack, and soup bowl are on table. **Mary** and **Wilma** are off-stage left, each with a lunch sack.]

Mary: [enters with **Wilma**] Hi everyone! Sorry I'm late.

Tammy: That's all right. My coffee is still hot so you can't be that late. Who's your friend?

Mary: This is Wilma Walleye. She just started working in the personnel department. I invited her to join us for our Bible study lunch today.

Wilma: I hope that's okay with everyone.

Sandra: Of course! The more the merrier. Have a seat. I'm Sandra Salmon and this is Tammy Trout. We both work in marketing.

Wilma: It's nice to meet you.

[**Mary** and **Wilma** sit down and put lunch sacks on table.]

Tammy: [excited] I'm glad you joined us today, Wilma! Do you like coffee? Let me order you a latte or something. Maybe an espresso? They have the best espressos here. I'm just **hooked** on them!

Wilma: Well, I –

Tammy: What's your favorite flavor? Hazelnut? Or maybe French Vanilla? You look like a French Vanilla type. My favorite is Chocolate Almond – double shot, of course. So what will it be? And put your money away; this is my treat.

Wilma: Well, I –

Tammy: It's hard to decide, isn't it? The coffee aroma always **lures** me in. One step inside the door and I'm **hooked**!

Sandra: I'm pretty sure it's the caffeine you're **hooked** on, Tammy.

Tammy: You're probably right, but I do get excited when I talk about coffee!

Mary: And speaking of aromas, what is that nasty smell? [sniffs the air, then leans over and sniffs the bowl of soup] Good grief! What is that?

Sandra: I'm afraid that's my lunch. It's cabbage soup.

Tammy: She's on the Cabbage Soup Diet this week.

Sandra: I had to try something! I have just three weeks to lose ten pounds before the wedding.

Wilma: I think I saw that diet advertised on TV. It had some **line** about losing weight for your next big date.

Mary: That sounds like quite a **line**, all right. So how is it?

Sandra: It's great! Any time I get hungry I just eat cabbage soup. AND, I can eat as much as I want. You can't do that on other diets.

Tammy: Well, yeah, but who wants to eat cabbage soup?

Sandra: It's not that bad. Would you like to try it? I put some salsa in it to give it a little kick.

Tammy: Uh, no thanks. I'll just stick to my sandwich.

Sandra: [shrugs] So how is the new job going, Wilma?

Wilma: Okay, I guess. I have this **sinking** feeling that it's not going to work out, though.

Tammy: Nonsense! Just give it a little time. Everything will be fine.

Wilma: Maybe, but it's pretty overwhelming. I feel so weighed down with everything else in my life right now. I just hope I can handle all the stress. I feel like it's either sink or swim time and I'm afraid I'm just going to **sink**.

Sandra: Wow! I'm sorry to hear that, Wilma. I wish we could do something to help.

Mary: Maybe we can. Let's include Wilma in our prayers today. Would you all join me?

[All women fold their hands and bow their heads.]

Mary: Dear Lord, we praise Your Holy Name and ask that You bless our time together this day. Thank You for this food and guide us as we study Your Word. We also ask that You be with our friend, Wilma. Grant her Your peace and give her the strength to face the challenges in her life. Amen.

Wilma: I'm not sure what to say. I've never had anyone pray for me before.

Tammy: Never? Then it's about time someone did!

Sandra: And speaking of time, we better get started on our Bible study before our lunch hour is over. Today's lesson is on Mark 1:17-18. *And Jesus said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men." And immediately they left their nets and followed him.*

Wilma: What does that mean – fishers of men?

Sandra: That's how Jesus described His disciples and anyone who shares the message of the Gospel with others. Fishers of men are those who preach and teach God's Word.

Mary: These verses in Mark tell us how Jesus first called His disciples to follow Him. Peter, Andrew, James, and John were all fishermen. Jesus wanted them to leave their trade behind and become His disciples.

Wilma: So they just dropped everything and followed Jesus?

Tammy: That's right.

Wilma: So what was the **catch**?

Sandra: What do you mean?

Wilma: Well, there had to be some reason why they left everything to follow this guy.

Tammy: This wasn't just a guy. This was Jesus – God's own Son. He was the Messiah.

Wilma: Did they know that?

Tammy: Well, maybe not at first.

Wilma: Hmm. I wouldn't think fishermen would be any good at making speeches or drawing a crowd.

Sandra: They probably weren't. They had no education or training. In fact, being a fisherman was a rather lowly job.

Wilma: That's certainly not whom I would hire for the job of disciple. I would think Jesus would want someone more qualified. Being a disciple sounds rather important.

Mary: Maybe that was the point. It's not about us or our own talent; it's all about Jesus and what He has done for us. God is the one who enables us to do the work of His Kingdom. Our job is just to get the Word out to others.

Wilma: You mean you are a fisher of men, too?

Sandra: Everyone who believes in Jesus as their Savior is called to share the Good News with others.

Tammy: And when she says Good News, she means the Gospel message. That's the **hook!**

Wilma: I hope you don't mind all of my questions. I'm just trying to figure out what kind of **line** this is.

Mary: It's not a line like you hear on TV. All of God's Word is true. We are all born sinners and need a Savior. God promises to forgive all who confess their sin and believe in Him.

Wilma: That's it?

Sandra: That's why He sent His Son into this world – to redeem and save us.

Wilma: And all we have to do is believe? That almost seems too easy.

Mary: It's not complicated; it just takes faith. And that's the job of the Holy Spirit. He is the one who creates faith in our hearts. After that, we just keep passing on the Good News of Salvation to the ends of the earth. That's what being fishers of men is all about.

Wilma: Hmmm.

Sandra: So, what are you thinking right now, Wilma?

Wilma: I'm just trying to let it all **sink** in.

Tammy: You know, being **hooked** by Jesus is different than being hooked by the fishermen of the world.

Wilma: What do you mean?

Tammy: Think of it this way. We're all just fish swimming around in the dark murky waters of sin. The world **lures** us with the bait of temptation. Sin may look good, but it hides a nasty barb which tears us apart from God. Then we're reeled into the boat and cast aside for someone's dinner.

Sandra: That someone would be Satan who is always ready to devour us.

Tammy: But the **hook** from Jesus has no barb. Instead He takes the sting of death for us and offers us eternal life in its place. We swim free in the perfect waters of His Grace.

Mary: And as a free fish, wouldn't you want all the other fish to know about this wonderful fisherman named Jesus?

Wilma: Yes I would. And I would swim to the bottom of the ocean to share that news. I think I get it now! Being a fisher of men is how we are a witness for what Jesus has done for us.

Tammy: I think she's got it – **hook, line, and sinker!**

Sandra: You know, witnessing isn't just going around knocking on doors. It's also sharing your faith with the people you already know – or have just met!

Mary: Thanks for coming to our Bible study lunch, Wilma. You gave us a fresh perspective on our call to be fishers of men. Please join us again next week.

Wilma: I would love to. Now about that coffee, Tammy. Is the offer still good? All this talk has made me thirsty and I'm ready to be **hooked** by a grande hazelnut latte!

Tammy: Absolutely! Just follow me! [stand and lead **all women** off stage right]

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