

Harvey and Mabel: The TV Interview

by Randy Sly

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Narrator: Billy and Wanda are about to interview Harvey and Mabel Gooch on their coast to coast religious cable program - "The Billy and Wanda Show." While Billy is looking over his script and Wanda is looking over herself in a pocket mirror and primping, Harvey and Mabel are fussing nervously, waiting for the program to begin. It's as if the two couples hardly know the other is there, since Billy and Wanda seem to be in their own little world, totally ignoring their guests.

Harvey: Now, Mabel, just be calm, them TV cameras will be comin' on soon and I don't want you to make a fool outa yourself on the cable!

Mabel: Oh, Harvey, you always think of my needs first.

Harvey: As you know, Mabel, I'm really up on this Christian TV stuff. I must watch 4 to 5 hours of it a day. Why, just the other day I watched a behind-the-scenes look at one of my favorite evangelistic programs, "Pets and Prayer." Just follow me and you'll be fine.

Mabel: I'll do just like you told me on the way down here. Whatever you say, I'll just agree with you and say, "My husband is really anointed for this work."

Harvey: That's true as TV, Mabel. Just do that and I'll look over at you and say, "Oh, Honey, that's nice of you to say that. And you are livin' in the power on this one, too."

Mabel: I'm so nervous, Harvey. Hold my hand! (Mabel tries to move closer to Harvey, and looks lovingly in his eyes for strength.)

Harvey: Now Mabel, we may be here to talk about our new marriage seminar, "Finding Your Way in the Fog o' Love," but that's no reason to get mushy on me.

Narrator: During this entire time, Billy and Wanda are "in a different world." Suddenly Billy acknowledges from his director that its time to begin the show, and without saying anything to their guest, the two hosts sit straight up and begin the program. Harvey and Mabel panic. As Billy begins to speak, Wanda just looks at him lovingly, almost with a glazed look in her eyes

Billy: Welcome all you love birds to the Billy and Wanda show. Tonight we have a very special Valentine version of the Billy and Wanda Show. So Wanda and me want you to just sit back, put your arm around your honey and enjoy the show. Remember what our motto is...

Wanda: (Looking straight at the camera with a joyous expression) If your marriage isn't bubbly it isn't biblical!

Billy: That's right, Wanda. Each one of our shows is designed to put the pizzazz back in your partnership, the love back in your

living, the joy back in your journey... (he stops as he hears Harvey talking to Mabel)

Harvey: (not knowing that He's on camera) and some moolah back in their Money Market Account. (laughs)

(Mabel looks horrified, Billy and Wanda give him a dirty look then regain composure for the camera.)

Wanda: I can't wait to see what good things are going to happen tonight. All you lovebirds out there, aren't you excited? Isn't this going to be wonderful? Who are our guests this evening, honey.

Billy: (speaking slowly and seriously toward the camera) Wanda, tonight we going to visit with some very old and dear friends of Billy and Wanda. (Harvey and Mabel look at each other surprised.)

Wanda: (Gasps in fake surprise) Oh, this is wonderful, honey-bunny; you don't mean...

Billy: That's right, my little love disciple. It's our old lovebird buddies, Harvey and Mabel Gooch. They are with us tonight to tell us about their new marriage seminar, "Finding Your Way in the Fog o' Love." So let's give them a big BWS welcome! (Billy and Wanda encourage applause. Billy, Wanda, Harvey and Mabel all greet each other casually) Well, Harvey, I've wanted to have you and the little woman on our show for a long time.

Harvey: Thanks, Billy. I know you have, 'cause every time I'd call to try to get on, you'd tell me it wouldn't be for a long time.

Billy: (a little shaken) Well, now you're here. Praise the Lord. And we want to... (is cut off by Wanda)

Wanda: (a little out of sorts) Oh, Honey, let's not forget my good friend, Mabel. (turning to Mabel) Don't you look pretty tonight! I just love that dress. It's just wonderful.

Mabel: Oh, this old thing? (tugging on her dress) This was my dress for the church softball banquet last...

Wanda: (cuts her off) And what have you done with your hair since the last time we were together. It looks wonderful.

Mabel: I've been using the new Ronco hair designer. Only \$19.95 on the shopping channel, and they threw in a free wart remover!

Billy: (trying to regain control of the show) Well, as always you look great, Mabel, and I'm glad to see the warts are gone, too! Well, Harvey, it's been a while since we've seen you. Wanda and I were just trying to remember the other day when we first met.

Harvey: Well, Billy, I remember that day as if it were tomorrow. Mabel and I had just gotten a snow cone at the Dairy Queen when I backed into your Mercedes in the parking lot.

Billy: That's right. It all is coming back to me now.

- Wanda: It was wonderful meeting you both that night.
- Mabel: I was so excited to meet you both, I dropped my snow cone in the back of the police car.
- Billy: Well, we saw a lot of each other back then. I think you visited us in the hospital every day until we could go home.
- Harvey: It was the least we could do.
- Billy: So, Harvey, lets tell the lovebirds in the BWS audience about your new seminar.
- Mabel: (cuts in) My husband is really anointed for this work.
- Harvey: (angrily) Not now, Mabel! (regains composure) Well, Billy. Me and the little woman have been burdened for all the couples who need to put a little love back in their marriage. And we thought to ourselves, "Hey, we're married, we got love, so why shouldn't we be the ones getting those big seminar fees."
- Billy: (a little shaky) How special. And I'm sure you and Mabel received some divine revelation on this.
- Harvey: We sure did, Bill - I can call you Bill, can't I?
- Billy: I wish you wouldn't...

Harvey: Anyway, Bill... There we were, me and Mabel eatin' tacos and watchin' the TV late one night. Suddenly, we received the spark of revelation. Remember that honey?

Mabel: I sure do, Harvey. (turns to Wanda) We were watchin' you and Billy when Harvey says to me, "Mabel, if these guys can pull it off, then I think we could to." That was the beginning of it.

Wanda: Billy, did you hear that? Isn't it wonderful? We were the inspiration for this couple to give their lives to a ministry of love.

Billy: I never heard anything like this before, that's for sure.

Harvey: Well, Billy, its true. If it wasn't for you and the heartburn that kept me up that night, we wouldn't be here.

[end of sample]