The Sam & Jesse Radio Show

Week 2, Episode 2: Leon’s First Sermon

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| 00:00 | Narrator | Leon’s First Sermon |
| 00:02 |  | [music] |
| 00:09 | Narrator | [over music] It’s time now for another day in the life of Sam and Jessie. Gum Springs, Arkansas. |
| 00:24 |  | [music fades out, then repeats] |
| 00:34 | Sam | What do you got there, Leon? |
| 00:36 | Leon | This here is a letter from my correspondence school where they learning me to be a preacher. |
| 00:40 | Jesse | Leon, I told you to stop foolin’ around with that blame correspondence school. They just wanna take your money. |
| 00:47 | Sam | Yeah, Leon. Now, some things is just too complicated to learn by mail, like weldin’ and farmin’ and preachin’ and all that skilled labor. |
| 00:56 | Leon | Oh, n-now, Sam, I-I can do it. They sent me this here book with sermons a-and instructions on how to preach. |
| 01:02 | Sam | Well, let me see that now. W-Well, looky here, Jesse. Right here it says, “Raise your arm in dramatic gesture.” |
| 01:09 | Leon | See! L-like this. I-I been practicing my gesture. |
| 01:12 | Sam | Real good, Leon! N-now, it says, “Point finger at congregation.” |
| 01:16 | Leon | Yeah. Li-Like this. See here. |
| 01:18 | Sam | Oh, yeah. That-That’s good, Leon. |
| 01:21 | Leon | Uh, a-a-and look here. It says, “Cry.” I-I ain’t got that down yet, I-I’m- [overlap] |
| 01:25 | Jesse | Oh, for heaven’s sake! It don’t make no difference how much you point or squirrel around, Leon. All that ain’t gonna make you sound like a preacher. |
| 01:34 | Leon | Ah yeah, Mr. Jesse. They sent this here record a-and told me to imitate that feller preachin’ on it.  |
| 01:39 | Sam | Well, now let’s hear a sample, Leon. |
| 01:41 | Jesse | Sam, don’t encourage him. |
| 01:43 | Leon | Well, let me see. I-I’ll try it, but… “The-the-the quick red fox, wa-walked out of the dark woods and leaped gracefully over the small brown log.” H-how was that? |
| 01:59 | Sam | Ah, swear, Leon. You call that preachin’? Well, I heard college men that could beat that. |
| 02:05 | Leon | Well, let me try it again. “The quick red fox walked out of the dark woods and leaped gracefully over the small brown log.” Was that better, Sam? |
| 02:16 | Sam | Not much, Leon. N-Now, you gotta forget about this preachin’ and get you a workin’ type-a job. |
| 02:22 | Jesse | Yeah, Leon. Why don’t you go out and dig something? |
| 02:2502:36 | Leon | [unitelligable] N-Now, you just listen to this. [in a southern, preaching dialect] And I tell you my brethren, that ole red fox, well he come out of them woods, a-foxin’ around with his tongue a-hangin’ out, like a red neck tie. N-now, bear with me, brethren. H-he didn’t just step over that log! Nah, sir! I’m here to tell you, belov-ed! H-he jumped over that log yonder, a-and if we gonna get that glory, we gonna have to jump for it. |
| 02:49 | Sam | Now, Leon, that’s preachin’. |
| 02:51 |  | [music] |
| 03:01 |  | [music fades out, then repeats] |
| 03:11 | Jesse | Sam, one of them college professors heard Leon when he was preachin’ on Sunday. [overlap] |
| 03:15 | Sam | [overlap] What’d he say, Jesse? |
| 03:15 | Jesse | Oh, he said Leon had more [fun?], and he didn’t like him. |
| 03:18 | Sam | Well, I’ll tell you after hearing some of preachin’ I’ve heard lately, I’d say some of them preachers need a little more fuss. [overlap] |
| 03:25 | Jesse | [overlap] Sam, don’t get yourself riled up. |
| 03:26 | Sam | These modern preachers preach like they afraid they’ll get caught at it. |
| 03:30 | Jesse | [overlap] Don’t get yourself all fretted, Sam.  |
| 03:31 | Sam | [overlap] They afraid to preach against sin, [interrupted by Jesse] like whisky drink, [interrupted again] and that belly rubbin’ they call dancin’, and [unintelligible]… |
| 03:3303:3503:37 | Jesse | [in between Sam’s words] Sam. Sam. [overlap] I wish you would stop, Sam. |
| 03:37 | Sam | [music starts playing] [over music] Card playing, [interrupted by Jesse] reading true romancing, and Sunday fishin’, and… |
| 03:40 | Jesse | [over music and Sam] Don’t get excited, Sam. Sam. |
| 03:44 |  | [music gets louder] |