



"A Gift We Can't Buy"

Production Notes

One of a series of four skits about gifts, used during an event entitled "Good and Perfect Gifts."

SUMMARY: A young woman, new to town, welcomes an old friend, and tells her about her birthday where she met her father for the first time--a father who loved her and wanted a relationship with her. Her father wants to give her a whole new life.

THEME: Salvation is a free gift that we are given. We don't deserve it, and we can't earn it.

CHARACTERS:

Narrator
Girl #1
Girl #2

SETTING AND PROPS

Two girls talking. One has recently celebrated her birthday, and there are birthday decorations, and a Bible, a gift from her father.

TIMING: Approximately 7-10 minutes

SCRIPT:

NARRATOR: Meet Miranda. She has recently returned to her hometown after being gone for years. Yesterday was her birthday.

Girl #1: (*welcomes her friend*) I can't believe you're here! How did you find me? How did you know where I live?

Girl #2: It's the beauty of social networking...I was able to track down the name of your street, and then I saw you right here on the patio. I remembered that yesterday was your birthday, and I figured you haven't been back here long enough to know people who would celebrate your birthday. I sure didn't think you would seek out anyone from the "old" neighborhood--those creeps! So I thought I'd take you out.

Girl #1: Funny you should mention my birthday--I have been in such a funk I just wasn't thinking about my birthday...until yesterday.

Girl #2: What happened yesterday? That was your actual birthday, wasn't it?

Girl #1: It was my birthday, but nobody around here knew about it since I haven't been back in town for very long. But you won't even believe everything that happened. I got up like normal, went to gym, picked up some pastries and went off to work, like every other day. Work was as dull as ever, and I was watching the clock all day, even though I had nothing else going on. I left work, picked up my dinner for one, and headed home.

Girl #2: What? Tell me what happened!

Girl #1: Well, I parked the car in the driveway and decided to eat my dinner on this side patio. I was just eating, all alone, when I heard someone knocking at the front door.

Girl #2: Really? Was it a neighbor or coworker? Did they bring you all of this?
(*indicates decorations*)

Girl #1: No...better! It was a perfect stranger!

Girl #2: You're kidding!? A perfect stranger?

Girl #1: Seriously. He was THE PERFECT STRANGER. He's the father I have never met. Turns out He had been wanting a relationship with me all these years. He sought me out in all the different places I have lived over the years, but all the other times when He knocked on my door, I never answered. He had always loved me, and I never knew it!

Girl #2: Wow! That's unbelievable! Did He have a gift for you?

Girl #1: He did! Just to know His love would have been enough. I've never even tried to find Him or get to know Him, but turns out, He is a very successful and wealthy man, and He wants to give me a whole new life! And He has the means to do it. I so did not deserve a gift like He gave me. I could never have earned it on my own. Can you believe this? I am going to be taken care of for the rest of my life. He told me how much He loved me, and He always believed that we would find each other. He lives in a mansion, and eventually I'm going to go there and stay forever. But for now, He has offered to give me total security and everything I need. I can call on Him at any time.

Girl #2: (*skeptical*) Are you sure? Have you checked Him out? He could be a scam artist. Remember that time when we bought six cases of the Belly Busting Bands that were guaranteed to flatten your flabby front in forty days, supposedly able to sell themselves to your friends and neighbors??

Girl #1: (*chuckles*) You're right, they didn't sell, but I did lose weight using them...

Girl #2: Really? How?

Girl #1: I strapped every last one of those bands around my refrigerator door. It was actually three whole days before I got them off.

Girl #2: Back to your Father...you had never met Him before, had you? I've never heard you mention him. How do you know He really is your Father? And what do you have to do to get all of this? Do you have to pay something?

Girl #1: That's the beauty of it. It is a free gift. And look what else He gave me. He gave me this bundle of letters that He had written to me, all bound into a book. I've just read a few, but I am convinced that He is my Father. These letters are full of promises that He has made, and now that I know Him, those promises are mine! Finally meeting my Father is like being born again! I can hardly wait to get to know Him better.

Girl #2: What's going to happen when He finds out about all the trouble you've been in, and all those bad choices you made? That's why you left our hometown in the first place. When He finds out the truth about you, is He still going to want to do all that for you?

Girl #1: I didn't even have to tell Him. He already knew everything, and it didn't change how He felt about me. One of those promises in the letters said that He would forgive me, and not only that, He promised that He wouldn't even remember all those terrible things any more. Can you believe that?

Girl #2: Sounds too good to be true.

Girl #1: I know. Can you stay and meet Him? He said that He would meet me here every day, I just need to wait for Him. I know He'd love to meet you. His arms are wide open, and He says He will accept anyone who turns to Him. Let's face it...we all need Somebody to rely on in life.

Girl #2: I am glad to see you so happy and that your life is turning around. I think I'd like to meet your Dad. If you're sure He wouldn't mind....

NARRATOR: This gift, of course, is salvation. It can't be purchased. It can't be earned by our good works and good intentions. It was purchased by Jesus' blood on the cross, and it was His perfect life that made Him the perfect sacrifice for our sins. He lived the perfect life so that we wouldn't have to. And now He is pursuing those He loved and died for. He wants them to know of His free gift of salvation.

