

A script from



“A Penny Saved”

by
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- What** A husband and wife are trying to be better about spending money and sticking to a budget. Both have made sacrifices and have started to realize how hard making sacrifices is. Themes: Stewardship, Marital Conflict, Bad Habits, Responsibility
- Who** 1 male, 1 female
- When** Present
- Wear (Props)** Couch, several bags from department stores with at least one big bag, a pair of shoes
- Why** Matthew 25: 14-30 The Parable of the Talents
- How** This is natural banter between a husband and wife. Lines should be picked up quickly with little or no pause in between. It should also be lighthearted. This couple has been married for 10+ years.
- Time** Approximately 5-7 minutes

Kate is sitting on the couch in the living room admiring a new pair of shoes she just bought. She's talking to the shoe quietly as if it were a puppy or a baby. John walks in to ask Kate a question but catches her in the act. There are other shopping bags around her as well.

- John:** Hey honey, have you seen the- (*Kate hides the shoe behind her back quickly*) what are you doing?
- Kate:** Hmm?
- John:** What are you doing? What's that behind your back?
- Kate:** What? What you mean?
- John:** There. Behind your back. You're hiding something. Is that a shoe?
- Kate:** A shoe? No. I'm not hiding a shoe. Why would I be hiding a shoe?
- John:** You are! You're hiding a shoe behind your back!
- Kate:** Am not!
- John:** Then show me your hands. (*Kate drops the shoe behind her back and shows her empty hands.*) Now stand up.
- Kate:** John, this is ridiculous!
- John:** Stand! (*Kate stands up to reveal the shoe. This may take some ad-libbing until John actually sees the shoe.*) Ah ha! I was right! Those are new aren't they?!
- Kate:** Oooh! They were on sale!
- John:** And what is all this?! There's like four more bags over here! Did you go shopping?
- Kate:** It's important to remember here that this stuff was on sale! We needed it and it was on sale and I had to buy it all right then because it would not have been there later if I hadn't. See look...I got you this pretty shirt...look at the shirt...isn't it pretty? It would look awfully nice for you to golf in!
- John:** Now wait a minute.
- Kate:** Oh yeah, while we're on the subject of spending money unnecessarily, let's talk about golf.
- John:** We're not talking about my problems here, we're talking about yours. You're the one obsessed with the shoes!

- Kate:** I am not obsessed!
- John:** You buy all these shoes you don't wear and you leave them out all over the floor in the closet and I step on them! It's like a land mine in there.
- Kate:** I do too wear every pair of shoes I have. I may not wear each pair everyday, but they are there when I need them. And sometimes they like to get out and play in the floor in the closet.
- John:** You're crazy.
- Kate:** I'm crazy?! Let me tell you what crazy is! Crazy is sleeping with your golf clubs!
- John:** I had a very important game the next day!
- Kate:** I wake up at 2 o'clock in the morning with a big fat golf club thingy staring me in the face! I'm pretty sure I'm scarred for life. To this day the sight of your golf bag sends a chill down my spine.
- John:** Oh now you're being dramatic.
- Kate:** I'm just saying pot (*points to John*)...kettle (*points to herself*).
- John:** Alright, alright. Look, I don't want to argue with you.
- Kate:** I don't either. (*sitting back down on couch and looking at all the bags*) I need help. I think I may need some psychological help! I should probably be sent to a rehab.
- John:** Well if you have to be institutionalized for shopping, I'm right behind you for golfing.
- Kate:** We're a mess.
- John:** No we're not. We've got some bad habits that we need to fix, but I don't think the wagon is coming to take us away anytime soon. We just have to help each other and hold each other accountable. If we're going to make this new budget work, we're both going to have to stick to it. I know it's hard. It's really hard cutting back my golf games to every other week and I know how hard it is to give up shopping so much. But we have to keep at it.
- Kate:** Yeah, you're right. I don't know what got into me. It felt really good to get to the end of the pay period and still have money in the bank. That was such a victory. We saved so much money by not eating out.