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“Pausing to Say Thanks”

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What Our Actors explore their gift unwrapping styles while remembering to say “thank you” for the gift.

Themes: Christmas, Gifts, Thanksgiving, Gratitude

Who Actor 1: female
Actor 2: female
Actor 3: male or female
Additional Actors as desired

When Present

Costumes and Props Festive Christmas attire
Gifts wrapped in Christmas paper
Wads of gift wrap & gift bags & tissue on the floor
Candle
Mug
Random items to be used as gifts
Chairs (optional)
Christmas decorations (optional)

Why 2 Corinthians 9:15; Luke 17:11-19

How This script is best performed memorized. It’s light and quick with a conversational wrap-up at the end.

The roles of the Actors are played by two ladies and one additional child or adult of either gender. You could also use additional Actors to sit in the semi-circle and on the floor oohing and ahing over the gifts without actually delivering lines. A child or two could be playing with a “new” toy or coloring in a coloring book they just received. Surround them with gifts bags, gift boxes, and wadded up wrapping paper.

Time Approximately 1-2 minutes

Lights up.

Actors enter the stage chatting to one another. Actors begin handing out gifts and end up sitting in chairs. Extra Actors can be in chairs or on the floor.

Make sure Actor 1 ends up with a box with a mug inside, Actor 2 has a box with a candle in it and a bow on the box, and Actor 3 has several gifts bags with random items.

Actor 1: Oh, look at this gorgeous paper! *(turns gift around in her hands while inspecting every part of it)*

Actor 3 is sorting through the remaining packages recklessly while shaking, patting, and comparing them.

Actor 1: *(begins gingerly opening her gift, oohing and ahing as she does)* I'm so excited to see what's inside.

Actor 2: It's just lovely. Check out the bow on this little beauty. *(shows off the bow to everyone; begins gingerly opening her gift, oohing and ahing as she does)* What is it that makes Christmas gifts so very special?

Actor 3 is still rummaging around.

Actor 1: I love the color of this mug. It will match my kitchen perfectly.

Actor 2: Ooh, this candle smells heavenly! I can't wait to sit down with a good book while this baby is burning nearby.

Actor 1: *(reaching out to squeeze the hand of a dialogue-less actor or looking to an imaginary participant)* Thank you so much for this adorable mug. You are so thoughtful!

Actor 2: *(walking behind a different dialogue-less actor and squeezing her shoulders or looking to an imaginary participant)* I am so grateful for this candle. It will make my home feel so cozy.

Actor 3: *(handing box after box and bag after bag to other actors in a hurried fashion while the actors try to say a genuine "thank you")* Here. This one is for you. And this one is yours. Here you go. Here's yours. Take this one. That's yours, too. And that one. And that one. And this one...

Actor 2: Thank you!

Actor 1: Thank you very much.

Actor 3: And these are mine! *(starts tearing through them as quickly as possible while throwing paper everywhere while making quick responses to himself and changing his emotions quickly)* Nice...Ooh...Yes! *(pause)*

looking at another) Dud (*tosses it with disgust*) Awesome...
Dude...what is this? Hmm...okay, I can use that.

Actor 1: Goodness! That was fast.

Actor 3: Finished.

Actor 2: We still have a few more to go.

Actor 3: Well, I'm done. What's next? Is dessert ready?

Actors 1, 2 and 3 break character and step up to the middle to deliver a wrap-up very conversationally.

Actor 3: Alright folks, raise your hand if you like to save the wrapping paper and tissue paper?

Actor 1: Do you fold it nicely and neatly so you can use it again? Me, too!

Actor 2: Any gift bag re-users in here?

Actor 3: How many are like me; you just rip into it and get it done? (*laughs*)

Actor 2: Well, there's certainly nothing wrong with different unwrapping styles.

Actor 1: But unfortunately, our characters also differed in their gratitude levels.

Actor 3: How often do we treat God's gifts the same way as my character did?

Actor 2: He offers us eternal life and rescue from our sin.

Actor 1: And yet we rush through life, focusing on the gifts of God...

Actor 2: Like His provision, His salvation, His answers to prayer...

Actor 3: And so, so much more.

Actor 1: But while we enjoy the gifts He's given us, we often neglect to give Him the thanksgiving and glory He rightly deserves.

Actor 2: So, this Christmas, while we're running around experiencing all God's gifts...

Actor 3: Let's make sure we stop and offer Him a sacrifice of praise.

Actor 1: And a sacrifice of thanksgiving.

Actor 2: Oh, how He loves to hear from His children!

All: Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!
Blackout or Exit.

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