“The Christmas Cure”
by
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What
As a Dad prepares to speak on God's love at the Christmas Eve service, he learns how simple understanding God's love for us really is through the eyes of his young daughter. Themes: Christmas, Love, Salvation, Jesus, Healer, Redeemer, Family, Christmas Eve, Heavenly Father, The Great Physician

Who
Dad
Mom
Jeannie - young girl; age 4-6

When
Present; Christmas Eve

Wear (Props)
Mickey Mouse Stuffed Animal
Coat
Purse
Toy purse
Toy stethoscope

Why
John 3:16

How
Keep the dialogue conversational and the pacing and energy up. Leave yourself plenty of time to rehearse with your child actress. Practice in the space you will be performing so that she will feel comfortable in that space. Also, be sure to teach her not to look at the audience when you are performing (kids like to do that and wave at their friends).

Time
Approximately 5-7 minutes
Dad is standing Center Stage, as if in front of a mirror. He is holding note cards, straightening his tie, and rehearsing. Behind him there is a table holding Dad’s coat and Mom’s purse. Mom enters.

Dad: The incarnation of Jesus Christ… (Pause. He looks at his notes and starts again) Christology, is the study of the Person and Nature of Christ. And in my personal study…(Pause. To Mom) I hate getting up in front of people.

Mom: (She helps Dad fix his tie) It’s just a few words.

Dad: Why did I agree to do this? And on Christmas Eve. The church will be packed.

Mom: The pastor said it doesn’t have to be long. Just keep it simple.

Dad: Right. Explain what God’s love means to me in a few, short and simple words. How do you do that? (He looks back into the mirror, glances at his notes, and starts again) When we study the Greek, we see different words used for love: Agape, Eros and Philia.

Mom: Short and simple.

Dad: (He is frustrated and thinking too hard) I know. I know.

Mom: (She looks at her watch and calls to her daughter off stage) Jeannie.

Jeannie: (Enters. She is clinging to a purse and a stuffed animal) Doctor.

Mom: Jeannie, can you get your shoes on, please?

Jeannie: Mickey needs a doctor.

Mom: Shoes. Please.

Jeannie: But he needs a doctor.

Mom: We’re going to be late for the Christmas Eve Service.

Jeannie: This is important.

Mom: Jeannie.

Jeannie: (Pause; Jeannie holds her doll up to her Dad) Can you fix him?

Dad: (Looking at his wife while referring to Mickey) He needs a doctor.

Mom: (Smiling) Well, can the doctor at least keep it short? Mickey is going to be late for church.
Dad: (Playing along) Okay. Mr. Mickey, let me look at you here.

Jeannie: He was jumping.

Dad: He was jumping?

Jeannie: With the monkeys.

Dad: Which monkeys?

Jeannie: The 10 little monkeys, jumping on the bed.

Dad: Oh. Did he fall?

Jeannie: Yup. He fell off.

Dad: And hurt his head?

Jeannie: Nope. He hurt his tummy.

Dad: Not his head?

Jeannie: He fell off and hurt his tummy.

Dad: Hmmm. That's highly unusual.

Jeannie: I think he needs a Band-Aid.

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ENDING:

Mom: I think our Father's love doesn't have to be so hard to understand.

Dad: Okay. (Looking in the mirror, he tries again) Christ came to live among us and die in our place, because…

Mom: Because as our loving Heavenly Father,

Dad: He saw we were sick and dying in our sins. (Pause; Searching for words) And healing us…is the expression of…the culmination of…(clears his throat) The fulfillment of His glory…
Mom:  *(Interrupting)* God chose to heal us, because He loves us like a father.  
And that’s what Daddies do.

*Pause. Both are reflecting on what Mom just said.* **Jeannie** enters.

**Jeannie:** Wait! He didn’t get a lollipop.

**Dad** grabs his coat. **Mom** grabs her purse. *All begin to exit*

**Dad:** I’ll give him one in the car.

**Jeannie:** And he needs a straw.

**Mom:** For his lollipop?

**Jeannie:** Yup.