“The Christmas Secret”  
by  
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What  
While on a Christmas shopping trip with his family, a father encounters a strange, but unlikely, homeless woman who reminds him of the importance of worshipping Christ during the holidays.  

Themes: Christmas, Family, Stressed, Homeless, Shopping, Worship, Praise  

Who  
Bob  
Mom  
Rebecca- teen  
Rachel- teen  
*Roxanne  

When  
Present  

Wear (Props)  
Waiting Chair  
Park Bench  
Shopping Bags  
Outdoor Trash Can  
Shopping Cart  
Cell Phones  
Shiny Rock (approximately the size of your hand)  

Why  
Psalm 150  

How  
This skit is a great reminder of the power of worshipping God; particularly during the holidays. The father is a bored, disinterested character, while the daughters are quite the same in their teenage way.  

*The mom character is designed to be an off-stage voice so that she can actually play the homeless woman in Scene Two.  

Time  
Approximately 10 minutes
“The Christmas Secret”

SCENE ONE

Stage right. This scene takes place outside a dressing room. Bob is seated and daughters are standing, waiting impatiently. Mom is an off-stage voice in a dressing room.

Rebecca: Dad, can we GO now?!
Rachel: Yeah, Dad. We’ve been here forever!
Bob: Girls, we are waiting on your mom to get out of the dressing room.
Rachel: But she took like 20 outfits in there!
Rebecca: Yeah. You know. Technically, she’s breaking the law with all those outfits. It clearly says right there on the door “Only 5 garments at a time in the dressing rooms.”
Rachel: You’re so nerdy.
Rebecca: And, you’re so…so…not nice.
Bob: Girls. Chill. She’ll be done when she gets done. (under breath) Which I hope is soon. (calling to Mom offstage) Honey, any chance one of those outfits is gonna work?
Mom: I just don’t know! I like this blue one, but it’s a little plain. The lace one is nice, but it’s just a little too frilly. Which one did you like?
Bob: The blue one. Definitely the blue one.
Mom: Which blue one? The first one or the second one?
Bob: Those were two different dresses?
Rebecca: Dad. The first one was navy blue and the second one was midnight blue.

Bob gestures absolute confusion and despair.

Rachel: Dad, how about you let us go and we’ll meet up with you and Mom later.
Bob: No way. Too many crazies out there this time of year. The holidays bring out the worst in people.
Rebecca: Dad. It’s a mall. There’s security everywhere. Besides, I’ll be with Rachel. No one’s gonna take her.
Rachel: (aghast at the thought) Why not?! (flips her hair) I’m beautiful.
Rebecca:  Yes, but 15 minutes with you and they’ll bring you back *(laughs at herself).*

Rachel: *(put out)* I want out of this family.


Rachel: *(deeply hurt, thinking he’s talking specifically to her)* Dad. I was just kidding!

Bob:  No, I mean the two of you, go. We’ll meet you at the food court in an hour…if we’re lucky.

Rachel/Rebecca: Thanks! Bye!

Mom:  Ok, honey. I think I’ve narrowed it down. Definitely not going to go with the blue or the green. I’m going with the red. Now to decide which of the 5 I like the best.

Bob: *(rolls eyes)* Honey, I’m gonna step outside for a few minutes to get some air.

Mom:  Ok. Let’s meet back in 30 minutes at the food court.

Bob:  Great.

SCENE TWO

Bob enters center stage and sits down on a bench outside the mall. It is obvious he’s not excited about this whole trip to the mall. He begins to scroll through his phone. Roxanne enters opposite side of stage, pushing her grocery cart. She approaches the bench where Bob is sitting and grabs an empty soda can from the trash can nearby. Bob is watching all of this carefully, disgusted at the sight of her and fearful she might sit down beside him. His nightmare comes true.

Roxanne:  Merry Christmas!

Bob:  Merry Christmas.

Roxanne: *(extends a hand of greeting)* Name’s Roxanne. What’s yours?

Bob:  It’s Bob.

Roxanne: *(shakes hand enthusiastically)* Well, Bob, it’s nice to meet you. Bob. Is that short for Robert or Bobby…?

Bob: *(heavy sigh)* It’s Robert.

Roxanne: But you go by Bob?
Bob: Yes.

Roxanne: Sure, sure. It’s easier. Friends call me Rox.

Bob: *(under his breath)* Probably because you’ve got rocks in your head.

Roxanne: Oh, no. It’s just easier than saying Roxanne.

*Bob is slightly embarrassed that she heard his crude comment.*

Roxanne: Say, what’s all these pretty boxes? *(she noses around in his bags, looking)*

Bob: *(lightly pushes her away from his stuff)* Hey, lady! *(notices her dejected look)* They’re gifts for my family for the holidays.

Roxanne: Ooo! A family man! I knew it. Got any kids?

Bob: Yes. Two girls.

Roxanne: Got pictures?

Bob: Ye… *(begins to pull up their pictures on his phone, then decides he doesn’t want to go there)* I mean, no, not on me.

Roxanne: Names?

Bob: *(sigh)* Rebecca and Rachel.

Roxanne: Oooo! Biblical names! Very impressive. Great women of the Bible they were. You know, I always wanted to be like Rachel. *(quotes the verse dramatically)* “Rachel was lovely in form and beautiful.” Not much beauty here, though. Just some old clothes from my friends down at the Salvation Army. *(beat)* What do you think?

Bob: About what?

Roxanne: About me! Could I be lovely in form and beautiful?

Bob: Sure, lady. Whatever you say.

Roxanne: *(somewhat saddened by his lack of attention. She begins muttering to herself, then…)* I bet your wife’s lovely in form and beautiful.

Bob: She’s alright.

Bob: No, she looks fine. As a matter of fact, she’s perfect. She lets me know it all the time.

Roxanne: Ooo. Are we bitter, Bob?

Bob: No, just tired.

Roxanne: Tired of her, huh? Yeah, I know that feeling really well. (beat) Say, if you’re tired of her, why are you giving her all these pretty packages?

Bob: Because it’s Christmas.

Roxanne: *(Rox is thinking quick on her toes)* You tired of me?

Bob: Yes.

Roxanne: *(begins to take a package)* Can I have one?

Bob: NO! Look, please don’t touch any of those. You might break them; they are very expensive.


Bob: Try $100.

Roxanne: You paid a hundred dollars for a box and a bow? No way!!!

Bob: No, lady, I paid a hundred dollars for the gift that’s inside the box.

Roxanne: *(surprised)* You mean there’s something inside there?

Bob: Well, yes. Haven’t you ever gotten a gift before?

Roxanne: Hmmmm. Let me see… NOPE! Can’t say as I have.

Bob: Wow.

Roxanne: So, Bob, why do you have the gifts inside a box all wrapped up?

Bob: That’s what a gift is. You get something for someone, then you put it in a box and wrap it up so that it’s a secret.

Roxanne: A SECRET?! Well, why didn’t you say so? You mean all these are secrets?

Bob: Yes.

Roxanne: Man, you’ve got a lot of secrets.

Bob: *(he’s obviously reinterpreted her comment)* More than you’ll ever know.
Beat

Roxanne: I’ve got a secret. Wanna hear it?
Bob: Ha! Uh, no.

Roxanne: (nagging) Come on! Please? Please, please, please…
Bob: Alright! Alright! What’s your big secret?

Roxanne: (stands on the bench and begins to shout out) Hallelujah! Praise God in His holy house of worship! Praise Him under the open skies! Praise Him for his acts of power! Praise Him for His magnificent greatness! Praise Him with a blast of the trumpet! Praise Him by strumming soft strings! Praise Him with castanets and dancing! Praise Him with the banjo and the flute! Let every living, breathing creature praise the Lord! Hallelujah!

Bob is totally embarrassed at first at Roxanne’s unusual behavior, looking around to see if they are attracting any attention. However, he is drawn to her words and begins to listen.

They cut to his heart and he hangs his head. When Roxanne is done, she notices Bob’s dejected look and sits back down beside him.

Roxanne: Hey, Bob. What’s the matter?
Bob: How do you do it? I mean, look at you. You’ve got nothing; no family, no money, no job…nothing. Yet, there’s something different about you. You seem to have all this joy.

Roxanne: Hey, Bob. (motions for him to come closer) That’s another secret. Wanna hear it?
Bob: You’re not gonna jump back up there again, are you?

Roxanne: Nope. This one’s just for you. The secret’s in the praise.
Bob: Praise? You mean, like to God?

Roxanne: Yep. You see, Bob, this world will suck the life right out of you. Before you know it, you’re lost. You turn around and there’s nobody there. Just you…all alone. But the Bible says that God lives in the praises of His people. So, if you ever feel alone, you just praise Him and BOOM! He’s there. And now you’re not alone. You one of God’s people, Bob?

Bob: Well, yeah. Probably not a very good one. But I didn’t know praise could make you feel like that.

Roxanne: Well, Bob, my friend, praise can change your life.
Bob: (stands) Listen. I need to go meet up with my family. (turns back to Roxanne) Hey, lady?

Roxanne: Bob, we’re friends. Call me Rox.

Bob: OK, Rox. Listen. Thanks for everything. You help me put these holidays back in the right perspective.

Roxanne: Hey! That’s what I’m here for, Bob, to remind you. WAIT! I’ve got a gift for you. Now, it’s not wrapped or anything, but it’s a gift just the same. (she hands him a large rock)

Bob: A rock. (he notices an inscription on the rock, as Roxanne exits, and begins to read it aloud) Huh. There’s something written on here. “The whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God. Some of the Pharisees said to Jesus, ‘Teacher, rebuke your disciples.’ Jesus replied, ‘I tell you the truth, if they keep quiet, the rocks will cry out.’” The Rox will cry out!

Bob looks up to speak to Roxanne, but she is gone. He smiles and walks back toward stage right with his rock.

SCENE THREE

Bob enters stage right again, at the mall food court, holding the rock.

Rebecca: Dad, where’s mom?

Bob: Well, she got distracted by a bath towel sale.

Rachel: Well, I’m starving. Can we eat without her??

Rebecca: Dad. Why are you carrying a rock?

Bob: Oh, um, it was a gift from some person I met a few minutes ago.

Rachel: Ok. That’s not weird. (sarcastically)

Rebecca: Dad, you told US not to talk to strangers. Hello.

Bob: It’s a long story. I’ll tell you later. Hey girls. Whad’ya say we all go to the Christmas Eve service at that church by our house.

Rebecca: Really? The church mom’s been trying to get you to go to four years now?

Rachel: I like that church.

Rebecca: You like the fact that Gary goes to that church.
Rachel: No…and his name is Greg. *(swoons)*

Bob: Great. Let’s do it.

Rachel: First things first. Food.

Rebecca: There’s mom!

*Bob looks back at center stage and reflects on encounter with Roxanne as he follows girls off-stage.*

*Lights out.*