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## **“The Cost of Christmas”**

by  
Rachel Benjamin

**What** As three coworkers exchange Christmas presents, the expense of the gifts leads to a discussion on the true cost of Christmas.

Theme: Christmas, Grace, Free Gift, Salvation, Presents, Trio

**Who** Les  
Tim  
Mya

**When** Present

**Costumes and Props** Two desks  
Two office chairs  
Papers  
Binders  
Office desk items  
Wrapped presents  
Four watches (two in presents, two being worn by Tim and Les)  
Two Mugs with Gift Cards in them  
Cash  
Two Purses  
Wallet  
Christmas Tree  
Ornaments

**Why** Romans 6:23, Ephesians 2:8

**How** Use the actors you have. This skit can be done with men or women.  
Also, if you don't have lots of props, this skit can be done with minimal props.  
Just do your best to represent an office setting.

**Time** Approximately 3 minutes

*The setting is an office at Christmastime. There should be two desks center stage with two chairs behind them. The desks are slightly strewn with papers and binders. There is a Christmas tree towards stage right with some lights and Christmas bulbs on it.*

*Tim is sitting on his desk staring at his watch, and Les is sitting in her chair also staring at her watch.*

**Les:** Five minutes and counting.

**Tim:** Four minutes.

**Les:** Your clock is fast.

**Tim:** So?

**Les:** You're right. We'll go with yours.

*Mya enters from Stage Right. She has her coat on and a large purse with her.*

**Mya:** You guys ready for Christmas?

**Les:** I will be in four minutes.

**Tim:** Three.

**Mya:** Well, before you go—

*Mya pulls out two wrapped presents from her purse and gives them to Les and Tim.*

**Les:** Presents?

**Tim:** I got something for you guys too.

*Tim grabs two small gifts out of his desk.*

**Les:** What? I didn't know we were exchanging gifts.

**Mya:** We're not.

**Les:** But we are.

**Tim:** No. It's just a little something.

**Mya:** It's no big deal.

**Les:** We're supposed to discuss these things. Discuss price limits. We could pull names out of a hat, so no one feels left out.

**Mya:** There's only three of us in the office.

**Tim:** It's not a big deal. Just open it.

*Les and Mya open Tim's presents. They both receive mugs and gift cards.*

**Les:** A Christmas mug.

**Tim:** (to Les) Since, I did break yours last month.

**Mya:** And a gift card to Dunkin Donuts (or local Coffee Shop). Thank you.

**Mya:** Now open mine.

*Tim and Les open Mya's gift. They both open new watches.*

**Tim:** A new watch.

**Mya:** Seeing as how you two are always arguing about whose watch is right. I thought I'd level the playing field.

**Tim:** Thank you.

**Les:** Thanks.

**Mya:** (to Tim) Ready to go?

**Tim:** (to Mya) Yes. Thanks again for the ride.

**Mya:** Sure thing. (To Les) Merry Christmas.

*Tim gathers his stuff and starts to exit Stage Left with Mya.*

**Tim:** (to Les) See you after the New Year.

**Les:** Hang on one minute.

*Tim and Mya turn around towards Stage Right.*

**Tim:** What?

*Les grabs her purse and pulls out her wallet.*

**Les:** (to herself) One mug, nice but not over the top, probably on sale at Kinney's (or local department store). Plus, the gift card.

*Les pulls money from her wallet and gives it to Tim.*

**Les:** (to herself) Then the watch. Definitely need a few more tens.

*Les pulls more money out of her wallet and gives it to Mya.*

**Mya:** Wait. Wait. What are you doing?

**Tim:** Yeah. Why are you handing us money?

**Les:** It's for the Christmas presents.

**Tim:** I don't want you to pay me back.

**Mya:** Neither do I.

**Les:** But they cost you money.

**Tim:** It's a present.

**Les:** (to **Mya**) The watch was an expensive present.

**Mya:** It's a gift.

**Tim:** The whole point of a present is that it's free.

**Mya:** If it wasn't free, it wouldn't be a gift.

**Les:** I know that's what Christmas is all about—gifts and presents. But I didn't know we were exchanging stuff. So, I'll just give you cash and call it good.

**Mya:** I think you're missing the point here. We're not giving you a gift so that we'll get one in return.

**Les:** That's kinda the point of Christmas. More of an equal exchange.

**Tim:** Actually, it's not. That's not what Christmas is about at all. It's actually about a *free* gift. Specifically—

**Les:** Here we go with your religious lecture. (*Mockingly*) Christmas is about God's gift.

**Mya:** Not just any gift.

**Les:** Ok. Ok. I've heard this all before. God's gift isn't really free, though, is it? You have to live good lives and obey his laws, read the Bible...yadda yadda.

**Mya:** No.

**Tim:** Not exactly. Once we have changed lives, we want to do those things...but God's gift really is free.

**Les:** Free?

**Tim:** Yeah. We don't have to do anything.

**Mya:** Just accept it.

**Tim:** Like how we want you to accept our gifts.

**Mya:** They're free gifts.

*Tim and Mya hand Les the money back.*

**Mya:** Merry Christmas.

*Tim and Mya exit Stage Right. Les stands with the money in her hands, watching them leave. She then quickly grabs her coat and purse and follows Tim and Mya.*

**Les:** Hey guys, wait up. I have a couple more questions about this gift thing.