

CELEBRATING JESUS

By Debbie Entsminger

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DEDICATION

*To my Heavenly Father. Each drama is a gift from You,
produced as You enable for Your glory. Revelation 4:11.*

The Playwright

STORY OF THE PLAY

'Tis the season to be...busy! Here's a collection of five skits, ranging in length from five to seven minutes, that challenge Christians to take time throughout the Christmas holiday season to celebrate Jesus. These skits highlight the truth that even when circumstances are less than ideal, Christians always have something to celebrate. The skits can be performed independently or as a weekly series leading up to Christmas. Since they all occur in a contemporary setting, they are easy to stage and produce.

CONTENTS

Tell Me the Story
Cookies and Candles
White Christmas
Getting Ready for Baby
Thank You, God, for Jesus

TELL ME THE STORY

Luke 1:30-33; 2:13,14

CAST OF CHARACTERS

FATHER: Middle-aged.

MOTHER: Middle-aged.

TERI: Teen daughter.

JENNIE: Young daughter.

TIM: Middle son.

(AT RISE: FATHER is seated at a table working on bills. MOTHER and TERI enter loaded with packages.)

MOTHER: If I never see another shopping mall in my life it'll be too soon!

FATHER: Can I quote you on that?

MOTHER: It was horrendous. *(SHE puts bags down on the table.)* It took me fifteen minutes just to find a parking spot.

TERI: Yeah, a mile away from the door. *(Drops HER bags on the table.)*

MOTHER: And inside...*(Starts pulling things out of HER bag.)*...you should have seen all the people.

FATHER: No thanks.

MOTHER: Everyone pushing and shoving.

TERI: Interrupting and grumbling. *(Disgusted, SHE exits.)*

MOTHER: One man even had the audacity to grab a candle right out of my hand.

FATHER: Did you grab it back?

MOTHER: *(Still taking presents out of the bag.)* He disappeared into the crowd before I could even think to respond. *(SHE sighs.)* It's just getting worse and worse each year.

JENNIE: *(Enters carrying a large book, tugs on HER MOTHER'S sleeve.)* Mommy, will you read me a story?

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MOTHER: Oh, honey, I can't right now. *(TIM enters.)* I've got to get these presents in the mail by 4 p.m. or they'll never make it to your cousins on time.

JENNIE: On time for what?

TIM: Christmas, silly!

JENNIE: *(Excited.)* Jesus' birthday?!

TIM: That's right, only 24 shopping days left. *(To FATHER.)* Did Santa find my wish list on his briefcase?

FATHER: I'm sure he did. I saw him over at the hardware store picking up some coal and switches.

TIM: Right! Just be sure to tell him there's only one skateboard left at the surf shop. He'd better not wait 'til the last minute or someone else might snatch it up.

FATHER: I'll pass it on.

(TIM goes to the cookie tin, opens it, and starts eating. JENNIE pulls on her FATHER'S arm.)

JENNIE: Daddy, will you read me a story?

FATHER: Just give me a few minutes, honey. I've got to figure out how we're going to pay for all your mother's purchases.

(JENNIE crosses to DCS, sits on the floor and starts playing with some playdough. She tries to make a wreath as the dialogue continues. She crosses to SL to a box labeled Christmas and pulls out some well-used candles. She takes them back to her wreath and puts them in it.)

MOTHER: Now, dear, you should see some of the deals we got. Take this shirt, it started out at \$60.00, was marked 30% off, but while we were there they ran a blue-light special which reduced it 50% more. I had a coupon for \$5.00 off. And since I used my charge card they gave a Christmas bonus of an additional 10% off! Final cost: \$13.50! Isn't that incredible? By shopping the early-bird specials we saved a ton of money.

FATHER: More than you spent?

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MOTHER: *(Ignoring HIM, yelling off-stage.)* Teri, will you bring me some more tape, please?

TIM: Aren't there any more cookies?

MOTHER: Check in the cupboard, there still may be a few. I'm planning on doing more Christmas baking tomorrow.

FATHER: Isn't there some ladies' luncheon at church tomorrow?

MOTHER: *(Groans.)* Oh! How could I forget? I'm in charge of the punch bowl.

TERI: *(Enters with the tape.)* Remember, Mom, I've got dress rehearsal for the Christmas play from 5:30 to 8:00 tomorrow night. Have you started making my costume yet?

MOTHER: Tomorrow morning. First thing.

FATHER: And I really need you to get those cards out to my business associates.

TIM: *(Holding empty cookie tin, rolls eyes.)* So much for more cookies.

MOTHER: Here. *(SHE hands HIM a few dollars. FATHER reacts.)* Go buy some.

TIM: Great! *(HE pockets it. He sees JENNIE holding matches.)* Hey, did you tell Jennie she could play with matches?

MOTHER/FATHER: What? *(TIM points to JENNIE sitting on the floor ready to strike a match.)*

FATHER: No, Jennie!

MOTHER: Honey. *(Crossing to HER.)* You are never to play with matches! No! No! No!

FATHER: Let Daddy have them. *(SHE gives them to HIM.)* What were you trying to do?

JENNIE: See my wreath? *(SHE holds it up.)* I made one like the one in children's church. You're supposed to light one candle each week until Jesus' birthday! Mr. Adam told us about it. It's to help us remember Jesus. *(MOTHER and FATHER exchange glances.)*

FATHER: Well, why don't we put it up here in the center of the table. I'm sure your mom can clear off a spot. *(MOTHER clears a spot and they put it in the center of the table.)* You did a good job making it, honey.

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FATHER: (*Continued.*) But let's only have Mommy and Daddy light the candles, okay?

JENNIE: Okay, Daddy. This one right here should be first. It represents the angels. (*FATHER lights the candle.*) And could you tell me a story, too? (*SHE hands HIM the book.*)

FATHER: Sure, honey, (*Opening the book.*) which story?

JENNIE: (*Sings.*)

"Tell me the story of Jesus, Write on my heart ev'ry word;
Tell me the story most precious, Sweetest that ever was heard.
Tell how the angels, in chorus, Sang as they welcomed His birth,
'Glory to God in the highest! Peace and good tidings to earth.'"

THE END

End of Freeview

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