

# Drama Ministry®

POINT. CLICK. ACTION!

## GOOD GIFTS

by PERRY PERKINS

**GENRE:** Comedy

**SYNOPSIS:** Often we confuse tithing and gifts. On Christmas morning, two children learn the difference between a tithe (giving back what is God's) and a gift (giving to God from what is ours).

**DIRECTOR'S TIP:** Comedic timing is important, but "comedic revealing" is just as important in a prop-heavy piece. Many times actors will perform a comedy and not understand why the audience didn't laugh at points in the script which they were sure were hilarious. Nine times out of ten it's because they mumbled the end of their line, or blocked a character on stage whose facial expression was supposed to be the punch line of a joke. As a director, you must be aware of these types of technicalities or you'll lose out on the greatest impact possible for your comedy. All but DAD are seated in front of the Christmas tree, opening gifts.

**TIME:** Under 5 minutes

**CAST BREAKDOWN:** 4

**TOPIC:** Giving

**SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:** Matthew 7:11

**CHURCH YEAR SEASON:** Christmas

**SUGGESTED USE:** Sermon Illustration

**CHARACTERS:**

Mom  
Dad  
Sarah—a teenager  
Danny—a young boy

**PROPS:** One dozen wrapped packages (various sizes), silk tie, roofing hammer

**COSTUMES:** Pajamas, slippers, bathrobes

**SOUND:** Four wireless mics

**LIGHTING:** General stage

**SETTING:** A single couch and a Christmas tree

### Drama Ministry

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**DANNY:** DAD! Get in here!

**MOM:** Go easy on him; he hasn't had his coffee yet!

**SARAH:** Daddy! C'mon!

**DAD:** *(Enters staggering and blinking)* I'm here, I'm here... something better be on fire!

**MOM:** Oh, sit down, Scrooge, it's Christmas morning!

**DAD:** Well, it's Christmas. I think the morning part could be argued.

**DANNY:** Here, Dad, this one is to you from Sarah.

**DAD:** *(Yawns)* Thanks. Is it coffee?

**MOM:** *(Elbows DAD)* Honey!

**SARAH:** Open it!

**DAD:** *(Opens the present and pulls a tie out of the box)* Hey, a tie! Wow, I really like this pattern, Sarah. Thank you!

**SARAH:** Merry Christmas!

**DANNY:** This one is from me to you, Dad!

**DAD:** Thank you, Danny! *(Opens the present)* A new roofing hammer! Great, I haven't seen my old one since last summer!

**DANNY:** Well, it's not exactly new...

**DAD:** Hey, buying a good tool used is smart shopping!

**SARAH:** Here, Mom, *(Handing her a large present)* this is to you from me...

**MOM:** Thank you, Sweetheart!

**DAD:** *(Still looking at the hammer)* That's funny...

**MOM:** What's funny?

**DAD:** My old hammer had a scratch just like this...from when I dropped it off the garage at Dad's house.

**MOM:** Really?

*SARAH and DANNY look at each other.*