

A GIFT

by Joy L. Mason

GENRE: Drama

SYNOPSIS: How does anyone find love? After the breakup of a relationship, Jess feels unloved and unlovable. It takes an honest reminder from a friend for Jess to remember how beautiful she truly is. This slice-of-life sketch is a reminder that love has already come to us all.

DIRECTOR'S TIP: Be careful not to play Jess as overly dramatic. She's not at the end of her rope; just perplexed. And be careful with Adam's lines at the end about love. He's trying to remind her gently about the love we have in Christ, but don't make it too obvious. It's written subtly — you don't want to hit your audience over the head with it. Let the pastor make the connection for them in his message if they missed it.

TIME: Under 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 2

TOPIC: Love, Relationships, Youth

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: John 1:14

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

CHARACTERS:

Jess - Age 25-29

Adam - Age 25-29; her friend

PROPS: Chairs or a park bench

COSTUMES: Winter clothing, including warm coats

SOUND: Two wireless mics

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: A park bench on a sunny December day

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Scene opens with JESS sitting by herself on a park bench. After a few moments, ADAM ENTERS and walks behind her. He hesitates, realizes JESS is who he thinks she is, and approaches her.

ADAM: Jess? Hey, how're you doing?

JESS: Adam! Hey — what are you doing here?

ADAM: Just out for a walk. It's such a nice day. Do you mind if I join you for a minute?

JESS: Oh, no — sure. Have a seat. It is beautiful. The sun feels good — almost makes you forget it's winter. How have you been?

ADAM: Doing well, thanks. Keeping pretty busy.

JESS: Yeah, I understand that. Work is going well?

ADAM: Well, you know — it's work, but not bad. How's your job?

JESS: Well, you know — it's a job. *(They laugh)* No, things are fine. How are you and Alison?

ADAM: Doing really well, actually. We're going to go see her parents for Christmas.

JESS: Ah, meeting the family?

ADAM: *(Sheepishly)* Yeah, yeah. But it should be good. What about you? You and Josh —

JESS: Actually, we just broke up.

ADAM: Oh, Jess. I'm sorry. You guys had been together for a while, hadn't you?

JESS: Just about two years. It's been — well, things would be easier if I didn't miss him so much.

ADAM: Can I ask — did he or you —

JESS: I broke it off. I miss him, but we both knew it wasn't right. I mean, knew there wasn't a future.

ADAM: Knowing probably doesn't make it easier.

JESS: Yeah. I keep wondering what if we tried harder, or I gave up this, or he gave up that, but ...

ADAM: "What if" games never help either.