

Kyla: When I go to Mrs. Jenkins and Mrs. Boyds tomorrow to do the dishes and straighten the house, I can tell them how good you are at sewing and ask them if they need any mending done, their hands are so twisted with arthritis that they probably can't sew anything themselves and neither one seems to have any family to help out.

Mr. Hendrix: I'm sure God will make a way, for our rent AND for our family. With only a couple weeks until Christmas, maybe I can get a temporary job stocking shelves or something. I can probably get a job this spring with a construction company, but winter sure isn't a good time to be asking for a job. I wish the Johnson Furniture Factory hadn't gone bankrupt, and especially not right now. With BOTH of us out of a job, we'll just have to be more creative.

Mrs. Hendrix: I know we don't have much food but we always have ENOUGH, and we barely have enough money to keep a roof over our heads, but the one thing we DO have is each other and the peace and contentment that comes by being God's children. Christmas is the perfect time to remember how much God loves us, so much that He sent His only son to be born in a stable. His parents didn't have a lot of money either, but they had a desire to love and obey the Heavenly Father. Being a Christian doesn't make life easy, but it sure does make it easier to cope with what happens in our life.

(Curtain Closes)

## Scene Five

*Mrs. Jeanette Kyger -- Mother*

*Suzanne Kyger -- Daughter*

*Kyla Hendrix – to deliver Mrs. Hendrix's sewing*

*Benji Johnson – hungry little boy hoping to get food for his sister*

*Casey Johnson – hungry little girl, shivering in the cold with a towel around shoulders for warmth*

(Curtain opens with Young Girl and Young Boy wandering along, shivering in the cold with a kitchen towel around the girl's shoulders instead of a coat, and then hesitate before going to door and knocking. Suzanne comes to the door.)

Suzanne (looks out the door, above the children's heads, ignoring the children): I thought I heard someone knock.

Benji: I knocked, Lady. My sister is hungry and Momma doesn't have any food for us to eat.

Suzanne: So she sent you here to beg for her?

Casey: No, lady, Momma doesn't know. She sent us to our room last night and she is still asleep, and I'm hungry.

Benji: My sister was crying this morning because she was hungry, and my stomach is hungry, too. We don't need very much, just a few crackers or a slice of bread. Please?

Suzanne: I can't believe your mother would make you walk in this cold weather to beg for food. If she doesn't have food, she surely has WATER. Go back home. As filthy as you are, I can't even let you stand inside the door. No telling what kind of lice and germs you might have.

Benji: Please, lady, we won't come in, we'll stay right here. Do you know how it feels to be hungry, real hungry?

Suzanne: Sounds convincing, your mother has taught you well. I have to shut the door, it's letting the cold in. Go try your begging on someone else, it'll give you more practice. (sneers, and walks away from the children. Boy and Girl hold hands and continue walking away from the house. As they walk away, Kyla can be seen walking toward the Kyger house.)

(Kyla knocks on the door and Mrs. Kyger and Suzanne come to the door. Kyla has a box with the dress she is delivering to Mrs. Kyger which her mother had finished sewing.)

Kyla: Hello Mrs. Kyger. My mother has finished the dress and wanted me to bring it over to you. I'm sure you'll look real elegant. Momma said the bill is in the envelope.

Mrs. Kyger (steps back offstage and speaks excitedly, still offstage): Oh, Kyla, tell your mother the dress is beautiful, it is exactly what I wanted. (Coming back to the door with the envelope.) Tell your mother I'm sorry about the money in the envelope, I wanted to pay her more but Brady says he doesn't have any more cash right now. Tell her I am very pleased and she can go ahead and finish the next dress we had talked about. I will need it for the New Year's party.

Kyla: Thank you. (turns to leave, hesitates, turns back to Mrs. Kyger) Oh, uh, they are having a live nativity scene in front of the court house each evening this week. I hope you can come by. Then Saturday night at the church they will be having a Christmas Program about how Jesus left the riches of heaven to become poor like us so that everyone can have hope and joy and peace.

Suzanne: Hope? Joy? Peace? Aren't you a little young to be worrying about hope, joy and peace? You said that Jesus became poor like US, child, WE'RE NOT POOR so He must have become poor like YOUR family. With all the trouble your family has had this year, I would think that you would be upset because everything has gone wrong. Why, your father said he didn't even have enough money to buy you a Christmas present this year. Christmas isn't Christmas without presents! Doesn't that make you angry?

Kyla: Oh, no. Mommy and Daddy said that we won't have enough money for presents this year, but Joel and I don't mind because they are going to take us to the Holland