

“Spiritual Resolution: Give More”

by
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What Annie decides to give away all her old things in an attempt to live a simpler life, but her motives are not quite right. This comedic skit is part of the Spiritual Resolution series and fits perfectly into a series about New Year's resolutions.

Themes: New Year, New Year's Resolutions, Time with God, Evangelism, Ministry, Bible Reading, Giving, Physical Health, Duos

Who **Annie-** a young professional (20's-30's) who is relatively new to the Christian faith. Has a flair for the dramatic.
Connie- humorous representation of her conscience (should be played by someone older than Annie)
Joe- volunteer who works at the second-hand donation center

When Present day. Interior of donation center.

Wear (Props) Long table
Pile of clothes
Six garbage bags stuffed with clothes/linens
One garbage bag filled with pots and pans, pair of shoes
All actors wear present-day casual clothes. Joe and Connie may wear matching store-style aprons (optional).

Why 2 Corinthians 9:7

How This is a comic script, and it's okay for actors to exaggerate reactions.

Time Approximately 4 minutes

Lights up on **Joe**, who is standing behind a table, whistling to himself and sorting clothes. Enter **Annie**.

Annie: Morning! Is the donation center open yet?

Joe: Yup, bring it on in.

Annie briefly exits, then returns with one overstuffed garbage bag.

Joe: Wow, you filled that up good.

Annie: Hold on a minute. *(Steps out and retrieves two more overstuffed garbage bags)*

Joe: You moving or something?

Annie: Nope! Just working on my New Year's resolutions, trying to— *(hauls another bag in)* simplify my life a little.

Joe: Well, you're making mine more complicated, that's for sure.

He starts unpacking one of her bags of clothes. **Annie** briefly steps out and returns with a fifth bag.

Annie: *(brightly)* It's crazy how much stuff we can accumulate, you know?

Joe: Tell me about it.

Annie: I had no idea how much fun it would be to get rid of everything. I have a nice clean closet now *(steps out and returns, dumping a sixth bag on the floor)*, no more clutter in my kitchen cabinets *(drops a seventh bag, which makes a clanking sound as if full of pans)* ... It's great.

Joe: Sure, it's great...but, do you have anything left in your house?

Annie: Not much. But that's the point, right?

Joe: I'll call for backup. *(Joe exits)*

Enter **Connie**.

Connie: Why, hello there, Annie.

Annie: Wait. What-? How-?

Connie: I'm your conscience. Remember, you wanted help with your—

Annie: *(resigned)*—spiritual New Year's resolutions.

Connie: You got it! Now—what in the world are you doing?

Annie: You're my conscience...shouldn't you know?

Connie: Refresh my memory.

Annie: One of my resolutions is giving more...living a simpler lifestyle. It's easier to live a God-focused life without all these distractions, you know.

Connie: Distractions such as... (*looking inside the seventh bag*) a set of sauté pans? That's a distraction? What are you going to cook with?

Annie: See? That's exactly it! A simpler lifestyle fosters creativity. Did you know you can cook a grilled cheese sandwich on an iron?

Connie: An iron. Like— (*mimes ironing an item of clothing*)

Annie: Yes! Ingenious, right?

Connie: Let me ask you a question. (*Leans in closer*) Do you know what scalding butter drips feel like?

Annie: Oh. Didn't think of that. I could... use my waffle maker!

Connie: (*prompting*) OR...

Annie: (*resigned*) Or I could use the new set of pans I got for Christmas.

Connie: Bulls-eye!

Annie: Hey, give me a break. At least I'm trying.

Connie: So, you want to give more. That's good. What percentage are you setting aside, and who is it going to?

Annie: What do you mean, percentage?

Connie: Of your income. If you're living on less, it's so you can give more, right?

Annie: I'm giving away one hundred percent of my old stuff. (*As Connie snorts*) What's wrong with that?

Connie: (*sarcastically*) While it's amazingly generous of you to sacrifice everything you're done with, I don't think it's going to change your lifestyle.

Annie: That's what you think, Conscience.

Connie: Tell me this. What are you planning to do after you leave here?

Annie: (*hesitating; she's caught*) I don't have to answer that.

Connie: *(vindicated)* Nope. I already know the answer.

Annie: All right, fine! I'm going shopping! My closets are completely empty now, I have a stocking full of gift cards, what do you expect me to do?

Connie: You don't sacrifice material things just so you have an excuse to buy more. That God-focused life you were talking about? That'll go right out the window.

Annie: *(defeated)* But...

Connie: It's a privilege to be able to give to God's work. That's one of the goals of choosing to live on less. But if your goal is to replace your old stuff, then you need to call it what it is.

Annie: Ughhhh. Why are you always right?

Connie: Let's take this one step at a time. *(She reaches into a different bag and pulls out a pair of shoes)* Take these back home. Skip the shoe store. Take the money you *would* have spent and give it to a person or place God puts on your heart. Think you can do that?

Annie: Sure, I have some ideas. *(Starts to pick up a bag)* Can you help me repack the car?

Connie: I don't do heavy lifting. *(Exits)*

Annie: *(starting after her)* Okay...then can you at least help me get my blender back?

Exits. Lights down.