

# "UNAPPRECIATED SANTA"

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## **Synopsis**

George refuses to play the role of Santa Claus at the church Christmas party because he feels unappreciated. However, after he realizes how much Jesus sacrificed for us, even though he was not appreciated, George has a change of heart.

## **Scripture**

Colossians 3:23

## **Ministry Lesson**

When we do good for others, we should not always expect earthly rewards or appreciation, but everything we do should be done to glorify God. We must remember that our labor is not in vain.

## **Ministry Focus**

Christmas, Christian Service

**Genre:** Comedy

## **Cast**

George - Male (the bigger the better)  
Beth - Female

## **Props**

1 Chair  
Santa Claus suit  
TV Remote Control

## **Costumes**

Man - Normal comfortable clothes (sweat pants, etc.)  
Woman - Church dress

**Time:** 7 mins.

## **Sound Effects**

None

UNAPPRECIATED SANTA

INTERIOR - FAMILY ROOM - EVENING

GEORGE IS SITTING ON THE SOFA WATCHING TV. HE FLICKS THE TV REMOTE, CHANGING BETWEEN SEVERAL STATIONS WHEN BETH, HIS WIFE, ARRIVES CARRYING A SANTA CLAUS COSTUME.

**BETH**

Okay, honey, here's the costume. You'd better hurry or we'll be late.

**GEORGE**

I'm not going this year.

**BETH**

(taken back)

Excuse me? What do you mean you're not going? It's Christmas Eve and the church Christmas party is tonight.

**GEORGE**

So! I've decided to take it easy tonight. Maybe run out to Blockbusters and pick up a movie.

**BETH**

(in disbelief)

Well, who's going to be Santa Claus?

**GEORGE**

(defensive)

Well, no one at the church asked me.

**BETH**

You've been Santa for the last five years...

**GEORGE**

...AND

**BETH**

And, we all assumed...

**GEORGE**

You see, that's where people make mistakes. They assume too much.

**BETH**

Well, George, I mean, there's no one else who can be Santa at the church. You're fat...

GEORGE GIVES HER A HARD LOOK.

**BETH (CONT'D)**

I don't mean fat, I mean big and you have the voice for it.

**GEORGE**

There are a lot of men in the church that can be Santa.

**BETH**

Name one?

GEORGE PONDERES FOR A MOMENT.

**GEORGE**

Well maybe there's not another man, but there are a lot of big women with deep voices.

**BETH**

George, the children don't want a female Santa.

**GEORGE**

Look, every year I do this Santa routine, and what thanks do I get? No one even gives me a Christmas card.

They just shove their kid in line and go get a plate of food, and I'm left sitting on a hard chair, roasting in that Santa suit like a turkey in an oven.

**BETH**

But honey, think about the kids.

**GEORGE**

Beth, you ever listen to these kids? When we were little, we were glad just to get anything. These kids want expensive stuff and they want it at a certain time. One kid told me to drop off his gifts before nine o'clock so he could play with them before he went to bed.

**BETH**

George, you just tell them that you may run a little late, so you can't promise.

**GEORGE**

This other little boy wanted me to sign his Christmas list.

**BETH**

Oh that's cute. He wanted Santa's autograph.

**GEORGE**

Autograph! He told me it was a promissory note for his gifts.

**BETH**

George, you're blowing this whole thing out of proportion.

(pouting) **GEORGE**  
Nobody appreciates Santa anymore.

**BETH**  
Awe honey, don't talk like that.

**GEORGE**  
It's true.

**BETH**  
It's not.

(hurting) **GEORGE**  
It is! They don't really love me. They love what they can get from me. Once they receive a gift, then they turn from me.

**BETH**  
Sounds familiar, doesn't it?

**GEORGE**  
What do you mean?

**BETH**  
As sad as it is, many people treat Jesus the same way. They acknowledge him this time of year just for the gifts and presents they receive, but so many soon turn away and miss the true meaning of Christmas.

(calms down) **GEORGE**  
I guess people don't appreciate Jesus either.

**BETH**

But Jesus never stops loving and caring  
for us because we don't always say  
"thank you".

GEORGE STRUGGLES WITH HIS PERSONAL CONVICTION

**GEORGE**

See that's not right.

**BETH**

What?

**GEORGE**

I was perfectly content sitting here  
alone watching TV. Now you've got me  
feeling all guilty and stuff.

GEORGE GRABS SANTA SUIT

**BETH**

Me? What did I do?

GEORGE AND BETH BEGIN TO LEAVE, STILL ARGUING.

**GEORGE**

You should have just left when I told  
you I was upset.

**BETH**

Why would I do that? I wanted to help.

**GEORGE**

I didn't want any help. I wanted to feel  
sorry for myself.

**BETH**

Well that's your problem.

**GEORGE**

Now I gotta' try to love everybody.

**BETH**

(teasing)

That's the reason for the season.

GEORGE AND BETH EXIT STILL ARGUING.

THE END

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