

The Best Christmas Ever

The Original Stageplay



Cleveland O. McLeish

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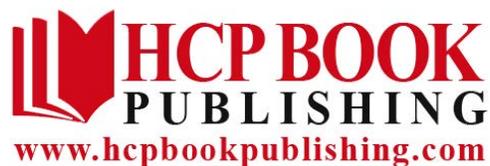


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Characters

GRANDMA	Maurice and Nikki's grandmother. She has recently been diagnosed with cancer. She has complete trust in God.
KENDRA	Maurice and Nikki's mom. She is worried about her kids and how they are handling the pressures of their grandmother's illness. She has total trust in God.
MAURICE	A teenage boy who is starting to lose his way due to the pressures of his grandmother's illness, school, and basketball.
NIKKI	Maurice's sister. She is also having a hard time with the pressures of her grandmother's illness.
MR. STEVENS	A teacher at the school. He is concerned about Maurice and Nikki. He has full faith in God's providence.
MR. ALLEN	A teacher at the school. Non-singing part.
MR. JOHNSON	A teacher at the school who is always joyful due to his faith in Jesus.
MRS. WILLIAMS	A teacher at the school. She is very concerned about her students. She glorifies God in all she does.
TREVOR	A friend of Maurice's. He is a bit of a troublemaker.
JEREMY	Maurice's best friend. A faithful Christian.
MIKE	Maurice's friend. A faithful Christian.
MARCUS	A friend of Maurice's. Also a bit of a troublemaker.
ASHLEY	Nikki's friend. A faithful Christian.
KAYLA	Nikki's best friend. A faithful Christian.
SHAUNA	Another friend of Nikki's.
KRISTEN	Another friend of Nikki's.

Setting

The play takes place in two locations: Maurice and Nikki's Living Room and a Classroom at the School. It is Christmas time.

Time

The present.

SONGS

- Song 1 TRUST IN THE LORD by Jaci Velasquez
- Song 2 MADE A WAY by Travis Greene
- Song 3 JESUS YOU'RE THE CENTER OF MY JOY by Richard
Smallwood
- Song 4 WHO WOULD IMAGINE A KING by Whitney Houston
- Song 5 INTENTIONAL by Travis Greene
- Song 6 ADORE by Jaci Velasquez
- Song 7 STAND by John P. Kee
- Song 8 I SURRENDER ALL by CeCe Winans
- Song 9 YOU ARE GREAT by Juanita Bynum

The Story

A family must come to grips with Grandma's recent diagnosis. Those most affected are the two children, but the circumstances they are facing will lead to their salvation during this Christmas season, and there is a miracle waiting for them.

Play Details

Cast: 8 Males | 8 Females | Plus Extras (Male & Female)

Length: 60 Minutes

Genre: Contemporary | Biblical Drama (With Well Known Songs)

THE SCRIPT



ACT I - SCENE 1

LIGHTS UP

(Maurice and Nikki's living room. The room is small and intimate. The furniture clean, but well worn. A couch sits in the middle of the room. A worn, yet comfortable looking recliner sits angled on one side of the couch; an armchair on the other side. A small, table-top Christmas tree sits on a banged up coffee table. A small fireplace is along the back wall. Four stockings hang on the mantelpiece.)

(GRANDMA, dressed in a nice pair of pajamas, with a warm robe and slippers on, is reclined in the recliner with a cozy looking throw blanket on top of her. She watches as KENDRA, her daughter, hangs tiny ornaments on their small Christmas tree.)

GRANDMA: *(Pointing at a spot on the tree.)* Right there's a bare spot, Kendra.

KENDRA: Where?

GRANDMA: To your left.

KENDRA: *(Finds the spots. Hangs an ornament.)* Nobody would have seen it, Mom.

GRANDMA: But I'd know. And it'd bug me. It's my OPD.

KENDRA: OPD? What in the world is that?

GRANDMA: Ornament Placement Disorder.

(KENDRA laughs.)

GRANDMA: It's a very serious disorder, Kendra. You shouldn't laugh.

KENDRA: Sure it is. You're gonna drive your only daughter up the wall with it. Where'd you come up with that anyway?

GRANDMA: I found it on the Facebook.

(They laugh. NIKKI and MAURICE enter, dressed up. MAURICE wears a pair of dress pants with a button up dress shirt. NIKKI wears a green dress. She's fussing with her hair.)

MAURICE: What's so funny?

KENDRA: Oh your Grandma's been getting all sorts of ideas from Facebook.

MAURICE: Oh no, Grandma's on the Interwebs. That means it's not cool anymore, you know.

GRANDMA: Are you saying I'm not cool?

(They all laugh, except for NIKKI, who is still fussing with her hair.)

NIKKI: You sure it looks fine?

MAURICE: Your hair looks fine, Sis. I don't know why you're so worried about it.

NIKKI: I don't know. I guess I thought if my hair looked good I'd feel better about going.

GRANDMA: Your hair looks lovely, Nikki.

NIKKI: Thanks, Grandma. How are you feeling today?

GRANDMA: Well, I woke up to a brand new day, thanks to God. So, I'm feeling great.

NIKKI: You're always so positive, Grandma. I wish I could be like you. *(To KENDRA)* Mom, can I borrow your pearl necklace? I think it'd look great with this dress.

KENDRA: If you promise not to lose it like you did my earrings.

NIKKI: I promise.

KENDRA: Still don't know how you managed that.

NIKKI: It's my special talent, I guess. Is it in your room?

KENDRA: Yep. In the jewelry box. Bring it here, and I'll fasten it good and tight for you.

(NIKKI leaves the room. MAURICE goes over to GRANDMA.)

MAURICE: Have you heard anything from the doctors yet, Grandma?

GRANDMA: Not yet, Maurice.

(NIKKI enters, carrying a necklace. KENDRA helps her put it on.)

MAURICE: I hate that they take forever with these test results.

GRANDMA: Ain't nothing we can do about it, honey. Other than pray. We'll get answers when God sees fit to give them.

NIKKI: Are you sure you're alright with us going out?

KENDRA: Yes. We're sure.

MAURICE: It doesn't seem right. Not with you being so sick, Grandma.

NIKKI: Yeah. I'm not really in the celebrating mood this year. Cancer sucks. And this is going to be the worst Christmas ever.

GRANDMA: Don't say that. It's Christmas time. You should celebrate.

MAURICE: Why? What good is it?

GRANDMA: Because Jesus was born. That's always worth celebrating.

(MAURICE and KENDRA exchange doubtful looks with one another.)

KENDRA: One day you two will see it. And you'll be celebrating too.

MAURICE: I don't know how either one of you can feel like celebrating.

NIKKI: Aren't you sad? Or worried? Or anything?

KENDRA: Kids, all we can do is trust in God and pray.

MAURICE: I don't know how you do that when everything's been so bad lately.

SONG 1: TRUST IN THE LORD (Kendra Sings)

NIKKI: That's nice and everything, but it sure isn't easy.

MAURICE: No. It isn't.

KENDRA: You'll understand someday.

GRANDMA: Now go on to your party.

(NIKKI and MAURICE look as if they are going to protest. But GRANDMA gives them a look that they dare not argue with. They go to her, give her kisses goodbye, then hug KENDRA goodbye. They exit.)

KENDRA: I pray to God every day that they'll get it someday.

GRANDMA: Me too. And it will happen someday, Kendra. They just gotta figure it out on their own. It will happen in God's time.

LIGHTS OUT

ACT I - SCENE 2

(School classroom. The desks have been taken out to make room for the party. A whiteboard is on the back wall. Festive Christmas drawings are on it. A large Christmas tree is at upstage center, partially decorated. There is table to the side loaded with party refreshments.)

(Christmas music plays lightly in the background as the lights come up. MR. STEVENS, MR. ALLEN, MR. JOHNSON and MRS. WILLIAMS are busy decorating the room for the party.)

MR. STEVENS: I wonder where Nikki and Maurice are?

MR. ALLEN: Yes. I thought they were going to be here to help us decorate.

MR. JOHNSON: I'm sure they'll be here soon.

MRS. WILLIAMS: They are going through a lot right now. With their grandma's cancer diagnosis and everything.

MR. STEVENS: They've taken it pretty hard.

MR. JOHNSON: Well, we'll just have to do what we can to cheer them up.

MRS. WILLIAMS: I'm really starting to get concerned about them. I've noticed such a change since their grandmother fell ill.

MR. ALLEN: So have I. They don't seem to care about anything.

(MAURICE and NIKKI enter.)

MR. STEVENS: There they are.

MAURICE: Sorry we're late. Nikki takes forever to get ready.

NIKKI: *(Rolls her eyes.)* And you drive like an old grandpa.

MR. ALLEN: Well, the decorations are in these boxes here. Better get to it. The party will be starting soon, and this room isn't going to decorate itself.

(NIKKI and MAURICE begin helping to decorate.)

MRS. WILLIAMS: How is your grandmother doing?

MAURICE: About the same.

NIKKI: We're waiting for some test results to come back, Mrs. Williams.

MAURICE: And then the doctors will figure out what they are going to do.

(The kids fall quiet.)

MR. JOHNSON: We're keeping all of you in our prayers.

NIKKI: Thanks, Mr. Johnson. I guess.

MAURICE: But what if those prayers don't work? They aren't like magic wishes, you know.

MR. STEVENS: No, they aren't. But you know what? God will always work things out the way He's going to work things out.

NIKKI: I just don't understand how all of you people keep faith in that.

MAURICE: Me either.

MR. STEVENS: Well, it's because God does everything for us. Everything is under His control. Everything. And if we have faith, He'll see us through anything.

SONG 2: MADE A WAY (Mr. Stevens Sings)

MAURICE: I'm glad you've got that kind of faith, Mr. Stevens. Maybe someday I can have that. But I don't know. It's a lot to ask for.

LIGHTS OUT

ACT I - SCENE 3

LIGHTS UP

(School classroom. Just a few hours later. The tree is now fully decorated and lit.)

(The party has started. MR. JOHNSON, MRS. WILLIAMS, MR. STEVENS and MR. ALLEN are standing back and watching the kids. NIKKI hangs out with her friends ASHLEY, KAYLA, SHAUNA and KRISTEN. MAURICE stands with the other teenaged boys, JEREMY, MIKE, TREVOR and MARCUS. Both NIKKI and MAURICE look troubled. Their friends try to cheer them up.)

TREVOR: Come on, Maurice. This is a party. Not a funeral.

JEREMY: Don't be rude, Trevor. Maurice has a lot going on right now.

MAURICE: I'm sorry guys. I just don't feel like partying. I feel like everything about my life is just going wrong right now. I can't focus on anything. My grades are slipping. Coach benched me. And my car keeps breaking down.

MIKE: I know your grandma is sick and stuff at home and school ain't going great, but you've still got a lot of good in your life, Maurice.

MAURICE: Like what?

MARCUS: Well, you got us.

JEREMY: And we all care about ya man. We want you to be happy.

MAURICE: I guess all this stuff with my grandma just leaves me feeling like I've got something missing.

(The boys continue to talk quietly amongst themselves as the focus shifts over to the girls. NIKKI is wiping tears from her eyes.)

NIKKI: It just don't feel like Christmas this year.

ASHLEY: Aw, honey. I'm sorry.

KAYLA: You know, I know your grandma well enough to know that if she were here, she'd be kicking it up.

NIKKI: Oh, I know. Grandma doesn't let nothing bother her. Neither does my mom. I wish I could be more like them.

SHAUNA: Well, what's their secret?

NIKKI: I don't know. They're all religious and stuff.

KAYLA: What's wrong with being religious?

NIKKI: Oh, nothing I guess. I guess it's just like something that only older people do.

KAYLA: No, it's not. I'm religious.

NIKKI: You are?

KAYLA: Yeah.

NIKKI: Oh. I'm sorry, Kayla. I didn't mean to be offensive or anything.

ASHLEY: I'm religious too. You know, you can be too.

KAYLA: Maybe you'd feel a little better if you could turn everything over to God.

NIKKI: It's just not my scene you guys. Excuse me, I'm going to go get some more punch or something.

(NIKKI goes over to the refreshment table. MAURICE joins her. The rest of the boys and girls slowly drift together on the other end of the stage and quietly talk amongst themselves.)

MAURICE: I'm sorry we ever came.

NIKKI: Me too.

MAURICE: Think we should head out of here early?

NIKKI: And have to tell Grandma and Mom we left the party? Fat chance.

MAURICE: Good point. They'd be pretty upset with us.

(They talk to each other quietly.)

TREVOR: Man, Maurice used to be so much fun.

KRISTEN: So did, Nikki. I'm worried about them.

(The rest of the kids mumbles in agreement. From over in the teacher's corner, MR. JOHNSON notices NIKKI and MAURICE moping by themselves. He goes over to them.)

MR. JOHNSON: Hey, are you guys alright?

NIKKI: As good as we're ever gonna be, I guess.

MAURICE: I don't know. I guess so.

MR. JOHNSON: Anything I can do to get a smile from you guys? Or a laugh? Or some kind of party face?

MAURICE: How is it you're always so happy, even when you're having a bad day, Mr. Johnson?

MR. JOHNSON: Well, it's because I have Jesus.

NIKKI: Jesus makes you that happy?

SONG 3: JESUS YOU'RE THE CENTER OF MY JOY (Mr. Johnson Sings)

MAURICE: Wow, that sounds pretty amazing and everything. I don't think anything could ever make me feel that much happiness and contentment.

MR. JOHNSON: Oh, you'd be surprised, Maurice.

MR. STEVENS: Okay, guys. It's time for our annual retelling of the Christmas story!

(The kids groan, as if they are too old to take part in this, but it's obvious that they are still excited about it and look forward to it every year.)

MR. ALLEN: Go and get your costumes out of the box.

(The kids grab robes and props from the box. They play the following role: ASHLEY is Mary. JEREMY is Joseph. KAYLA, MAURICE and NIKKI are Wise Men. TREVOR and MARCUS are Shepherds. MIKE is the angel Gabriel. SHAUNA and KRISTEN are dressed as angels and serve as the narrators. A doll serves as the baby Jesus. The teachers sit back and watch.)

SHAUNA: A long time ago, an angel appeared to the Virgin Mary.

MIKE: (as GABRIEL) Do not be afraid, Mary!

ASHLEY: (as MARY) Who are you?

MIKE: (as GABRIEL) I am the angel Gabriel. And I come to you with a message from the Lord.

KRISTEN: The angel told Mary that she would have a Son, and she would call Him Emmanuel, meaning God is with us.

ASHLEY: (as MARY) But I can't have a baby. I'm only engaged to Joseph, and I've never been with a man before.

MIKE: (as GABRIEL) The Holy Spirit will come upon you and you will conceive.

SHAUNA: Mary was very afraid. But she trusted the angel and the spirit of the Lord came upon her, and she conceived.

KRISTEN: Joseph, Mary's betrothed, at first doubted. But the angel visited him in a dream and told him that Mary was telling the truth.

MIKE: (as GABRIEL) Joseph, why do you doubt what Mary tells you?

JEREMY: (as JOSEPH) I don't understand how she could possibly be pregnant. We're not married yet.

MIKE: (as GABRIEL) The Lord has caused her to conceive. And the child she carries will be the Messiah that has been promised. Believe her. And protect her.

SHAUNA: And so it was that she grew greater with child.

KRISTEN: One day, at the end of her pregnancy, Mary and Joseph traveled to the town of Bethlehem to take part in the census there.

SHAUNA: While she was there, she began to feel labor pains. They could find no place to stay.

ASHLEY: (as MARY) Joseph, I don't know what we're going to do. This baby is going to be here any minute now, and we have no place to go.

JEREMY: (as JOSEPH) Don't worry, Mary. I have found an innkeeper who will let us use his stables.

ASHLEY: (as MARY) A stable?

JEREMY: (as JOSEPH) It will be warm and safe.

KRISTEN: There, in the stables, she had the baby, Jesus. She laid Him in a manger full of hay.

SHAUNA: Meanwhile, shepherds were watching their flock in the middle of the night, when suddenly angels appeared.

TREVOR: (as SHEPHERD) Look up in the sky!

MARCUS: (as SHEPHERD) What is that? Is it an angel?

MIKE: (as GABRIEL) The King of Kings and Lord of Lords has been born in Bethlehem. Go and adore Him.

MARCUS: (as SHEPHERD) Could this really be the Messiah?

TREVOR: (as SHEPHERD) We should go to Bethlehem right now and worship Him.

KRISTEN: The shepherds left immediately for Bethlehem, where they found Mary, Joseph, and the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

SHAUNA: Meanwhile, in a land very far away, wise men beheld a star shining in the sky.

KAYLA: (as WISE MAN) Look at that star! It's so bright and beautiful.

NIKKI: (as WISE MAN) Surely it must mean something.

MAURICE: (as WISE MAN) Do you remember the prophecies?

NIKKI: (as WISE MAN) That a great King will come?

KAYLA: (as WISE MAN) This must foretell of the King.

MAURICE: (as WISE MAN) We must follow this star wherever it may lead.

NIKKI: (as WISE MAN) And leave gifts fit for a King.

KRISTEN: And the three wise man traveled from afar to give their gifts to the Lord Jesus, where they worshipped their new King.

(The play ends with all of the students surrounding Mary, Joseph, and Jesus.)

SONG 4: WHO WOULD IMAGINE A KING (Ashley Sings)

MR. STEVENS: Now everyone sit quietly and reflect on that.

MRS. WILLIAMS: Everyone can give something to Jesus. I'd like you all to think about what you can give to Jesus. What can you give to the Lord?

KAYLA: Your heart.

JEREMY: Your faith.

MIKE: Your life.

NIKKI: Gee, I don't know.

MAURICE: I don't have anything to give God.

NIKKI: Yeah, what would He want from us?

MR. STEVENS: Someday, you'll think of something.

Pause.

LIGHTS OUT

ACT II - SCENE 1

LIGHTS UP

(MAURICE sits in a corner by himself. NIKKI is at the other end of the room with her friends. The rest of the kids are enjoying the party. JEREMY sees MAURICE sitting alone and goes to him.)

JEREMY: You okay, Maurice?

MAURICE: I don't know, man. This is hard.

JEREMY: I know it is.

MAURICE: Of course you do. You've lost people you love before, haven't you?

JEREMY: Yeah.

MAURICE: I just don't know how to deal with all of this. I don't know how you've dealt with the hand you've been given sometimes.

JEREMY: Well, you've just got to put your faith in God.

MAURICE: I've never been able to do that, bro.

JEREMY: How come?

MAURICE: I don't know. It's that letting go thing. I don't like things being out of my hands.

JEREMY: But Maurice, you can't control everything. Most things you can't control. I mean, ultimately, you've just got to let things go and know that God is there for you.

SONG 5: INTENTIONAL (Jeremy Sings)

MAURICE: It sounds like that's working out for you.

JEREMY: It is. And it's all for God's glory.

MAURICE: Do you think I could ever do that?

JEREMY: Sure you could. Anyone can.

(They talk quietly to each other while the focus shifts to NIKKI and KAYLA, who are having their own conversation at the other side of the stage.)

KAYLA: You know, earlier when you were talking about religious people--

NIKKI: I'm sorry about that, I didn't mean to be rude. I'm just a mess right now. I don't have any focus at school or anything. I mean, I even lost my mom's favorite pair of earrings a couple weeks ago.

KAYLA: Don't worry about it. But I've been thinking. What is it that keeps you from God, Nikki?

NIKKI: I don't know. I guess it's just having that trust. And I don't really know what the point is, I guess.

ASHLEY: Well, the point is that God gave everything for you.

KAYLA: Jesus died for us.

ASHLEY: And everything in our lives is a blessing from Him.

KAYLA: Every day we have to live on this earth is a gift from God.

NIKKI: Really?

KAYLA: Yeah.

NIKKI: I guess I've just never known what you do with that kind of blessing. I mean, you can't repay that, can you?

SONG 6: ADORE (Kayla Sings)

NIKKI: So you just give everything about your life to God? That's it?

KAYLA: Yes.

(NIKKI wanders off by herself to think. We go back to MAURICE and JEREMY.)

MAURICE: Jeremy, I want to have that faith that you have. I want to give everything to God. How do I do it?

JEREMY: You pray, man. Just pray to Jesus to forgive your sins and tell Him you're ready to give your whole life to Him.

MAURICE: Will you help me?

JEREMY: Of course!

(The boys stand quietly together for a few moments as they pray. When they've finished, JEREMY gives MAURICE a hug, then turns to the other boys.)

JEREMY: Guys! Maurice has just given his life to Christ!

MIKE: That's great, Maurice!

(TREVOR and MARCUS look displeased.)

TREVOR: So?

MARCUS: I guess you're going to be like one of those lame people who never go out and have fun anymore?

MAURICE: That's not what being a Christian is all about.

TREVOR: Then you'll still come and party with us?

MAURICE: Well, not the kind of partying you guys used to do. Maybe a different kind.

MARCUS: See, lame.

MAURICE: Not cool, guys. I thought you were my friends.

TREVOR: This party is lame. Let's go have some real fun.

MARCUS: Last chance, Maurice. You coming?

MAURICE: No. I'm not going to party like that anymore.

TREVOR: Suit yourself.

(TREVOR and MARCUS leave.)

SONG 7: STAND (Maurice Sings)

(MAURICE sits with JEREMY and MIKE. We move back to NIKKI, who stands by herself, thinking. MRS. WILLIAMS sees that something is up and goes to her.)

MRS. WILLIAMS: What's going on, Nikki? You look very thoughtful.

NIKKI: I've been talking to Kayla and Ashley.

MRS. WILLIAMS: About?

NIKKI: God. And religion. And all that stuff.

MRS. WILLIAMS: And what are you thinking about?

NIKKI: Well, you said earlier that we have to give everything to God. I don't have anything to give to Him.

MRS. WILLIAMS: You have yourself.

NIKKI: I don't know how to give Him that.

MRS. WILLIAMS: It's not always easy, but you devote your life to giving your heart, mind, and body to the Lord. Just trust Him to take care of you and let His Holy Spirit fill you with His love.

NIKKI: That's all?

MRS. WILLIAMS: That's all.

SONG 8: I SURRENDER ALL (Nikki Sings)

(MRS. WILLIAMS hugs NIKKI. MAURICE, the other students, and the other teachers come over to rejoice with MAURICE and NIKKI.)

MR. STEVENS: Let's pray for Maurice and Nikki and their family.

MR. JOHNSON: Precious Jesus, we thank You for Maurice and Nikki. And we rejoice with You that they've both decided to give their lives to You. Lord, we ask that You take them under Your loving protection and grant them peace and understanding, that they may trust in You to provide them with all that they may need.

MAURICE: Lord, please be with my Grandma.

NIKKI: If it is Your desire, heal her.

MAURICE: Whatever You do, I trust that it is for the best.

NIKKI: And whatever happens we trust that You will always be there for us.

MR. STEVENS: In Jesus' name.

EVERYONE: Amen.

LIGHTS OUT

ACT II - SCENE 2

(Maurice and Nikki's living room.)

(The tree is lit. The lights are dim. GRANDMA is napping on the couch. KENDRA sits on the floor, wrapping gifts. The telephone rings. It wakes GRANDMA up. KENDRA leaps up to answer it.)

KENDRA: *(Into phone.)* Hello? Yes, she's right here. *(KENDRA hands the phone to GRANDMA.)*

GRANDMA: *(Into phone.)* Hello? Yes. Yes. Well sure, we can be there right away. *(She hangs up. KENDRA looks at her, worried.)*

KENDRA: What was it, Mom? What did the doctors say?

GRANDMA: They said they wanted to see me right away. They have news.

KENDRA: Good news?

GRANDMA: I don't know. Let's pray to God that whatever it is, that His will be done. *(They bow their heads and clasp onto one another's hands.)* Precious Saviour, guide the doctors we are about to see in wisdom and truth. Help them as they deliver their news. And help us to have the strength to bear whatever news it may be. Give us assurance that no matter what happens, everything will be done according to Your will. In Jesus' Holy Name we pray. Amen.

KENDRA: Amen.

(She grabs GRANDMA's coat and helps her into it. They hurry out of the house.)

LIGHTS OUT

ACT II - SCENE 3

LIGHTS UP

(A couple of hours later.)

(Everyone sits around the Christmas tree, passing out gifts to one another. They are laughing and having a great time. The teachers sit back, watching the students have their fun.)

MR. JOHNSON: I'm so happy for Maurice and Nikki.

MRS. WILLIAMS: It really seems like the burden has been lifted.

MR. STEVENS: Putting things into God's hands has lifted their spirits.

KAYLA: *(Unwrapping a book.)* Oh wow! I've been wanting this book forever! Thank you, Mr. Allen.

MR. ALLEN: You're welcome.

NIKKI: *(Unwraps a small box. She opens the box. Inside are her mother's earrings.)* Oh my goodness, Mrs. Williams. How did you find them?

MRS. WILLIAMS: I found them on the floor of the classroom the other day. You must have taken them off, and they fell off of your desk or something.

NIKKI: Mom is going to be so happy!

(KENDRA and GRANDMA enter. Everyone looks up, surprised to them.)

MAURICE: Mom? Grandma?

NIKKI: What are you doing here?

KENDRA: We just thought we'd stop by for a few minutes to see how things were going.

KAYLA: Oh, we have some wonderful news for you.

GRANDMA: What's that?

JEREMY: Tell them, Nikki and Maurice.

MIKE: Yeah, tell them.

MAURICE: We've been talking to everyone tonight.

NIKKI: About how bad we were feeling. How nothing seemed to be going right.

MAURICE: And how we were so worried about you, Grandma.

NIKKI: And everyone kept telling us to trust in God, to give ourselves and our worries and cares over to Him.

MAURICE: So we did.

GRANDMA: Praise God!

KENDRA: Oh, I've been praying for this day for a long time.

NIKKI: And we found your earrings, Mom.

KENDRA: What?

NIKKI: Mrs. Williams found them. This is turning out to be the best Christmas ever!

GRANDMA: Well, we've got some news to share with you ourselves.

MAURICE: Did you hear from the doctors?

KENDRA: We did.

(Everyone comes in closer, anxious to hear the news.)

NIKKI: What kind of treatment can they do?

KAYLA: We've all been praying so hard for you.

KENDRA: I'll let your Grandma tell you the news.

MAURICE: Well, Grandma?

GRANDMA: The doctors did their tests a few days ago. And, the cancer is gone. Completely and totally gone.

NIKKI: What?

GRANDMA: It's gone!

MAURICE: How?

GRANDMA: They don't understand what happened or how it was gone. But it's gone.

JEREMY: God is good!

GRANDMA: That's exactly what I said.

KENDRA: The doctors may not know how, but we do. God answered all our prayers.

(MAURICE and NIKKI hug GRANDMA. They are overjoyed.)

NIKKI: Thank you, God!

MAURICE: He really does answer prayers.

GRANDMA: Yes, He does.

NIKKI: And this really is the best Christmas ever!

SONG 9: YOU ARE GREAT (Grandma Sings)

LIGHTS OUT