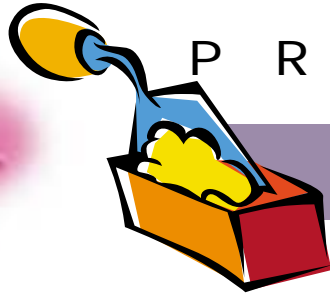


Feb.



P R O M O I D E A S

A L A B A S T E R

Alabaster Sunday Rush

Scene: The living room of a house where a family hurriedly tries to get ready for church

Cast: Kathy—mother
Scott—father
Ben—son, dressed in pajamas

Set: Couch, chair, coffee table

Props: Pair of shoes (on floor)
Several Alabaster boxes with money in them
Necktie

KATHY: (*rushes around room, carrying Alabaster boxes. Trips over shoes, spills the boxes, and calls in frustration*) Ben! (*Pause, then louder*) Ben? (*Pause, louder*) Benjamin Aaron Smith, come here!

BEN: (*enters, sleepily*) I'm coming, mom...

KATHY: Ben, how many times have I told you not to leave your shoes in the middle of the floor? Now, I suggest you put these away immediately.

BEN: (*apologetically*) Sorry, mom. (*Takes shoes.*)

KATHY: Now, go get dressed. We're going to be late for church!

BEN: Okay, I'm going. (*Exits slowly.*)

(*KATHY starts picking up the money and putting it back into the Alabaster boxes. Enter SCOTT, tying his necktie.*)

SCOTT: (*cheerily*) Good morning, honey!

KATHY: (*grumbling*) Oh, it's morning all right, but I don't know about the good part...

SCOTT: What's wrong?

KATHY: Everything! I tried to start breakfast and dropped the eggs on the floor. Then, I came down here to gather the Alabaster boxes and just about broke my leg tripping on Ben's sneakers....

SCOTT: What are we going to do with that boy?
(*Bends down to help her pick up the money.*)

KATHY: I don't know, but at this rate, we are going to be incredibly late for church.

SCOTT: Well, at least Amy is up and around. She's putting on her shoes right now, and then she'll be all ready to go.

KATHY: (*relieved*) Thanks, hon. Now, if I can just get myself dressed, do my hair, and get Ben ready in the next 10 minutes, we might actually make it to church on time.

SCOTT: Ben might be a challenge... he doesn't move very quickly in the mornings.

KATHY: Yeah, I hate to admit it, but I think he gets that from me.

SCOTT: Coffee always does the trick for you. Maybe we should give Ben a cup and see if it gets him going...

KATHY: (*laughing*) Oh, all that caffeine would get him going all right! But I'm not sure Mrs. Pritchett would appreciate Ben bouncing off the walls during Sunday School.

SCOTT: (*laughing*) You're probably right. Hey, I've got an idea! I expect if I tell Ben it's Alabaster Sunday, he'll move a little quicker.

KATHY: You know, it just might work! Ben gets so excited about Alabaster Sunday. I think emptying his Alabaster Offering into the big Alabaster box at the front of the sanctuary makes him feel grown up.

SCOTT: There is a lot of truth to that statement. By giving to Alabaster, he is accepting part of the responsibility to see that Nazarenes around the world have places to live, learn, receive medical treatment, and worship.

KATHY: We should probably impress that lesson on both children. (*Looks at watch.*) Oh my, look at the time!

SCOTT: I tell you what...you go get ready, and I'll see how quickly I can get Mr. Slow-As-Molasses to move.

KATHY: Wanna race?

(*The two look at each other, smile at the challenge, and run offstage.*)

Melinda Wolf Miller • Assistant Editor