

**Youth 2015 x-mas <Jesus is My Treasure>**

Script by Esther Chung

Edited by Faith Chung

Girl 1: (decorating the tree with another girl) Hey, \_\_\_\_\_, guess what I found? I found a picture of you when you had just started Kindergarten. You look so cute with your puffy cheeks!

Girl 2: He really does look cute! No wonder a girl wanted to hold your hand on the first day of Kindergarten.

Boy 1: (playing games) Oh, please. I should have never told you that story. I can't even remember her name now, but I remember she got mad at me when I told her I didn't want to hold her hand.

Boy 2: (playing with Boy 1 and jokingly) So you had a history of being a heartbreaker.

Boy 1: (jokingly) Of course! Those were the good old days. Now I don't even have a single girl who is after me. But look at you. You're so popular among the girls.

Girl 1: Honestly Boy 1's name, if you stopped wearing that gross smelling deodorant, I bet you would have a better luck with them.

Boy 2: (laughs hard) You just got dissed! Sorry bro, but I have to agree that you smell more like a skunk. And who wants to be around a smelly guy?

Boy 1: (smelling himself) Do I smell that bad?

Girl 2: (surprised after looking at the clock) Oh, shoot, look at the time! Guys, stop playing games and come help us with the Christmas tree.

We need to finish this before the youth group comes for the party and Christmas caroling!

Boy 1: Eh... sorry, I don't really feel like celebrating Christmas anymore.

Girl 1: (looks surprised) Whoa, you okay Boy 1? Sorry if I offended you, but this is not a good time to take things personally. I'm just trying to help out.

Boyl: I'm not taking things personally. I just...don't really feel like celebrating Christmas.

Boy 2: (stops from the game, looking at Boy 1) Dude, what's wrong? Christmas used to be your favorite holiday. Did something happen?

Boy 1: (throwing down the controller, looking upset) OK. Want to hear my honest opinion? To me, we're all a bunch of idiots, believing in a god who can't even do anything, proclaiming love but being fearful of people who are different from us. And my friends think that I'm an intolerant, judgmental, close-minded person as soon as I tell them I'm Christian. I'm so done and over with my belief in Jesus. Christianity's just not working for me!

(Bell rings) People are chattering and are in good mood.

Girl 1: OK, I get it. You don't want to celebrate Christmas. But we still have a bunch of friends who are here to celebrate. Let's calm down and have fun with them for tonight, and we'll talk later.

(Bell rings repeatedly) Girl 2: Guys, I have to open the door. If I don't open it now, they'll think something's going on.

Boy 1: Go ahead. Open the door, but why pretend we're happy when we are not?

Boy 2: (shrugs his shoulder, somewhat agreeing with Boy 1)

Girl 2: Could you act mature for once? I'm opening the door. (opens the door with cheerful voice) Hey everyone, come on in!

(Everyone walks in with a gift in his/her hand. Thanking her for inviting them.

Then, they see Boy 1 with a mad face, looking at the other wall, Boy 2 sitting down, waving hi to them, and Girl 1 welcoming them with an awkward smile.)

Girl 3: Thanks for preparing the party. We're missing \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. They said they were gonna come but they didn't show up so we had to leave without them. In any case, they know where the party is – I figure they can always come here directly... (trails off) Are you guys OK? The room feels cold and tense.

Girl 1: No, no, we're fine. I'm glad that you all came to celebrate and go Christmas caroling.

Boy 3: (looking at the game control, and calling Boy 1's name) I've been waiting for this day. I'm ready to take my revenge on you. I've been practicing name of game this whole week!

Girl 2: Oh, we were just cleaning up the room when you came. Sorry, we're not playing any video games tonight. We all want to have fun together. I hope that's OK.

Boy 3: Awww man, that's disappointing, but yeah. We can wait until later, right, buddy?

Boy 1: (shaking his head) Nope! Sorry. I've just decided that I'm not coming out to youth group anymore. I don't want to hang around kids who are so naïve, who can't think for themselves, who believe in a God who seems to be incapable and powerless. In fact, I resign from the youth group council as of today.

Girl 1 and 2 look at him, roll their eyes, and shake their heads.

Girl 4: I'm sorry that you feel that way, but you can't resign in the middle of the school year. That's irresponsible.

Everyone who walked in looks at each other and agrees with a Girl 4.

Girl 4: We've been together for many years now; I think it's only fair that you tell us why you want to resign.

Girl 3: I agree. I don't know why you're frustrated, but it's better to hear it from you now than to hear it from someone else.

Everyone looks at each other and says it is a good idea.

Boy 1: Fine. Remember though that I didn't ask for this. You asked me why I'm upset. If I make anyone upset, that's not my problem.

Everyone: (Everyone shrugs, nods heads in agreement, makes noises of agreement and everyone sits down)

Boy 1: (calmly) Again, it's not because I'm mad at anyone. I personally just don't want to be a Christian anymore. I told the other council members too, but I'm tired of being looked down upon as a religious idiot who believes in a god who doesn't do anything, who doesn't embrace gays and lesbians. I just want to let loose and have fun with other kids. The Bible is full of outdated do and don'ts, and I'm so sick of it.

Boy 3: Hey, I feel you man. I go to church because my parents want me to, but as soon as I'm out of the house, I'm gonna kiss Jesus and church good-bye.

Girl 5: Yeah, I agree that you're not the only one frustrated. We all feel the pressure of being Christians among friends outside of the church.

Boy 1: (feeling better) Well, it's good to know that at least I'm not the only one who feels this way.

Girl 1: Mmm... now that we're being honest with where we are, does everyone feel that everything we do is meaningless? Reading the Bible, praying, trusting that Jesus died to forgive our sins? That he resurrected to give us hope for eternal life?

Boy 2: I don't think it's all meaningless; there are plenty of incidents where people's lives have changed because of their faith in Jesus.

Girl 5: Like who? Maybe in the old days, but I can't currently think of anyone whose life has changed because of Jesus.

Girl 1: Well, our parents aren't famous, but most of them are committed to follow Christ in the best way possible.

Girl 2: Yes, true, but they're not perfect either. Sometimes they're hypocritical.

Boy 3: This is all very depressing. See, I'm telling you we should all check out of the church and God stuff.

Girl 4: But think about it. If Christianity doesn't mean anything, why did it flourish in spite of heavy persecution and become a major driving force in saving and improving people's lives? Think about so many Christians who risked their lives to save Jewish people during the holocaust. Think about missionaries who went to remote areas. They not only shared the Good News of Jesus but also built schools and hospitals in local areas. We can't forget about all those beautiful things that changed people.

Boy 1: Look, everything changes over time. God could have touched people then, but he doesn't anymore. Maybe God is out of steam.

Boy 2: I don't think we can get the full answer in a short time. Let's be logical- we are discussing the validity of a belief system that has existed for 2,000 years, and here we are, trying to come up with a definite answer in one night. That doesn't sounds very fair to me.

Girl 3: I understand what you're saying, but if we have proof that God *does* exist, even in today's world where we see so much hopelessness and tragedy, it will boost our spirits!

Boy 1: Exactly! So the question is, "Where is God, especially when we need him, even when we don't understand everything He does?"

(Door bell rings again)

Girl 3: Oh, it must be \_\_\_\_\_. We totally forgot about him and his sister.

Girl 2: (opens the door) Come on in. We were all wondering what happened to you two.

Boy 5: You wouldn't believe what we've been through. It was a nightmare, but I'm glad we're here.

Girl 5: What happened? You look shaken up.

Girl 6: Believe it or not, we almost died! Dad was driving us, and all of a sudden, this truck lost control and hit our car. We spun around because of the impact, but luckily because there was no car next to us, we came out without any injury. That was the scariest thing I've ever gone through.

Boy 5: I really think God saved us. If it weren't for His protection, who knows what could have happened? The car seemed to spin forever. I thought I was going to die so I told Jesus that if He saved me and my family, I would be forever grateful. For the very first time, I realized that Jesus was my treasure, our treasure. I can't adequately describe how comforting it was to have someone I could pray to for help. And He came through for us. I am so, so thankful that none of us were hurt.

Boy 1: (looking very much affected by the story) Wait...if your car was in an accident... How did you guys get here?

Boy 5: That's another amazing story. There was a guy who saw what happened. He parked his car on the side and asked if we were OK. After he made sure that we weren't injured, he stayed with us until the towing car came and took our car away... (pause) Sorry, I need to get some water. This has been too much for me. Why don't you finish the story? I just need to lie down for a bit.

Girl 6: Go ahead. you should get some rest. Anyway, Dad called Mom and told her we were fine. He asked us if we wanted to go home with him, but we wanted to come here and hang out with you guys and go around the neighborhood singing Christmas carols. So here we are! And the guy who gave us a ride happened to be a former Marine! He told us how God protected him and his buddies when their platoon got lost in Afghanistan. They had been patrolling an area heavily infiltrated by Taliban. But, because they were new to the area, they got lost and ended up walking for miles and miles. A few days later, they saw a light and had

no idea whether it was going to be friendly or not. Still, they approached carefully and found that it happened to be a U.S. station! He said he owed his life to Jesus. Ever since that experience, he considers Jesus as his precious treasure who gave him his life and purpose. Isn't that amazing?

Girl 1: Wow, this is exactly what we needed hear: that Jesus is alive! He is indeed our treasure who is worthy to receive our praises and thanksgiving.

Everyone: (nodding)

Boy 1: Hmm... Considering the previous conversation we had and questioning whether God is real or not, I have to say, this is pretty amazing. Why wait? We may not have all the answers to our questions, but for now, let's celebrate Jesus and His gift of new life to us and to everyone who believes in Him!

Everyone: (jumping and holding their hands high in excitement)  
Yeah! Hooray!