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### **To Whom Much is Given...**

By Rick Artis

**Cast:**

3 men  
1 teen woman

**Theme:**

We never know how our life and lifestyle will impact eternity.

**Applications:**

Heaven  
Personal Evangelism/Lifestyle Evangelism  
Faith vs. Works  
Giving yourself away  
Being a conduit of God's Blessing

**Characters:**

Gatekeeper- dressed in a white robe  
Charles Tompkins- a very wealthy man, in a nice suit  
Bill Caldwell- a homeless man in a ragged dirty, homeless outfit  
Jenny Nelson- high school cheerleader in a cheerleader outfit or hospital gown

**Props-**

2 trophies  
Button  
Box of filthy rags  
Blackberry  
Binder  
Rubber glove  
Paper with 'directions'

**Setting:**

The pearly gates. The gatekeeper stands before a draped table with a large trophy, a slightly smaller trophy, the binder and a non-descript box.

In line in order are: Charles, Jenny and Bill

**Performance time:**

13-15 minutes

Gatekeeper-  
Next...

Charles- (*cutting him off*)  
That would be me.

Gatekeeper-  
If you had let me finish, I was going to say, 'Next we have, Bill Caldwell.'

Bill-  
(*Surprised*) Me?

Charles-  
But, I was here first. He's at the back of the line.

Gatekeeper-  
That's right. You didn't read your Bible much, did you? Step on up here Bill. We're so happy you finally made it.

Bill-  
I'm a little shocked to be here.

Gatekeeper-  
I don't know why. You've been preparing for this day for a long time. We have some things for you. First there's this. (*Hands him the big trophy.*)

Bill-  
This is my reward?

Gatekeeper-  
Only the part you can carry. There's a lot more in your new home. Would you like to see it?

Bill-  
Very much.

Gatekeeper-  
If you will just step through that door, someone will take you to your new place.

(*Bill exits.*)

Gatekeeper- (*continuing*)  
Next...

Charles- (*impatiently, cutting him off again*)  
Still heeeeeeeere.

Gatekeeper- (*a bit perturbed*)  
If you had let me finish, *again*. I was going to say, 'Next we have Jenny Nelson.' Jenny come on up.  
(Pause) I know you're surprised to be here.

Jenny- (*looking a bit confused*)  
Am I ever? The last thing I remember, we were on our way to the state semi-final basketball game on Friday night.

Gatekeeper-

You were in an accident on the way to the game. And in terrestrial time, this would be Monday afternoon. It's taken a bit over two days for your folks to work through the emotions of letting you go. Their faith will be rewarded in unbelievable ways, in just a few days. A few minutes ago, they told the doctors to turn off the life support.

Jenny- (*shocked*)

Wow. I didn't expect that. What about Sarah and Emily?

Gatekeeper-

Sarah came up immediately. She's really ready to see you. Emily didn't make it either. And she didn't make it up here.

Jenny-(*saddened*)

And she was so close to making her decision.

Gatekeeper-

Yes she was. But you did your part. She knew the truth because you told her about your faith in Jesus and what it took to get here. And your faithfulness will be rewarded. We have lots of things for you as well. (*Hands her the smaller trophy.*)

Jenny-

But what did I do to deserve anything. I'm just a kid who died in a car accident.

Gatekeeper-

You are so much more than that, Jenny. You are a willing and faithful servant in the cause of Christ. And your faithfulness is going to do more of the cause of Christ than you have ever imagined. Let me share with you what's going to happen next Friday.

Jenny-

What's Friday?

Gatekeeper-

Friday is the community wide memorial service for you, Sarah and Emily. Almost 1400 people are going to pack into the gym at the high school to hear a word from God himself. Students, teachers, administrators and community leaders are all going to be there. First Father Duncan is going to tell some things about Sarah's life. Then the superintendent is going say some things about the three of you. And then the real fun begins. Pastor Ron, your own pastor, is going to give the sermon of his life. It's the one his preaching professor told him to have ready, but hope you never have to give it. The sermon for the passing of a promising young adult.

Jenny-

What's he going to say?

Gatekeeper-

Do you remember when you gave your testimony in church last spring?

Jenny-

Sure. I was so scared.

Gatekeeper-

Your words, your faith, your enthusiasm, moved him deeply. He almost couldn't give the message that night. You inspired him to be a better Christian and better pastor. He even altered his message on the fly to include a segment about how we never know how our lives will impact the lives of others. Do you want to know how you will impact others, even now?

Jenny-

Sure. I can hardly wait.

Gatekeeper-

Ok. First, he's going to talk about how you were such a positive role model to the others on the youth group. Then he's going to tell about how you helped care for your family and others in the community. He's going to highlight where the source of your inspiration is, Jesus Himself. And then he's going to confront 1378 people with the unbridled truth of the gospel. He is going to knock them off their feet.

Jenny-

So I guess some good can come from what my folks are seeing as a tragedy.

Gatekeeper-

You bet it can. Do you remember the scripture you quoted in front of the church that night?

Jenny-

Of course. It was Romans 8:28, 'And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.'

Gatekeeper-

Well, hold on to your socks. 'Cause just some of the good that's going to come from your 'death'. (*Gatekeeper makes quote marks with his hands.*) 214 of the people in that gym on Friday will come to a personal saving knowledge of Jesus Christ for the very first time. Including seventeen football players, four basketball players, two-thirds of the cheer squad and more than 150 other students. Plus 16 teachers, the superintendent and his wife. (*Smiles knowingly*) Would you believe one of the cheerleaders will be Hannah Morrison?

Jenny- (*stunned*)

No way? Hannah? I couldn't even talk to her. She was the least open person I ever met.

Gatekeeper-

Well that was just a cover up. She's been feeling guilty about her relationship with the quarterback....and the tight end... and the linebacker. So she's more open than you think. And on Friday, she's coming face to face with the living God.

Jenny-

That's so great. I could never have witnessed to that many people.

Gatekeeper-

That's not all. Over the next few months six of your classmates, your new brothers and sisters, will feel the call to full time Christian ministry, four as Pastors.

Jenny-

I can't believe it. And all this because I "died". (*She makes quote marks with her hands.*)

Gatekeeper-

But wait, there's more. We have a revival in the works for Bogota, Columbia in 2012. And guess who's going to lead it?

Jenny-

I can't even imagine.

Gatekeeper-

Tony Rodriguez.

Jenny-

No way? That guy is the biggest stoner in the whole school.

Gatekeeper-

He is today. But on Friday, he's going to be completely delivered from his addiction and will hear a very clear call to be an evangelist. By the end of the year his grades will be up to the point that he'll be able to enter community college and after one year in seminary, he's going to lead a team to South America. As a result of his efforts and the moving of the Holy Spirit within the people, over two and a half million people will hear and respond to the Word of God.

Jenny-

I can't believe it.

Gatekeeper-

And there's more. But, you can read about it in the journal at your new place. Are you ready to see it?

Jenny-

You bet. Uhhh... if I have some more questions can I come back and see you.

Gatekeeper-

Sure, any time. But if you want the real answers, you could... just ask the Creator of the Universe. After all, this *is* His house. He's accessible to you, any time, for any reason.

Jenny-

*(As she's leaving)* Wow. I still can't believe it.

Charles-

Is it my turn yet?

(Continues...)