

The Mite Box Legacy Sketch

[Please provide: one younger woman and one older woman, two copies of this skit, two large cardboard moving-type boxes, two chairs, a Mite Box with some coins in it, and a woman's purse.]

Before the sketch: Set the two boxes in front of the audience. Place two chairs behind the boxes. Give the Mite Box to Mary, who stands out of view of the audience. Place the purse next to one of the chairs.

Mom: [Pantomimes filling boxes with old “stuff” as she talks to herself.] Boy oh boy, I can't believe all the stuff my mother collected over the years. And now I'm stuck dealing with it.

Mary: [Runs in with the Mite Box in her hand.] Mom! Mom! MOOOOOOOOOOOOOM!

Mom: Heavens, Mary! What is it now? Can't you see I'm busy?

Mary: [Breathlessly] Mom! [Holds out the Mite Box so all can see.] I found this little box on Grandma's dresser. Isn't it cute? And it makes noise when you shake it! I think it's a musical instrument like the things we shake in children's choir! [Shakes Mite Box and dances.]

Mom: I don't think that's what it is, Mary.

Mary: [Continues to hold up Mite Box.] Well, it's very heavy. Hey! Maybe it's a door stop. [Bends down and puts the Mite Box on the floor in front of an imaginary door.] See! It's holding the door open.

Mom: Mary, that's not a door stop.

Mary: [Holds the Mite Box opening up to her eye and looks inside.] MOM! There's money in here! Lots of money!

Mom: Mary, I'm sure there are some coins in there but it probably doesn't add up to much.

Mary: [Looks downcast.] Oh. [Pauses slightly.] Well, then can I use it for my doll's treasure chest? Please, huh?

Mom: [Sits down in one of the chairs and sighs.] Mary, come and sit with me.

Mary: [Sits down in the chair next to her mom.] Mom? Are you okay?

Mom: Oh Mary, seeing that little box makes me miss your grandmother even more. That little box is her LWML Mite Box.

Mary: [Quickly hands the Mite Box to her mom.] What did you say? Do you mean there are bugs in the box?

Mom: [Smiles slightly.] No, Mary, not that kind of “mite”. Do you remember the story of the widow’s mite from last week’s Sunday school lesson?

Mary: Uh, yeah, but what does that have to do with this box?

Mom: Well, LWML Mite Boxes are based on the example of what the widow did in the Bible account. The widow gave God all she had. We give God whatever we have, no matter how small. The ladies of the LWML adopted that idea many years ago and they have been putting coins in those little Mite Boxes for a very long time.

Mary: Wow! Like for thousands of years?

Mom: Not quite, more like over 75 years. Over all those years, those coins from Mite Boxes just like this one have added up to millions of dollars. Those mission offerings have supported missionaries and mission projects that have shared the love and care of Jesus in dozens and dozens of countries around the world.

Mary: [Amazed] Wow! Grandma contributed to that?

Mom: Yes, Mary, your grandma was very active in the LWML and in sharing her faith and the love of Jesus.

Mary: [Pauses thoughtfully.] Mom, do you think we could keep using Grandma’s Mite Box?

Mom: [Stands and gives Mary a hug.] Yes, of course, Mary! [Hands the Mite Box back to Mary.] Why don’t you put Grandma’s Mite Box in my purse so we can take it home. [Mary does so.] Now come and help me finish cleaning out this closet.

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Published by: Lutheran Women’s Missionary League, 2019