

## ***Back in the Box***

### *Purpose*

Based on Luke 12:13-21, this sketch is intended to, somewhat lightheartedly, introduce the concepts of materialism, greed, and finding false security in “things”.

### *Length*

8 minutes

### *Setting*

A family living room. Two couples are seated around a card table playing Monopoly. Off stage unseen a baby sitter cares for their children in another room of the house.

### *Characters*

Mark and Annie – Husband and wife. We are in their home. They have invited close friends, Sean and Tina, over for a friendly game.

Sean and Tina – Husband and wife. Long time friends of Mark and Annie

*(The game is in progress. Mark, Sean, and Tina are seated at the table.)*

SEAN:               Where is she? This is my dream game. I have all the greens, all the reds, AND Park Place. Plus there’s about two thousand dollars in Free Parking with my name on it.

MARK                You know the official Monopoly rules do NOT allow you to collect money by landing on Free Parking (*picks up the box...*) Look, I’ll show you.

SEAN                Will you stop reading from the box. Besides, I bet the official rules don’t allow you to use a gummy bear as a game piece either but you’re doing that...

MARK                Look that’s all we had...I told you the dog swallowed the racecar.

TINA                Will you guys cut it out...it’s a GAME

ANNIE                    *(enters)* OK. Am I up? It turns out...

SEAN                    *(Interrupting, but not impolite)* Roll the dice Annie, roll the dice...

TINA:                    Sean!

SEAN:                    Tina...we're talking about the game of a lifetime here...the money...the properties...everything I always wanted...You guys are all going down! But in a nice way, of course...

ANNIE                    *(To Tina)* It turns out Michael didn't flush his binky down the toilet as the babysitter feared...*(rolls the dice)*

MARK                    Aw...too bad. That's Income Tax babe. Now the rules say you can either calculate the percentage of your total...

SEAN                    Oh brother. Just pay the seventy-five bucks so I can go...please.

TINA                    Will you cut it out...

SEAN                    You're right...just a game. *(false calm)* May I please have the dice so I can calmly roll...at all times maintaining my life balance...

MARK:                    Now, I don't mean to add to the intensity here but, you realize that if you roll a NINE that's Boardwalk...That would give you BOTH Park Place and Boardwalk...the power properties.

TINA                    *(rolls her eyes)* Oh I'm sure he had NO idea...

SEAN                    *(feigned nonchalance)* Boardwalk...really? Why, I hadn't noticed...*(jiggles the dice)*

ANNIE:                    And of course if you roll an eight you're on Income Tax with me!

SEAN                    You're all SO helpful. *(To Mark)* Theologically, is it appropriate to pray for a nine here?

TONY:                    Only if you don't mind sudden and fierce lightning and thunder