

Playing Your Cards Right

by

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CHARACTERS

DALE A man in his 30-40's or so. A friend of
Luke's.

LUKE A man in his 30-40's or so. A friend of
Dale's.

SETTING

No specific setting is needed. A greeting card store is implied.

TIME

Day.

SKETCH LENGTH

6 minutes

THEME/PURPOSE

Love isn't a "thing" per se, but a God-born *quality* reflected in a relationship. Sometimes we get caught up in the "things" of a relationship, such as gifts or symbols. And, while there's nothing wrong with those "things," the heart of God in a relationship – patience, kindness, self-sacrifice – often takes time, being present. The sketch is a take on Valentines Day and focuses on expressing God in our relationships by loving our families.

SCRIPTURES

John 13:34-35

1 Corinthians 13

Ephesians 5:25

ACT I

SCENE 1

(At lights up, Dale and Luke have their hands full of Valentines cards and envelopes. They are pantomiming combing the racks for still more cards.)

DALE

(Distracted, bumps into Luke while looking for another card.)

Excuse me...

(Recognizes his friend.)

Luke!

LUKE

Dale! Guess we both had the same idea.

DALE

(Holds up his stack of cards.)

Yep. Getting ready for another Valentines Day.

LUKE

You know the whole thing is just a racket...

DALE

Definitely. Hallmark makes up these holidays so we have to trudge out to the store and spend our hard-earned money.

LUKE

You are so right, my friend. Grandparents Day, Arbor Day...

DALE

Birthdays...

(LUKE gives him look.)

DALE

Last year someone at work got me a get-well card for Fluff Monster.

LUKE

Fluff Monster?

DALE

Our cat.

LUKE

(Leafing through his stack of cards.)

You know the problem with Valentines Day is, technically, you could get a card for just about anyone.

DALE

Yeah. I have two for Lori, one for each of the kids, one for my mother.

LUKE

(Holds up a card.)

I got you beat.

DALE

(Reading the card.)

Happy Valentines Day... Pastor? You know, I love my pastor but I don't think I necessarily want him to be my valentine.

LUKE

See, I avoid the cards that ask the person to "be my Valentine" because I'm not even sure what that means. I realize I can ask Angie to "be my Valentine", she's my wife and all, but I'm really uncomfortable asking anyone else. I mean, exactly what kind of commitment is it to be someone's Valentine?