

ARMCHAIR CHRISTIANITY

By Rod

Based on Luke 14 vv 25-33 and Matthew 25 vv 31-46. This sketch looks at the cost of discipleship and what it means. In Scene 1 Christian lives a cosy life where Jesus is a sort of Jeeves figure who deals with all his problems so that his life is plain sailing. In Scene 2, Christian allows Jesus to take centre stage in his life so that his life is one of service to Jesus. The emphasis at the end is that the latter approach is the one that leads to true happiness/blessing.

CAST

Christian *Could be male [or female with suitable name change]*
 Jeeves/Jesus *Probably better to be male*
 Narrator

SCENE 1

[Christian is seated in an armchair centre stage.]

Narrator Meet Christian. He is happy. He has everything he needs – because Jeeves has come into his life.

Christian Jeeves!

[Enter Jeeves carrying some letters]

Jeeves Yes, sir.

Christian Jeeves, I am not feeling very well today. I am a bit off colour.

Jeeves I am sorry to hear that, sir.

Christian Could you prepare me one of your magic pick-me-ups?

Jeeves Certainly, sir. And here is your post. *[Hands over letters]*

Christian Oh, and Jeeves!

Jeeves Yes, sir.

Christian I am also feeling a bit chilly. Could you bring me a blanket while you're at it?

Jeeves Right away, sir.

[Jeeves exits. Christian starts to open letters.]

Christian Oh – a bank statement. And a letter from my dear old mother.

[Enter Jeeves carrying glass full of a liquid and a blanket.]

Jeeves Here is your pick-me-up, sir. *[Hands glass to Christian.]*

Christian Thank you, Jeeves.

Jeeves And your blanket.

[Jeeves wraps blanket around Christian's legs. Meanwhile Christian drinks emptying the glass.]

Christian Ah, that's wonderful. I feel better already. You are a marvel, Jeeves.

Jeeves Thank you, sir. I aim to please.

[Christian takes up letter with bank statement.]

Christian Oh, no!

Jeeves Bad news, sir?

Christian It is my bank balance. I am one hundred pounds in the red. How can that have happened?

Jeeves I don't think you need to worry about that, sir.

Christian Really, Jeeves? Why not?

Jeeves You may recall that I advised you to purchase some Premium Bonds, sir.

Christian Yes, Jeeves, what of it?

Jeeves Well, I took the liberty of checking online for you – and you have won five hundred pounds this month.

Christian That's wonderful! What a coincidence! Money just when I need it.

Jeeves Indeed, sir, quite a coincidence!

Christian *[Picking up letter from mother]* I say, Jeeves, I don't suppose you can do anything to help my poor old mother. You haven't got a miracle cure for arthritis, have you?

Jeeves I'll see what I can do, sir.

Christian Oh, thank you, Jeeves. You know, having you in my life has transformed things. My life is a piece of cake.

Jeeves Piece of cake, sir? Right away. *[Exits]*

Christian Thank you Jeeves.

THE END

SCENE

[Christian is seated in an armchair centre stage.]

Narrator Meet Christian. He is happy. He has everything he needs – because Jesus has come into his life.

[Enter Jesus. Stands by Christian. Jesus coughs. Realising, Christian leaps out of chair and signals for Jesus to sit there instead.]

Jesus Christian!

Christian Yes, Jesus.

Jesus I am in need of medical assistance.

Christian Oh, I am sorry to hear that, Jesus. I have some medicine – and a blanket in case you are cold.

Jesus It is not for me, Christian, it is for my sister who is unwell. *[Points to someone in congregation]* Take the medicine to her – and give her your blanket also.

Christian Yes, Jesus.

[Christian picks up medicine and blanket and takes to the nominated member of the congregation.]

Jesus And, Christian, my brother over there is hungry. Give him some food to eat.

Christian Yes, Jesus. *[To person in congregation]* Here we are my friend... er... my brother.

Jesus Christian, you are blessed because you are doing my will.

Christian Well, I suppose I am. Thank you, Jesus.

Jesus Oh, Christian – you know that five hundred pounds you won on the Premium Bonds today?

Christian *[Doubtfully]* Yes, Jesus, so you know about that?

Jesus have you thought about how you might use it to serve me?

Christian To serve you?

Jesus Yes, after all it is my money anyway.

Christian No, I haven't thought – but I will now.

Jesus And have you thought how you, might use your whole life to serve me?

Christian I can see that I might need to make some changes.

Jesus It might be hard at times, as I know only too well, but I promise you, Christian, that you will not regret it.

Christian Thank you, Jesus.