

Alabaster: Telephone Monologue

(Could be adapted to be talking to a friend)

Grandmother comes to the platform carrying a stack of unassembled Alabaster boxes. A telephone sits on a table next to a rocking chair (or use a cell phone). Grandmother sits down and makes boxes as she rocks.

*“I hope everyone takes one of these Alabaster boxes on Sunday.”

The phone rings and she answers it, continuing to rock.

Hello.

Well hi _____. How’s Grandma’s favorite girl?

Oh! I know I say that to all of you, but you’re still my favorite.

I’m just fine too. But I sure have been busy today. I’m making up all of these Alabaster boxes.

Well, it is a little box about 5 inches long, 2 inches high, 2½ inches wide, and it has pictures of tools on it. It has an opening in the top to put money in. Haven’t you ever seen one of these?

Yes, that’s it. It’s the love offering for Missions. We bring our boxes to church twice a year, September and February, filled with money.

Uh huh, the Church of the Nazarene uses the money to buy land, build churches, Bible schools, hospitals, clinics, and missionary homes in all of our world mission areas.

Would you really like to have an Alabaster box?

OK, great I’ll bring you one when I come over tomorrow.

What’s that? Oh no, you don’t put your tithe in the Alabaster box, that belongs to God already. Alabaster is a special offering of love.

You see, it all started when Jesus was here on earth. There was this young woman from Bethany who brought her Alabaster box of very precious perfume. It was the very best she had. She came in where Jesus was eating and broke her box and poured all the perfume right on him. That was a big sacrifice.

Yes she did that to show her love for Him.

One way I got enough to fill my Alabaster box in September was to give up my Starbucks double latte twice a week. Didn’t take long to fill it that way! Another time I decided not to buy that purse at the mall. I put the money in the box. That really didn’t take long to fill the box!!

That’s right! If we all decided to give up something we really don’t need, and put the money in our Alabaster boxes, they would be full in no time.

I wish every Nazarene in the whole world realized how important this is. I wish they knew what a blessing comes from showing their love for Jesus.

Oh yes! I remember. You mean those missionaries we heard at _____? They told about all of the people who were saved in their new church building in India. That church was built with Alabaster money.

Well, honey, I’m really glad you called. I should get busy putting all of these Alabaster boxes together to make sure there is enough for everyone. Talk to you later. Bye.