

**Essay from Bold Pastor
#109 Christmas Story - Dumped Bride! -**

Wedding is a dream of every young woman. It is the day she gets to be the princess dressed in a white gown and showered with blessings and attention from everyone. Young and attractive Michelle from Fargo, North Dakota was going to be one of them.

She was engaged to be married in the fall and had been busy preparing for the wedding since a year ago. She had arranged the location, her gown, the live band, flowers, the limo, and photo/videographer. It is common for brides to take care of expenses for weddings in the U.S. Therefore, Michelle had to work and save enough money while getting ready for the wedding. However, her fiancé called a week prior to their wedding and broke their engagement. He simply said, "I don't love you any more. There won't be a wedding." This one phone call ended everything for her.

The dream wedding turned out to be a nightmare, and all of her money and arrangements went in vain. However, Michelle came up with an astonishing idea. Instead of cancelling all the reservations, she donated them to a facility for children with disabilities. The director of the facility, Judy, said, "I was speechless. I repeatedly asked Michelle if she was sure of this". Michelle's wedding became a Halloween party, and the children had a blast. She later said, "I thought I should give others what was important to me in order to get through this difficult time of my life. The day that was to be my special day turned out to be a special day for those children".

"And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others."

2 Corinthians 9:8, NLT

Michelle's action reflects the above verse from the Bible. God created us, humans, to do good deeds. Giving others gives us joy and the power to get over hardships upon us. Furthermore, the joy blows up and spreads to other people. It is an ever-growing positive spiral. Christmas is the day for such phenomenon. The world got filled with joy when God first gave himself up for us. He didn't do so because we deserved it. He loved us unconditionally. You become invincible when you believe in God and in giving. Let's celebrate Christmas.

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