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## "WHAT'S THE COST?!"

**Cast:** **M.C. Blabber** (dressed in very obnoxious mismatched clothes such as wild jacket and weird glasses; he's very high strung)  
**Sally from Seattle** (very shy, reserved, has difficulty paying attention)  
**Wally Werner** (somewhat nerdy, very intellectual - answers questions with a lot of logic and thought, carries a calculator)  
**Mary Meyers** (total game show freak; she's wanted to be on this show for years; very excited, energetic contestant)

**Props:** Table, bell, "What's The Cost?!" sign, lecture stand, hand-painted plate, index card, book, envelope

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**M.C.** Hello and welcome to "What's the Cost?!" I'm your host, M.C. Blabber, and as always I'll be challenging these fine contestants to tell me "What's the Cost?!" Let's meet today's players. Contestant #1 is Sally from Seattle. Sally, what do you do in Seattle?

**Sally** *(Sally is looking down at her feet – very shy.)*

**M.C.** Sally, again what do you do in Seattle?

**Sally** *(Slowly looks up and shrugs her shoulders.)*

**M.C.** Do you have any children?

**Sally** *(Nods her head "no.")*

**M.C.** Okay, contestant #2 is Wally Werner. Welcome, Wally, and what do you do?

**Wally** I currently am a professor of physics, statistics and logistics at the University.

**M.C.** Wow, that must keep you very busy. What do you do in your free time?

**Wally** In my free time I design computer software programs that coincide with the physics, statistics and logistics courses I teach.

**M.C.** I see. Well, finally contestant #3 is...

**Mary** Hi, Mr. Blabber, I'm Mary Meyers from Cincinnati, Ohio. I have three children, Billy, Bobby and Bonnie *(waves to the camera)*. Hi guys; Mommy misses you! I work part time and I am so excited to be on your show. I watch you all the time! I just told my friend the other day...

**M.C.** Okay, Mary, thanks. Let's begin the show today with the first item up for bid. Remember the contestant who bids closest to the price wins. It appears we have some very unusual items. The first item we have here *(hold up plate)* is a hand-painted plate made in Italy. *(Read off a card.)* It says here that Chef Boy R Dee himself ate his first plate of Spaghetti O's off this. Let's start the bidding with contestant #1. Sally, what's the cost?

**Sally** *(Looks very nervous) I... I (much hesitation)...*

**M.C.** What's the cost, Sally? We're waiting.

**Sally** Are... there a lot of people watching me? I... get... real... nervous... when...

**M.C.** Yes, Sally, there are thousands of people watching our show today. I'm afraid you're time is up. Let's go to contestant #2. Wally, what's the cost of this fine plate?

**Wally** I've been carefully mathematically and statistically calculating what the cost would have to be and... I'll say \$395.46.

**M.C.** Finally contestant #3, Mary, what's the cost?

**Mary** I am so excited *(jumping up and down)*! I really think I know the answer. My bid is \$450.00.

**M.C.** It says here, the actual price of this fine, hand-painted Spaghetti O's plate is \$500! Mary, you've won this round.

**Mary** (*Jumps and screams and runs all around.*) Oh my gosh, I won the first round!

**M.C.** Okay, Mary, settle down. Our next item up for bid is this one-of-a-kind, never been opened, very special book. It says here that the author himself held on to this book until he passed away a few years ago. Contestant #2 will start the bidding.

**Wally** Logically this is quite impossible due to the fact that I do not know the title, author or copyright date.

**M.C.** I'm sorry, Wally, but it says here (*pointing to the information card*) that this book is so unique that the title and author are unknown.

**Wally** I'll have to say \$1,000.

**M.C.** Contestant #1, what is the cost of this book?

**Sally** (*Looks real puzzled. She holds up her index finger as if to say, "Wait a minute."*)

**M.C.** Okay, your bid is one dollar. (*Sally looks real surprised.*) Contestant #3?

**Mary** Mr. Blabber, this is a hard one, but I'll have to say \$550.

**M.C.** The actual cost of this book is \$1,000. Wally, you were correct! (*Wally looks shocked.*) Our final item up for bid is the cost of going to heaven! Now contestants, think real hard. What's the cost? We'll start with Mary.

**Mary** Well, Mr. Blabber, I've thought a lot about this idea of going to heaven. You see, I go to church, and I volunteer at the hospital and I'm...

**M.C.** Okay, Mary, we're running out of time. What would you say the cost is to get to heaven?

**Mary** Oh, I'll guess \$1,000.

**M.C.** Contestant #2?

**Wally** I am certain I know the answer to this question because I am the treasurer at our church. I know how much money is given... So I'll have to say the cost is more like \$10,000.

**M.C.** Finally, contestant #1, what's the cost?

**Sally** (*Speaks a bit more boldly.*) Um...Well... from what I've read in the Bible... I think the cost to us is nothing but opening our hearts and letting God's love in. It's a free gift from God.

**M.C.** Okay, so your answer is "zero or nothing." Let's see what the actual cost is (*looks at information card*)... Sally, you are right! The cost is nothing...

**Wally** Wait a minute! Now I have logically analyzed all this and this is quite frankly impossible! Nothing in life is free! Someone has to pay the cost!

**Sally** Excuse me, Mr. Werner... (*starts gaining some confidence; taps Wally on the shoulder*) you're right. Someone did pay the price for us to go to heaven. Jesus Christ did! It cost Him everything. He gave His life. He took God's anger and punishment for our sin when He died on the cross. He paid a terrible cost. That's incredible, isn't it!

**M.C.** Well, friends, that's all for today. Thanks for watching "What's the Cost?!" Tune in again next week. Bye, bye!