

Real World Skit: Truth For Today

Characters: Avery, Clark, and Gabe

Props (optional): Table and chairs, a sack lunch with a bag of chips and snacks, a bell to ring to signal the end of lunch.

Avery is sitting alone in the school cafeteria with a sack lunch. Clark and Gabe are watching him from across the room.

Avery: *(Bowing head.)* Dear Lord, thank you for this day. Thank you for this food and help me to think clearly and do well on my math test today. Amen.

Gabe: Hey Clark, take a look at Avery. What's with that? Praying! Right in the middle of the cafeteria!

Clark: That's strange. Not many kids are brave enough to pray in school these days.

Gabe: Let's go see what kind of food is in that lunch bag.

Clark: *(Laughing.)* Yeah. It can't be good if it needs to be prayed over!

The two students walk over to where Avery is eating lunch.

Avery: Hi Clark. Hi Gabe. What's up?

Clark grabs Avery's lunch sack and looks inside. Avery reaches for it. Clark keeps it from him.

Gabe: *(Laughing.)* We saw you praying over your lunch, Avery. What's wrong? Are you afraid to eat it?

Clark: *(Laughing.)* Yeah, it looked like you might be asking God to save you from food poisoning or something.

Avery: Very funny. Are you going to give me my lunch back any time soon? I'd like to finish eating before the bell.

Clark: *(Looking in the bag.)* I'll give it back to you under two conditions.

Avery: What?

Clark: *(Taking the chips out of the bag.)* You give me these chips.

Avery: And...?

Clark: Tell us why you're always praying and reading your Bible and stuff.

Clark hands Avery the lunch bag.

Avery: *(Puzzled.)* Huh? Really, Clark?

Clark: Is it a deal?

Avery: You can have the chips. But why the interest in my prayer life? You need another reason to make fun of me? Why should I explain anything to you?

Gabe: Yeah, Clark. What's up with that?

Clark: Be quiet, Gabe. I just have some questions. I'm curious. I just wonder what it's all about.

Avery: Well, Ok. What do you want to know?

Clark: Well. Why do you pray? What is it? How do you know what to say?

Avery: Prayer is just talking to God. God tells us how to pray in the Bible. He listens when we pray. He wants to help us—like a good Father. After all, He is in control of everything. If we are Christians, He listens when we pray and answers our prayers.

Clark: You mean God gives you whatever you ask for when you pray?

Gabe: Yeah! Can I pray for that new video game I want?

Avery: No. First of all God is a good Father. A good father doesn't always give us everything we want just because we want it. And secondly, God only promises to answer the prayers of His children. His children are those who believe in His truth, the Bible, and what it tells us about Jesus.

Gabe: OK. So say you are a child of God. Say you are praying for something you really think is important. Does He always answer yes then?

Avery: Well, He always answers His children. But He has the right to answer any way He wants to.

Clark: What does that mean? Are you avoiding the question?

Avery: No. Sometimes He answers right away and says yes! Sometimes God's answer is no. And sometimes we have to wait for His answer. Sometimes we have to wait years to get the answer. It takes a lot of faith to trust God to answer our prayers.

Gabe: What does faith have to do with it? You want something, you ask for it! What do you mean?

Avery: Well, faith has a lot to do with it. Before you can understand prayer, you really have to have faith and believe that God is who He says He is in the Bible.

Gabe: What does the Bible have to do with it? Isn't that just a bunch of old stories?

Clark: Yeah. I don't think the Bible has anything to do with life today. This is a new age.

Avery: The Bible is way more than an old book with interesting stories. It's God's holy and true Word. And it will never change. The Bible tells us exactly what we need to know now about God and Jesus and the world around us and about life.

Clark: I don't know about that.

Gabe: Yeah. How can something written so long ago tell me how to live? I'm not sure I believe this. I'm confused.

Clark: Wait a minute. Just give us one reason why we can trust the Bible to be true and not made up!

Avery: Ok. *(Pauses while thinking.)* You believe in Jesus, right?

Clark and Gabe: Well, yeah.

Avery: Did you know that people told and wrote about Jesus 700 years before He was born? And the things they said about Jesus were true and happened—700 years later.

Gabe: Are you talking about prophets? I remember hearing about them.

Avery: Yes! The Lord spoke through men—prophets. God used them to speak for Him before the Bible was written. They also told about Jesus's suffering and death. They told about where He would be born, and how He would die.

Clark: Well, if all of that is really true, that would be impressive. I guess I'd have to start believing and reading it a little more.

Gabe: But I heard that those prophecies could have been written by people AFTER Jesus was born—AFTER everything already happened.

Avery: People say that because they don't believe the Bible. They are trying to challenge what it says. But it is a common fact that the ancient manuscripts that have been found—the manuscripts that tell about Jesus—were written way BEFORE He was born.

Gabe: How could all those prophecies be so accurate?

Avery: Well, that's the question, right? The only explanation is that God gave the knowledge of those future events to His prophets. Then He inspired each word as they wrote down what would happen, in the Bible.

Gabe: I'm kind of surprised and impressed that you know how to answer our questions, Avery.

Clark: So am I. You are smarter than you look!

Gabe: Do you think the Bible is true?

Avery: Yes, I really do. I am learning more about it and the more I learn the more I believe it!

Clark: I'm not so sure. But these answers make sense. I need time to think. Can we meet again tomorrow? Same time? Same place?

Avery: Sure. And the chips are on me. I'll bring enough for all of us!

The three of them laugh. The bell rings, and they get up and leave the cafeteria.