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"Love Stands in the Gap"

by
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What This skit demonstrates how Jesus accepted the punishment for our sins, and how He disciplines us to help us become more like Him. After an exchange between a father and teen, we see Jesus having a similar conversation with one of His followers. **Themes**: Confession of Sins, Forgiveness, Easter, Discipline

Who
Teen
Dad
Jesus
Christian

When Present

Wear (Props)
2 Chairs
Purple sash

Why Hebrews 12:5-11; Deuteronomy 8:5; Job 5:17; 2 Corinthians 7:10; Romans 8:38-39; Romans 6:23; Ezekiel 22:30

How The mood is solemn in places to reflect the gravity and consequences of sin. The 2nd half of the skit should be spoken with the same inflections as the 1st half of the skit to demonstrate the similarities between Jesus' love for us and a parent's love for a child.

*Casting- The actors may double up, Teen playing Christian and Dad playing Jesus.

Time Approximately 5 minutes

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PURCHASE SCRIPT TO REMOVE WATERMARK AT SKITGUYS.COM

__Teen__ is sitting in a chair, elbows on knees, and holding head miserably. __Dad__ enters and stops as he sees his child. He looks at the __Teen__ sadly and, after a few seconds, he continues across the room and sits down quietly in the second chair slightly facing and next to his child.

Dad: *(quietly)* So, do you want to tell me what happened now?

Teen: *(huffs and doesn't look up)* Dad, you already know what I did. I'm sure everyone knows now. Why do you want to hear it again?

Father: Because I want to hear it from you.

Teen: To rub it in?

Father: I think you know me better than that.

Teen: *(looks up briefly but can't maintain the gaze of his father and looks down at the floor again, head bowed)* I was wrong, Dad…I did what they're saying. I don't know what came over me. I just couldn't seem to help myself and…I just feel terrible. *(Looks up and becomes teary)* I'm so very sorry about it.

Dad: I know, son/daughter.

Teen: What happens now?

Dad: Well, your mom and I talked to the authorities. It doesn't look good—

Teen: *(interrupting)* But, I didn't know this was going to happen. I wasn't STEALING the car. I just wanted to see how it handled *(speaking quickly, thinking of excuses)* and the keys were in it and my buddies were egging me on and…then there was the other car and…*(pauses and sniffles)*. And I was so wrong.

Dad: *(sadly)* You were.

Teen: What will happen to me?

Dad: Your mom and I are doing everything we can. We're going to pay the hospital fees, the car damages, court costs, and probably a lot more in civil court if we can't settle with the other parties involved. And we found you a lawyer. He thinks that he can get things dropped to community service and probation. We'll act as your character witnesses.

Teen: *(wryly)* Character witnesses? With my history? I don't deserve your help. You and mom are getting punished because of me. I deserve to suffer, pay…go to jail! Not you!

Dad: You're right. *(**Teen** looks up, surprised at the frankness)* But your mom and I are going to stand in the gap for you. You do have some consequences coming your way, though. *(**Teen** bows head again).* Uncomfortable lessons which start today with a hospital visit and apology to the other driver. After that, your mother and I will figure out the rest. *(Stands up and starts to leave the room)* Okay, I have a few more papers to sign before you can leave.

Teen: Dad? *(**Dad** stops and turns back)* I feel pretty crummy…like I'm an awful person. Why would you even think about paying the price for everything I did…I mean, it's my fault and you and mom have worked hard for everything you have.

Dad: *(smiles sadly)* That's easy. You're my child. You belong to me and nothing will ever change that.

*Lights down. **Dad** walks off stage and the actor playing **Jesus** puts on the purple sash in preparation for the 2nd part of the skit. **Teen** remains seated if played by the same actor. If not, then the **Teen** exits, and the **Christian** character sits in the seat. Stage lights come on to indicate the start of the 2nd half and the **Christian** is sitting in a chair, elbows on his knees, and holding head miserably. **Jesus** enters and stops as He sees the **Christian**. He looks at the person sadly and, after a few seconds, He continues across the room and sits down quietly next to the he or she in the second chair.*

Jesus: *(quietly)* So, do you want to tell me what happened now?

Christian: *(huffs and doesn't look up)* Jesus, You already know what I did. You know everything! Why do You want to hear it again?

Jesus: Because I want to hear it from you.

Christian: To make me feel worse?

Jesus: You know me better than that.

Christian: *(looks up briefly but can't maintain the gaze of **Jesus** and looks down at the floor again, head bowed)* I…I did what they're saying. I don't know what came over me. I just couldn't seem to help myself… And I don't know how to fix it, and…I just feel terrible, Jesus. *(Looks up and becomes teary)* I'm so very sorry about it.

Jesus: I know, my child.

Christian: What happens now?

Jesus: You already know that sin is destructive. It separates us. The only way to bridge that gap is a sacrifice; a forfeit.

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PURCHASE

Christian: *(interrupting)* But, I didn't know this was going to happen. I wasn't TRYING to do something wrong. I just wanted to see what it was like. *(Speaking quickly; thinking of excuses)* I wasn't trying to hurt anyone and my friends said it was okay and… *(Pauses and sniffles)* And I was so wrong.

Jesus: *(sadly)* You were.

SCRIPT

Christian: What will happen to me?

Jesus: I volunteered to stand in the gap for you. It's my shed blood on the cross that has paid for your mistake. I'm your character witness.

TO

Christian: *(wryly)* Some character I've got. You know my history! I don't deserve your help. You've been punished because of me. I deserve to suffer, pay, …die! Not you.

Jesus: You're right. *(**Christian** looks up, surprised by His frankness)* But I've already taken your place. There will be some consequences, though. You can't sin and come through unscathed. Then, there is my discipline, starting today with going to the people you hurt and making amends. It's how I shape you to become more like Me. *(Pauses)* Now, I think you have some people to talk to… *(**Jesus** stands up as if ending the conversation)*

REMOVE

Christian: Jesus? *(**Jesus** stops and looks at **Christian**)* I feel pretty crummy…like I'm an awful person. Why would You even think about paying the price for everything I did…I mean, it's my fault and You're perfect. You didn't deserve pain, or sorrow, or death.

WATERMARK

Jesus: *(smiles sadly)* That's easy. You're my child. You belong to me and nothing will ever change that.

Lights down.

AT

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