

A script from



“Thanks for Everything, Jesus”

by
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- What** As Abby sits down for Thanksgiving dinner with Jesus, she’s faced with the difficult reminder that we are to be thankful for everything—even the things that are unpleasant or painful. **Themes:** Walking with Christ, Encouragement, Support, Temptation, Narrow Gate, Thanksgiving
- Who** Jesus
Abby
- When** Present; Thanksgiving
- Wear
(Props)** Table decorated for Thanksgiving
2 Place Settings
2 Cups
Candles
Serving dishes or bowls are labeled with the following: JOB, HOME, FAMILY, HEALTH, CONFLICT, and CANCER
Serving spoons
Cardboard Labels for Serving Dishes/Bowls
- Actors can wear casual clothes or dinner attire or Jesus can wear more traditional biblical clothing depending on preference.
- Why** Psalm 95:2; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18; Philippians 4:6-7; Job 1:20-21; 2 Corinthians 4:16-18; Romans 8:28; Psalm 34:1; Proverbs 3:5-6
- How** The skit, while containing some humor, has some thoughtful parts that should be acted in a way that allows the audience to reflect. Be sure to leave yourself plenty of time to rehearse with all of the props on the table so that you avoid too much downtime.
- Time** Approximately 5 minutes

Abby is pacing by the table and looking at her watch and towards the stage entrance. Jesus walks in and Abby runs to greet Him with a hug.

Abby: *(exuberantly)* Jesus! You're here! I am so excited to celebrate Thanksgiving with you. I have so much I'm grateful for this year. This is going to be awesome! I can't wait to tell you all about it.

Abby pulls Jesus' arm to rush Him to the table.

Jesus: Abby! I'm so glad you invited me. It's been a while since we've really gotten to talk.

Abby: *(sheepishly)* You're right, Jesus. Sorry about that! But I'm going to make up for it today. Here! *(Abby pushes Jesus towards the decorated seat).* You sit here as the guest of honor. *(Pushes in Jesus' chair).*

Jesus: Thanks, Abby!

Abby: No, thank YOU, Jesus! *(Winks)* I'm going to do this Thanksgiving right. I'm going to praise your socks off!

Jesus: Cool! I've been looking forward to this meal. There's nothing I love more than spending time with one of my children.

Abby: *(Abby sits down).* First things first! Jesus, thanks for catering the food. You know I'm not much of a cook. And, while I'm thinking of it, thanks for feeding me all year long!

Jesus: My pleasure. Let's dig in. Where do you want to start?

Abby: *(looks at the table and chooses the dish labeled JOB)* Definitely this one. *(Takes a big scoop and empties it on her plate).* Thank you, Jesus, for my awesome job! *(Passes plate to Jesus who also takes a scoop and then sets the dish back on the table).*

Jesus: You're welcome, Abby! I'm glad you enjoy it.

Abby: It's been great! Everyone is nice and the raise I got this year was an unexpected blessing. Let's see... *(Looks at dishes on table).* Let's get this one next. *(Picks up dish labeled HOME and puts a large scoop on plate. Passes dish to Jesus who also adds a spoonful to His plate and sets it on the table).* Jesus, I'm really grateful for my home. I was living in an apartment last year—not that I wasn't happy with that—but being able to buy my own home? Wow! That was amazing! You are amazing!

Jesus: *(smiling)* Abby, it's been a pleasure seeing you take care of it. I'm proud that you used that gift to show hospitality to those around you.

Abby: *(fans face)* Blushing! Okay, what's next? Hmm... *(Looks at table and grabs the FAMILY dish).* This one for sure!

Plops a spoonful from the dish on her plate and passes the dish to Jesus who does the same and then sets the dish on the table.

Jesus, my family has been a rock this year. Thanks for giving me a loving family who always has my back.

Jesus: *(pats Abby on the back affectionately)* Their love is a reflection of my own for you, Abby. I'm glad that you can get a glimpse of that love here on earth.

Abby: *(smiles at Jesus and then looks at table, taking a little more time to find a dish).* Hmm...some of the dishes left aren't what I usually like to...oh wait!

Chooses the dish labeled HEALTH and spoons a helping on her plate. Abby passes the plate to Jesus who takes a spoonful and puts the dish back on the table.

Jesus, I haven't had more than a simple cold this year. At my check-up, my doctor said I'm doing great. Thanks for my good health.

Jesus: I'm happy to see you healthy. *(Laughing)* Speaking of which, how about using those running shoes for more than just a fashion statement?

Abby: *(laughing)* You got me there, Jesus! *(Looks at the table and back at her plate. Avoids eye contact with Jesus)* Well, let's dig in!

Jesus: Umm...Abby, there are a few more dishes on the table.

Abby: *(uncomfortable)* Oh, yeah. Riiight. Well, Jesus, I don't think I have any more room on my plate. My cup runneth over, you know! *(Nervously laughs)*

Jesus: Abby, always rejoice, remember? In everything give thanks.

Abby: Jesus, you know that I appreciate everything you do for me. Really, I do. But, well, some things dished out this year are just hard to be thankful for. I think I want to leave some of them on the table.

Jesus: I know how you feel, Abby. When I walked this earth, I ate my share of unpleasant meals. But everything works together for good for those who love Me and are called according to My purpose.

Abby: *(sighs heavily)* Okay, Jesus.

Picks up the dish labeled CONFLICT and only dips a small portion out to put on plate. She passes the plate glumly to Jesus and He puts a portion on his plate before putting it on the table. Abby takes a deep breath and struggles through next lines as if in pain.

Jesus, thank you for the argument I had with my friend, Jess. The ache at the time was hard to bear and the wounds took a long time to heal *(clears throat as if becoming tearful)* and it was definitely hard to appreciate it. *(Pauses to regain composure)* But now I see that our relationship is honest and stronger because of it. I praise You for helping me through it and allowing me to experience it.

Jesus: Good, Abby.

Abby: *(looks hopefully at Jesus)* Okay, then. Let's eat!

Jesus: Abby, there's one more left.

Abby: Jesus. *(Looks pained)* I—I just can't.

Jesus: Abby, I know you can. I will always be with you to give you guidance and strength no matter what is on your plate. When your yoke is too heavy, I carry it with you.

Abby: I know, Jesus. And I thank you for that, but it's really hard to praise you when really terrible things happen.

Jesus: Abby, suffering on earth is temporary. My joy is eternal.

Abby: *(picks up the dish labeled CANCER and stares sadly at it)* I hear what you're saying Jesus. But, how can I possibly be thankful through my mom's cancer?

Jesus: You change your perspective. You focus your attention on the bigger picture... something that you can't see clearly yet, but I promise you it is more awesome than anything you can imagine.

Abby: That sounds great, but how do I do that?

Jesus: *(Jesus gently turns Abby's head from the dish to Him)*. You trust Me, Abby. Trust in Me with all your heart and don't rely on your own understanding. I've been where you are. I've already eaten the most bitter dish for you on the cross. Now, I am sitting here eating this meal with you, too. Trust me.

Abby: *(Jesus watches her with compassion and understanding and, after a pause, Abby nods her head)* Okay, Jesus.

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Reluctantly picks up the dish labeled CANCER and puts a spoonful on her plate. Passes the plate to Jesus who puts the spoonful on His plate. Abby and Jesus pick up their fork. Jesus is about to take a bite but watches Abby. Abby picks up the food on fork and contemplates it. Jesus puts His arm on Abby's shoulder and smiles at her and they eat at the same time.

You know, Jesus, I'm going to eat this meal and be thankful, but would you be offended if I plug my nose for part of it?

Jesus: *(laughs)* No, Abby.

Abby: Thanks, Jesus. And I mean it...Thanks for everything.

Lights down.

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