

Real World Skit: The Hope of Heaven

Characters: Sophie, Grace, Jake

Sophie: Oh, Grace. I'm so sorry about your grandma! How are you doing?

Grace: I think I'm OK. Well, one minute I think I'm OK. And the next minute I'm so sad I can't stand it!

Jake: I really miss your Grannie, Grace. I can't imagine how much you must miss her.

Grace: I didn't think I could ever be this sad! It is hard to believe we won't be going to her house on Sunday! And she'll never make me her famous peanut butter cookies again!

Jake: Man! I just think it stinks that she had to be so sick, Grace! She wasn't THAT old!

Sophie: I agree, Jake. And so many people were praying for her! But you know the funeral was different from others I have been to.

Jake: Me, too! Your mom and dad and the other people seemed almost happy!

Grace: I don't think they were happy! They're really going to miss her, too! Especially my mom!

Jake: What was it then? What seemed different? Even you're doing better than I would if it were my grandma who died.

Grace: You know, my grandma really loved Jesus! Even all those months she was sick, she would read her Bible, or ask Mom to read to her, and pray, and sing!

Jake: Yeah. I remember she was always smiling when I went to see her.

Grace: Well, that is just it! Grandma knew that she was really sick. And she knew she might die! But she wasn't really sad.

Sophie: Was she sad that she wouldn't see you again? Or your mom? Or your dad?

Grace: I think she was. But she helped all of us to understand that we WOULD see her again! And she wasn't upset about what was happening.

Jake: But it does upset me! It is horrible that people have to get so sick. It seems like things are getting so bad in the world. It just doesn't seem right.

Sophie: There is so much death, disease, and suffering. I don't really get it! I know God is good and all. But sometimes, like now especially, it doesn't make sense.

Grace: Remember what Pastor said at the funeral about that?

Jake: Yeah. He said something about all the suffering in the world. And how one day it would all end. Do you believe that?

Sophie: We have to believe it, Jake. The Bible tells us that. It says that God will make a new heaven and a new earth one day!

Jake: Well, that sounds pretty good!

Grace: That is what Grandma wanted all of us to understand—that if you believe in Jesus like she did, even if you get really sick, you can have hope!

Jake: Hmmmm. And that hope is in the new heaven and the new earth, right?

Sophie: So what will that be like?

Grace: After the funeral, Dad showed me what it said in the Bible! We were all so sad and upset. And God's Word helped us. God promises in His Word that one day things will be different.

Jake: And they will be better?

Grace: Yes. The Bible says that someday Jesus will return. And everything will be made new. And there won't be any more sickness or death!

Sophie: Wow! That seems hard to believe, doesn't it?

Grace: It does. But Dad read it right from God's Word. I know it is true. And I know Grandma believed it.

Jake: So, what will it be like, I wonder?

Sophie: I think it will be wonderful! Can you imagine it? No crying, no sadness, no sickness, no death!

Grace: And there is something even better about the new heaven and the new earth!

Jake: What are you talking about?

Grace: Well, for starters, no one who is there will EVER sin again!

Sophie: Really? So, no one will hurt our feelings, or be mean to us?

Jake: And we won't be mean to other people? We won't want to disobey? We will love everyone?

Grace: Yes! No more sin. And even more amazing, the Bible says that God Himself will live with His children!

Sophie: You mean we will be with God?

Grace: Yes! We will be with God! And we will spend eternity with Him! We will praise Him forever and ever!

Jake: Who exactly will be there, besides God? Will everyone be there?

Grace: No. Only people who believe and trust in Jesus will be there!

Sophie: That's right. The Bible tells us that. Jesus said He is the only way, the only truth, and the only life. No one can get to heaven or the Father except by Him!

Jake: And the Bible also says that anyone who believes in Jesus will have eternal life and will not be condemned.

Sophie: But what about the people who don't believe in Jesus? The people who never trust Him to forgive their sins?

Grace: They won't be in the new heaven and the new earth. They will be judged by God. And they will spend eternity separated from God.

Jake: But that is NOT your grandma, Grace! She loved Jesus and the Bible!

Grace: That's right. She had hope and joy to the very end! And my mom and dad have it, too!

Sophie: And that is why your mom and dad were smiling at the funeral! They know your grandma knew Jesus! She loved Him and trusted Him!

Grace: Yes! They know they will see her again. And it will be in a much better place—a place we can only imagine!