

Worth Saving

By

Jeff Smith

Jan. 2012

email: jeffsmith1961@gmail.com

This script was a gift from
God and therefore free for all
to use. May God bless your
efforts to spread to good news
of our Lord and Savior Jesus
Christ.

ACT 1 - The Invitation

1

EXT. PARK - MIDDAY

1

AMY, a Goth dressed high school girl, approaches two Goth friends sitting around a picnic table in the park. Amy sits down on the bench across the table from Friend 2 and beside Friend 1 who is sitting on top of the table. [NOTE: (beat) is a slight pause]

AMY

Boy my mom sure was wasted last night.

FRIEND 1

I guess so after your dance with the fire the other day.

FRIEND 2

Hey. What happened anyway? I heard that quiet guy Mark saved your life.

AMY

All I remember is someone pulling me out of the school. The smoke was so thick I couldn't see a thing.

Friend 1 gets up and sits down on the seat beside Amy, then looks at them and begins to speak. It is obvious she knew Mark better than her friends. She seems sad as she talks about what happened.

FRIEND 1

His name was Mark Davis. He went back in the school after pulling you, Johnny B. and Brian out but he never came back out. I guess the smoke got to him. Firemen found his body after they put out the fire.

Amy shakes her head as she speaks.

AMY

I didn't even know him. Why in the world did he risk his life for me?

Amy's cell phone rings. She pulls it from her pocket and looks at the number. Not recognizing the number she answers with a questioning look on her face.

(CONTINUED)

AMY

Hello.

(beat)

Mrs. Who?

(beat)

Mrs. Davis?

Amy puts her hand over the phone and looks shocked as she tells her friends who is on the phone.

AMY

Its Mark's mom.

Amy takes her hand off the phone, still shocked at who has called her, she returns to talking on the phone. Amy's friends exchange looks as Amy returns to her phone call.

AMY

Yes I'm still here.

(beat)

Dinner? Tomorrow night?

(beat)

Well I don't know. I sort of had plans.

(beat)

What time?

(beat)

I'm not promising anything but if my other plans fall through maybe I'll come.

(beat)

OK. Good Bye.

Amy puts away her phone as Friend 1 takes out a pack of cigarettes. While pulling out a cigarette she speaks.

FRIEND 1

What was that about?

AMY

Mark's mom invited me to dinner tomorrow night. She said Johnny and Brian were going to be there too.

FRIEND 2

Why would she want to invite you three to dinner.

FRIEND 1

I guess she wants to see who Mark died for.

(CONTINUED)

FRIEND 2

Boy is she going to be in for a surprise. You think she knows you're one of us?

Friend 1 starts looking for something to light her cigarette.

AMY

I don't know. I think it will be strange meeting Mark's family. I'll probably skip it.

FRIEND 2

Free home cooked meal? I'd go.

Amy, looking almost scared, stops talking and puts her head on the table as Friend 1 ask Friend 2 if she has a lighter.

FADE TO BLACK

2

INT. DAVIS HOME, KITCHEN - EARLY EVENING

2

On fade up, Karen is helping her mother with the dishes in the kitchen. Both look withdrawn and preoccupied. Mrs. Davis is rinsing dishes and handing them to Karen to dry.

MRS. DAVIS

Karen. Do you know the three students your brother pulled from the fire?

Karen's demeanor changes to one of disgust as she answers. Mrs. Davis does not notice her daughters reaction as she continues to rinse dishes.

KAREN

I know who they are but I don't talk to them.

MRS. DAVIS

Your dad and I thought it would be good for us to meet them so I invited them to dinner tomorrow night.

Karen stops drying dishes. She cannot believe what she just heard.

KAREN

You did what! I don't want to have dinner with those three. Mark should have left them in the fire.

(CONTINUED)

Mrs. Davis is shocked at her daughters reaction. She stops rinsing dishes and looks at Karen.

MRS. DAVIS

Karen! Don't talk like that. Your brother gave his life for those students and you will be nice to them tomorrow night.

Karen sarcastically begins to describe the three her mom has invited to dinner.

KAREN

Students? That's a stretch. Brian does drugs. Johnny's ego is so big he will probably have a hard time getting through the front door. And Amy, well you will just have to see her to understand.

Mrs. Davis believes Karen is over reacting.

MRS. DAVIS

Alright, that's enough. Isn't Amy your age?

KAREN

Yes.

MRS. DAVIS

I think you should get to know her. Maybe she would like to go to youth group with you Friday night.

KAREN

Mom. Amy is not the church going type.

MRS. DAVIS

Well you ask her anyway. Now go wipe off the dinning room table.

Karen, looking quite disgusted, takes the kitchen towel she was drying dishes with and exits the kitchen as Mrs. Davis continues rinsing dishes.

FADE TO BLACK

FADE UP

Johnny, standing by an outside light in the Davis driveway, is dialing his cell phone as Brian walks up followed by Amy. Johnny gives Brian a fist bump as he begins to talk on the phone.

JOHNNY

Hey. Its Johnny B.

(beat)

Look dude. I need a favor. I got invited to dinner by the family of that loser Mark that died the other day.

(beat)

No he didn't save Johnny B.'s life! Dude I was practically out the door when he grabbed my arm. But listen, I was going to skip this thing but my mom found out and made me come.

(beat)

Well if you will shut up for a second I'll tell you what the favor is. Look, I'm outside the house getting ready to go in. I need you to call me in 5 minutes. I'll act like some big emergency has come up and that will give me a reason to leave.

(beat)

Alright, I owe you. Remember 5 minutes.

Johnny puts his phone away and turns to Brian and Amy. Brian reaches in his coat pocket, pulls out a half empty whiskey bottle and takes a large swigg.

JOHNNY

Hey man, let me get some of that.

Brian hands Johnny the bottle.

BRIAN

Here you go.

Johnny wipes off the mouth of the bottle on his coat and takes several swiggs. Amy begin to walk toward the front door. Johnny hands Brian the bottle. Brian tucks it back in his coat pocket and they follow Amy. All three walk to the front door and Amy reaches for the doorbell.

(CONTINUED)

CUT TO

ACT 2 - New Friends

4 INT. DAVIS HOME, LIVINGROOM - EARLY EVENING 4

Karen is sitting on the couch looking quite disgusted thinking how in the world could her mom and dad invite these three to dinner. Mr. Davis is sitting in his chair reading the newspaper. He looks up at the clock on the wall. It reads 6:05. Mr. Davis yells towards the kitchen.

MR. DAVIS

Nancy, what time did you tell those kids to be here?

Mrs. Davis yells back from the kitchen.

MRS. DAVIS

Six, but don't worry. I'm sure they're just running a little late. Karen, will you come set the table?

Mr. Davis goes back to reading his newspaper as Karen gets up and goes into the kitchen. As she exits the living room the doorbell rings. Mr. Davis folds his paper and heads toward the foyer.

CUT TO

5 INT. DAVIS HOME, FOYER - EARLY EVENING 5

Mr. Davis enters the foyer and opens the front door. Amy is standing at the door with Johnny and Brian behind her. Mr. Davis is so shocked by Amy's appearance he hesitates before inviting them in.

MR. DAVIS

Please. Come in. I'm Carl Davis. You must be Amy.

Amy timidly shakes Mr. Davis's hand as she enters. Johnny enters next.

JOHNNY

Hey Mr. Davis. I'm Johnny B.

(CONTINUED)

Mr. Davis wrinkles his nose at the slight smell of alcohol as he shakes Johnny's hand. Brian is the last to enter. Knowing his breath probably smells of alcohol, he doesn't look directly at Mr. Davis as he speaks with a slight slur.

BRIAN

I'm Brian Sanford.

Mr. Davis shakes Brian's hand. Even with Brian's head turned slightly the smell of alcohol is quite strong and Mr. Davis turns his head slightly away from Brian as the smell hits his nose.

MR. DAVIS

Here let me take your coats.

Mr. Davis takes Amy's coat and hangs it up. As he takes Johnny's coat, Brian removes his own coat and hangs it up himself. As he does the sound of a bottle hitting the coat rack is heard. Mr. Davis looks at Brian.

BRIAN

Oh, that's some cough syrup for my mom.

Mr. Davis realizes the sound he just heard was most likely a bottle of alcohol, but he doesn't say anything as he shows the guests the way to the living room.

MR. DAVIS

Let's go into the living room.

Amy, Johnny and Brian follow Mr. Davis from the foyer.

CUT TO

6 INT. DAVIS LIVING ROOM - DUSK

6

Mr. Davis leads the way into the living room. Mr. Davis yells toward the kitchen as the three guests start to sit down.

MR. DAVIS

Why don't you guys have a seat on the couch. Nancy, Karen, our guests are here.

Johnny pulls out his cell phone as he sits down on one end of the couch. Brian sits in the middle and Amy on the other end. Mrs. Davis and Karen enter from the kitchen. Mrs. Davis is shocked when she first sees Amy. Trying not to

(CONTINUED)

stare, she and Amy sit down as Mr. Davis sits back down in his chair.

MRS. DAVIS

I'm glad all of you could make it.

(hesitating)

Our Mark gave his life to rescue the three of you from that fire. Carl and I feel that part of our Mark lives on in each of you so we thought it would be good to get to know each of you a little better. Brian, will you tell us a little about yourself?

Brian looks around the room as if someone else named Brian is there.

BRIAN

Oh, well there's not much to tell. I go to school, work in the afternoons and uh...

KAREN

(under her breath)

do drugs

Mr. Davis gives Karen a quick glance and she looks away from the three on the couch. Brian did not hear Karen's remark and fumbles for words to finish his sentence.

BRIAN

Uh, I like fast cars. That's about it.

Mrs. Davis, expecting a little more continues to look at Brian. When Brian looks away she realizes that's all he has to say. She looks towards Johnny.

MRS. DAVIS

OK, that's nice. Johnny?

JOHNNY

Yeah, I'm Johnny B. and I'm the captain of the football team. I don't think you will find any of Mark in me. He didn't really save me. I was already at the door when he grabbed my arm.

Mr. and Mrs. Davis glance at each other when they hear Johnny's remarks. Karen, unable to control her anger any longer lashes out at the three guests.

(CONTINUED)

KAREN

What! Johnny you stupid jock. My brother saves your life and you have the nerve to sit here and say he did nothing. And Brian, you're so messed up most of the time you don't even know what planet you're on.

Karen gives Amy an angry look as she continues.

KAREN

And Amy, you worship the devil don't you. I can't believe my brother gave his life for you three. None of you deserve the sacrifice he made.

Everyone in the room is stunned by Karen's out burst. Just as Mr. Davis turns to say something to Karen, Johnny's cell phone rings and he quickly answered it.

JOHNNY

Hello

(beat)

Really! So do you need some help.

(beat)

Alright. I'll be there in 5. Bye.

Johnny puts his cell phone away.

JOHNNY

Mr. and Mrs. Davis, I'm sorry but something has come up and I've got to go.

Johnny gets up and starts to head toward the foyer. Brian quickly gets up and begins to follow. After a few steps he stops and turns toward Mr. and Mrs. Davis.

BRIAN

I really need to get that cough syrup to my mom so I've got to go too.

Mr. Davis gets up and starts toward the two boys.

MR. DAVIS

Guys I apologize for Karen. She really didn't mean those things did you Karen?

Mr. Davis give Karen a quick disapproving glance.

(CONTINUED)

JOHNNY

It's alright. I've got to go help a friend.

MR. DAVIS

Well OK. Let me get your coats for you.

BRIAN

That's OK. We can get them. Nice meeting you guys.

Johnny and Brian leave the living room. After a few seconds the sound of the front door opening and closing is heard. Mr. Davis, still standing, looks at Karen.

MR. DAVIS

Don't you have something to say young lady?

Karen looks toward Amy, still with a disgusted look on her face.

KAREN

I'm sorry.

Mrs. Davis gets up and looks at Karen and nods her head toward Amy as she speaks. Amy is looking down and doesn't see Mrs. Davis's gesture.

MRS. DAVIS

Carl, why don't we let Amy and Karen get to know each other. Can you help me in the kitchen please?

Mr. and Mrs. Davis go into the kitchen leaving Amy and Karen alone in the living room. Karen can't believe her parents just left her with this devil worshiper. After an uncomfortable silence, Amy, still looking down, timidly speaks.

AMY

I'm sorry your brother died.

Karen angrily stares at Amy and says nothing. She still blames Amy for Mark's death, even though Mark died looking for others.

AMY

You're right. Mark should have let me die. I shouldn't have come tonight.

(CONTINUED)

Amy begins to get up. Hearing Amy's remark, Karen's Christian up bringing finally begins to overcome her anger and she realizes Amy really needs someone to talk to. Karen gets up and walks toward her as she speaks.

KAREN

Please don't go.

Amy looks at Karen and slowly sits back down. Karen sits by Amy on the couch. Now ashamed of what she said earlier she questions Amy.

KAREN

Why would you say something like that. I really didn't mean what I said earlier. My brother loved God and he did what was in his heart. He sacrificed himself so you could live.

Karen smiles slightly as she talks about her brother. After a few seconds Amy replies.

AMY

I don't you know.

KAREN

Don't what?

AMY

Worship the devil.

KAREN

So why do you dress like that?

AMY

It keeps people away so they don't try to become my friend.

Karen begins to look concerned as she continues to question Amy.

KAREN

Why would you want that? You don't want to have any friends?

AMY

No. Friends always expect you to talk about your life at home and I don't want people to know about my life at home.

Karen hesitates and then quietly asks.

KAREN

What's going on at home?

Amy shakes her head in disbelief. She just opened the door to her home life with a person who was telling her she didn't deserve to live just 5 minutes earlier. But for some reason Karen seems like a totally different person now so she begins to open up. As Amy starts to speak, Mrs. Davis come to the living room doorway but stops when she sees the two girls talking. She smiles and quietly goes back into the kitchen. Neither Amy nor Karen notice Mrs. Davis as she returns to the kitchen.

AMY

Karen, my home is not like yours. My dad died six months ago and ever since then my mom

(beat)

well let's just say she is a lot like Brian now. If she isn't working, she's drinking.

(beat)

I'm pretty much on my own at home.

Amy turns away from Karen ashamed of what she has disclosed about her mom.

KAREN

Amy, I'm sorry. I shouldn't have asked.

AMY

It's OK. I normally wouldn't have told anyone those things. Something just made me do it.

Karen smiles as she glances up. She knows who that "something" is. Looking back at Amy.

KAREN

Amy, do you believe in God?

Amy hesitates.

AMY

I use to before my life went all crazy.

KAREN

Well deep down, I believe you still do.

(beat)

You know God has used you to speak to me tonight.

(CONTINUED)

Amy can't believe her ears. Karen thinks God spoke through her.

KAREN

I was so angry when Mark died. It was easy to blame you, Johnny and Brian. But now I realize his sacrifice saved you, and **you are worth saving**. I love my brother and I will miss him dearly. But I know he is looking down at us right now and he is smiling because, like it or not, you have made a new friend tonight.

For the first time Amy looks Karen in the eye and smiles. It had been so long since she had made a new friend.

AMY

I don't know what to say.

KAREN

Say yes.

Karen is smiling and Amy looks puzzled.

AMY

Yes to what?

KAREN

Say yes you would like to come to church with me Friday night.

AMY

Church? What's happening Friday night?

KAREN

Church youth group.

Amy smiles again as she replies.

AMY

Yes.

Mrs. Davis enters the living room and walks over to the couch.

MRS. DAVIS

You girls ready to eat?

Both girls stand as Amy speaks.

(CONTINUED)

AMY

Yes ma'am. I haven't had a home
cooked meal in ages.

(beat)

Mrs. Davis?

MRS. DAVIS

Yes Amy.

AMY

Thank you for inviting me over
tonight.

Amy smiles slightly as she looks at Karen, her new friend.

AMY

I almost didn't come, but I'm glad
I did.

Mrs. Davis smiles at Karen and replies.

MRS. DAVIS

You're welcome.

Amy and Karen, both smiling, follow Mrs. Davis from the
living room.

FADE TO BLACK

ACT 3 - A New Amy

7 INT. DAVIS HOME, DINNING ROOM - NIGHT

7

FADE UP

Mrs. Davis and Karen are clearing the dishes off the table.

KAREN

Mom, I'm glad you and dad invited
Amy, Brian and Johnny over tonight.
I just wish I could take back those
things I said to them.

Mrs. Davis stops stacking dishes.

MRS. DAVIS

Karen, I think I understand why you
didn't want us to invite them over.
I must admit I was disappointed
when I first met them.

(CONTINUED)

KAREN

Mom, you know that old saying "You can't judge a book by it's cover"

MRS. DAVIS

Yes.

KAREN

Well I definitely have a better understanding of that saying now. I didn't want anything to do with Amy tonight, but then you and dad left us alone and we started talking.

(beat)

Mom, she's having a really hard time at home.

Mrs. Davis pulls out a chair and sits down. Karen sits down beside her.

MRS. DAVIS

Really. Is there anything you can do to help.

KAREN

Well, I told her I was her friend tonight. I also invited her to church Friday night and she said she would come.

Mrs. Davis smiles at her daughter, proud of how she has been able to look past Amy's appearance to see the person underneath.

MRS. DAVIS

Karen. I'm very proud of you.

KAREN

Mom. Do you think it would be OK if I invited Amy over for dinner sometime.

MRS. DAVIS

Of course. She is always welcome at our table. Do you think her mom would come if I invited her?

KAREN

I don't know but I think it's a good idea. Her husband died about six months ago and according to Amy, life has been really hard on her ever since.

(CONTINUED)

MRS. DAVIS

Well sweetheart, it sounds like it's time for me to make a new friend.

KAREN

Mom. I really miss Mark but I think I understand why he did what he did. I think he believed everyone is worth saving, so that's why he gave his life to save Amy, Johnny and Brian. And you and dad are right. A part of Mark does live on in each of them.

Mrs. Davis holding back her tears reaches over and hugs Karen.

MRS. DAVIS

I love you sweetheart. Now let's get these dishes cleaned up.

Mrs. Davis and Karen get up and continue cleaning off the table.

FADE TO BLACK

8 INT. AMY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

8

FADE UP

Amy is standing in front of a mirror still dressed in Goth clothing looking at herself. She slowly starts removing her Goth makeup.

DISSOLVE TO

Amy still standing in front of the mirror now has on typical teenager clothes and is putting on some makeup. Her phone rings.

AMY

Hello

(beat)

I'll be ready. Just blow the horn.

(beat)

OK. Bye

Amy puts her phone away and finishes applying her makeup. She puts on her coat and starts to head out the door. Before turning out the light, she looks back at her old clothes on the bed. She walks over and picks them up,

(CONTINUED)

walks back to the trash can by the door and drops them in. In the distance she hears a car horn. She looks at the clothes in the trash can, smiles and turn out her bedroom light as she walks out the door still smiling.

BLACK OUT ON LIGHTS OUT

THE END