

*The Adventures of John and Mary -1 John 3:6*

**1 JOHN 3:6**

**SCENE 3**

(The scene opens up with MARY reading the Bible in the chair and JOHN coming up to her with his arm in a cloth that is resembles a sling)

MARY

I can't believe I actually broke your arm!

JOHN

I've told you this 20 times already. You didn't break it. I fell down the steps two hours after your abuse. You didn't even hit me that hard.

MARY

You told me I was breaking your arm.

JOHN

Well...that was because I was mad at you cupcake.

MARY

I shouldn't have said anything about you watching that movie. After all, it does have a good message. It talks about killing everyone in Congress that doesn't have a brain.

JOHN

Will you stop it already! This wasn't your fault.

(pause)

Though, when I actually did break my arm...I heard your voice saying that same phrase over and over in my head.

MARY

What's that?

JOHN

"I love you John."

MARY

See....I prepped your arm for breaking!

JOHN

You didn't prep my arm for anything! I'm actually glad I fell and broke it. It helped me to realize why you were hitting my arm in the first place.

MARY

Gee thanks! That makes me feel a whole lot better!

(MARY turns away feeling bad)

JOHN

I have a present for you.

(JOHN gets a plastic grocery bag that is sitting beside him on the floor and hands MARY the bag.)

A peace offering if you will.

(MARY opens the bag to find a 2 liter of Coke and a bag of chips)

Look at the writing.

MARY

(reading the chip bag)

“Property of Mary Burns. Anyone who touches these chips will be shot on sight. “

JOHN

I’m sorry for how I’ve been acting lately.

MARY

I know you’ve had a hard time with losing your job and all. I was just worried about you.

(JOHN sits down exasperated)

JOHN

When I accepted Jesus as my Lord and Savior, I never thought it would be this hard.

MARY

What do you mean?

JOHN

When I got baptized, I felt relieved in knowing that there was nothing I could do to get into heaven except believe in Jesus.

MARY

I remember the phrase you said over and over again after you got baptized. There is no one righteous, not even one.

JOHN

That phrase gave me so much relief. It didn’t matter how nice we were or how many rules we follow, because with Christ...we are saved by his grace. Not by works,

JOHN and MARY

So that no one can boast.

MARY

I know....that’s why this stuff is so confusing for you.

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JOHN

I remember how many times I hurt you, mom and dad with my drug habits and it gave me a peace knowing that no one can earn their way into heaven. That no matter how good people seem to be, no one is perfect in God's eyes. But now, I'm confused. If Jesus died for all of my sins, why do I still feel like my salvation is at stake?

MARY

First of all, I always have comfort in John 10:28. "I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand."

JOHN

Yes, yes...I know that verse. But then why were you saying that "no one who lives in him will keep on sinning".

MARY

You said you realized why I broke your arm. So tell me what you thought.

JOHN

You didn't break my arm.

MARY

Whatever. Just tell me what you thought.

JOHN

I thought you were saying that you couldn't love someone without showing them love.

MARY

Kind of. Remember your best friend Cory Paxton and how his mom treated him?

JOHN

Yeah! He always thought his mom hated him.

MARY

But if I remember right, didn't she constantly tell him that she loved Cory when he was little?

JOHN

Yes she did! Mrs. Paxton loved saying "I love you Cory" in between her frequent business trips to Florida, the Bahamas, Jamaica, Mexico. That woman was ALWAYS on vacation from her family!

MARY

Let me ask you a question. How do you think God feels when we say we love him while we watch a movie filled with lust, call in sick to work when we want a day off, or eat everything in the house that you are sharing with someone else?

JOHN

He would feel like we didn't love him very much.

MARY

Exactly. Remember the story in JOHN 21 where Jesus asks Peter do you love me?

JOHN

Yes, I remember this. Jesus asks Peter "do you truly love me" And Peter replies "Yes Lord, you know I love you."

MARY

Then Jesus tells him to "feed his lambs".

JOHN

And it didn't stop there! Then Jesus asked again Simon, son of John, do you truly love me?" And if I were him, I would be a bit irritated...but Peter calmly replied...

MARY

(Interrupting)

Are you sure it was calmly? It doesn't say that in the Bible!

JOHN

Well, maybe he wasn't calm. Anyway, Peter replies, "Yes Lord you know that I love you." Then He says "Take care of my sheep." Then He asked him the third time if he loved Him.

MARY

Now I would be irritated then!

JOHN

Yeah, but Peter said Lord, you know in all things that I love you!" And Jesus told him to feed my sheep.

MARY

Then Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go." Then do you know what he says after this?

JOHN

He asks Peter to follow him.

MARY

Yes. Showing God love is about following him. And when you were a baby Christian you did dress yourself, but if you keep your eyes focused on Jesus, you will rely more and more on him. And I know it's hard to do what he wants. Sometimes he asks you to do things that aren't easy....like giving up watching certain movies.

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JOHN

Even if they are educational.

MARY

Honestly, John, I think we already know that politicians all have no brains. We don't need a movie to tell us that!

JOHN

I guess if I need a reminder, I can always turn on C-Span.

MARY

Or do your taxes.

JOHN

Yeah, do your taxes. That's good!

(pause)

Well, I suppose I need to be nice to you now, even though I don't want to!

MARY

Well that makes me feel good.

JOHN

It should.

MARY

I'm sorry I've been so hard on you.

JOHN

I know.....I guess I'm glad that you broke my arm.

MARY

You said I didn't break it!

JOHN

I lied cupcake!

MARY

OK....well you can start your new lesson on loving God by not calling me cupcake.

JOHN

I don't know. I need to pray about that. I'm really not sure if calling you cupcake is treating you with disrespect. After all, your head is kind of shaped like a cupcake.

MARY

It is not!

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JOHN

OK...OK...from now on. I promise not to call you cupcake anymore.

MARY

Thank you.

JOHN

I think maybe I'll call you buttercup instead.

(MARY looks at him with irritation. JOHN just laughs.

(Fade to black)