

OPEN YOUR EYES

by JOHN COSPER

GENRE: Drama

SYNOPSIS: Gwen bemoans having to go to school for another year while waiting for a full-time ministry, and almost misses the chance to minister to her friends.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES: As an exercise in an early rehearsal, have the actress playing Gwen wear a blindfold up until the point where she realizes how unsympathetic she has been. Then she can remove her blindfold to see how truly upset her fellow actors (who should stay in character as her friends) really are. This will help the actress playing Gwen really understand how self-focused her character is in the earlier part of the drama

TIME: Under 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 4

TOPIC: Youth, Evangelism

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: John 4:35

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

SUGGESTED USE: Youth Service, Back to School

CHARACTERS:

GWEN—a Christian

CASSIE, JOE, SUSAN—friends in need

PROPS: Schoolbooks and bags

COSTUMES: Modern dress

SOUND: 4 wireless microphones

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: School hallway

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The setting is a school hall. GWEN enters.

GWEN: Well, here I am. Another school year begun. Another nine months of walking the halls of this prison, waiting for that glorious day when I will finally be free to do something truly worthwhile. Really, God, life would be so much better if you could just spring me out of here early. This is such a waste of time.

CASSIE enters, sad.

CASSIE: Gwen?

A little upset at the interruption.

GWEN: Hey, Cass, what's up?

CASSIE: Lots. I need to talk. Serious problems with my mom. She's going crazy again.

GWEN: I'm sure she's just fine. Life just gets crazy at times.

CASSIE: No, my mom is literally crazy! I can't take it any more.

GWEN: Just stay out of her way. She's gotten like this before. Don't worry.

CASSIE: Easy for you to say. You don't have to live with her.

CASSIE exits.

GWEN: Anyway, I don't want to seem ungrateful. I know I should be taking advantage of the education I get here. After all, it's preparing me for my future in full-time ministry. But it's a little tough to concentrate on things like World War II and mitochondria when I could be studying the epistles of Paul, or maybe even getting some hands-on ministry training.

JOE enters.

JOE: Gwen! Thank goodness I found you.

A little bothered.

GWEN: Hi, Joe.

JOE: Look, I really need some advice. Big time.

GWEN: Again?

JOE: If you don't mind. It's a girl thing again.