

## **The Chocolate Factory**

*This skit could be suitable to illustrate a message on the many aspects of the love and grace of God. A suitable text could be John 3:16 or Romans 8:32.*

- A It's not fair! Why should you have all the chocolates? What about me?
- B Would you like some? Here, take as many as you like.
- A Oh sure. Easy for you to say. You sit up there in your big house next door to your big chocolate factory. You don't have any idea what it's like down here.
- B What if I were to come down there with you?
- A You still don't understand. Whether you're up there or down here, I still don't have as many chocolates as you.
- B Well, I'll give you the lot if you like.
- A Really? But next year you'll make another batch and you'll still have more than me.
- B Well, what if I give you next year's stock as well?
- A Oh, don't be ridiculous. And then what? The following year's product too? And the next year's too? You can't do that and you know it. And even if you do, you'll only want to take some of them back again. And I couldn't handle all that much anyway.
- B What if I give you a factory of your own?
- A Now you're just being silly. In any case, you'd still want to run it.
- B I can guarantee you I won't do that.
- A Guarantee? How can you guarantee it?
- B What about I send my son to work for you? I will give you a signed contract that along with him I will freely give you everything you need.
- A Everything? Be serious. That's not even sensible.
- B Perhaps not. But actually I'll do more than that. I'll even allow you to hold him as security.
- A Security?
- B Yes, that's right. If I break my word and don't do what I've promised, you can do what you like with him.
- A Oh come on. Now you're just playing games with me. Anyway, what do you think I would do with your son? Imprison him? Torture him? Next thing you'll be telling me I would kill him? There's no way I would do that! Anyway, I've never even seen him. What's he like?
- B Well, find out for yourself. I'll send him to you right now if you like. And he will come willingly.
- A You really mean it!
- B Of course. You see, I'd rather have you as a friend than a whole world full of chocolates.
- A Wow! That's saying something. You don't really mean that, do you?
- B Yes. I do.
- A You'd rather be my friend than have all the chocolates in the whole world?

B Actually, I'd rather be your friend than have everything in the whole world.

A Seriously?

B Didn't I just promise unconditionally to send my son to work for you?

A Yeah, but—

B There are no buts. It's really quite simple. If it comes to a choice between you and chocolate, I'll take you every time.

A Even if I would prefer chocolate?

B Even then.

A I really do love chocolate.

B And I really do love you

A And it would still love me even if I didn't love you?

B Of course. Real love has nothing to do with how good or deserving you are.

A So even if I went on stuffing myself with chocolate and didn't give you any, it still wouldn't stop you being my friend?

B Why should it? I love you because I choose to love you. I want to have you as my friend more than anything else I could ever have.

A Well, I guess friendship does last longer than chocolate. And having a friend is probably more valuable in the long run.

B I hope so. Even the creamiest most delicious chocolate can't help you much when you are trouble.

A True... Mm, when I think about it, being friends with you is worth a lot to me, too. Here, would you like some of my chocolates back again?

B That's what I wanted to do in the first place—share my chocolates with you.

A Mm, you did too. Here, have some more.

B (Laughing) Thank you anyway, but I don't need any more. I have more than enough already.

A So when am I going to meet your son?

B Well, if you are ready to meet him, come with me and I'll introduce you right now.

A Really? Don't I have to make an appointment or something?

B As it happens, I think he is ready and waiting right now.

A Mm, OK. Let's go.

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