

Talk About the Truth

Characters: Olivia, Elsa, and Paul

Olivia, Elsa, and Paul, are gathered around the kitchen table studying for a test.

Olivia: I hope we pass our test tomorrow!

Paul: Me too! This stuff is hard. I think I'll need a miracle to pass.

Elsa: *(laughing)* We can do it, guys. And Paul, we won't need a miracle. We just have to get to work. But, speaking of miracles, did you see the take home sheet from Sunday school, Olivia?

Olivia: You mean the one about the different miracles of Jesus?

Elsa: Yes. It was really great. Jesus did all those miracles so God the Father would get glory!

Paul: What are you talking about? You're talking like you believe Jesus was real, and all that stuff is true about Him!

Olivia: He is real!

Elsa: And it is true!

Paul: Well, I guess He was a man who lived a long time ago. But do you believe all those stories about Him? They seem made up to me.

Elsa: Paul, Jesus is very real. And yes, we believe what the Bible tells us about Him.

Paul: Come on. Seriously? It is an old, old book. It can't be right anymore.

Olivia: The Bible is God's Word. It hasn't changed for thousands of years! We can trust the Bible to be true ALL the time. We can't say that about some of the stuff we learn in school.

Elsa: She's right. A lot of the Bible was written by people who actually knew and lived with Jesus.

Olivia: We've been learning all about the Bible and Jesus in our Bible class. We really like it.

Paul: It doesn't sound like much fun to me!

Elsa: Paul, Jesus is worth knowing! He wasn't just a man or a good teacher. He was sent from God; in fact, He was God! And He did miracles while He lived on earth that proved who He was.

Paul: What miracles?

Olivia: Well, He walked on water, He calmed a storm, He healed people.

Elsa: And remember, He fed that giant crowd of people with just a few fish and loaves of bread? AND He forgave sins, raised the dead . . . He did lots of miracles.

Paul: So, you believe that? How could someone really do all those things?

Elsa: That's a great question. Just ANYONE couldn't do those things. But Jesus could because He is God, the Creator.

Paul: Well, I believe there is a god. But I think of him as a force for good or a glowing light that holds everything together.

Elsa: Where did you get that idea?

Paul: From my head I guess. Or TV. Or a movie, I think.

Olivia: You really can't learn the whole truth about God on TV! There's only one way to find out about God. And God Himself gave it to us. It is in the Bible. It is in God's Word.

Elsa: There is so much in the Bible about God that we could never learn it all in our whole life!

Paul: OK. I get your point. Maybe I'll just read the Bible for myself.

Olivia: Good idea. That's what I try to do—just read a little bit every day. And in our Bible class, Miss Jones helps us understand it better.

Elsa: And right now we are learning about Jesus's life and the miracles He performed.

Olivia: Jesus wanted people to know He is God. And the miracles were a great way to show them.

Paul: Wait a minute! Is Jesus God? Is God God? Is Jesus God's Son? How many gods are there?

Olivia: There is only one God. But there are three persons in that one God: the Father, the Son (Jesus), and the Holy Spirit. And Jesus wanted the people to KNOW He was God!

Paul: OK. So Jesus is God. And He performed miracles while He lived on earth. Like that food miracle. I could use that one right now. Could you ask Jesus to make this piece of gum into a plate of cookies or donuts or something?

Elsa: Ha ha, Paul. I think you have the wrong idea. Jesus did feed a lot of people. But when He did, He was also teaching a very important lesson.

Paul: Like what?

Olivia: He wanted them to understand that food we eat every day is important to keep our bodies alive. But there is a spiritual food that is even more important than that!

Paul: What is spiritual food? How does it taste?

Olivia: We don't really taste spiritual food. Jesus was talking about Himself! He said He is the bread of life and that those who come to Him will never hunger.

Paul: Huh?? What? I really don't get this!

Elsa: Jesus was talking about *eternal* life. And we can only get eternal life through Him. The "bread" He was talking about are His words!

Olivia: Eternal life is life with God. Eternal life is heaven! And heaven is where sinners go forever if they repent and believe in Jesus.

Paul: You both seem to know so much. And I don't even know if I care about it at all. My parents aren't really into church and the Bible, so I don't know very much.

Elsa: Well, it is never too late to start! You have your whole life ahead of you to learn about God and the Bible.

Olivia: She's right, Paul. Jesus and His Word should be the most important things in our lives!

Paul: Well, I'm not sure about any of this stuff. I think I'd like to know more about Jesus. Maybe I'll go to church with you sometime. But for right now, let's study! I want to pass the test tomorrow!

Olivia: You're right, Paul. Today we study for our test. And maybe soon, we'll be studying God's Word together!