

Scenario 4: Distressed in worship

GARY IS SITTING IN CHURCH AFTER SUNDAY WORSHIP. HIS WIFE, RITA, HAS DEMENTIA AND HE IS FINDING IT DIFFICULT. IT IS MAKING HIM QUESTION HIS OWN FAITH AND HIS BELIEF IN GOD.

TINA: Hi Gary, how are you doing?

GARY LOOKS AT TINA THEN LOOKS AWAY

TINA: Gary?

GARY: It's not fair.

TINA: Are you ok?

GARY: There isn't a God, there can't be.

TINA: Gary!

GARY: What sort of God would do this to Rita? Would do this to me?

TINA LOOKS AKWARD, SHE DOESN'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY

TINA: You seem tired and upset, I understand.

GARY: How can you possibly understand? I've been married to Rita for 35 years, we've got children and grandchildren together, and now she doesn't even know who I am. My beautiful Rita doesn't know who I am.

TINA: It must be difficult (STRUGGLING KNOWING WHAT TO SAY)

GARY: Last week I had to ring the police at 3 in the morning because she'd managed to get out somehow. Do you know how helpless you feel when the woman you love is out there in the dark somewhere with just a nightie on? I was so scared. The police found her and brought her back.

TINA: I didn't know.

GARY: She can't help it you know. It's the disease. It's the disease that's changing her.

TINA: I'm sorry.

GARY: She gets so frustrated and angry sometimes, she's even hit me. My Rita would never do that, my Rita wouldn't hurt a fly.

TINA: I don't know what to say.

GARY: She loved God you know, it's just he didn't love her.

TINA: That's a terrible thing to say.

GARY: I don't know what to do anymore, I don't know what to say. (STARTS CRYING) My Rita, my Rita.....

TINA DOESN'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY OR HOW TO HELP

FORUM WITH AUDIENCE

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