

THE GREAT BRAINSTORM

By: Kyle Higgins

SCENE: THE YOUTH ROOM, IS SET UP WITH A TABLE, PROPS LIKE A SMALL ROBOT OR GADGET PARTS, AND A WHITEBOARD WITH SCRIBBLES..

(Chris is putting together a quirky-looking gadget made out of random electronics. He is wearing a headpiece connected to it. It should look kind of like a super up toaster with a headpiece that connects to it. The whiteboard behind has scribbles of complex equations and diagrams. Taylor and Alex enter, curious.)

TAYLOR:

Hey Chris, what's with all the wires? You Building a time machine?

CHRIS:

Close! I'm creating the ultimate invention to solve all of the problems of the world!

ALEX:

Ambitious. What's it called?

CHRIS:

I call it the "Mind-o-Matic 3000"! It harnesses my understanding of everything we've learned this weekend.

TAYLOR:
Everything? That's a lot to cram into one... toaster.

CHRIS:
(defensive)
It's not a toaster! It's a state of the art neural interface device.

ALEX:
(points to a bread slot)
Then why does it have a bagel setting?

CHRIS:
(sheepish)
Recycling parts saves the planet.

TAYLOR:
So, what does this Mind-o-thing do?

CHRIS:
The Mind-o-Matic 3000 stimulates my neurons so that all my knowledge fires up at once and I become so smart that I'm able to understand God completely. Once I flip this switch, I'll have all the answers!

ALEX:
Uh, is that safe?

CHRIS:
Of course! What could,go wrong?

TAYLOR:
Famous last words.

CHRIS:

Trust me, I've calculated everything.

(Chris dramatically flips the switch. The gadget buzzes, whirs, and then... sparks fly.)

CHRIS:

Uh-oh.

(The gadget smokes and makes a sad beep before dying. Chris' head piece has smoke coming out of it. *Maybe use lighting and sound to make this work instead of the actual gadget*)

TAYLOR:

Well, that was a dud.

ALEX:

Are you okay?

CHRIS:

(sighs)

Yeah, just a little singed... and maybe my pride, too.

ALEX:

(referring to his head)

You burnt your bagel!

TAYLOR:

Maybe trying to download the universe's secrets into a toaster isn't the best idea.

CHRIS:

I just wanted to love God with all my mind by understanding everything.

ALEX:

Loving God with all your mind isn't about knowing it all. It's about the journey of learning.

TAYLOR:

And avoiding electrical fires.

CHRIS:

So, I don't have to invent something groundbreaking?

ALEX:

No, sometimes the most profound insights come from simple moments.

TAYLOR:

And not from setting the building on fire.

CHRIS:

(chuckles)

Point taken.

ALEX:

How about we use our minds together—discuss, question, explore?

CHRIS:

I'd like that. Maybe we can start by figuring out why my gadget turned into a smoke machine.

TAYLOR:

Step one: unplug it next time.

ALEX:

And perhaps lose the toaster setting.

CHRIS:

(smiles)

You guys always know how to bring me back to reality.

TAYLOR:

That's what friends are for—keeping each other grounded and fire-extinguisher ready.

CHRIS:

Thanks. I guess loving God with all my mind doesn't require a Mind-o-Matic after all.

ALEX:

Nope, just an open mind and a willingness to learn.

TAYLOR:

And maybe a good surge protector.

(They all laugh.)

CHRIS:

So, what's our next mind-expanding activity?

ALEX:

How about a game of chess?

TAYLOR:

Or a debate on which superhero is the best role model.

CHRIS:

Now that's a challenge. I'm in!

(They gather around the table, clearing
away the gadget parts.)

TAYLOR:

Just promise me no more homemade inventions without adult supervision.

CHRIS:

Deal.

ALEX:

To loving God with all our minds—safely.

(They bump fists, grinning.)

BLACKOUT.