THE GENTLE LIGHT THAT STILL WALKS

Characters - Narrator (calm, steady voice), Young Person (emotional, relatable), Friend (curious, expressive), Fr. Cherian (gentle, peaceful, slow movements), Witness (reflective, grounded tone)

Scene 1: The News (1 min)

[Stage Setup: Dim lighting. All actors except Narrator stand scattered, still. Silence for 3 seconds.]

Narrator (slow, soft): Some news does not shout… it arrives quietly… and changes everything.

[Young Person steps forward, looking at imaginary phone. Slight hand tremble.]

Young Person (shaken, reading slowly): "Fr. Cherian met with an accident…"

[Pause. Deep silence. Friend turns quickly toward Young Person.]

Friend (anxious): What? That's not serious, right?

Young Person (confused, lost): I… I don't know…

Witness (steps slightly forward, subdued tone): People didn't understand… but they started praying.

[All lower heads slightly as if praying for 2 seconds.]

Scene 2: A Presence That Stayed (1.5 min)

[Lighting softens slightly. Fr. Cherian enters quietly from side, sits calmly.]

Friend (curious, walking slowly toward center): Everyone talks about him… but what was he really like?

Young Person (walking slowly around Fr. Cherian): You might miss him in a crowd…

Friend (surprised): Then why did he matter so much?

Young Person (soft): Because once he spoke… you felt seen.

[Fr. Cherian looks up gently, slight smile]

Fr. Cherian (warm, slow): Mashe… OK allee?

[Young Person avoids eye contact, looks down]

Young Person: Yes… I'm fine…

[Fr. Cherian remains still, looks kindly—no movement for 3 seconds]

Young Person (voice breaking, steps closer): …No… I'm not…

Friend (watching quietly): Why didn't you say anything?

Fr. Cherian (soft, reassuring): Because you were already speaking… without words.

Narrator: He didn't fix problems… He stayed long enough… for people to heal.

Scene 3: Love in Small Things (2 min)

[Lighting brighter. Scene shifts to casual mood.]

Witness (walking slowly across stage): He changed lives… through small moments.

[Fr. Cherian stands, gestures toward imaginary window]

Fr. Cherian: Look…

Friend (casual): At what?

Fr. Cherian: The wind… the fields… see how beautiful…

Friend (shrugs): We see that every day.

Fr. Cherian: You see… but do you notice?

[Short pause. Actors look outward as if seeing something new.]

Witness (voice deeper, emotional): Once… a girl needed a kidney…

Friend (turns quickly): And?

Witness: He gave his.

[Young Person steps back slightly in shock]

Young Person: Without fear?

[Fr. Cherian places hand on chest calmly]

Fr. Cherian: If I can help her live… why shouldn't I?

[Pause. 2 seconds silence]

Scene 4: His Way of Life (1.5 min)

[Fr. Cherian picks up small imaginary bag]

Friend (curious, circling him): Is that all you have?

Fr. Cherian (nods): Yes.

Young Person: What's inside?

Fr. Cherian: Everything I need.

Friend: And what about everything else?

[Fr. Cherian smiles slightly, looks at audience]

Fr. Cherian: Less luggage… more comfort.

Young Person (thoughtful): But don't you want more?

Fr. Cherian (gentle, firm): When you have enough… you are free to love more.

Narrator: He owned little… but gave everything.

Scene 5: The Final Day (1 min)

[Lights dim gradually. Slow movement.]

Narrator: One evening… like many others…

[Fr. Cherian walks slowly across stage as if walking outside]

Witness: He went for a walk…

[Sudden pause — Fr. Cherian freezes mid-step]

Young Person (whispers): And then…?

Witness (softly): The accident came…

Friend (quiet sorrow):
And… he was gone.

[All actors lower heads]

Scene 6: The End(1.5 min)

[Long silence — 3 seconds]

Young Person (looking up slowly): Then why… does it feel like he is still here?

⭐ **Narrator (stronger tone):**
Is a light gone… when it begins to live in others?

[Fr. Cherian steps forward from dim area into soft light]

Fr. Cherian (calm, radiant): Did you think… my life ended?

Friend (soft realization): No… it continues…

Witness: In every word he left behind…

Young Person: “Mashe… OK allee…”

Friend: “Less luggage… more comfort…”

Narrator: He did not leave instructions… He became the way.

FINAL MESSAGE (1 min)

[Fr. Cherian moves to center, gentle authority]

Fr. Cherian: You don’t need big things…

[Points gently toward others one by one]

See people. Listen deeply. Love quietly.

Young Person: Even small acts matter?

Fr. Cherian (nods): Especially small acts.

Friend: Can we become like this?

Fr. Cherian: If you choose love… you already are.

⭐ **FINAL LINE (ALL STEP FORWARD, STRONG VOICE)**

ALL (together): “The light continues… through us.”

[All hold hands or place hand on heart and bow heads briefly]

ALL (together):
“Lord, help us to love like You. Amen.”

Performance Tips - 🎭 Use **pauses** as much as dialogue (very important), 🎭 Fr. Cherian should always move **slowly and gently,** 🎭 Avoid loud acting — keep tone **calm but emotional,** 🎭 Use **eye contact and silence** to create impact, 🎭 Final scene should feel like **hope, not sadness**