

A script from



"Casting Call: Joseph"

by
Eddie James

- What** Joe is a husband, father, and all around "good-ole boy". But there's more to him than Nascar and fishing and it will take a conversation with the Director of the Live Nativity for Joe to realize "Joseph" is the perfect part for him. **Themes:** Christmas, Nativity, Father, Will, God's Call, Purpose
- Who** Joe
Director
- When** Present
- Wear (Props)** Joe looks like he just came from work where he is probably a contractor- jeans, work boots, a flannel shirt, ball/fishing cap, maybe a down vest.
Small, high table
Bible (set on table)
Spotlight
- Why** Matthew 1:18-25
- How** The actor who plays Joe has a chance to really play him larger than life ,which will help provide a warm and endearing conclusion for his vignette. He is a stereo-typical redneck. With that- if you have a good actor- he'll be a success. If you have a great actor, he will be able to take the "cartoony" characterization and bring it to a fine emotional point as Joe becomes more and more real.
- Time** Approximately 7-8 minutes

Joe walks up to the spotlight for his audition. He seems a little reluctant.

Director: We are now ready to hear auditions for the role of Joseph!

Joe: Hi. I'm Joe. Joe Staleman.

Director: Hey, Joe. Why are you auditioning for the role of Joseph today?

Joe: Eh...well...in all honesty...pound for pound...my wife wants me to.

Director: Oh. So, this is not something you volunteered on your own?

Joe: No.

Director: *(With a little humor)* Say it ain't so, Joe.

Joe: Can't. Wish I could, but my wife says I'm kind of a caveman- in my own little world watching way too much Sports Center. Says I care way too much about Nascar and Hillbilly Hand Fishin' than I do about giving back to *(in air quotes)* "the body of Christ".

Director: I see. Well, Joseph is a big role. The earthly father of the Messiah. Treked a trail from their hometown to Bethlehem on foot- over 300 miles to register for the census. Married a woman that was pregnant with the son of God. Big shoes to fill.

Joe: Yeah, about that. I should have probably auditioned for a shepherd cause all they do is watch sheep and keep to themselves. Again, my wife's idea for me to play Joseph- cause that's my full name Joseph. Joseph Arlene Staleman.

Director: Arlene?

Joe: Yeah, my mom was a twin. Her sister's name was Arlene. I was the third child in the family and no girls...hence I got my aunt's name as my middle name...Arlene. Embarrassing. Humiliating. Makes you just want to run and hide when your mom is mad and calls out your full name. *(Mimicking mom, going back in time to a moment when he was a kid)* "JOSEPH ARLEEEEEENNEEE STALE-MAN! You put that cat down! God didn't put them on this earth for you to make boom-a-rangs out of!" *(To Director)* Momma was always very sensitive toward the feline community...

Director: I guess someone needed to. You just might be perfect for the role of Joseph, Joe.

Joe: Pound for pound, I'm just not seein' what your seein', I reckon.

Director: Here's the deal- all the emotions you have felt- the confusion, the embarrassment, humiliation, disillusionment- Joseph felt all of those.

*To read the rest of this script and perform it, download the full version at
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ENDING:

Director: I think you are. I think you nailed your audition with the simple realization it's not your will but God's. His son would say the same exact thing thirty three years later as he died for the sins of the world.

Joe: Yeah, I'm sure glad he did that for me. I'll remember that as I'm staring at that little baby in the manger. I guess that's what you theatre folks call, "gettin' into character"?

Director: Something like that.

Joe: Alright then, one more thing. Do I have to wear that Biblical robe thingy?

Director: You do.

Joe: Can't we try to do it differently? I can wear my camo huntin' pants. It's almost like a robe.

Director: *(With a smile; amused)* Sorry...not your will.

Joe: Yeah, I get it.

Director: Joe?

Joe: Yes sir?

Director: Give me that Joseph pose one more time.

We see Joe happy to oblige as he gets in the previous Joseph pose. He stands in his pose, frozen. As the moment washes over him, we see him begin to smile with pure joy and even a tear.

Joe: *(Thoughtfully)* Wow...pound for pound. *(Caught up in the moment, pretending to look at the Baby Jesus.)*

Lights fade.