

A script from



“Casting Call: The Wise Men”

by
Eddie James

- What** Frank is a smart man. But while auditioning for the Live Nativity, he learns that "smart" and "wise" aren't necessarily the same thing.
Themes: Nativity, Wise Men, Christmas, Gifts, Control, Wisdom, Intelligence, Trust, Plan, Worship, Self
- Who** Frank
Director
- When** Present
- Wear (Props)** Frank is a typical nerd, but don't go overboard or cartoony with the pocket protector and high-water pants. Think "Big Bang Theory."
Small table
Bible
Script
Cell phone
- Why** Matthew 2:1-2, 9-12
- How** We only hear the Director's voice, so he can be placed in the sound booth. Frank is center stage with a spotlight on him, looking up to where the Director is. The blueprint of Frank was taken from the television show "Big Bang Theory"- a nerd but not a stereotypical nerd. Frank has some authority and confidence but he is really bad at getting the full picture. The actor who plays this character has a chance --through funny lines , body mannerisms and a voice-- to make this character fit their home town/church.
- Time** Approximately 7-8 minutes

The Director, unseen, calls for the next to audition.

Director: We are now auditioning for the Wise Men. Who's next?

Frank: Uh...that would be me.

Steps into spotlight slowly. Audience can tell this person is normally not in the "spotlight". He looks a little smart or nerdy. Without being a cartoonish caricature of a typical nerd. A little social awkward but funny. Think "big bang theory" but more than nerdy. Frank goes into the traditional "wise man" pose.

Director: Welcome. Uh, what are you doing?

Frank: This is my wise man pose. You know, for the audition. *(Goes back into pose.)*

Director: You don't need to do that quite yet. Your name is Frank Cos - what?

Frank: Cos-grove. "Cos" as in cosmic and "Grove" as in orchard.

Director: Is that Irish?

Frank: Correct.

Director: Can you speak Irish?

Frank: Is that required for the part? Did one of them travel by camel from Ireland? I don't even think it was named Ireland yet. I thought all I had to do was present a gift to the baby Jesus. *(Makes the pose with the hands as if to bow and present the gift of myrrh.)*

Director: No, you're fine. I was just trying to spark up conversation.

Frank: I'm not good with people.

Director: Really? *(Subtly sarcastic but good natured; say this line with a smile on your face because it will change the tone of how you say the line. It will come across as good-natured instead of mean)* Never would have guessed.

Frank demonstrates his pose as he describes in his next lines. Make this a funny, awkward attempt as he really tries to be a "wise man".

Frank: That's why I thought this part would be great for me. No talking. No interacting with anyone. Just kneel...hands 3 inches from the ground holding the gift, back at a 45 degree angle and legs in a squat position as if I'm hovering while presenting the gift.

Frank holds this pose until his next line. If there is laughter, let it go for a few seconds. The Director can also be a little amused at his awkward pose.

Director: That's a good kneel for sure.

Frank: Darn-tootin'. The other reason why I feel I'd be great for this role is I'm very smart. Always have been. Smart and wise seem like the same thing.

Director: They're really not.

Frank: Regardless, I've seen the attempts at the Live Nativity of lesser earthlings before me and I think I should be the one to play a wise man.

Director: Did you just call humans, "earthlings"?

Frank: Like I said, I'm not good with people.

*To read the rest of this script and perform it, download the full version at
SkitGuys.com!*

ENDING:

Director: I'm not the one you should be offering gifts to. Let me try to help you out. Read what the Bible says about the Wise Men - as far as their character.

Frank picks up the Bible and starts to read.

Frank: "They, having heard the King, went their way and behold, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, until it came and stood over where the young child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy".

Director: You're not ready to be the wise man until you don't have anything else run your life - logic or feelings - but simply...Christ. Don't miss what's really important. For everyone else in the nativity, nothing else mattered but what arrived that night. That's what makes you truly...wise.

Frank: *(Still preoccupied with unfinished business)* My wife!! That's it! My wife! Her name is MYRNA! Ha! I knew I couldn't be outsmarted...

Director: You are married? Truly is a season of miracles...NEXT!!

Frank: Now wait just a minute!

Alternate ending:

Frank: Cat! That's It! My cat. Her name is Myrna. Ha! I knew I couldn't be outsmarted.

Director: You named your cat Myrna? You and a cat - that sounds about right.

Frank: Well...(beat) I'm not good with people.

Lights out.