

a script from



WORSHIP

"My Christmas Connection: Prisoner"

By
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What In this monologue the audience is challenged to guess the true identity of the character and his connection to Christmas. Part of the "My Christmas Connection" series, this script focuses on a Prisoner and peace found in Christ.

Themes: Christmas, Monologue, Redemption, Forgiveness, Truth, Joy, Peace, Freedom, Identity

Who Prisoner

When This script is written for Modern Day.

Costumes Prisoner should be dressed in black.

Props Decorated Christmas Tree, Present, Overcoat, Chains, Prisoner Shirt, Garbage Bag

Why Isaiah 9:6, 2 Corinthians 5:17

How The script was originally written so that the audience would be unaware of the character's identity at the beginning of the monologue. The character's true identity is revealed throughout the monologue; however, it is never stated directly. If you would prefer to have the character directly state who he is, feel free to adjust the following lines at the end of the monologue.

Prisoner: Who am I? A convicted prisoner. But I am no longer defined by these chains. I'm free.

Director's note: this character can be played by either a man or a woman

Time 3 minutes

Upstage right there is a large decorated Christmas tree with presents underneath it.

Center stage there is a chair.

A man dressed in a heavy overcoat enters upstage left.

Prisoner: Who am I?

Beat.

Prisoner: It doesn't matter anymore.

Pause.

Prisoner: I am who I am. I've done what I've done. And I'm out of time.

He grabs the chair and turns it around, so that the back of the chair is facing the audience.

He straddles the chair, so that he is sitting backwards on the chair facing the audience.

Prisoner: I won't be remembered by my best days. The worst day of my life is what now defines me. My greatest mistakes are how I'll be remembered.

Pause.

Prisoner: It takes more than food and water to keep on living. Hope is... without it, a soul can't survive.

He looks around.

Prisoner: There's no light in these four walls. There's no hope here. Condemned. Guilty. Charged. Forsaken. I'm not saying I didn't deserve it. I'm not a good person. Never was. My whole life people tried to change me. *(quietly admitting)* I tried to change me. But it was no use. You are who you are. There's no fixing or modifying or changing it.

Pause.

Prisoner: So I thought. Left to live out my days in hopeless regret. Until –

He stands.

Prisoner: I found something. Or rather, it found me.

Beat.

Prisoner: Peace. *(looks around)* Of all places. I found true peace... here.
And it's not something that can be detained or fettered or bound. It's free for the taking.

He moves to the Christmas tree and picks up a present. He shakes it. He then opens it and pulls out a garbage bag.

He kneels down to reveal that his feet have chains on them. These chains should not be connected but rather one chain on either foot.

He begins to remove the chains and put them in the garbage bag.

Prisoner: These chains are only temporary.

He takes off his coat to reveal that he is wearing a striped 'prisoner' shirt as well as chains on his hands. (Again the chains should be on either hand and not connected.) He takes the shirt off, revealing a simple black shirt underneath. He puts the prisoner's shirt in the garbage bag.

Prisoner: Freedom- true freedom, can't be taken from you. Freedom is a gift given. It just has to be received. Peace can't be seized, arrested and removed. Peace is a gift.

He takes off the chains on his hands and puts them in the garbage bag.

Prisoner: Who am I? I'm not my chains. I'm free.

Beat.

Prisoner: When the Prince of Peace gives you a gift, no one can take it from you.

He ties up the garbage bag, moves downstage and drops the bag off of the stage.

He exits stage right.