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## **"Prepare Him Room: Preparing for Christmas"**

By  
Tracy Wells

**What** In this Advent monologue, Parker puts together a nativity set and reflects on the wonder that Jesus' birth brought to all those who witnessed it here on earth. This is the fifth monologue in the Advent series, Prepare Him Room, which reminds us that as we engage in holiday traditions in preparation for Christmas Day, we are also preparing room in our hearts for Jesus.

Themes: Christmas, Wonder, Advent, Reader's Theater, Gospel, Monologue, Christ, Jesus, Christmas Eve, Nativity

**Who** Parker: any gender teen or adult

**When** Present

**Costumes** Modern Day attire

**Props** Nativity Set  
Lighter if lighting the Advent candle

**Why** Luke 2

**How** If using as a reader's theater, familiarize yourself with the script beforehand.  
If performing as a monologue, Parker can put together a nativity set throughout the scene.

**Time** 3 minutes

**Parker** enters, carrying a nativity set. If performing as a monologue, **Parker** can put it together throughout the scene.

**Parker:** I've always loved this nativity set. *(chuckles)* When I was little I used to think it was a sort of *(perhaps in commercial announcer voice)* Christmas action figure play set, complete with realistic camels! *(smirks)* Let's just say my mom didn't love when my siblings and I would make the magi go on side quests on their way to Bethlehem. *(laughs)* But we all loved it and looked forward to the day when my mom would take the nativity set out of its box and give us the job of placing the figures inside.

My sister always placed Mary and Joseph, my brother, the shepherd and sheep. And each one of us would get to place a magi. But the greatest honor of all... the one who would place the tiny baby Jesus in the manger... well, that honor went to me. I don't know if it was because my birthday was closest to Christmas or if maybe my mom felt sorry for me since I was the not quick enough to grab the other nativity figures, but everyone knew that placing Jesus was my job. The hardest thing about that job was the waiting.

You see, in our nativity set, Jesus wasn't placed until Christmas Eve. There was a little loft, off to one side, where the figure of baby Jesus would sit, his manger empty and waiting between the figures of Mary and Joseph. So I bided my time leading up to that magical moment. We decorated the house and trimmed the tree. We baked the cookies and bought the presents. We sent out Christmas cards and ate candy canes. We prepared for Christmas. And we waited.

*A beat, as **Parker** looks at the nativity set.*

Long ago, people were waiting too. Waiting for a Savior. Waiting for a Messiah that would bring peace and love to the world. Times were hard. People were tired. Their hearts were heavy. They sought connection to God and to the kingdom of Heaven. God knew this. So he prepared a way for them, through the gift of his son, Jesus.

He sent Jesus to us on earth, to teach us and guide us and show us all we needed to know about living a righteous life as God intended for us. The wait was finally over. The Messiah was here. Here to answer their hope, to bring the people peace, to share in their joy, and to give them love. Their hearts were ready. They had prepared for this moment, and it had finally arrived.

**Parker** holds up the figure of baby Jesus.

And every Christmas Eve my moment arrived too. As we shared the story of Jesus's birth, I waited in anticipation for the baby Jesus to arrive. I bent down, reached into the little loft and held the baby Jesus in my hand, as my mom read that final passage about the shepherds following the star. *(reciting)* "So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger." It was time. I placed the baby Jesus in his manger. We had prepared it well. He was finally there... where he was always meant to be.

**Parker** places the figure of baby Jesus in the nativity.

The wait was finally over. And our wait is over too. Christmas is here! Let our hearts be open and prepared for the gift of Jesus, our own newborn king.

*If lighting the Advent candle, Parker says the following speech.*

Today I light the Christ Candle. May the hope, peace, joy and love of Jesus Christ burn brightly throughout this season and beyond. Amen.

*End of scene.*