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PURCHASE  
SCRIPT  
TO

**"Santa Claus: The Interview"**

By

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**What** For believers, Christmas can be an overwhelming time of the year and some may even question the inclusion of Santa Claus into the celebration. After all, the real reason for the season is the birth of Jesus Christ. In this skit, Santa gives a fresh perspective on his role in the season, how we can maximize it to reach the lost, and how we can stress less and enjoy it more while giving both believers and non-believers some food for thought.

Themes: Salvation, Stress, Offense, Witnessing, Gift Giving

**Who** Santa Claus  
Davey Vetterman - Talk Show Host  
Show Crew Member/Elf  
Audience "Volunteers" 1-4

**When** Present Day

**Costumes** Santa Suit, Elf Costume, Talk Show Host Suit

**Props** Two Chairs  
Talk Show Host Desk  
Two Cups of Coffee (Optional)  
Christmas Decor for Talk Show Set  
Santa's Sack of Toys  
Wrapped Gift (Rock 'Em Sock 'Em Robots Game)  
007 Sign  
James Bond Sunglasses  
"Applause/Wild Applause" Sign  
Microphone  
Red light (off stage)

**Why** Jeremiah 29:13, John 17:18, 1 John 5:10, Proverbs 19:11

**How** This skit should encourage audience participation so they feel like part of a live studio audience.. The elf/sign holder should be enthusiastic and enjoy getting the audience to applaud, whistle, and generally have a great time. The more the audience becomes engaged, the more fun and memorable the skit will be. Ideally, audience "volunteers" will be peppered throughout the audience, or simply lined up in the front row and the elf can walk up to them with a microphone when it is their turn to ask a question.

**Time** 10-12 minutes

Lights up to **Host** front and center with a talk show set behind him decked out in Christmas decor.

**Host:** Ladies and gentlemen, welcome to "Hot Seat" where we put the hottest celebs to the test. I'm Davey Vetterman. Today, we have an extra special guest. An international sensation with billions of admirers. His annual appearance is legendary across the world. Please help me welcome the one, the only... Santa Claus!!!

**Elf** holds up applause sign and encourages applause. **Santa** enters with a sack of toys slung over his shoulder. **Santa** is merry and waving to the audience.

**Santa:** Ho, ho, ho! Merry Christmas!

**Host** and **Santa** greet each other and take their seats.

**Host:** Santa, what an honor to have you with us *live* and in person! You rarely give interviews, so this is a real treat. My producer has been trying to book you since leg warmers were in style! What finally made you decide to join us today?

**Santa:** Well, Davey, I feel like the political correctness thing has gotten out of hand. This ongoing debate over saying "Happy Holidays" instead of "Merry Christmas" is particularly frustrating. "Ho, ho, ho, Merry Christmas" is one of my specialties, you know. A phrase that's near and dear to my heart.

**Host:** Yes, it is. No one can deliver it quite like you, Santa!

**Santa:** Ho, ho, ho. Thanks, my friend. And I plan to keep it that way!

**Host:** Ok, Santa, inquiring minds want to know. Just how great is it to be Santa?

**Santa:** Ho, ho, ho. Pretty great, I must admit! Don't get me wrong, there are challenges, especially as this beard gets whiter! The truth is I'm a lucky man! I can't imagine being anyone else. Well, maybe that guy on Food Network who runs around sampling food from the best diners in the country. That's a pretty good gig too.

**Host:** No doubt!

**Santa:** You know what? I take that back. I've got the best gig! I don't know any other job where being "pleasantly plump" is a job requirement. Not even the guy on Food Network can say that! Yes, Davey, I'm blessed. No chance of me jumping ship. Or should I say *sleigh*? (*wink*) I'd say you're stuck with me.

*Elf holds up "wild applause" sign and audience responds.*

**Host:** We're obviously happy to be stuck with you, Santa! Let's get down to business. What is the best part about Christmas to you?

**Santa:** Simple. Jesus! If it wasn't for Him, there'd be no *me*. On a couple of different levels. He's the real deal and the reason I do what I do.

**Host:** Wow, Santa, don't hold back! That PC thing really is out the window for you!

**Santa:** If the truth isn't politically correct, so be it.

**Host:** Amen. Since time is of the essence, let's jump into everyone's favorite part. Questions from our studio audience. I warn you... some of these folks could be professional interrogators. Are you prepared for that?

**Santa:** I deliver gifts through chimneys ablaze with fires, bolted doors, and barred windows. I'm confronted with disgruntled dogs, cats, and an occasional snake while making my rounds. The blizzard of seventy-four was so bad, Rudolph's nose froze up and we had to fly blind. We dodged a seven-forty-seven by about two feet.

**Host:** Really? Those are occupational hazards I never considered!

**Santa:** I once encountered an irate pot-bellied pig who tried to eat my sack of toys. Another time when the weather got rough, Dasher had a rather unfortunate motion sickness issue mid-air. I guess you could say I can handle whatever comes my way, Davey.

**Host:** Wow. You should be considered for a Bond role.

**Santa:** *(laughs)* That would be a sight!

**Host:** Aw, come on. You'd rock a red tuxedo. And a "double-oh-seven license plate on your sleigh. Sounds like you could use some Bond-like gadgets for your unexpected encounters, Santa.

**Santa:** *(mugging to the audience like Bond)* The name's Claus. Santa Claus. *(normal)* And who says I don't already have a few of those puppies up my sleeve? *(winks at audience)*

**Host:** *(chuckles)* Claus, you're full of surprises. Get ready to channel that inner Bond. Let's get to it. Audience, fire up that seat!

*Audience "Volunteers" begin to wave their hands to get Host's attention.*

**Host:** Yes, miss. You in the *(describes Volunteer 1)*.

*Elf walks over and hands her the microphone.*

**Volunteer 1:** Hi Santa. We think you're great, but what would you say to those who claim you're a distraction from the real meaning of the holiday?

**Host:** *(to Santa)* See? I warned you!

**Santa:** *(laughs)* It's okay. I'd say that depends on their perspective. What if instead of seeing me as a distraction, they choose to see the value in what I do?

**Host:** Thank you, miss.

**Volunteer 1** sits. **Host** directs next question to **Santa**.

**Host:** Could you elaborate?

**Santa:** I prefer to think of myself as a tool to enhance the meaning of the season and bring attention to it in a fun, loving, and whimsical way.

**Host:** You don't think Christmas has become an overly commercialized event?

**Santa:** Now, I didn't say that, Davey. Ho, ho, ho. But I don't think it's a fluke Christmas has become a can't miss, larger-than-life holiday. The commercialization part makes me a little sad. But, for people without faith, it certainly forces them to pay attention.

**Host:** Hmmm. Interesting perspective.

**Santa:** Think about it. I'm sure there are people who come to know our Savior simply because in the midst of all the revelry, they paused long enough to look at a manger scene and decide if there was truth to it.

**Host:** Excellent point. Something I've never considered. Let's take another question from our studio audience.

*Audience "**Volunteers**" begin waving their hands again hoping to be selected.*

**Host:** You, sir, in the (describes **Volunteer 2**).

**Volunteer 2:** I personally love Christmas, but sometimes the pressure is a bit much. How can we make it less stressful?

**Santa:** Christmas is a celebration of the greatest gift ever given—God's Son, Jesus. You get to decide how to enjoy that gift. If you feel it's too stressful, change the way you do it. Decide as a family how to make it less stressful and more meaningful.

**Volunteer 2** sits.

**Host:** I love it, Santa. I do have to ask though. Do you wish Christmas was different in any way?

**Santa:** Oh, goodness, yes. I wish people would get less wrapped up in running around buying gifts, and find ways to give gifts from the heart instead.

**Host:** Such as?

**Santa:** You know, gifts with meaning. Homemade gifts. Memory books. Family recipe books. Personalized songs. That sort of thing. Items that don't cost a lot, but are priceless to the receiver. Items they'll always cherish.

**Host:** Great ideas. That's why you're *(mugging to audience like Bond)* Claus. Santa Claus.

**Host** and **Santa** both chuckle.

**Host:** This tends to be a tough time of year for those who are alone. What would you say to people who have perhaps made such a mess of their lives that they've been abandoned by people who matter most to them?

**Santa:** Well, God hasn't abandoned you. His grace is available to all of us. I don't know about you, but I love a good redemption story!

**Host:** And those are God's specialty.

**Santa:** Exactly! Look at Moses. Or Peter. Paul. They were all flawed. I mean, Paul was running around killing Christians! Yet, God redeemed them and turned their lives around. If that's what you need this year, why wait? Turn your life over to Him. Start today. It's the best gift you'll ever receive. And it's the gift that keeps on giving. And the only one me and the elves can't deliver!

**Host:** Excellent advice. What part can we play in making that happen?

**Santa:** We can maximize the season by finding ways to point people to God. Invite friends to church. Tell them how much the gift of redemption has changed your life.

**Host:** *(to audience)* Tell my producer too! We'd love to feature a good redemption story.

**Host:** Santa, what about unbelievers? What would you say to them?

**Santa:** Ah, yes. For unbelievers, I'd say this... if you stop, really stop for just a moment, I believe you have to acknowledge there's a God-shaped hole in your life. Something deep inside that recognizes this life on earth isn't all there is. The best gift you'll ever give yourself is to explore that void. If you genuinely seek the truth of God's Word, you'll find it.

*Elf holds up applause sign. Audience responds. As applause calms down, **Volunteer 3** is seen furiously waving her hand. She is dressed very stylishly.*

**Host:** Yes, ma'am, *(describes **Volunteer 3**)*.

**Volunteer 3:** What are some of the most fabulous gifts you've ever given?

**Santa:** Now, there's a loaded question! This seat is getting toasty now!

**Host:** I warned you!



**Volunteer 3** gracefully sits back down.

**Santa:** Boy, that's a tough one. I've given some pretty good ones. I'm not sure it's in my best interest to divulge the finest ones. I'd be overwhelmed with requests for those things and we're working overtime right now as it is.

**Host:** How about a hint?

**Santa:** Ok, Mr. Arm Twister. Back in 1865, I may have whispered an idea to a particular Frenchman. It was Christmas Eve. Instead of cookies and milk, he left a rather delightful plate of chocolate croissants for me. Along with a note indicating he was hired to create a unique gift for a freedom-loving country. And he was stumped.

**Host:** And???

**Santa:** *(leans in)* I may have suggested a statue of a robed woman burning with the light of freedom.

**Host** is silent for a moment in awe.

**Host:** Are you implying the idea for the Statue of Liberty was from you?

**Santa:** What can I say? I felt inspired after the croissants.

**Host:** You're just full of surprises.

**Santa:** I'll add an important caveat. Even the very best gifts I've given, and I've given some pretty good ones, can't begin to compare to the gift God gives us in Jesus.

**Host:** I couldn't have said it better myself.

**Santa:** I find the best gifts are the least expected ones. Do you have a favorite? Besides Jesus, of course.

**Host:** This is probably silly, but one of the most memorable gifts you gave me as a kid was Rock 'Em, Sock 'Em Robots. I used to play it all the time. Until I beat Jimmy Jerkowski. He got so mad, he ripped their arms off and ruined my game. Broke my ten year old heart! We're running out of time, Santa. You mentioned being concerned with all this "Happy Holidays" versus "Merry Christmas" debate. Can you expound on that?

**Santa:** Imagine how peaceful the world would be if people decided to stop being offended by trivial things. *(to audience)* I mean, does someone saying "Merry Christmas" really bother you that much? Goodness! How much happier could you be if you just ignore or let go of little things instead?

**Host:** Santa Claus and James Bond all wrapped up in one jolly red package! Who knew???

**Santa** laughs heartily. A red light begins flashing off stage. **Host** notices it.

**Host:** Santa, it has been an absolute pleasure. I know you're on a tight schedule. In fact, I'm fairly certain Rudolph's nose is giving us the "time's up" signal. Any parting words for us?

**Santa:** Of course, my friend. But, first, I wouldn't be Santa if I didn't leave you with a gift to remember our time together.

**Santa** opens his sack and gives **Host** a wrapped gift.

**Host:** Wow. I wasn't expecting this.

**Host** is touched and about to open gift when he notices a **Volunteer 4** furiously waving his/her hand in the air to ask a question.

**Host:** We have some very engaged audience members today! Looks like we have one more question. Yes, ma'am, you in the *(describes Volunteer 4)*.

**Volunteer 4:** (to **Host**) I know this is an odd question because it's for Davey Vetterman, but do you know what happened to Jimmy Jerkowski?

**Host:** Honestly, we moved and I lost touch with him. Any help there, Santa?

**Santa:** Ah, yes. A note for your prayer time, friends. Jimmy Jerkowski still needs Jesus.

**Volunteer 4** looks disappointed and sits back down.

**Santa:** (referring to gift, looks at **Host**) Well? What are you waiting for?

**Host** gets excited like a kid on Christmas morning. He opens gift. It is a Rock 'Em, Sock 'Em Robots. He is touched. **Elf** holds up "Applause" sign. Audience applause.

**Host:** Santa, I'm speechless. And that's rare!

**Santa:** (leans in) This one has un-rip-offable arms. My head elf made sure of it.

**Host:** Thank you! I think I'll track down Jimmy Jerkowski and ask for a re-match! I'll introduce him to Jesus first this time.

**Santa:** I was hoping you'd say that.

**Host:** You're a crafty one, Santa!

**Santa:** You know it. And the name's Claus. Santa Claus.

**Santa** smiles at audience clearly enjoying himself.

**Santa:** Oh, and I'll never forget that entire tin of Charle's Chips you left me the year you received the original game. Such a nice break from the cookies, my boy! Most people have no idea about my secret penchant for salty snacks! Ho, ho, ho... Merry Christmas!6654

**Host:** Music to our ears! How about an encore? Just for fun. Because no one does it quite like you, Santa!

**Santa:** And no one ever will!

***Santa** stands up with his bag slung over his shoulder. He delivers his parting line slowly and with real gusto while waving to the audience.*

**Santa:** Ho, ho, ho... Merry Christmas!!!

***Elf** holds up wild applause sign. Audience applauds. **Santa** pops on a pair of Bond sunglasses and makes a grand exit. There is a big 007 sign on the back of his sack of toys which the audience sees only as he turns to exit. Just before he walks off the stage entirely, **Santa** turns, lowers his sunglasses, and winks at audience.*

*Lights out.*