

A script from



“The Call of Christmas: Shepherds”

by
Skit Guys Studios

- What** On a typical night while tending their sheep, two shepherds encounter heavenly hosts who share with them the biggest news the world would ever receive. **Themes:** Society’s Discarded, Lowly, Purpose, Messiah
- Who** Narrator
Obadiah
Yoses
Gabriel (offstage voice only)
Angels (offstage voices only)
- When** Biblical times
- Wear** A pile of wood as one would build for a small fire
(Props) Blankets
A piece of flint
Shepherd’s rods
Lighting
Sheep sound effects (recorded or with microphones behind stage)- optional
- Why** Matthew 2:8-20
- How** The Narrator helps bring the audience into the scene. When he’s not talking, he’s observing with great interest. If no lighting is available, allow the actors to pretend there is light shining in their eyes.
- Time** Approximately 4 minutes

Narrator steps onto a dimly lit stage. As he does, **Obadiah** and **Yoses** begin making their way toward the stage from the back of the auditorium. They are tending their sheep, and very focused on their task. The soft baaing of sheep can be heard all around.

Narrator: Man has worked the field since his fall. By beast or by crop, in plenty and in drought, he must tame the land or be tamed by it. The shepherd knows this well. He is the keeper. He is a guardian. He is a guide.

The **Shepherds** have now made it to the stage, where they stand and look out over their field of sheep (the audience).

Narrator: And his flock, aimless in all their attempts, pulls him far away to chase their fickle hearts.

Narrator walks to stand between the two shepherds. They don't acknowledge he's there.

Narrator: How peculiar it is that God Omnipotent would take the post of a shepherd.

The **Shepherds** turn and lie down on either side of an unlit campfire. They pull small blankets over themselves.

Narrator: And even more peculiar is that He would announce to these lowliest of caretakers the arrival of Immanuel.

Silence, and then: **Obadiah** jolts awake. He takes a breath and then looks at the unlit fire.

Obadiah: Yoses, why can't you build a decent fire? It went out again!

Yoses is snoring, fast asleep. **Obadiah** grumbles and takes a small piece of flint, intending to restart the fire.

Obadiah: (Frustrated) Come on, light...light...ligh—

Suddenly a bright light comes upon him. He looks up, startled. And whatever it is he sees startles him even more! He scrambles to **Yoses**, stooping to shake him without taking his eyes off the light.

Yoses: (Slapping his hand away) Stop, I'm trying to—

Obadiah: Get up! Get up!

Groggily, **Yoses** begins to wake, his focus on **Obadiah**.

Yoses: What are you—

*Yoses then notices the light and yelps in fright. **Obadiah** quickly slaps his hand over **Yoses’** mouth.*

Gabriel: Don’t be afraid!

***Obadiah’s** hand over **Yoses’** mouth drops right off.*

Yoses: D-don’t be afraid.

Obadiah: Y-you don’t be afraid...and...I’ll just stay afraid.

*They look anything but unafraid as they gaze up at **Gabriel**.*

Gabriel: I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people!

*The **Shepherds**, still trembling, look at each other, trying to comprehend.*

Gabriel: The Savior, yes, the Messiah, the Lord, has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David.

*The **Shepherds**, still clutching each other, slowly stand, looking up at the light, completely mesmerized.*

Gabriel: And you will recognize him by this sign. You will find a baby wrapped in snugly strips of cloth, lying in a manger.

Obadiah: A baby?

Yoses: In a manger?

An even brighter light comes upon them. They shield their eyes, and fall to the ground as if a great force has blown them backward.

Angels: Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased! Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased! Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased!

Obadiah: We should run!

Yoses: Where? The light is all around us!

Obadiah: I’m...I’m afraid but I’m—

Yoses: ...Overjoyed.

Obadiah: Yes...beyond words. The Savior is here, Yoses! He is here! On our watch!

The light begins to fade. The **Shepherds** see it go. The **Narrator** has been observing them with delight.

Yoses turns to **Obadiah**.

Yoses: Why us, Obadiah? Why would they tell us?

Obadiah: (*Hardly able to contain his excitement*) I don't know! I don't care.
(*Pointing*) Look! There in the sky!

They look up, and their expressions melt with awe.

Obadiah: A star.

Yoses: I have to imagine with all we've seen tonight that we're supposed to follow that.

Obadiah: With all our heart.

Yoses: Then we should hurry.

Obadiah: We should run.

*With great laughter and joy, they take their rods and run past the audience and out the back of the auditorium, shouting with praise: "Glory to God in the Highest!" "Did you hear that? The Messiah!" "He's here!" etc. As they do, **Narrator** steps to the front of the stage.*

Narrator: And so the shepherds left their flock and hurried to the village of Bethlehem, where they found Mary and Joseph. In society's eyes, these shepherds should not be the first ones to greet the King of Kings. Isn't that just like the Creator of the universe? He uses lowly people to do amazing things, for his glory. (*Beat*) Now, let us all go follow the star!

*Lights brighten just briefly as the **Narrator** looks up, then LIGHTS OUT.*