

“The Most Important Person at the Nativity”

by
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What A reporter from a local television news show visits a church's live nativity scene, conducting an interview to help determine who is the most important person in the live nativity.

Themes: Advent, Christmas Eve, Christmas, Jesus

Who	News Reporter	Parent of Little Drummer Boy
	Props Director	Billy, Little Drummer Boy (no spoken lines)
	Animal Caretaker	Person
	Singer	

When Present

Wear (Props) News reporter wears some type of name tag/ID, Props Director has an “artsy” look
Animal Caretaker has farm worker look
Singer wears a sweater, scarf and has a music folder to hold
Parent in casual wear
Child has a drum hung around his neck with sticks to beat on

A live nativity scene is set up as the backdrop. This is just the backdrop portion with things like bales of hay, manger, simple walls. (You may use this later in a worship service with Biblical characters.)

Why Matthew 1:18-25, Luke 2

How News Reporter moves from one character to another as he/she interviews characters for the television show and always appears to be looking into a camera.

Time Approximately 5 minutes

Opening music and lights as News Reporter enters.

Reporter: Good evening to all and I wish you a very merry Christmas!!! Tonight, on our show, we are excited to be at the local nativity scene. This production has been taking place for years and is well known in our community. I will be interviewing people here to see if we can determine who is the most important person at the church nativity! So, let's get going! Who do we have first?

Props Director walks out. He will bring out an empty manger and place in the scene.

He is very particular about where he places the manger, moving several times before it is just in the right spot. He is pacing back and forth, busy in nature, as he examines the set.

Reporter: Here we have the creative mind behind all of the nuts and bolts of the nativity, the gifted guru who determines the sets and scenery for the season, yes . . . it's the Props Director!

Reporter tries to go up to the Props Director.

Reporter: Hello Mr. Props Director!

Props Director ignores and adlibs directions to unseen workers, "more starlight on the front of the stage", etc.

Reporter: Hello...hi!

Finally gets attention of the Props Director.

Props Director: Yes, what is it?

Reporter: I am interviewing people in your production for my television broadcast.

Props Director: Oh! *(immediately looks into camera)* Hello!

Reporter: I am trying to determine who the most important person at the Church nativity might be?

Props Director: Why it's me of course.

Reporter: Could you tell us why?

Props Director: I would love to! Without me, this stable would have no character at all. *(walks around pointing at scenery)* I came up with the open floor plan that really gives Mary and Joseph a wonderful view of the courtyard while at the same time being able to keep an eye on the bambino in the manger. And these colors didn't just

happen by accident...gray is this year's drab, yet bold look and the white trim provides a nice little pop. I don't think that Christmas could ever happen without my talents! That is why I am definitely the most important person at the church nativity!

Reporter: Well, thank you so much! (*Props Director waves to television audience and then exits*) And now, let's see if we can find another possibility for our consideration...who could it be?

Animal Caretaker brings out a bale of hay and places in the scene.

Caretaker: (*calling to assistants*) Would someone get that goat off of the top of the stable before he falls off and lands on one of the shepherds?

Reporter: This is sensational! Joining us is the one who keeps all of the sheep in their stall, the vet with vavoom, the camel whisperer himself...yes, it's the animal caretaker.

Animal Caretaker stops.

Caretaker: Hey, I don't know who you are, but watch where you step buddy. I can't keep up with all of the animals around here.

Reporter: I am doing a television program where we are trying to figure out who the most important person at the church nativity might be.

Caretaker: Well, that's easy. You're looking at him.

Reporter: Why do you think you are the most important person here?

Caretaker: There couldn't be a nativity scene without me. I mean, this isn't the Hilton, it's a stable! We got animals everywhere—pigs digging holes, a donkey that's about to eat me out of house and home, and a maniac goose that keeps chasing Joseph all over the place. And on top of that, I have to keep running off some neighborhood kids who sneak in and try to tip the cows over when they fall asleep! Yep, I'm the most important one at the church nativity, no doubt!

Reporter: Thanks for sharing!

Caretaker: Want to help me feed that crazy donkey?

Reporter: No, I need to continue with my show.

Animal Caretaker walks off. A Singer walks onto the scene and is singing. The Singer should act like a prima donna.

Singer: *(singing very dramatically something like ...)"...the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay." (pauses and wipes tears from eyes)*

Reporter: *(speaks to Singer)* That was beautiful.

Singer: *(immediately stands and begins bowing)* Thank you! Thank you!

Reporter: We are so fortunate now to meet the one who stirs our hearts with every mellifluous melody that comes from their mouth, the cultured crooner whose sweet sounds soar in the skies with the angels. Yes, it's the Singer!

Singer: *(starts singing again like...)* Fa, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la. *(bows)* Thank you! Thank you!

News Reporter: I am here at the nativity scene today trying to find out who the most important person at the church nativity might be. Do you have any ideas?

Singer: You have come to the right person. I am the one who people continue to talk about long after they leave this production. They still hear my voice ringing in their ears as they try to sleep at night. I am very gifted you know; I can sing three-part harmony all by myself. The nativity would be a dull place without my lilting voice. *(begins singing)* mi, mi, mi. *(Sings something like...)* Glo – ria in excelsis Deo.

Reporter: Uh, yes. Great.

Singer: *(bowing)* Thank you! Thank you!

Reporter: Ok.

Singer: Don't go. Would you rather me sing another style?

Reporter: I need to move on now.

Singer: I do a great Elvis.

Reporter moves and Singer leaves.

Parent of Little Drummer Boy moves quickly to News Reporter, bringing Billy.

Parent: Hey, did I hear you right? Are you looking for the most important person at the church nativity?

Reporter: Yes, as a matter of fact, I am.

Parent: I know who it is.

Reporter: Who?

Parent: Well, I don't mean to brag, but people are driving in from miles around just to see my son play the role of the Little Drummer Boy.

Reporter: You mean your son is the proficient percussionist who delivers the rimshots as he raps on his wee little drum?

Parent: You got it! *(looks at Billy)* Hit it, Billy!

Billy beats away loudly on drum with no particular pattern.

Parent: Takes your breath away, doesn't it?

Reporter: Well, I've never heard anything like it before.

Parent: Billy is definitely the most important person at the Church Crèche. I think he might be one of those child prodigies on drum. He's only been playing a couple of days. What a gift! *(to Billy)* Hey Billy, give us another rum-pa-pa-pum!

Billy beats on drum again and News Reporter steps forward.

Reporter: Well, that's all we have time for in tonight's broadcast from the nativity scene here in our neighborhood. Hopefully, we have helped you see who the most important person...

Person: *(comes running up to News Reporter)* Wait, wait!

Reporter: What are you doing? I'm trying to end our broadcast. We have been searching to determine who the most important person at the church nativity might be.

Person: I know. I'm in charge of parking cars and I've been listening from my post over there.

Reporter: Well, why did you stop me?

Person: Are you sure you have considered everyone?

Reporter: I believe that I talked with some very important people tonight. They each add so much to the production.

Person: I think you missed one, the most important one. Without him, there would be no church nativity and no Christmas.

Reporter: Who could that be?

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Person:

It is a baby born over 2000 years ago in a little town called Bethlehem. He is the son of God and he came to earth to save us from our sins. He is our Messiah, our Savior, our Lord! He is Jesus. Without him, there would definitely be no Christmas!

Reporter:

Oh, well, we didn't think of him. I think I understand now! Jesus IS the most important person at the church nativity and at Christmas!!!

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