

EXPECTING FATHERS

by JOHN COSPER

GENRE: Comedy

SYNOPSIS: Joseph visits the mute Zechariah to discuss the visit he had from an angel telling about the coming birth of Jesus.

DIRECTOR'S TIP: As much as possible, play the character of ZECHARIAH like Harpo Marx.

TIME: Under 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 2

TOPIC: Christmas, Biblical Times

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Matthew 1:18-25, Luke 1:5-25

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Christmas

SUGGESTED USE: Worship Service, Men's Ministry

CHARACTERS:

Joseph engaged to Mary
Husband of Elizabeth (a mute)

PROPS: Carpentry tools, wood, a partially constructed crib, the front for a dog house, money, a ruler, a white cloth

COSTUMES: Biblical clothing

SOUND: Two wireless microphones

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: Living room

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ISSN 1084-5917

Publisher: Regi Stone

Executive Editor: Kimberlee Crisafulli / Assistant Editor: Scott Crain

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The setting is JOSEPH's carpenter shop. Several projects are sitting around, including some metal tools, the front for a dog house, and a partially constructed crib. JOSEPH enters, dressed in biblical attire.

JOSEPH: Zechariah? Hey, Zechariah, are you here?

JOSEPH sits.

JOSEPH: Well, Dad said he was here. Where did he go? *(Sighs)* Isn't that my luck? Here I need some wise counsel from a man of God, and he's not around.

ZECHARIAH enters from behind JOSEPH. He is dressed in biblical robes that are bulky enough to hide his props.

JOSEPH: Isn't that always the way? You can never find a smith when tools need sharpening. You can never find a mechanic when the donkey breaks down, and you can never find a man—

ZECHARIAH taps JOSEPH on the shoulder. JOSEPH stands and yelps.

JOSEPH: Zechariah...that's the second time I've been scared out of my skin today. Why didn't you say anything when you walked in?

ZECHARIAH mouths words, pointing to his mouth.

JOSEPH: That's right, I forgot. Well... make some noise next time.

ZECHARIAH whistles, picks up some metal tools, and bangs them together. Joseph covers his ears.

JOSEPH: Okay, okay! Never mind.

ZECHARIAH whistles, questioningly.

JOSEPH: Am I okay? Not hardly. It's been a rough couple days.

ZECHARIAH whistles, pulls out some money.

JOSEPH: No, it's not money troubles. It's woman troubles. Me and your wife's cousin Mary...we've had some problems.

ZECHARIAH whistles, picks up the front of a dog house, holds it up so his face is sticking through the hole.