

I Can Wait

By Doug Irving & Gary Randolph



Theme and Purpose

Christians today, at least those of us in the US, seem to rush to Christmas at the expense of Advent. We sing "Joy to the World" from the very beginning of December. While it is good to celebrate the Savior's birth, Advent isn't really about joy to the world. Advent is about waiting - waiting for the Messiah- waiting for deliverance.

Advent is more where we live, as we wait for heaven - wait for Christ's return - wait for the promises of victorious living to be fulfilled in us.

Elizabeth's waiting for a child is a perfect symbol of Advent. She waited so many years. She hoped against hope, and no doubt wondered why God was denying her the blessing of a child. But God is faithful, and God loves us - while we wait.

Cast list	Elizabeth
Approximate Running Time	2 1/2 minutes
Scene Description	Elizabeth's home
Prop List	Wooden bench or simple wooden chair.
Other Production Notes	Elizabeth should be not noticeably pregnant. That would undercut the emotions of waiting and wondering if she would ever have a child. Elizabeth's emotions through the monologue are crucial. She needs to begin the monologue in a contented frame of mind then feel her past pain as she retells her story then finish with contentment and excitement.
Related Scriptures	Psalm 5:3; Psalm 37:7; Isaiah 40:31; Luke 1:5-25; Ephesians 3:19-20
Song Suggestions	How Deep the Father's Love for Us; I Will Wait (Kim Hill); We Wait (Mick Gilliam), Oh Come, Oh Come Emmanuel

As lights come up, Elizabeth is sitting on a bench or simple wooden chair. She waits before beginning the monologue.

Elizabeth:

I can wait. My whole life has been shaped by waiting. I waited as a young girl to find a husband. Then Zechariah came, and we were so happy. After we were married I waited to have a child. But a child never came.

I waited year after year - wondering when God would bless me with a child. Gradually, "wondering when" became "wondering if." "A child will come in time," Zechariah kept saying. Yet still year after year I waited.

Elizabeth stands.

My mother always said childlessness was a sign of God's disfavor. But then it happened to me. What had I done? Why was God displeased with me? Zechariah served God as a priest - as did my father and his father before him. We have always faithfully observed God's law. Why then wasn't I being blessed?

And with every new birth in the village I felt anew my disgrace among the people. I know now I was wrong - that God did favor me and was choosing to bless me beyond what I could have imagined.

One day Zechariah came home - clearly excited and yet unable to speak. At first I feared something had happened at the temple. Then he grabbed a pen and a scrap of parchment and wrote one word - Angel. Through gestures and notes I finally pulled from him the whole incredible story. There in the Holy of Holies an angel had confronted Zechariah and told him I would have a baby. A son. John. He said many would rejoice because of his birth. He said John would make ready a people prepared for the Lord.

What is this thing God is now doing? I don't know, but Zechariah and I are somehow miraculously part of the plan. And (*placing hand on belly*) John, too.

Here I am just beginning to show. I still have several months ahead of me. But... (*returning to sitting and sighing contentedly*) I can wait.

Fade to black

Performance and photocopying rights:

Your purchase of this script grants your church unlimited use of this sketch within your programs and worship services. You may photocopy the script for each cast member, provided that the copyright notice remains on each page. Scripts and performance rights are not transferable to other organizations or persons and cannot be resold. You may not use the sketches for any commercial purpose. Usage rights do not extend to video, radio, television or film.

Preview