Lillenas® Drama Presents

You’re on the Air
from Tangled in the Tinsel
By Martha Bolton

Characters:
ANNOUNCER
Nine children:
BRENDA
MICHAEL
BILLY
RENEE
RUSTY
JOANN
ALVIN
BECKY
CASSIE

Setting:
Street corner

Props:
Microphone

Costumes:
Warm clothing

(Sketch opens with the children looking in a store window. They are oohing and ahhing and pointing to the various things on display. Announcer steps on the scene.)

ANNOUNCER (to audience): Christmas means different things to different people. And so tonight our cameras are going to take you to the streets of (Insert town) to see just exactly what Christmas means to people there. (Notices children on street corner.) Ah, I see some young children standing on the corner. Why don’t we go over and ask what Christmas means to them. (Walks over to the kids on
Hello. I’m with the “Camera on the Country” TV show. (To BRENDA) Have you watched our program?

BRENDA: No.

ANNOUNCER (stunned): You haven’t? (Trying to redeem himself, he continues . . .) Well, I bet your mommy’s watched us.

BRENDA: Oh, yes. She watches you all the time. She likes comedies.

ANNOUNCER (chuckles): No, no. This is the “Camera on the Country” TV show. We’re not a comedy.

BRENDA: You’re not? Then, how come she’s always laughing?

ANNOUNCER (to audience): Out of all the corners in America, I had to pick this one. (To BRENDA) Well, anyway, the reason we’re here tonight is to find out what Christmas means to you.


ANNOUNCER: You do? Well, do you think you could sing one for us?

BRENDA: ARE YOU KIDDING?! You mean, right here? On national television? In front of millions and millions of people? Without any rehearsal or anything? (She grabs the microphone out of ANNOUNCER’s hand.) You’d better believe it!

(Since this is her big chance for stardom, she takes over the stage, and proceeds to “belt out” a selected traditional Christmas carol. Preferably, it should be upbeat. After her number, she rejoins the CHILDREN.)

ANNOUNCER (tries to get the microphone back from her. They wrestle for a moment. He finally wins, then looks toward audience . . . ): Shy little girl, isn’t she? (Turns to MICHAEL.) And now, let’s find out what Christmas means to this young man. Hello, sir. You look intelligent. I bet you’ve watched our show.

MICHAEL: No. That’s why I still look intelligent.

BILLY (to ANNOUNCER): Hey, I know you!

ANNOUNCER (flattered): You do? (To BILLY) I don’t mean to cross in front of you, but . . . (Stands directly in front of BILLY.)

MICHAEL: Yeah, you’re from “Camera on the Country,” aren’t you?

ANNOUNCER: That’s right. I guess you’ve seen me on TV, huh?

MICHAEL: Just as a blur. You know, as I’m turning the channel to the good programs.

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ANNOUNCER (steps back, and says to BILLY): So, as I was saying . . .
BILLY: You want to know what Christmas means to me?
ANNOUNCER: Yes, that’s right.
BILLY: Christmas means presents.
ANNOUNCER: And which do you like better—giving or receiving?
BILLY: Both. I like giving hints and receiving what I asked for.
ANNOUNCER: And what did you ask for this year?
BILLY: Mattel.
ANNOUNCER: OK, Mattel makes it. But what’s the name of the toy?
BILLY: No, you don’t understand. I want MATTEL. I want controlling stock in the company.
ANNOUNCER (looks toward audience): Whatever happened to only wanting their two front teeth?
BILLY: Don’t need them. I’ve got caps.
ANNOUNCER (to RENEE): And what about you? What does Christmas mean to you?
RENEE: It means shopping. Crowded stores. Christmas specials. People pushing and shoving. Why, do you know I got lost the other night in the new shopping mall?
ANNOUNCER: Well, you really should have been holding onto your mother’s hand.
RENEE: I was! She was the one who got us lost!
RUSTY: I say Christmas means food!
ANNOUNCER: Food?
RUSTY: Yeah, lots of food. Turkey, dressing, cranberry sauce, rolls, butter, mashed potatoes and gravy . . .
ANNOUNCER (to JOANN): And what does Christmas mean to you?
RUSTY: Hey! I wasn’t finished. That was just the appetizers!
JOANN: I say Christmas means decorating the Christmas tree.
ALVIN: I say Christmas cards.

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BECKY: Well, what about Christmas lights?

ANNOUNCER: This is great! Those are all terrific answers!

CASSIE: Excuse me.

ANNOUNCER: Yes?

CASSIE: You’re right. Those are terrific answers. But Christmas means something far more important than all of that.

BILLY: More important than presents?

BRENDA: More important than my heartwarming rendition of (insert title of song).

RUSTY: More important than leftover turkey sandwiches?

ANNOUNCER: Certainly not more important than “Camera on the Country.”

CASSIE: Christmas is Jesus’ birthday. And while the gifts, the carols, the dinners, and even “Camera on the Country” are all good . . .

ANNOUNCER: . . . Would you like to be my cohost?

CASSIE (continuing): We should never forget whose day it really is.

ANNOUNCER: In other words, when we celebrate His birthday, let’s be sure we include Him.

CASSIE: Yeah, that’s it exactly. That way, Christmas will always mean something special to all of us.

(Blackout.)

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