

Stable Scene Makeover!

Presenter: Hi there and welcome to our Christmas special edition of “Stable Scene Makeover”, and today we're coming live from just outside the village of Bethlehem, in Judea, and we have “Jeff” a very excited Stable Scene owner here with us today!

Stable Owner (*not very excited*): Hi

Presenter: Now Jeff, tell us about your Stable Scene.

Stable Owner (*smiling*): Well it's your traditional Stable Scene, really. It's got your Mary and Joseph, the Baby in a Manger, Angels and Shepherd and Sheep. Oh, and we shouldn't forget the Star. It's been in my Family for generations ... *<acting sheepish>* It was actually my Mate Colin who said I should get you in ... he's into all those Makeover shows, “Changing Rooms”, “DIY SOS”, “60 Minute Makeover”, “Groundforce”, in fact it was him that made the call.

Presenter: Well it **is** looking pretty boring and a bit dated. You've got a dodgy roof, and cattle all over the place. ... Are you ready for us to do a ... *<theatrically posed>* “Stable Scene Makeover” ?

Stable Owner (*not convinced*): I guess

Presenter (*ignoring the Stable Owner*): Well since this is the Christmas Special, We thought that this week we would really go all out and not skimp on the trimmings. We have with us our great team of Artistes who will help us get that Christmassy feeling back into your Stable!

Stable Owner: It's not going to be lots of MDF and glitter is it?

Presenter (*laughing*): Of course not! ... How revolting! We are the BBC (the Bethlehem Broadcasting Corporation), you know ... now on with the show!

Artist 1 (*appearing, excited*): We need tinsel!

Presenter: of course we do, but lets get started with the real problem! We appear to be missing a tree, you can't have Christmas without a tree!

Artist 2 (*excited*): I've got one, I've got one.

Artist 2 runs on with as big a Christmas tree as we can get from somewhere, and puts in front of Joseph and Mary, Joseph can hold if need be.

Artist 1 (*almost pleading*): Now some tinsel?

Presenter: of course, what is Christmas without tinsel!

Artist 1: and Presents!

Artist 1 starts on the tinsel on the tree.

Artist 2: I've got some of them.

Artist 2 brings on big boxes wrapped in Christmas paper and starts piling them in front of the shepherds.

Stable Owner: do we really need that many?

Presenter: of course, it's Christmas! ... you know that's beginning to feel more like it, but I don't feel festive enough!

Artist 2: well we don't have anywhere near enough lighting!

Presenter: that's it!

Artist 2 brings on lights and places over/around the star on top of the stable.

Artist 1: and more tinsel?

Presenter: of course, what is Christmas without tinsel!

Artist 1 puts tinsel on the presents.

Stable Owner: Can I just say ...

Presenter (*cutting off the stable owner*): No! ... we're still missing something.

Presenter and "Artists" pause to think.

Artist 2 (*Eureka Moment*): Food!

Presenter (*puzzled*): Later, after we've finished here.

Artist 2: No! Christmas food for the Christmas Scene!

Presenter: Of course, what an idiot I am, of course we need food for Christmas.

Artist 1+2 bring in "food" and place on and around the "manger"

Artist 1: and more tinsel?

Presenter: of course, what is Christmas without tinsel!

Artist 1 puts tinsel on the food.

Stable Owner: Pardon me ...

Presenter (*cutting off the stable owner*): No! ... It's still not festive enough, we need music! ... bring in the Carol Singers!

Artist 1: and more tinsel?

Carol singers come in and stand in front of the Angel(s) and start singing (Rudolph?), Artist 1 puts tinsel on the Carol singers.

Presenter: Wouldn't you say that this is just the perfect Christmas scene? ... and I think that's all we have time ...

Stable Owner (*angry*) : ENOUGH!

Presenter (*surprised*): Pardon? ... Isn't this just the best Christmas scene you've ever seen?

Stable Owner (*still angry*): Of course not. You've got it all wrong ... You don't need Carol singers to make Christmas.

Stable Owner (*to carol singers*): Will you lot get out of here? ... Go Away ... Scram!

Carol singers leave, grumbling(?)

Stable Owner: and you don't need all that food.

Artist 1+2 to remove food

Stable Owner: and we don't need all those presents

Artist 1+2 to remove presents.

Stable Owner: we don't even need lights or a Christmas tree.

Last items are removed, leaving the Original Stable scene.

Presenter (*flabbergasted*): But we're right back to where we started. All the changes we made for you, all the extras we brought in, all the Christmas spirit ... you've got rid of it all. How can we have Christmas like this?

Stable Owner (*do not rush!*): But this is Christmas. Behind all the gifts and decorations, behind all the tradition and celebration, we have to remember that there was always a stable ... and a manger ... and a baby called Jesus.

Bow, and run away ... possibly the younger ones to sing their song (in costume).