

**WISE MEN**  
**By Joey Martineck**

*(Excerpts may be used royalty free for auditions.)*

**AUDITION 1-- for 2 m**

*In this scene, Balthasar has realized he is about to meet Jesus.*

**BALTHASAR:** Afraid? What could I possibly be afraid of now that I have you to tell me exactly how to follow God? Why should I be afraid about calling a little baby my savior? Why should I be afraid that he dies on a cross and we're expected to follow him just because you said so?

**MELCHIOR:** You asked for truth!

**BALTHASAR:** Everything was fine before you told me this stuff. I didn't have to think about living my life completely for Jesus or anything like that. It was stable before. You! You've messed up my stable life! Now I can't go back. I can't go back to that or I would be living a lie.

**MELCHIOR:** Do you really want to go back to not knowing about Jesus?

**BALTHASAR:** Yes! I do!

**MELCHIOR:** Why?

**BALTHASAR:** Because before I didn't have to change and now I have to. I won't change.

**MELCHIOR:** Change is reality.

**BALTHASAR:** Death is reality!

**MELCHIOR:** You're getting warmer.

**BALTHASAR:** But still, I can't change. Even if I really wanted to, Melchior, I can't. I've lived long enough in this life. I have my own way of doing things. It's too late to change for good.

**MELCHIOR:** You're not seeing things clearly.

**BALTHASAR:** How long is he going to take?

**MELCHIOR:** Balthasar.

**BALTHASAR:** All I want to do, all I ever wanted to do, was to just present my myrrh to the King of Israel. Isn't that good enough?

*(BALTHASAR picks up myrrh and presents it to MELCHIOR.)*

**MELCHIOR:** No, it's not.

**BALTHASAR:** Why not? I just want to give him my myrrh and  
be done with it!

**MELCHIOR:** No.

**BALTHASAR:** Why not?

**MELCHIOR:** Why not?

**BALTHASAR:** Yes, why not?!

**MELCHIOR:** BECAUSE HE WANTS MORE THAN YOUR  
STUPID MYRRH!!!

*(MELCHIOR slams the myrrh to the ground out of  
BALTHASAR's hands. They pause facing each other.)*

**MELCHIOR:** *(Cont'd.)* He wants you. He wants all of you.  
Even your inability to change. He wants your everything  
when you are strong and when you are weak. He wants  
your everything when you are in deep prayer with him and  
when you cannot feel him at all. He wants your everything  
when you are surrounded with friends and family and when  
you are in your room alone. He wants your everything when  
you are working and when you are relaxing. He wants your  
everything when you are living and when you are dying.  
More than this myrrh, he asks for the gift of yourself. And he  
will not demand it from you, but asks you to give it to him  
freely. But all of it. The parts of yourself which you are proud  
of as well as the parts of yourself you are embarrassed  
about. He craves that intimacy with you, Balthasar. Do you  
want that communion with him? Do you want to know him  
like that? And do you know what must happen for you to  
achieve that?

**BALTHASAR:** I am afraid.

**MELCHIOR:** Yes. Why?

**BALTHASAR:** Because I think I finally know why you have  
been contemplating for so long...

**MELCHIOR:** Go on.

**BALTHASAR:** If I choose to accept this complete communion with Christ, and if I follow Jesus down the path he walks, it will lead to death. The crucifixion of myself. You must have also realized this?

**MELCHIOR:** *(Softly.)* Yes. I have.

*(Silence. THEY gaze up at the star.)*

**BALTHASAR:** The star's not afraid to shine.

From: *Wise Men- By Joey Martineck*

Published by: Eldridge Publishing Co.

<http://www.95church.com/playdetails.asp?PID=2625>