

## **“For The Love of Christmas”**

By Mary Engquist

Puppeteers Ministry

Music starts playing in background. **“We Need A little Christmas”** and Puppeteers act it out while children are walking on stage.

**Props: A Christmas tree.**

**Living room scene with a rocking chair**

**One side of the stage will have a manger**

**A doll wrapped in a blanket**

**1 Ball**

**Enough stockings for all the kids**

**A wrapped gift for each child to put under tree**

**Candles--Christmas lights--Holly--fake cake--tinsel**

**Two giant lollipops**

**One riding stick horse**

**Cast---Grandma---Narrator---Choir---Puppeteers---Children--Piano Player, Mary & Joseph----Inn keepers**

**Songs----**

**Star of Wonder, Star of night---**

**Away-in-the-manger ---**

**O’ Holy Night -----**

**We Three Kings**

**O Come Oh Ye Faithful**

**-----A Medley from the Choir**

**Silent Night--- Joy To The World---Choirs choice.**

Scene 1---Puppeteers--- in background singing **“We Need A little Christmas”**

**Grandma and children start walking on stage and all line up passing presents to one another.**

**Each one will get their props after the presents. Christmas stockings, tinsels, fake cake, etc. they would go and start playing with.**

**She would go to different ones to play and decorate the tree and hand them ornaments, etc. Whatever the kids want. She can give out large lollipops also. One child will have the riding stick horse and can gallop with it. These are just ideas and feel free to use your own items that you have.**

**A few children decorating tree, and hanging the props as the story goes.**

A child could bounce a ball.

**Grandma walks out and plays with kids and before the song is over and the music only. A small skit will be performed. To be announced.**

(Should be assigned before show on what they will do.) The stage will be very busy during song.

**(After music stops children freeze in their place and grandma falls asleep in the rocking chair.)**

Woody---Hey, what's going on, Charlie?

Charlie---It looks a little like Christmas.

Woody--Yea, and it looks like the kids are all frozen in time.

Charlie--Humm! I wonder how that happened?

Woody---Tell me more, Charlie.

Charlie---Well!

Woody---That is enough, Charlie, quit playing freezing games with the kids.

Charlie---Okay, kids, wake up and go sit by Grandma. She has a special story for you.

Woody---Yea, chop, chop, kids, hurry!.

**(Children all wake up and they run over to Grandma.)**

Children---Wake up grandma, it's time to tell a Christmas story.

**(Grandma rubs her eyes and yawns)**

Grandma---Okay, then please sit down and listen up and I will tell you a story:

Once upon a time there was a little boy and girl and they were very poor. Their parents did not work, for their Papa was laid off from his job. Mama was so worried and was getting ready to have a baby. What are we to do, Papa? We have no home anymore and we are living on the street.

Oh, Mama, no worries. God will bring us peace that passes all understanding for Christmas and a warm home to keep our family in.

I sure hope that he hurries up for we only have a day before Christmas and with the baby due.

Mama said, "Listen, Papa, do you hear that?"

**(Someone can make a hammer noise in the background, maybe the puppets could do that.)**

Yes, said Papa it sounds like a hammer. Yea, someone is building a shelter for us. God has answered our prayers. Praise God!

And the story goes that the shelter was built and Papa and Mama had a place for their new baby, and all their family. A place that was out of the cold, dreary night. Almost like when Mary and Joseph were looking for a place to have baby Jesus on a night like tonight.

Stand children and face the star of wonder, star of night.

**(Star Of Wonder Star Of Night)**

(A star will be shining over the manger.) Children now follow the star and exit while song is playing.

After song children leave the stage and change their costumes while the choir sings **O' Holy Night**.

**(Grandma -----leaves stage also and helps children put costumes on.)**

**Narrator----(Walks out and on her scroll reads the story of Jesus)---**

-----A long time ago, in the town of Nazareth, lived a young woman named Mary.

**(Mary comes out without Joseph)**

Mary did her chores, was kind to others, and loved God very much. She was engaged to be married to Joseph, who was a carpenter.

One day, while Mary was at home cleaning her room, an angel suddenly

appeared.

**(Angel comes out)**

Before Mary could say anything the angel told Mary that she was favored by God, and that God was with her.

Mary was surprised. She was trying not to be afraid, but she had never seen an angel before. After all, Mary was just a regular lady.

The angel quickly tried to reassure Mary, "Do not be afraid!" the angel said. "God has found favor with you. You will have a baby boy, and are to give him the name Jesus."

Mary was confused, she was not yet married to Joseph, so how could she have a baby? The angel thought that this might concern Mary so he said, "The Holy Spirit will perform a miracle, and because of this your baby will be called the Son of God."

To Mary's surprise the angel had more exciting news; "Even your cousin Elizabeth is going to have a son in her old age. Many thought that she couldn't have children, but she is already pregnant. Nothing is impossible with God."

Mary couldn't believe what she was hearing. She didn't know what to say. She realized that she was trembling, and knelt down. When she was finally able to speak she said, "I am the Lord's servant, and I hope everything you have said will come true."

The angel then disappeared and Mary was left alone.

Soon after Joseph found out that Mary was going to have a baby.

**(Joseph walks out towards Mary)**

Joseph was confused and upset by this. But an angel came to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. The child Mary is going to have is God's son, and you are to give him the name Jesus."

When Joseph woke up he remembered what the angel had said. He knew that everything was okay, and he wasn't upset anymore.

In those days the government decided that they should count everyone that lived in that area of the world. So Joseph had to take Mary to his town, Bethlehem to register.

It took Mary and Joseph a long time to get to Bethlehem. When they reached the town all the hotels were full and there was nowhere that they could stay.

**(Innkeepers are in their place, one is to use their hands to say go away while Mary and Joseph keep looking for a place.)**

Narrator----In Bethlehem, there was no room at the inns. Mary and Joseph stood in front of those innkeepers, who sent them away. One innkeeper and his wife, seeing she was with child, showed them to a manger where they would be warm.

**(Mary & Joseph go behind manger and are hidden until baby is born.)**

Narrator continues to read.)

**(Sheep and Shepherds) Come out first.**

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That night some shepherds were in the fields near Bethlehem, keeping watch over their flocks of sheep.

**Angel 1----- (appears and points to the manger)**

An angel appeared to them and gave them the good news that a Savior, the Messiah, had been born.

The angel told the shepherds they could find Jesus lying in a manger.  
**(A cry of a baby can be heard in the background.)**

**(Mary & Joseph come out from behind the manger with the baby Jesus.)**

**Angel 2.----Another angel walks out and stands with the first one and they raise their hands in the air.)**

Narrator---- "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!"

**( Shepherd walks out with his crock and goes over by the manger)**

The shepherds hurried into Bethlehem and found Jesus in the manger, just as the angel had told them. After they had seen Jesus, they spread the news, and everyone who heard was in awe.

**(The children walk around and pretend to tell all the news.)**

Wise men from the East came to worship Jesus, bringing gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

**(A star will be shining over the manger.)**

**All children gather around the Narrator and pick up their signs to**

**read. They line up behind each other and then each read their sign and go to the right of the stage and wait for the next one. When all is finished they go in reverse. (Starting with # 6, then 5 etc. They go to the right of stage after reading their sign..**

1. Jesus was born.
2. In a stable
3. laid to sleep in a manger.
4. The shepherds came to see.
5. Firsthand the things.
6. The angel had told them.

**Kids reverse position.**

1. The angel had told them.
2. Firsthand the things.
3. The shepherds came to see.
4. Laid to sleep in a manager.
5. In a stable.
6. Jesus was born.

**They can hold the signs while they sing the song,**

**All sing "Away In The Manger."**

**A girl dressed in a gold gown and holding a star walked through the audience, leading the three wise men to the manger to see the baby. While the choir and children sing "We Three Kings."**

**The wisemen all put their gifts in front of the manger and stand around the baby Jesus and Mary & Joseph. All sing "O Come All Ye Faithful."**

**The Choir now sings a medley (Choirs choice) Silent Night---Joy To**



**The World--etc.**

**The End**