

*Celebrate  
Christmas*



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2015

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# OVERVIEW OF PROGRAM

"Celebrate Christmas!" is a play that is designed to be used as a preschool or early childhood Christmas play. The main story of this play is that Christmas is very exciting, and that the reason we celebrate Christmas is because of Jesus, God's Son. The Christmas story is told via a narrator with some children having very small speaking parts.

Throughout the play, there are four parts being told of the Christmas story:

1. The angel tells Mary that she is going to have a baby.
2. Joseph and Mary travel to Bethlehem. Jesus is born!
3. The shepherds
4. The wise men find out that Jesus has been born.

There are four songs that are unique to this program that the children will need to learn. There is also one other traditional song, "Go Tell it On the Mountain," that is included. Each of these songs has been created with a musical theme. The first song is an upbeat, fun song. The song, "J-E-S-U-S" is written with a gospel music theme. The song, "I Will Trust God," is a ballad. The song, "Ha-le-lu-u" has been written with a fun country-western musical theme. And finally, "Hallelujah" is an upbeat pop song.

Children can sing along with the vocal demonstration tracks. Lyric videos are also available that can be played on a screen at the same time as when the children are singing. Total time for the performance is about 20-25 minutes.

# CHARACTER LIST

\*We have included many parts assuming that you have at least 15 children. If your preschool is small and you find that you do not have enough parts, then assign only one angel at the shepherds part, only 2 shepherds, etc.

- **Narrator:** There will be a narrator to read a scripted part throughout the play. This should be an adult such as a school director, teacher, or pastor.
- **Child #1, 2 and 3:** These children have very small lines at the beginning of the play. No extra costume is needed.
- **Angel who speaks to Mary and Joseph:** One child will play an angel that visits Mary and Joseph.
  - **Costume:** This child should wear a full length white gown over their clothes with a halo on their head and possibly angel wings.
- **Mary and Joseph:** These two parts are to be played by children in the story.
  - **Costume:** Mary and Joseph's costumes are to be traditional costumes.
- **3 Shepherds:** Three children will be shepherds.
  - **Costumes:** The shepherds are to wear traditional shepherd costumes with tunics on their heads and a staff for each child.
- **4 angels who come to tell the shepherds the good news:** These angels will come out and accompany Angel #2 during the narration about the Shepherds.
  - **Costumes:** These children will also wear a full-length white gown over their clothes with a halo and possibly wings.
- **Herod:** This part is best suited to be played by an adult. Perhaps your pastor, youth pastor, one of the parent's in your school, etc. could play this part.
  - **Costume:** This person will need a full-length kingly costume to wear

over their clothes and a crown on their head.

● **3 Magi:** Three children will be the Magi.

- Costume: The children will need to wear crowns on their heads (with jewels on them) and full length robes over their clothes. If possible, make the robes gold in color. They will also need to be holding a gift for Jesus that can be made by decorating boxes with sequins and jewels.

\*You will also need a backstage helper to help the characters enter the stage at the appropriate time.

# ★ PROPS AND MATERIALS LIST ★

- Bells for each child to ring. Below are some examples of bells that could be purchased or made for the children to ring.



- Nativity: This can be made as simply or elaborately as you would like. In the middle of the nativity, there needs to be a creche (feeding trough.)
- Baby doll wrapped in blanket
- A large star located on top of the manger scene
  - You can make a large star easily by taking yard sticks and either nailing them or hot gluing them into a star shape. At that point, you could either paint that yellow or white and add white lights or add twine (as shown below), paint the whole thing yellow or white and then add white Christmas lights to that.



- You will need to make or purchase three gifts that the Magi will be holding in their hands.



# ★ SCRIPT ★

**Narrator:** Welcome to our Christmas play! We are all thrilled to share with you a very special story; the story of Jesus' birth. Christmas is an exciting time! All around us are:

**Child 1:** "Christmas lights!"

**Child 2:** "Christmas trees!"

**Child 3:** "Christmas cookies... yum, yum!"

**Narrator:** However, the most exciting thing is that we can "celebrate" that Jesus was born!

*(Children use jingle bells to sing the theme song with excitement!)*

## *"Celebrate Christmas!"*

We're here to celebrate this Christmas time  
We're gonna laugh and sing all day long  
We're gonna shout it out, "Jesus Christ is born!"  
The shepherds came, the angels sang,  
the wise men joined in and they praised His name  
We're gonna shout it out, "Jesus Christ is born!"

Christmas is that time of year  
We're gonna do everything to spread some Christmas cheer  
Every boy and every girl  
We're gonna celebrate around the world!

We're here to celebrate this Christmas time  
We're gonna laugh and sing all day long  
We're gonna shout it out, "Jesus Christ is born!"  
The shepherds came, the angels sang,  
the wise men joined in and they praised His name  
We're gonna shout it out, "Jesus Christ is born!"



**Narrator:** A long time ago, over 2,000 years ago, God decided it was time to send His Son to earth. At that time, there was a girl named Mary who lived in a town named Nazareth.

*(Mary enters the stage.)*

**Narrator:** One day, an angel came and told her.....

*(The angel enters the stage.)*

**Angel:** ‘Mary, you will have a baby.’”

**Narrator:** Mary was scared. She did not know what to do! The angel told her.....

**Angel:** “Do not be afraid.”

**Narrator:** Mary was to be married to Joseph.

*(Joseph enters onto the stage.)*

**Narrator:** The angel also spoke to Joseph while he was dreaming. The angel told him that Mary was going to have God’s Son. This baby would save people from their sins, and they should name the baby.....

*(Children sing:)*

**“J-E-S-U-S”**

To Mary and Joseph God appeared long ago  
An angel He sent them, a message we should know  
He told them a name that I love to repeat  
A name above every name,  
Now listen because it’s so sweet

Jesus! Jesus! Is the name of the child!  
Jesus! Jesus! God with us, meek and mild  
Jesus! Jesus! Is the name of the child!  
J-E-S-U-S is the name God gave for us!