3 Parts: Narrator, The Angel Gabriel and Mary

Scene One: The Future Birth of Jesus (Luke 1:26-38)

Narrator: God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee.

He was sent to a virgin. The girl was engaged to a man named Joseph. He

came from the family line of David. The virgin's name was Mary.

The angel greeted her and said,

Gabriel: The Lord has blessed you in a special way. He is with you.

Narrator: Mary was very upset because of his words.

She wondered what kind of greeting this could be.

But the angel said to her,

Gabriel: Do not be afraid, Mary. God is very pleased with you.

You will become pregnant and give birth to a son.

You must call him Jesus.

He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High God.

The Lord God will make him a king like his father King David of long ago.

The Son of the Most High God will rule forever over his people.

Mary: How can this happen? I am a virgin!

Gabriel: The Holy Spirit will come to you.

The power of the Most High God will cover you.

So the holy one that is born will be called the Son of God.

What God says will always come true.

Mary: I will serve the Lord! May it happen to me just as you said it would!

Narrator: Then the angel left her.

4 Parts: Narrator, Joseph, Mary The Angel of the Lord

Scene Two: Joseph Accepts Jesus as His Son (Matthew 1:18-25)

Narrator: This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about...

Joseph: Good Evening Mary! I'm really looking forward to our wedding and getting

married to you! I can't wait until we move in together! Hang on a minute!

Either you've put on a few pounds or you're going to have a baby!

Mary: Listen Joseph, I'm going to have a baby.

But I became pregnant by the power of the Holy Spirit.

I haven't cheated on you. One day everyone will understand.

Joseph: Mary, I don't think people are going to believe you. This is a scandal!

If people find out that you're pregnant, you'll be shamed in public.

I think we should guietly call off the wedding. I've got a lot of thinking to do.

Goodnight!

MARY STARTS CRYING

Narrator: That night an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. He said:

Angel: Joseph, son of David, don't be afraid to take Mary home as your wife. The

baby inside her **is** from the Holy Spirit. She is going to have a son. You must give him the name Jesus because he will save his people from their sins.

Narrator: All this took place to bring about what the Lord had said would happen. God

had said through the prophet, "The virgin is going to have a baby. She will

give birth to a son. And he will be called Immanuel."

The name Immanuel means "God with us."

When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord commanded him

to do.

JOSEPH WAKES UP

Joseph: Mary! I'm really sorry, please forgive me. I've had a dream!

An angel spoke to me! He told me about the baby!

Everything is going to be okay! Let's get married again!

Mary: Okay!

Narrator: Joseph took Mary home as his wife. But he did not sleep with her until she

gave birth to a son. And Joseph gave him the name Jesus.

9 Parts: Narrator, Joseph, Mary, Baby Jesus, 2 Shepherds, Angel of the Lord, 2 Other Angels

Scene Three: Jesus is Born (Luke 2:1-20)

Narrator: In those days, the Emperor made a list of everyone in the Roman Empire.

Each person had to go back home to their original town to be registered.

So Joseph and Mary moved from Nazareth back to Bethlehem.

They went there because they belonged to the family of King David.

Mary was expecting a baby.

Joseph: Come on Mary! Let's go to Bethlehem to get on the Register!

It's only a 90 mile walk!

Mary: Okay, but remember I'm very pregnant!

I'm so big, I'm about to pop any minute!

Narrator: While Joseph and Mary were there, the time came for the child to be born.

She gave birth to her first baby.

MARY GIVES BIRTH

BABY JESUS CRIES A LITTLE BIT BUT THEN STOPS CRYING

Joseph: It's a boy!

Narrator: Mary wrapped the baby in cloth.

Then she placed him in an animals feeding box called a manger. That's because there was no guest room where they could stay.

Not too far away, there were a few shepherds living out in the fields

nearby. It was night, and they were taking care of their sheep.

Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared to them!

Shepherd 1: Woah! What is that?!?

Shepherd 2: Really Scary! That's what!

Narrator: The glory of the Lord shone around them. They were terrified!

But the angel said:

Angel: Don't be afraid! I bring you good news! It will bring great joy for all the

people. Today in the town of King David a Saviour has been born to you. He is the Christ, the Lord. Here is how you will know I am telling you the truth. You will find a baby wrapped in strips of cloth and lying in a manger.

Narrator: Suddenly a large group of angels from heaven appeared praising God:

Other Angels: May glory be given to God in the highest heaven!

And may peace be given to those he is pleased with on earth!

Narrator: Then the angels left and went into heaven.

The shepherds said to one another,

Shepherd 1: Let's go to Bethlehem!

Shepherd 2: Yeah, let's see this thing that's happened, that the Lord told us about!

Narrator: So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph and the baby.

The baby was lying in the manger.

After the shepherds had seen him, they told everyone. They reported what the angel had said about this child.

Shepherds: Hey everybody, listen! Last night, we were looking after the sheep in

the field, when the sky lit up with Angels telling us that a Saviour has been born in Bethlehem! The Christ! So we went to have a look, and

sure enough, there was the baby!

Everyone: Wow! That's amazing!

Narrator: Now Mary kept all these things like a secret treasure in her heart.

She thought about them over and over. Then the shepherds went back to work.

But they gave glory and praise to God because everything they had

seen and heard was just as they had been told.

8 Parts: Narrator, 3 Wise Men, King Herod, The Priest, Prophet Micah & Mary.

Scene Four: The Wise Men Visit Jesus (Matthew 2:1-12)

Narrator: Jesus was born in Bethlehem.

This happened while Herod was the King of Judah.

After Jesus' birth, Wise Men from the east came to Jerusalem.

They asked,

3 Wise Men: Where is the child who has been born to be king of the Jews?

We saw his star when it rose. Now we have come to worship him.

Narrator: When King Herod heard about it, he and everyone else in Jerusalem

were worried.

King Herod: I am very upset. So is everyone else. I thought I was the King?!?

Get me the priests!

Narrator: So King Herod got together all the priests.

He also called the law teachers.

He asked them where the Christ was going to be born. They said:

Priest: In Bethlehem!

The prophet Micah wrote that 700 years ago in the Old Testament!

Prophet Micah: O Little town of Bethlehem!

You're certainly not the least important town in Judah!

A ruler will come out of you.

He will rule my people Israel like a shepherd.

King Herod: Bring me the three wise men!

THREE WISE MEN COME IN

King Herod: That was quick! You say you saw this Star?

When exactly did this star appear?

3 Wise men: Ooh, good question! That's not in our script. But looking at the next

group's script, I'd guess probably about a couple of years ago?

King Herod: mmm... Interesting... Go to Bethlehem and search carefully for the

child. As soon as you find him, report it to me. Then I can go and kill

him, sorry did I say that out loud? I mean "worship" him.

Narrator: After the Wise Men had listened to the king, they went on their way.

The star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them.

It finally stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were filled with joy.

And the Wise Men went to the house.

3 Wise Men: Hello! Can we come in?

Mary: Who are you?

3 Wise Men: We are Wise Men from the East. We've got presents!

Mary: Okay, but you'll have to be quiet, otherwise you'll wake the baby.

Narrator: There they saw the child with his mother Mary.

They bowed down and worshiped him.

Then they opened their treasures.

They gave him gold, frankincense and myrrh.

But God warned them in a dream not to go back to Herod.

So they returned to their country on a different road.

6 Parts: Narrator, Angel of the Lord, Joseph, Mary, King Herod, The Prophet Jeremiah

Scene Five: The Escape to Egypt (Matthew 2:13-23)

Narrator: When the Wise Men had left, Joseph had a dream.

In the dream an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph. He said:

Angel: Joseph! Get up! Take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt.

Stay there until I tell you to come back.

King Herod is going to search for the child. He wants to kill him.

Joseph: Mary! Wake up! We've got to go! Quick! Herod's coming! Get the Baby!

Narrator: So Joseph got up. During the night, he left for Egypt with the child and his

mother Mary. They stayed there until King Herod died.

Now King Herod realized that the Wise Men had tricked him.

So he became very angry.

Herod: Where are those Wise Men? They've been a very long time! If I didn't know

better I'd say they'd tricked me! Hang on a minute! They have tricked me!

Aarrgghh! I'm so angry! How am I going to kill the baby now?

I know! I'll just have to kill all the boys in Bethlehem.

Soldier! Kill any boys you find that are 2 years old and under!

Narrator: This matched the 2 year time when the Wise Men had seen the star.

In this way, the words that Jeremiah the prophet spoke came true:

Prophet Jeremiah: I heard a voice. It's the sound of crying and deep sadness.

Rachel is crying over her children.

She refuses to be comforted, because they are gone.

Narrator: After King Herod died, Joseph had a dream while he was in Egypt.

In the dream an angel of the Lord appeared to him. The angel said,

Angel: Joseph! Get up! Take the child and his mother.

You can go home now because King Herod is dead.

Joseph: Mary! I've had another dream! It's okay for us to go home! Herod is dead!

Mary: Yay!

Narrator: So Joseph got up. He took the child and his mother Mary back home.

But when he heard that King Herod's Son had taken over, he was too afraid to go back to Bethlehem. So they moved back to Nazareth near the sea of

Galilee. So what the prophets had said about Jesus came true.

They had said that he would be from Nazareth!