



THE CHRISTMAS TREE

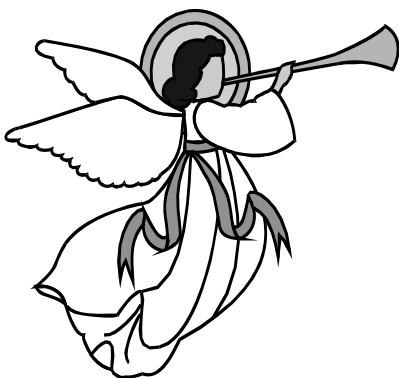
LOGISTICS CHECKLIST

1. Accompaniment track.
2. Songsheets of carols. (Make as many copies as required).
3. Christmas tree with lights. (You may want to use at least two sets of lights. Do not put up any other decorations. The group will be decorating the tree in the main program.)
4. Paper cut-out pictures to decorate Christmas tree.
5. A camera to take group or individual pictures.
6. 🛎 Creative dressing for children to be dressed up as Shepherds, Angels & Wisemen (**Optional**).

PERSONNEL CHECKLIST

1. Narrator 1.
2. Narrator 2.
3. A member to control the music.
4. A member to share his/her personal testimony.
5. Everyone will be involved in the decoration of the Christmas tree.

CUT OUT PICTURES



1. The idea is to be as creative as you can be with the cutout pictures. You may want to enlarge them (150%) and paste them on vanguard sheets before you cut them out.
2. You can have your cell members color all the figures. Alternatively you may also use different color glitter dust or sequins to beautify the figures.
3. Punch a hole in each of the figures and tie them with either a green, red or gold colored string.

PROGRAM AND SCRIPT

Gather the people together and form a circle around you and the Christmas tree. Ensure that everyone has a walking access to the tree. Distribute songsheets and the colored cut-out pictures (figurines) to your guests. Have everyone sing song # 1, "O Come All Ye Faithful" as an introduction to the Main Program.



Narrator 1 | Christmas is a time when we celebrate the birth of Jesus. Today we're going to sing some Christmas Carols and decorate the Christmas tree that will tell the Christmas story in a special way. Let us go back to 2000 years ago to witness the first Christmas.

One day the angel of the Lord appeared to Mary who was engaged to Joseph. The angel told her that she will conceive a son supernaturally. About this time, the emperor commanded that all Roman citizens must return to their home town to be registered. Joseph and Mary went to Bethlehem. It was a very long journey for both of them. And Mary was about to give birth soon. Let's decorate the Christmas tree with figures of Joseph and Mary.

Hang figurines of Joseph and Mary onto the tree.

Let's sing song # 2: "**O Little Town of Bethlehem**".

Narrator 2 | When they were in Bethlehem, Mary gave birth to her first child, a son. There was no place for them in the inn, so she laid him in a manger. Let us decorate the Christmas tree with the figure of Baby Jesus.

Hang figurines of Baby Jesus onto the tree.

Let's sing song # 3: "**Away In A Manger**".

Narrator 1 | That night some shepherds were guarding their sheep outside the village. Let us decorate the Christmas tree with figures of the shepherds.

Hang figurines of the shepherds onto the tree.

🔔 Get some children to dress up as shepherds and have them walk across the room and be stationed near the tree.

Let's sing song 4: "The First Noel".

Narrator 2

Suddenly angels appeared to the shepherds and all around them was very bright. They were afraid. But the angels said to the shepherds. "Do not be afraid. I have good news for you. This night Jesus was born in Bethlehem. Go and see Him. Jesus is wrapped in cloth and is lying in a manger."

Suddenly, a huge number of angels appeared praising God saying, "Give glory to God in Heaven, and on earth let there be peace to the people that please God." Let us decorate the Christmas tree with figures of the angels.

Hang figurines of the angels onto the tree.

Let's sing song # 5: "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing".

🛎 Get some children to dress up as angels and have them walk across the room and be stationed near the tree.

Narrator 1

The shepherds hurried to Bethlehem to see what the angels had told them. At about the same time three wise men saw a bright star in the east. They followed the star all the way to Bethlehem. The star stopped over the manger where Jesus was. The three wise men knew they had found Jesus and were very happy. They went to the manger and saw baby Jesus with his mother Mary. They fell on their knees and worshipped Jesus. And they gave him gifts of incense, gold and myrrh. Let us decorate the Christmas tree with figures of the wise men.

Hang figurines of the Wise Men onto the tree.


🛎 Get some children to dress up as wise men and have them present gifts to Jesus. Place the gifts next to the Christmas Tree.

Let's sing song # 6: "What Child is This".


Narrator 2 The Christmas Story did not end with the wise men worshipping the King of kings. There's more to Christmas than that. You see, the wonderful thing about Jesus the King of kings is that He is not an uncaring or impersonal king. On the contrary, He is the King who cared so much for His people that He came to live amongst us on Christmas Day. On Christmas Day, he left the glory and comfort of His heavenly home to be born in a dirty manger in a little inn. Jesus, the Son of God, humbled Himself and became a man on Christmas Day, as a gift of God to mankind.

On that silent night, that holy night, some 2000 years ago, he came, as a gift from God to us


Let's sing song # 7: "Silent Night, Holy Night".

 *Alternate the stanzas with male and female singing.*

Let's sing song # 8: "O Holy Night".

 *Get a good singer to sing solo and everyone else joins in at the chorus.*

Narrator 1 Tonight, we have been decorating this Christmas tree with objects that will brighten up the dull tree. The same can be said of our lives. We must decorate our mundane living with the zest of life, joy and peace that only Jesus Christ can give.

 *Ensure that all the 'actors' move quietly away from the tree.*

I have personally received this gift of life and so have all of us who invited you to tonight's Christmas celebration. I want (*name of member*) to come and share with us what it means to him/her to have received this gift of life.

At this point, the member is ready to take over from Narrator 1.

SHARING OF TESTIMONY

Member should begin by saying, "Christmas is a special time to me because of the joy of having received God's gift of love. Because of Jesus, my life has been changed....."

Narrator 2

From the sharing we know that God is a personal God. The Bible tells us that God loves everyone and has given us His only Son so that everyone who believes in Jesus will not perish but have eternal life. His invitation to you this Christmas is for you to receive His gift of love. He wants to come into your heart, and He will when you open your heart to Him. The gift is only truly yours when you make a decision to receive it. I would like you to make this Christmas even more special by inviting Jesus into your life as your Lord and Savior. I would like everyone to bow our heads and close our eyes right now and I want to give you the opportunity to receive this gift of love from God by inviting Jesus Christ into your hearts. If this is what you would like to do, then I invite you to repeat this prayer after me.

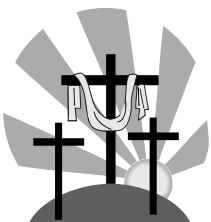
Get everyone to close their eyes and bow their heads and encourage them to follow the prayer with you.

"Lord Jesus, thank you that you love me and came 2000 years ago to give yourself to me. I acknowledge that I am a sinner in need of forgiveness for all my sins. Please forgive my sins. Right now, I invite you to come into my life to be my Saviour, Lord and King. Come into my life right now and help me to be the kind of person You want me to be. I will worship You and You only. Let me experience your love daily from now on. In Jesus' Name I pray. Amen."

Let's sing song # 9: "Joy to the World".

Narrator 2

As we end tonight's program, I would like for us to pair up with one another so that we may share a little more with you and also that we may pray God's blessings upon you and your family.



Cell members to share their personal testimony and John. 3:16 and also to check if the guest prayed the sinner's prayer.
