

SING-A-STORY OF CHRISTMAS

Original version by Montserrat Wadsworth; adapted by Melissa Sunday for children

Preparation: Assign several children to participate by reading the parts. Gather items to make simple costumes or cut out figures to retell the story or use photos of each part.

Song 1: "THE NATIVITY SONG" (Children's Songbook pg. 52)

Part 1: Many years ago, Samuel a Lamanite, went into the land of Zarahemla. He went to preach to the people and to tell them to repent.

The people did not like what he was saying, so they told him to leave their city. Samuel was about to leave, but the voice of the Lord told him that he should go back to Zarahemla and teach the people.

The people of Zarahemla did not want Samuel to enter their city again, so Samuel climbed on a wall and started teaching the people what the Lord told him to say.

Part 2: Samuel told the people that in 5 years, the Son of God would be born to redeem everyone that would believe in him.

Samuel told the people there would be a special sign that Jesus was born. On the night before Jesus was born, there would be no darkness. That is how the people could know that Jesus was going to be born.

Part 3: There were many people who did not believe what Samuel was telling them. They planned to kill everyone who believed what Samuel had said, unless the night of no darkness came.

Nephi, who was the son of Nephi, heard what the wicked people were going to do. He went and prayed to Heavenly Father that those people that believed would not be killed.

Heavenly Father answered his prayer and said, "Lift up your head and be of good cheer for tomorrow the baby Jesus will be born.

And just as Samuel had said, that night, when nighttime came, it did not get dark. The sign had come.

Song 2: "SAMUEL TELLS OF THE BABY JESUS" (Children's Songbook pg. 36)

Part 4: "And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed.

All all went to be taxed, everyone to his own city."

Joseph and Mary traveled from Nazareth to Bethlehem to be taxed. This was a long and hard journey, especially for Mary who was great with child.

Song 3: "WHEN JOSEPH WENT TO BETHLEHEM" (Children's Songbook pg. 38)

Part 5: "And so it was, that while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn."

Song 4: "AWAY IN A MANGER" (Children's Songbook pg. 42)

Part 6: "And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watching over their flocks by night.

And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them:

Part 7: "Fear not: for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

Song 5: "FAR, FAR AWAY ON JUDEA'S PLAINS" (Hymns 212, one verse)

Part 8: "And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us."

"And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger."

Song 6: "PICTURE A CHRISTMAS" (Children's Songbook pg. 50)

Part 9: “Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there [later] came wise men from the east to Jerusalem.

And lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where they young child was.

When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.”

Song 7: “STARS WERE GLEAMING” (Children’s Songbook pg. 37)

Part 10: And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented him with gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Song 8: “THE SHEPHERD’S CAROL” (Children’s Songbook pg. 40)