

# The Birth of Jesus Foretold reader's theater

Based on Matthew 1-2, Luke 1-2. FKRL: 4.6

CAST: Gabriel, Narrators 1 & 2, Mary, Elizabeth

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

NARR 1: God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee

NARR 2: to Mary, a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David.

GABRIEL: Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you.

NARR 1: Mary was greatly troubled at his words

NARR 2: She wondered what kind of greeting this might be.

GABRIEL: Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end.

MARY: How will this be, since I am a virgin?

GABRIEL: The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. For no word from God will ever fail.

MARY: I am the Lord's servant. May your word to me be fulfilled.

NARR 1: Mary hurried to Zechariah's home in a town in the hill country of Judea

NARR 2: She greeted Elizabeth.

NARR 1: When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb

NARR 2: and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.

ELIZABETH: *(in a loud voice)* Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!

Kathy Applebee *May be used freely to teach, preach and glorify God.*

More royalty free Christian Drama skits can be found at my Fools for Christ website at <http://tiny.cc/rkaz2>. Find interactive Bible games at <http://guest.portaportal.com/applebeebible>

## Mary's Song choral reading

CAST: Mary, Group A, Group B, All

MARY: My soul glorifies the Lord

GROUP A: and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

GROUP B: for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant.

MARY: From now on all generations will call me blessed

GROUP A: for the Mighty One has done great things for me—

ALL: holy is his name.

GROUP A: His mercy extends to those who fear him,

ALL: from generation to generation.

GROUP B: He has performed mighty deeds with his arm;

GROUP A: he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.

GROUP B: He has brought down rulers from their thrones

ALL: but has lifted up the humble.

MARY: He has filled the hungry with good things

GROUP B: but has sent the rich away empty.

GROUP A: He has helped his servant Israel,

GROUP B: remembering to be merciful to Abraham and his descendants forever,

ALL: just as he promised our ancestors.

## Joseph Accepts Jesus as His Son Readers Theater

CAST: Narrators 1, 2 & 3, Angel

NARR 1: Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about three months and then returned home.

NARR 2: Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph

NARR 3: but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit.

NARR 1: Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law

NARR 2: and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace

Kathy Applebee *May be used freely to teach, preach and glorify God.*

More royalty free Christian Drama skits can be found at my Fools for Christ website at <http://tiny.cc/rkaz2>. Find interactive Bible games at <http://guest.portaportal.com/applebeebible>

NARR 3: he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

NARR 2: But after he had considered this

NARR 1: an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream

ANGEL: Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.

NARR 3: All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet

NARR 2: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son

NARR 1: and they will call him Immanuel

ALL: which means God with us

NARR 1: When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him

NARR 2: He took Mary home as his wife.

NARR 3: But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son.

## The Birth of Jesus Reader Theater

CAST: Narrators 1, 2, 3, Shepherd, Angel

NARR 1: In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world.

NARR 2: This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.

NARR 3: And everyone went to their own town to register.

NARR 1: Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee

NARR 2: to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David

NARR 3: because he belonged to the house and line of David.

NARR 1: He went there to register with Mary

NARR 2: who was pledged to be married to him

NARR 3: and was expecting a child.

Kathy Applebee May be used freely to teach, preach and glorify God.

More royalty free Christian Drama skits can be found at my Fools for Christ website at <http://tiny.cc/rkaz2>. Find interactive Bible games at <http://guest.portaportal.com/applebeebible>

NARR 1: While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born

NARR 2: Mary gave birth to her firstborn, a son.

NARR 3: She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger

NARR 1: because there was no guest room available for them.

ALL: Joseph gave him the name Jesus

NARR 2: Shepherds were living out in the fields nearby

NARR 3: keeping watch over their flocks at night.

NARR 1: An angel of the Lord appeared to them

NARR 2: the glory of the Lord shone around them

ALL NARRATORS, SHEPHERD: They were terrified.

ANGEL: Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.

NARR 3: Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel

NARR 1: praising God and saying

ALL: Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.

NARR 2: When the angels had gone into heaven

SHEPHERD: Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.

NARR 3: So they hurried off

NARR 2: and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby

ALL: who was lying in the manger.

NARR 1: When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child

NARR 3: All who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them.

NARR 2: But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart.

Kathy Applebee *May be used freely to teach, preach and glorify God.*

More royalty free Christian Drama skits can be found at my Fools for Christ website at <http://tiny.cc/rkaz2>. Find interactive Bible games at <http://guest.portaportal.com/applebeebible>

NARR 1: The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

NARR 2: On the eighth day, when it was time to circumcise the child

ALL: he was named Jesus

NARR 2: the name the angel had given him before he was conceived.

## Jesus Presented in the Temple

CAST: Joseph, Simeon, Narrators 1, 2, 3

JOSEPH: It is time for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses

NARR 1: Joseph and Mary took Jesus to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord

NARR 2: as it is written in the Law of the Lord

JOSEPH: Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord

NARR 3: They offered a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord

JOSEPH: a pair of doves or two young pigeons.

NARR 1: Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon

NARR 2: who was righteous and devout.

NARR 3: He was waiting for the consolation of Israel

ALL: and the Holy Spirit was on him.

NARR 3: It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah.

NARR 2: Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts.

NARR 1: When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required

NARR 3: Simeon took him in his arms and praised God

SIMEON: Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel.

NARR 1: The child's father and mother marveled at what was said about him.

Kathy Applebee *May be used freely to teach, preach and glorify God.*

More royalty free Christian Drama skits can be found at my Fools for Christ website at <http://tiny.cc/rkaz2>. Find interactive Bible games at <http://guest.portaportal.com/applebeebible>

SIMEON: This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too.

NARR 2: There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher.

NARR 1: She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage

NARR 3: then was a widow until she was eighty-four.

NARR 2: She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying.

NARR 1: Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God

NARR 3: and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

## The Magi Visit the Messiah

CAST: Narrators 1, 2 & 3, Magi 1 & 2, Priest 1 & 2, Herod,

NARR 1: After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea

NARR 2: during the time of King Herod

NARR 3: Magi from the east came to Jerusalem asking about the Christ.

MAGI 1: Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews?

MAGI 2: We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.

NARR 3: When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him.

NARR 2: He called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law

HEROD: Where is the Messiah to be born?

PRIEST 1: In Bethlehem in Judea

PRIEST 2: This is what the prophet has written:

PRIEST 1: But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;

PRIEST 2: for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.

Kathy Applebee *May be used freely to teach, preach and glorify God.*

More royalty free Christian Drama skits can be found at my Fools for Christ website at <http://tiny.cc/rkaz2>. Find interactive Bible games at <http://guest.portaportal.com/applebeebible>

NARR 2: Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared.

NARR 3: He sent them to Bethlehem

HEROD: Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.

NARR 3: After they had heard the king, they went on their way

NARR 1: The star they had seen when it rose

NARR 2: went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was.

ALL: When they saw the star, they were overjoyed.

NARR 3: On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary

ALL: they bowed down and worshiped him.

NARR 2: They opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

NARR 1: Having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod

NARR 3: they returned to their country by another route.

### Interactive Christmas Games

<http://www.quia.com/jw/273716.html> Jumbled words from Luke 1 & 2

<http://www.quia.com/rr/388092.html> Jesus is Born rags to riches

<http://www.quia.com/jg/1492877.html> Shepherds are Amazed

<http://www.quia.com/jg/1492770.html> Kings Visit Jesus

<http://www.quia.com/ba/216877.html> Battleship on Matthew 1 & 2

Kathy Applebee May be used freely to teach, preach and glorify God.

More royalty free Christian Drama skits can be found at my Fools for Christ website at <http://tiny.cc/rkaz2>. Find interactive Bible games at <http://guest.portaportal.com/applebeebible>