



Stable Faith

A Cowboy Christmas Presentation

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OPTIONAL PRE-PLAY SONG:

Have younger children that are not involved in the main play to carry in Bells. Bells can be Cow Bells; Jingle Type Bells; Any variety of Bells.

Children sing to the tune of Jingle Bells the song: Gospel Bells. Repeat Once.

Gospel Bells, Gospel Bells
Ring them all the days.
Ring them while you're, at your work
and while you're at your play, Hey!

Gospel Bells, Gospel Bells
Ring them all the days.
Ring out the news that
Jesus came to take our sins away!

Children Exit.

ACT ONE:

Characters: Narrator

Three Shepherds [Can be dressed as young Cow Hands. Instead of having a Shepherd Staff, use lariats.]

Angels

Three Sheep Minimum but can have more

One Wolf in Sheep's Clothing

Background Music Up: Suggest appropriate Christmas mood music for at least 60 seconds plays softly while all characters get into place.

Optional: Have sound effects of crickets playing in the background. Lights are dimmed to represent an evening setting.

Narrator: On a hill far away outside of Bethlehem Shepherds watched over their sheep.

Sheep: *[Each Sheep one at a time says: Baa Baa and then the last sound comes from a wolf that is clothed like a sheep. He sounds more like Baa? Baa?.]*

Shepherds all look at each other with curious looks.

Shepherd #1: Did you hear that?

Shepherd #2 Ahh that was nothing to worry about. That was just a sheep with a sore throat.

Shepherd #3 Yeah, probably just been eating Johnson grass. Nothing to worry about!

Sheep: *[Each Sheep one at a time says: Baa Baa]*

Wolf: *[A howl erupts from the wolf in sheep clothing. He abruptly stops in the middle of the howl and says: AH AH I mean..... BAA.....BAA]*

Narrator: Yes, all seems peaceful out on the hillside near Bethlehem. No worries. It's just a dull, quiet, ordinary night down on the farm.

LIGHTS COME ON BRIGHT!

ANGELS APPEAR SUDDENLY ON ELEVATED PLATFORM.

ONE ANGEL STEPS FORWARD.

Angel: **FEAR NOT! For I bring you GREAT NEWS! The KING OF KINGS has been born!**

Angels Sing: *In Excelsis Deo- Angels We Have Heard on High*

Angels we have heard on high,
Singing sweetly through the night,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their brave delight.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why these songs of happy cheer?
What great brightness did you see?
What glad tiding did you hear?
Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ, the Lord, the new-born King.

Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

LIGHTS GO BACK TO THE SAME NOCTURNAL SETTING AS IT WAS BEFORE THE ANGELS APPEARED.

Shepherd #1: Let's go see Him!

Shepherd #2: What should we do with the sheep?

Shepherd #3: Bring them with us.

Sheep: As the shepherds herd their sheep off stage.....*[Each Sheep one at a time says: Baa Baa and then the last sound comes from a wolf that is clothed like a sheep. He sounds more like Baa? Baa?.]*

Shepherd #2: I still don't think that one sheep sounds right! Wonder if it's from that bunch we used at the Mutton Bustin'?

Shepherd #3: Ah, you are ALWAYS finding something to complain about; He'll be okay.

MUSIC UP

The Scene Changes and ACT TWO follows.

ACT TWO:

Characters: Three Shepherds

Three Sheep

Wolf in Sheep's Clothing

Joseph

Mary

Various animals. [Live animals, caged animals, or children representing animals all are acceptable. Have purchased reasonably priced Longhorn plastic wall hangings in the past from online novelty sight and had children come in holding these in front of their faces and saying, Moo. It's all about setting the mood with a little imagination. And you can utilize more young folks this way if you have a need to.]

Scene Setting: Have appropriate music playing for at least a full minute at beginning of scene to set the mood. Present a barn like setting.

As music softly ends, then Joseph speaks.

Joseph: Why have you come to the Stable tonight?

Shepherd #1: A sky full of Angels told us there was a KING IN THE BARN!

Shepherd #2 I HAD TO SEE IT TO BELIEVE IT!

Shepherd #3 I came because MY SAVIOR is here, in the stable. AND wherever HE IS, I WANT TO BE!!

Everyone is still on stage and someone sings off stage: Mary Did you Know?

Mary: **Come and see the Great I AM.**

As the Shepherds and the sheep move in a little closer to see the Baby Jesus, then we hear the Wolf speak.

Wolf: [As he stands up out of the flock]

I'm getting OUT of here! [He runs off stage.]

Joseph: Some came because Angels told them.

Some came because they had to see to believe.

But FAITH brought some to the STABLE.

Lights fade. Music plays softly and a Cross is illuminated as we hear the song:

On a Hill far Away.