



Advent 3: Birthplace of the King

Luke 2:1-7

Suggested setting: The Kings & Kingdoms puppet scripts adapt to any setting such as a garden, forest, farm, or stable. Once or twice a year, a set change or addition to the set is recommended for added interest. Decorate with colorful flowers, butterflies, birds, and ladybugs. Puppets can pop out from behind a window, hedge, tree hollow, stonewall, etc. For a simple, portable puppet stage, puppets can pop up from behind a colorful blanket hung on a rod or from behind a card table turned on its side. Adjust setting and puppet names according to available puppeteers and resources.

Characters: Delbert the Donkey and Lello the Lamb are good friends who are always excited to learn more about Jesus and the Bible. Ranger Ryan the Lion is the wise forest ranger who occasionally visits Delbert and Lello. Ranger Ryan will appear throughout Unit 10 to tell the Christmas story. The leader is the children's teacher or worship leader dressed in regular clothing or in costume consistent with the set (a gardener, a farmer, etc.) The leader helps children focus on the puppets and leads group interaction.

Props: Christmas lights decorating the stage

Leader (Stands at puppet stage.)
It's time to call for Delbert. Repeat after me, "Dehhhhhl-bert Dehhhhhl-bert!" (Children repeat and Delbert, the donkey pops up.)

Delbert

Hee Haw! Everyone, Ranger Ryan has another story for us!

Leader

Great! Let's call for him. Can you all roar with me? Roooaar! (Children and Delbert join.)

Ranger Ryan

Roooaar! Ranger Ryan, here. Hello, my little ones.

Leader

Ranger Ryan! We're ready for more of the Christmas story.

Delbert

Haw! Are you going to tell us where Jesus was born? Was Jesus born in a hospital?

Leader

No, it was not in a hospital...

Delbert (interrupting)

Haw. I know! Jesus is King; I bet he was born in a castle.

Ranger Ryan

That's a wonderful guess, Delbert, but that's not it either. Are you ready for the story now?

Delbert

Well...okay. I'm out of guesses...

Leader

Boys and girls, are you ready? (Pause to allow children to answer.)

Ranger Ryan

Let's begin. You see, Joseph and Mary traveled a long way to get to Bethlehem. Mary was going to have her baby very soon.

Delbert

How did they get there?
By plane?

Leader

No, in those days, Joseph might have walked and Mary might have ridden a donkey.

Delbert

Haw! Like me! What else Ranger Ryan?

Ranger Ryan

When they reached Bethlehem, it was time for Mary to have her baby. But they couldn't find any place for them to stay.

Delbert

What about a hotel?

Leader

No, there was no room in the inn.

Delbert

Oh dear. What did they do?

Ranger Ryan

Well, when Jesus was born, Mary wrapped Him in cloths and placed Him in a manger.

Delbert

Haw! I know what a manger is! It's the food box where horses and donkeys like to eat.

Leader

That's right, Delbert. King Jesus deserved a perfect nursery in a castle but instead He was born in a manger!

Delbert

Thanks for the story Ranger Ryan!

Ranger Ryan

You are welcome. Next time, I'll have a special story for you about praising Jesus.

Leader

That will be great. All of our friends here at Praise Time love to do that!

Ranger Ryan

Terrrrific! Delbert, let's go find your friend Lello. We can tell her where baby Jesus was born. See you arrrrround. (Pronounced with a friendly roar.)

Delbert

Haw! See you guys later! (Braying)

Leader

We'll see you soon.

(All exit.)