



Recognizing the King: The Wise Men

Matthew 2:1-2, 9-11

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 to tell us. I'm so excited.

Leader
Great! Why don't we call for him. Can you all roar with me? Roooaar!

Ranger Ryan
Roooaar! Ranger Ryan here. Hello my little ones. Today is my last day with you for a while. I'll be traveling to see my family and it is a very long trip!

Delbert
Haw. Ranger Ryan before you go, can you tell us one more story?

Leader
Please Ranger Ryan, I know you have another part of the Christmas story you can share with us.

Ranger Ryan
Yes, I do. This one is about the wise men.

Delbert
Haw! Who were the wise men?

Leader
Ranger Ryan, why don't you tell us your story right now?

Ranger Ryan
Let's begin. First, who remembers where Jesus was born?

Delbert

Haw! Boys and girls, do you remember where Jesus was born? (Pause for children to answer.)

Leader

That's right! In a manger in Bethlehem!

Ranger Ryan

Terrrific! After Jesus was born in Bethlehem, wise men from the east traveled a long way to Jerusalem.

Delbert

Haw. Why did they come?

Ranger Ryan

They came to ask where the baby King was. The wise men wanted to worship Him.

Delbert

Haw! How did they know King Jesus was born?

Leader

That's a great question, Delbert. The wise men had seen a special star in the sky and they knew it meant the King was born.

Ranger Ryan

They followed the star as it moved in the sky. Then, the star stopped over the place where baby Jesus lived.

Delbert

Haw! Really? That's amazing.

Ranger Ryan

Rooooaar! Well, I need to be on my way. I've had so much fun seeing you all again and sharing the Christmas story.

Delbert

Haw! Thank you for coming to visit.

Leader

Yes. Come see us again any time, Ranger Ryan.

Ranger Ryan

That sounds terrrrrific! See you arrrrround. (Pronounced with a friendly roar.)

Delbert

I'm going to go find Lello. Haw! See you guys later! (Braying)

Leader

We'll see you soon.

(All exit.)