



Advent 1—Isaiah Tells of the Promised Child

Isaiah 9:2-3, 6

Suggested setting: The Prophets & Promises 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. 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: Manger scene craft samples from Unit 10 (Lessons 48-52) including baby Jesus, Gabriel, Joseph, Mary, shepherds, army of angels (heavenly host), and wise men. Decorate the stage with Christmas lights.

Leader (stands at puppet stage)
It's time to call for Delbert and Lello.
Repeat after me, "Dehhhhhl-bert, Dehhhhhl-bert!" (Children repeat and Delbert the Donkey pops his head out of the window.) **Hellohhhhhhhhhhhh Lello!** (Children repeat and Lello the Lamb pops her head out of the window.)

Delbert
Hee Haw! Hello everybody!

Lello (bleats)
Yeah. Hello every-bahhhh-dy.

Delbert
Haw! Look at all the Christmas decorations! I love Christmas.

Lello
Yeah. Me, too. Celebrating Jesus' birthday is so much fun.

Delbert
I wish I had some decorations.

Leader
You could make some.

Lello
Oooh. That sounds like fun. But what could we make?

Leader
Why don't I tell you part of the Christmas story first. Maybe that will give you some ideas.

Delbert
Haw! Great idea. Boy and girls, would you like to hear part of the Christmas story? (Children respond.)

Leader

Did you know the beginning of the Christmas story happened long before Jesus was born?

Delbert

How long? A whole day?

Leader

More.

Lello

A whole year?

Leader

More. 700 years before Jesus was born, God made a promise.

Lello

God always keeps His promises.

Leader

That's right. God told His promise to a man named Isaiah.

Delbert

Was the promise about Jesus?

Leader

That's exactly right. God promised to send His Son to us.

Lello (reciting)

For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given.

Delbert

Haw. What was that, Lello?

Leader

That's God's promise Isaiah told us about.

Lello

Yeah. Delbert, do you want to say the promise after me? You, too, boys and girls! For unto us a child is born ...

Leader, Delbert, and Children

For unto us a child is born ...

Lello

... unto us a Son is given.

Leader, Delbert, and Children

...unto us a Son is given.

Leader

Wonderful! Delbert, do you have an idea for decorations?

Delbert

Haw! Christmas is about baby Jesus. We could make a special baby Jesus.

Leader

Why don't you and Lello make your own manger scene!

Delbert

Great idea. We can put everyone in the Christmas story into our manger scene.

Lello

What's a manger scene?

Delbert

Well, a manger is a box that holds food for stable animals.

Leader

A manger scene includes everyone in the Christmas story.

Delbert

Come on, Lello, let's go get started by making our special baby Jesus. See you guys later.

Lello

Bah-bye every-bahhh-dy!

Leader

See you next time.

(All exit.)