



God promised

Wise Men Knew God's Promise
Matthew 2:1-2; 9-11

Granny B set a tray filled with cookies and hot chocolate next to Pops. Delbert and Lello put down their nativity set figures and ran over. Everyone grabbed a snack and settled in to quietly enjoy the evening. Delbert looked at the lights Pops had hung on the farmhouse. Pops thought about what other figures they could create for the nativity set. Granny B enjoyed the quiet and Lello gazed up at the stars. Granny B noticed Lello began to look sad. "What's the matter, little one?"

"I just wish Christmas didn't have to end. I love playing with our manger scene," she answered.

"Cheer up, Lello!" Pops encouraged. "We can celebrate the Christmas story all year long!"

Delbert smiled and said, "Haw! That's right. We can always thank God for sending baby Jesus."

Lello smiled, "Baa. And, we can always thank God for keeping His promises."

Granny B smiled and said, "That's right. God will always keep His promise to lead people to Him."

Delbert glanced up at the sky and spotted a bright star. "Haw! Just like God used the star to lead the Wise Men to baby Jesus!"

Lello looked up where Delbert was pointing. "But, how did the Wise Men know to follow the star to Bethlehem?"

Pops turned his eyes to the night sky and explained, "They knew God promised a great king would come from Bethlehem."

Delbert thought for a minute about the Wise Men following the star, then he snorted. "Haw! They must have been so excited when the star stopped over the place where Jesus was."

Lello smiled, "Baa. Of course! They got to see Jesus!"

Granny B nodded, "Do you two remember what they did when they saw Jesus?"

"They bowed before Him," Lello answered. She bowed her head, pretending she was one of the Wise Men.

Delbert bowed, too, then he put his hooves out like he was carrying something. "Haw! The Wise Men opened up their treasures for Him. I love that part of the Christmas story!"

Pops laughed gently. He looked from Delbert and Lello to their manger scene, then he put on his thinking face.

"Pops, what are you thinking?" Granny B asked.

"I'm thinking Delbert and Lello aren't quite finished with their manger scene," He answered.

Delbert and Lello looked confused, then, at the same moment, they smiled as they understood what Pops was suggesting. "Wise Men!" they shouted together.

Granny B laughed. She agreed that it was a wonderful idea and together, they made some Wise Men for the manger scene.

"Lello," Delbert said, "Don't forget we can play with this all year to help us remember Jesus coming as a baby."

Lello smiled. Once they had made the new figures, Delbert and Lello put on a show for Pops and Granny B. Using their manger scene figures, they retold the Christmas story from beginning to end.