



Drama Script:

Narrator: And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby...

Shepherds burst onto the stage and interrupt the narrator. The narrator looks puzzled.

Shepherd 1: That's us, he/she's talking about us!

Shepherd 2: (Turns to audience) We were out in the fields near Bethlehem, that's where the good grazing is at the moment. My poor sheep have been struggling to find enough food at the moment.

N: Keeping watch over their flocks by night.

S1: Every night. You can't be too careful when your family depends on you.

S2: We have had a real problem with wolves at the moment, and Dad says if we lose too many more then we are in big trouble.

S1: Did you hear about Bartholomew and the bear attack?

S2: *...begins to speak but the narrator interrupts*

N: An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

S1: Well, that's an understatement if ever I heard one. Out at night, looking after my flock when the whole sky lights up. And God's glory? It knocked me off my feet!

S2: Terrified? Absolutely petrified!

N: But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid'.

S1: The amount of times I have heard that from the Torah, an angel shows up and the first thing they do is tell people not to be afraid.

S2: And here we were, hearing those words for ourselves

S1: Shepherds!

S2: Smelly, raggy, farmers!

N: I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.

S1: It's this part that I still find hard to put into words! Wow! That the God of heaven chose to share this good news with us.

S2: The Messiah! *(turns to audience)* Do you know how long we have waited for a Messiah, a Saviour? Do you know how often we have wept and raged at God? Why is it taking so long? When will you come and boot out the Romans? When will we see justice?

S1: And here we were, dressed in our rags, hearing this good news of God's riches, born in the small town just over there *(point off stage)*
(All three pause and look off to the side of the stage. Pause as if they are contemplating how amazing this all is and letting it sink in)

N: This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger. Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests."

Worship team cued to start singing straight away. Shepherds and Narrator move off to the side.

Sung Worship

The Narrator and shepherds re-enter the stage.

Narrator: When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, *(interrupted)*

Shepherd 1: Let's go! That's what we said. Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.

N: So they hurried off.

S2: Sprinted actually. We left Esther and Benjamin to look after the sheep and we sprinted as fast as we could.

S1: That's the benefit of working outdoors all the time, you build up your fitness.

N: ...and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in a manger. When they...

S2: *(interrupts)* Hold on! Let's not skip over that part! That's the most important part of the story.

Nativity scene

Narrator: When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

