

# The Star of Christmas



## What is the STORY about?

It's 1880's London, and Cavis Appythart and Millward Phelps (Bob and Larry) are putting together the finishing touches on their first Christmas musical—"The Princess and the Plumber." Filled with spectacle and more electric lights than London has ever seen, Cavis is convinced his impressive show will "teach London to love." Unfortunately, a church Christmas pageant staged by little Edmund Gilbert (Junior Asparagus) is opening the same night, right down the street and features the "Star of Christmas"—a priceless artifact that hasn't been seen in almost eighty years!

- *The True Meaning of Love*
- *Key Passages: Luke 2, Matthew 1-2*
- *Running time: 44 minutes*



## What do you THINK?

- *Songwriters Cavis and Millward think their next production will teach all the people of London how to love. What are they doing to make this show extra spectacular? (They are putting lights on the scenery and the costumes)*
- *What other event is taking place on Christmas Eve that may cause attendance to be down at "The Princess and the Plumber?" (St. Bart's Christmas Eve production where the Star of Christmas will be shown for the first time in 79 years)*
- *What did Cavis suggest doing to bring folks to their theater on Christmas Eve? ("Borrow" the Star of Christmas from St. Bart's Church)*
- *What tragedy happened to halt the production of Cavis and Millward's musical? (A lighting accident caused the theater to burn down)*
- *Why were Cavis and Millward released from jail? (Edmund and his father did not press charges and forgave them for taking the special star)*
- *How did Cavis and Millward pass on true Christmas love? (They took cookies and a gift to Mr. Pincher in jail)*



## What does the BIBLE say?

Read the biblical account of the birth of Jesus from Luke 2 or Matthew 1 and 2 in a translation that is easy to understand OR tell the story in this condensed adaptation.

**Joseph left Nazareth and went to the town of Bethlehem with Mary who was pledged to marry Joseph and was expecting a child. When it was time for the baby to be born, they placed him in a manger because there were no rooms in the inn. An angel of the Lord appeared to some shepherds who were watching their sheep. They were frightened. The angel told them not to be afraid because he had good news. "Today the Savior was born in Bethlehem... he is Christ the Lord. You will find him wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." Then a large group of angels appeared with the first angel and began praising God. "Give glory to God in heaven, and on earth let there be peace to the people who please God." After Jesus was born, the wise men saw the star and came to worship him. All this happened just as the prophet had said... Mary would give birth to a son and call him Immanuel—which means "God with us."**

# The Story of Jesus' Birth



## ACTIVITY

We learned from the show that the real star of Christmas wasn't destroyed in the fire. The real star of Christmas is Jesus—he's the only one that can show us how to love.

Have assorted star cookie cutters or star patterns, yellow paper, pencils, and scissors available for the children to use in creating their own "Star of Christmas." (Glitter and glue are optional.) Use a paper punch and ribbon to create a hanger. Encourage the children to hang the star only after they have "secretly" shown love to a member of their family. Talk about ways to "secretly" show love to family members. Examples: Putting clothes away for someone, leaving a nice note, cleaning up a mess when no one is around, etc.



## What can we DO?

God loves us so much that he sent his only son to save us. We need to show God's love to others. Encourage conversation about the following questions:

- *Has there ever been a time when you gave up something for someone else when they didn't deserve it... and they didn't even say "thank you?"*
- *Has someone ever helped you or stuck up for you when you weren't able to help them back?*
- *Name some ways that we can thank others for kind things they have done for us.*

### **Help the children find these Bible verses to read aloud.**

- **LUKE 2:11** "Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord."
- **JOHN 3:16** "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

## 3 Things to remember about the birth of Jesus

1. After Jesus was born, Mary placed him in a **MANGER**
2. The **SHEPHERDS** were told by the angels where to find the new Savior
3. A **STAR** led the wise men to Jesus

### KEY VERSE

**(John 13:34)** "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another."

### KEY NUGGET

God sent his love to us, and we need to show that love to others.

