Our Christmas Show and Tell

OUR CHRISTMAS SHOW AND TELL

Welcome to *Our Christmas Show and Tell*. Children love the days when they can bring a treasure for Show and Tell. Certainly many parents have memories of those days when they were young students in school. This worship service is built around the theme of a classroom Show and Tell. Except the items the children will share with their parents and friends have been pre-selected to help them tell the Christmas story.

The seven items in order include: a bell, a candle, a candy cane, some tinsel, a small evergreen wreath, an ornament, and a crèche. The fun thing is that as each item is shown, the children distribute that item to the assembly. You can easily purchase the items (such as a tiny crèche), at a local store or through the Oriental Trading Company.

Each section includes a child showing the item and explaining what it is, followed by the class reciting a short Bible passage. That is followed with a song by the children or assembly. If the materials with this program are more than your children can handle, feel free to delete some of the Show and Tell items (the wreath being the first section to delete) or cut out some songs completely.

Three of the children's songs are included on a separate disk in CD format. "God Loves Me Dearly" is included in both sing-along and accompaniment only forms. (The CD accompaniment includes 4 stanzas. If the German stanza is too much for the children to learn, either they could hum the first stanza or the assembly might enjoy singing the German text.) "I Am Jesus' Little Lamb" and "Our Christmas Show and Tell" are only included on the CD as an instrumental accompaniment.

This program is recommended for ages 3-6. The length of this program is about 35 minutes.

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Teacher: Children love to have the opportunity to bring important objects to school that they can show and tell. It is a time for children to share interesting facts, memories, or even tastes about items that have meaning in their lives. Today we've invited you to be a part of Our Christmas Show and Tell.

All Children: Our Christmas Show and Tell (Tune of Who Made the Sky So Bright and Blue – instrumental accompaniment on CD)

Today's our Christmas Show and Tell That shares a story true; We've brought our favorite Christmas things, We'll show them all to you.

When Jesus came to Bethlehem A Babe in cattle stall, He brought us life and happiness As King and Lord of all.

So now we have a Christmas wish To give folks far and near, And in our Show and Tell today We'll make that message clear.

Let's Show Everyone!

All children: So here we are, we've brought some things
To share with you as well.
Our Christmas wish is coming true
In what we show and tell.

Child: I brought my little bell. I love to ring it out loud, just like churches do. It calls out to everyone that Jesus has come, just like the angels called to the shepherds.

All children: "The angels said, 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests" Luke 2:14.

(Children distribute tiny bells to everyone. Teacher hangs the bell on the classroom tree.)

God loves me dearly, grants me salvation, God loves me dearly, loves even me. Therefore I say again: God loves me dearly, God loves me dearly, loves even me.

He sent forth Jesus, my dear Redeemer, He sent forth Jesus and set me free. Therefore I say again: God loves me dearly, God loves me dearly, loves even me.

Jesus, my Savior, himself did offer; Jesus, my Savior, paid all I owed. Therefore I say again: God loves me dearly, God loves me dearly, loves even me.

Let's Show Everyone!

All children: But that's not all, we've brought some more
To share with you as well.
Our Christmas wish is coming true
In what we show and tell.

Child: Here is something I want to show and tell. It's a Christmas wreath made of Christmas tree branches. It is round and never starts or stops. God never starts or stops either. And someday we will live forever with him in heaven. We will be always living, just like the evergreen branches!

All children: "Jesus said, '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' John 3:16."

(Children distribute evergreen twigs. Teacher hangs up wreath on wall for all to see.)

Assembly song: Love Divine, All Love Excelling

Love Divine, all love excelling, joy of heav'n to earth come down, Fix in us Thy humble dwelling, all Thy faithful mercies crown. Jesus, Thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love Thou art; Visit us with Thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.

Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all Thy life receive, Suddenly return and never, nevermore, Thy temples leave. Thee we would be always blessing, serve Thee as Thy hosts above, Pray and praise Thee without ceasing, glory in Thy perfect love!

Let's Show Everyone!

All children: But that's not all, we've brought some more
To share with you as well.
Our Christmas wish is coming true
In what we show and tell.

Child: Look what I have to show! It's a bright and shiny Christmas ornament! The ornament tells me that God gives me many beautiful and wonderful things to enjoy.

All children: "James once wrote, 'Every good and perfect gift is from above' James 1:17."

(Children give each one in attendance a small inexpensive ornament. Teacher hangs ornament on tree.)

Assembly song: O Little Town of Bethlehem (v. 3)

How silently, how silently, the wondrous Gift is given! So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heaven. No ear may hear His coming, but in this world of sin, Where meek souls will receive Him still, the dear Christ enters in.

Let's Show Everyone!

All children: We're almost done, we've brought one more
To share with you as well.
Our Christmas wish is coming true
In what we show and tell.

Child: (carrying big box.) I brought something really neat. But you'll have to close your eyes while I unpack it.

(People close their eyes while all the children busily set up the complete crèche on a table in front. Quickly turn out all lights and turn on a small spotlight on the manger scene.)

Child: Don't open them yet. I brought something I really want to show and tell. Okay! Open your eyes. Let us tell you about this . . .

All children: (Action Rhyme – author unknown)

Clop, clop, clop went the donkey's feet, (children make walking noise)

Clop, clop, clop down the stony street. (Continue walking)

Nod, nod, nod went Mary's head. (All children nod)

She was tired and she needed a bed.

Knock, knock went Joseph at the door (children knock on the table)

"Do you have room for anyone more?"

"No, no, no," the innkeeper said, (Shake heads back and forth)

"I don't even have one more bed." (Point with one finger in the air)

"Wait, wait," the innkeeper said, (Hold up hands as if to say stop)
"You can use my stable for a bed." (Point out back)
Shh, shh, shh... What is that I hear? (Place finger in front of lips)
The cry of Baby Jesus, oh so dear! (cup hand over ear & lean toward baby Jesus in manger)

Pastor: Reads Christmas story in Luke 2:1-20 (Children may sit on floor and listen.)

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, thank you for the beautiful message these children shared with us today. Not only did it SHOW us that you love us so much that you came to earth as a baby in the Bethlehem manger to one day die on a cross for our salvation, but they also taught us to TELL that wonderful message of grace and salvation to everyone we meet. We pray in the name of Jesus, our Savior and our Friend. Amen.

Children and Assembly: Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

- 1. While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night, Behold throughout the heavens there shown a holy light. Chorus.
- 2. The shepherds feared and trembled when, lo! Above the earth Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth. Chorus
- 3. Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born, And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. Chorus

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