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(Jeremiah 29:11)**

# The Perfect Plan

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Christmas is a time for making plans. Our busy calendars include special meals, attending church services, cookie baking, visiting relatives, wrapping gifts, and on and on. Christmas is a time for lots of plans. Our Christmas plans are small compared with another plan that took thousands of years to develop. After the curse of sin destroyed man’s perfect relationship with God, he set in motion a plan to rescue the sinful world. That plan was reinforced continually throughout the Old Testament, and when the last detail was in place and when the time was just right, God sent his Son to rescue the world from the curse of sin. **The Perfect Plan** follows God’s plan of salvation from the first paradise of Eden to the eternal Paradise of heaven.

This worship service is written for children from preschool through eighth grade, any size group. Feel free to make adjustments necessary to fit your purpose and schedule.

### **IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT THE MUSIC**

For many years Kremer Christmas services have included new songs and theme songs. This year’s program includes NO music disk. **HOWEVER, we do offer great alternatives.**

1. **60 KREMER SONGS TO PICK FROM** Kremer Resources is making available 60 Christmas songs (mostly original) from past children’s Christmas services. Visit the Kremer website at [www.kremerresources.com](http://www.kremerresources.com) and click through to CHRISTMAS & WORSHIP SERVICES > 23 CHRISTMAS SERVICES > OTHER CHRISTMAS PRODUCTS > SHEET MUSIC AND MP3 dropdown. Each song comes with reproducible sheet music, singer and accompaniment MP3. Cost is \$9.99 per song.
2. **SPOKEN SONG FOR LITTLE CHILDREN** Part 2 includes a spoken song by the little children using instruments they made. Instructions for these instruments are found with this file.

### **THE NARRATION**

There are parts included for two narrators. Feel free to use any number of children for these parts.

### **RECITATIONS**

Recitation sections always include Bible verses that reinforce the narrator’s point.

### **BANNER**

Art work and instructions have been provided to make a full size church banner.

### **WORSHIP BULLETIN**

A worship bulletin for this service is available at Kremer Resources while supplies last.

This program uses of the NIV 1984 edition.

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Menomonee Falls, WI

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**The service begins with two students speaking to one another in the front of the assembly.**

**Student 1:** And what are your plans for Christmas?

**Student 2:** Not sure yet, but Mom and Dad always have things planned out long before Christmas. It's been crazy around our house trying to get everything done in time. I know we'll see my grandma and grandpa sometime soon. We always do this time of year. What about you?

**Student 1:** I don't know. I know my parents had to plan just to make it here for this service. Dad had to ask off of work. He has to plan his work schedule a zillion days in advance. Our plans are to open presents after the service tonight, then tomorrow afternoon we will go to the family Christmas party. Those are always fun. This year I think we're planning on staying overnight. That'll be great!  
**(Students exit)**

**Spokesperson 1:** Plans. What would Christmas be like if we didn't make any plans? No plans for shopping, no plans for baking treats, and no plans for meals. That would also mean no plans for family get-togethers, and worse yet, no plans for church services. We all know plans are necessary to keep our lives running smoothly, especially at Christmas.

**Spokesperson 2:** Sometimes plans are even more important than setting aside time to bake Christmas cookies. For instance, some of our young people are already planning on what they would like to do when they get older, or some may be planning a wedding. Many of us know the difficulty in planning our family's finances, or planning on where to live. Some of us may even be planning our retirements. These are all important plans we need to deal with in life. While baking cookies may be somewhat minor and insignificant, other plans can be life changing and very necessary.

**Both Spokespersons:** Our worship tonight is about a plan, an important plan, a plan that affects everyone. This plan wasn't made by people. God owns this plan, and it is so important that eternal life and death hang in the balance. Tonight we are excited to tell about ***The Perfect Plan!***

***(Children enter.)***

**Processional Congregation Song: *All My Heart This Night Rejoices***

**Invocation**

## **Antiphonal Response**

**Pastor:** *(Romans 5:12)* Just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin,

**Congregation:** *in this way death came to all men, because all have sinned.*

**Children:** But God had the perfect plan.

**Pastor:** *(Romans 3:23)* All have sinned

**Congregation:** *And have fallen short of God's glory.*

**Children:** But God had the perfect plan.

**Pastor:** *(Isaiah 64:6)* All our righteous acts are like filthy rags;

**Congregation:** *Like the wind, our sins sweep us away.*

**Children:** But God had the perfect plan.

**Pastor:** *(Psalm 51:5)* I was sinful at birth,

**Congregation:** *Sinful from the time my mother conceived me.*

**Children:** But God had the perfect plan.

**Pastor:** *(1 Timothy 1:15)* Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance:

**Congregation:** *Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.*

**Children:** God has the perfect plan.

**Pastor:** *(1 Timothy 2:3,4)* God our Savior wants all men to be saved

**Congregation:** *and to come to the knowledge of the truth.*

**Children:** God has the perfect plan.

**All:** *(Jeremiah 29:11)* "I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to give you hope and a future." God has the perfect plan!

## **PART 1: THE PURPOSE OF GOD'S PLAN**

**Narrator 1:** God created a perfect world. The light was perfect, the weather was perfect, and so were the plants and animals. Everything God made was good. There was nothing that wasn't perfect. There was no sin, no pain, no hatred, and no death. Everything was perfect.

**Recitation:** "God saw all that he had made, and it was very good." (Genesis 1:31)

**Narrator 2:** God also made a man and a woman. They were perfect too, just like the rest of God's creation. God gave his special people three gifts. He gave them his perfect image. He gave them a soul that would never die, and he gave them a will to show God their faithfulness or faithlessness. Sadly, before long Adam and Eve followed the temptation of Satan, and turned their backs on their loving Creator God when they ate from the forbidden tree.

**Recitation:** *“When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it”* (Genesis 3:6).

**Narrator 1:** The perfect creation was perfect no more. It was ruined. God’s heart was broken when he remembered the warning he had given to Adam and Eve:

**Recitation:** *“You must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die”* (Genesis 2:17).

**All Children:** God’s perfect gift was pure no more.  
Once lovely, now destroyed by man.  
God banished them and closed the door,  
But first he gave to them a plan. . . The Perfect Plan

**Children’s Song Suggested: *Christmas Music* (Choose from 60 songs at [kremerresources.com](http://kremerresources.com) – Christmas programs)**

**Narrator 2:** God knew life for his people would now be difficult. Pain, sadness, loneliness, and worst of all death would become part of everyone’s life. People could never get back that perfect image unless they would live perfect lives. If not, they would die forever. But God planned a way out. He would send his own Son to live the perfect life for the people, and he would bear the punishment for the peoples’ sin. It was a Perfect Plan.

**Recitation:** *“I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD.* (Jeremiah 29:11)

**Recitation:** *“While we were still sinners, Christ died for us”* (Romans 5:8).

**Congregation Song: *To You, My Heart I Offer***

## ***PART 2: THE DETAILS OF GOD’S PLAN***

**Narrator 1:** God gave his Perfect Plan to Adam and Eve. He told them that he would send someone special, an only Son, who would destroy the curse of sin and death. But it would not be pleasant. There would be a battle, and God’s Son would be horribly bruised, but Satan would be destroyed.

**Recitation:** *“I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel”* (Genesis 3:15).

**Narrator 2:** For the next four thousand years, not a day went by that God didn’t focus on his plan. Year after year, century after century, God’s plan took shape.

**Children:** *(Select different children or groups to speak.)*  
God sent a flood but kept his plan alive with Noah.

God moved Abraham to a new land.

God promised a Savior to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

God kept his promise alive in the family of Judah that moved down to Egypt.

God rescued his people from Egypt and brought them back to the land where Jesus would be born.

God hinted that his Son would be born in Bethlehem, King David's hometown.

God allowed his people to be taken to Babylon, but again he rescued them and brought them home.

God promised that the Savior would be born of a virgin.

God said his Son would be called Immanuel because he would be God living with us.

Even during the four hundred years between the testaments, God was making certain that every detail would be in place for unveiling his Perfect Plan.

**All Children:** God's perfect plan took years and years;  
The clock ticked on till all was right,  
And when the time had fully come,  
God sent his Son on Christmas night.

**Children's Song Suggested: *When God's Wonderful Word Came Down* (Choose from 60 songs at [kremerresources.com](http://kremerresources.com) – Christmas programs)**

**Recitation:** *"When the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive the full rights of sons"* (Galatians 4:4).

**Little Children Spoken Song: "D" Is for the Drum** (Musical instrument directions are at the end of this file.)

"D" is for the drum I play  
I can rat-a-tat-a-tat-tat all the day.  
I'll play my drum for the Baby small;  
Cradled in the lonely cattle stall.

"S" is for the scraper's song.  
I can shush-shush-shush it all day long.  
It's a new sound that I gladly bring.  
I will play it for my Christmas King.

"R" is for the rattle can  
That I shake, shake, shake with my little hand.  
It will tell the shepherds lying on the ground  
That a baby's born in Bethle'em town.

"T" is for the tambourine  
That I tink-tink-tink and I ring-ring-ring.

## **PART 4: OUR PART IN GOD'S PLAN**

**Narrator 1:** Did you know that God's plan still isn't quite finished? We now play a major part in that plan. As God's children, we know the peace and joy that comes from The Perfect Plan. Now our Savior asks us to share his plan with everyone.

**Recitation:** Jesus said, *"Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you"* (Matthew 28:19).

**Congregation Song: *Go Tell It on the Mountain***

**Narrator 2:** We might ask, "Will God's plan have an end?" Thousands of years ago God told Adam and Eve that he had a plan that his children could once again share his perfect image, just as they did in Eden. Across desert sands, into remote palaces, upon stone altars and over miles of unpaved highways, God moved his plan along, because he knew there would one day be an end to the journey. God's Perfect Plan will end the same way for each of us, and what a glorious end that will be!

**All Children:** *"In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am"* (John 14:2,3).

**All Children:** *"No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him"* (1 Corinthians 2:9).

**All Children:** God's Perfect Plan will end one day,  
With perfect peace in heaven above.  
So we can plan to live our days,  
Wrapped in the Savior's precious love.

**Children's Song Suggested: *The Happy Christmas Comes Once More* (Choose from 60 songs at [kremerresources.com](http://kremerresources.com) – Christmas programs)**

**Benediction**

**Recessional Congregation Song: *Praise God the Lord, Ye Sons of Men***