

Printout 1A

CHARACTERS

- Shepherd 1
- Shepherd 2
- Shepherd 3
- Angel
- Chorus of Angels (depending on group size, consider using the whole group of students)
- Mary
- Joseph

SCENE 1

Narrator: Imagine a field near a small town called Bethlehem at night. The shepherds are sitting around a small fire, tending to their flocks.

Shepherd 1: *(feeding the fire)* It's a quiet night. Not much happening around here.

Shepherd 2: *(looking up at the sky)* The stars are particularly bright tonight.

Shepherd 3: *(petting a lamb)* I'm glad for the calm. It's been a long day.

(Suddenly, a bright light surrounds them, and an Angel appears. The shepherds are terrified.)

Angel: *(raising a hand reassuringly)* Don't be afraid! I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David! And you will recognize him by this sign: You will find a baby wrapped snugly in strips of cloth, lying in a manger.

(The sky is filled with a multitude of heavenly hosts, praising God.)

Chorus of Angels: Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.

Shepherd 1: *(awed and excited)* Did you see that? We must go to Bethlehem!

Shepherd 2: Yes, let's go and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.

Shepherd 3: Hurry, let's gather the flock and head there right away!

(They quickly gather their things and head towards Bethlehem.)

Printout 1B

SCENE 2: THE MANGER IN BETHLEHEM

Narrator: In a stable in Bethlehem. Mary and Joseph are there with the newborn Jesus, who is lying in a manger.

(The shepherds enter quietly, awed by the sight.)

Shepherd 1: *(whispering)* Look, it's just as the angel said, the baby in the manger.

Mary: *(smiling warmly)* Welcome, shepherds. The Lord has blessed us with his son.

Shepherd 2: We were in the fields when an angel appeared and told us the good news.

Shepherd 3: And then the sky was filled with angels, praising God! It was the most glorious sight.

Joseph: *(nodding)* The Lord's works are truly wondrous.

Shepherd 1: *(kneeling by the manger)* We must spread the word of what we have seen and heard.

Shepherd 2: Yes, let everyone know the Savior has been born.

Shepherd 3: Praise be to God for this miraculous night.

Narrator: The shepherds leave, filled with joy and spreading the word about the miraculous birth.

Shepherd 1: *(exiting the stable)* Praise be to God!

Shepherd 2: Glory to the highest!

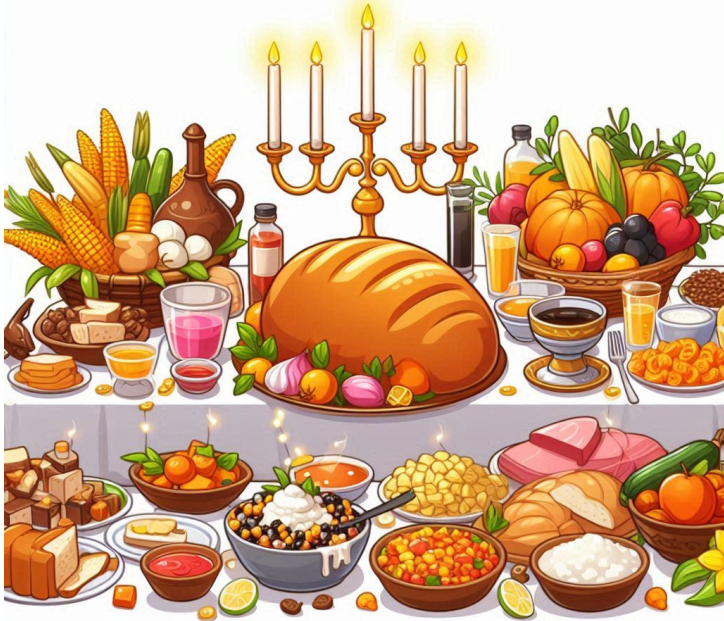
Shepherd 3: Peace on earth, and goodwill to all!

Narrator: The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told. And Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart.

Printout 2A



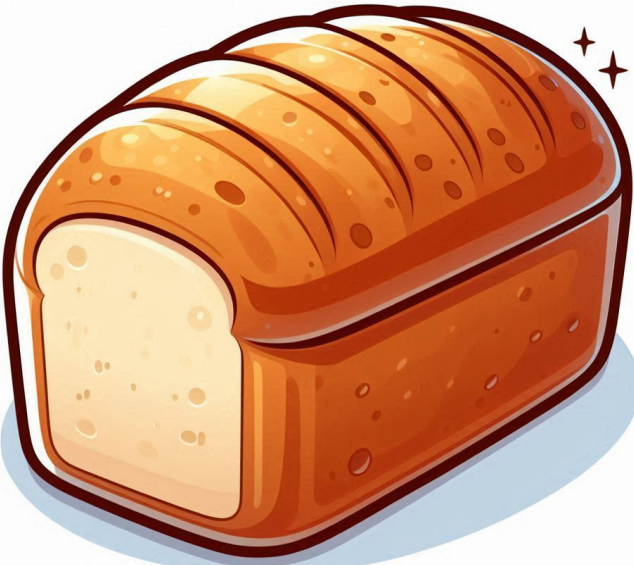
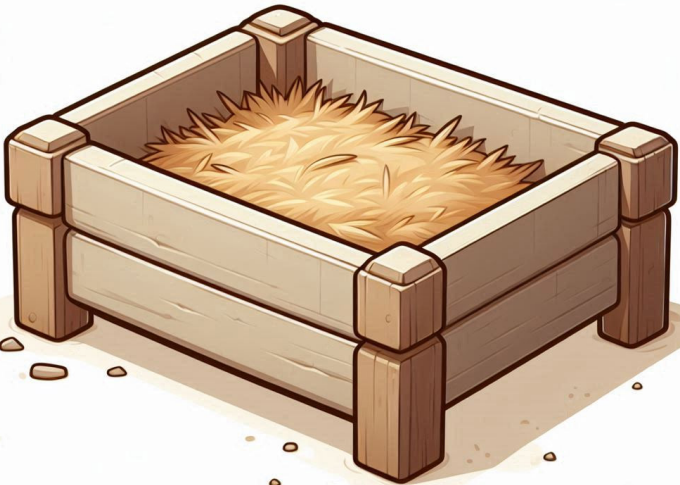
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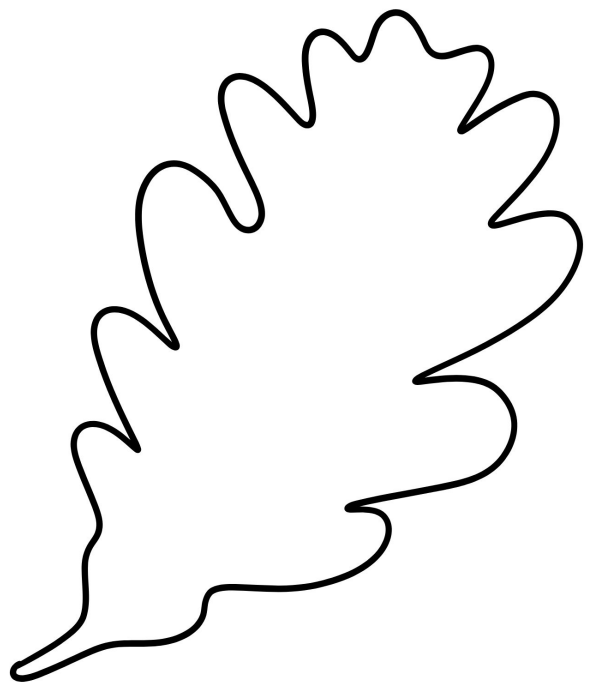
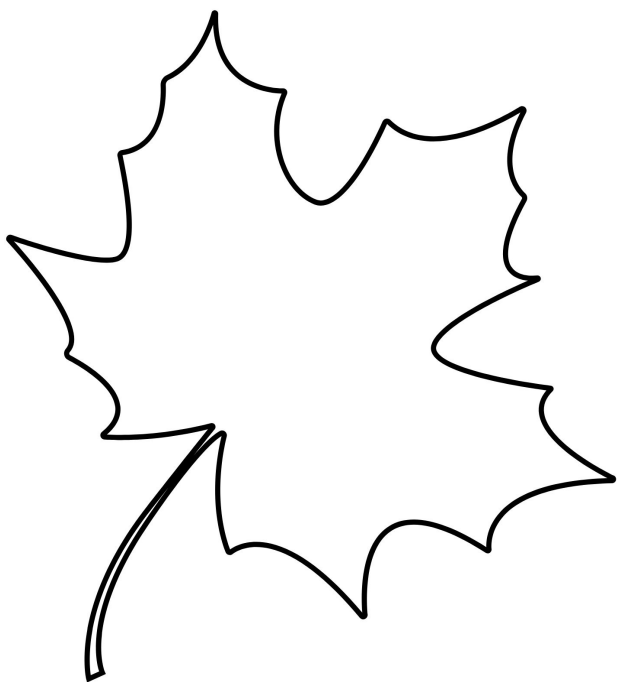
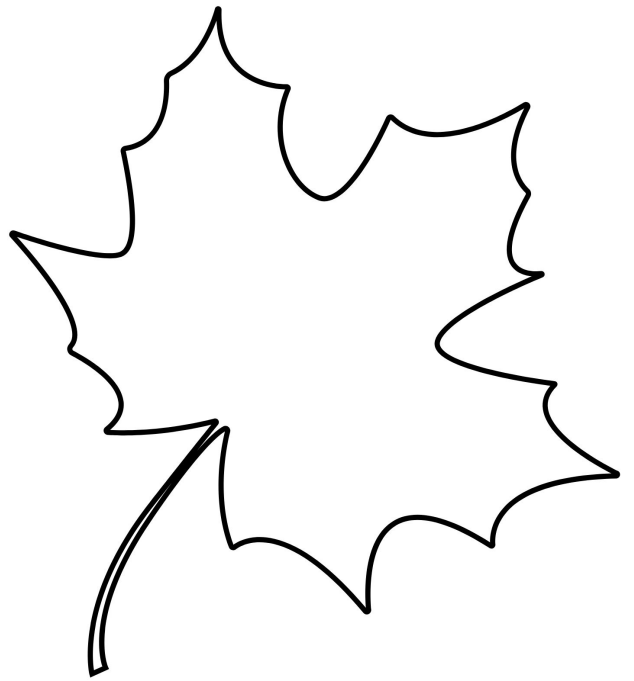
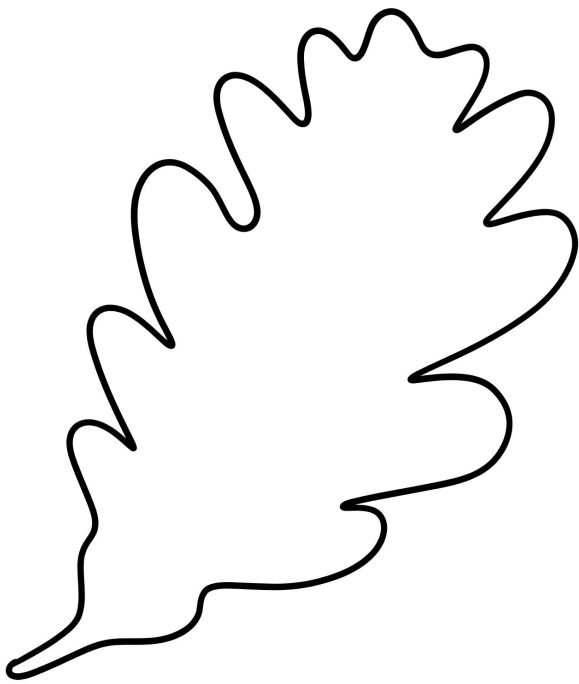
Printout 2C



Printout 2D



Printout 3



Memory Verse Cards

MEMORY VERSE

All right then, the Lord himself will give you the sign. Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son and will call him Immanuel (which means 'God is with us').

Isaiah 7:14, NLT

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