a script from

GODSVERSE.ORG

Follow the Star, Little Shepherds

TO
REMOVE
WATERMARK
AT
GODSVERSE.ORG

©2024 Godsverse.org. Only original purchaser is granted photocopy permission. All other rights reserved. “Godsverse” is a trademark of Godsverse.org.

Follow the Star, Little Shepherds

A Movement-Based Nativity for Preschoolers and Older Kids

Follow the Star, Little Shepherds is a 20-minute, movement-based nativity play designed especially for preschoolers, with simple speaking roles for older children. This gentle, interactive script helps even the youngest kids participate in the Christmas story by following a big star across the room all the way to the manger where baby Jesus lies.

Along the way, the little shepherds meet friendly Field Reporters (older kids) who explain what's happening in short, simple phrases. The children practice different "star-following" movements (tiptoeing, giant steps, sneaky steps), hear the angels' good news, walk through a "busy marketplace," and finally arrive at the stable to worship baby Jesus.

The script is purposely simple, repetitive, and call-and-response based, making it ideal for:

- Preschool church programs
- Christmas Eve family services
- Preschool / kindergarten chapels
- Multi-age children's ministry Christmas events

Key Features

- Length: ~20 minutes
- Cast Size: 8–12 preschoolers as shepherds/sheep, plus 5–10 older children as narrators, field reporters, angels, Mary, and Joseph
- Skill Level: Perfect for non-readers—lines for little ones are echoed, repeated, or spoken as a group
- Style: Gentle, warm, and interactive with light humor and lots of movement
- Focus: Helping young children understand, "We follow the star to find Jesus, God's special gift of love."

Why Leaders Love It

- Movement keeps preschoolers engaged – children are rarely just standing still
- Built-in prompts for leaders to coach lines and actions (no memorization required for little ones)
- Flexible casting – you can easily add more shepherds, sheep, angels, or marketplace characters
- Includes natural song moments where your children's choir or congregation can sing a carol (e.g., "Away in a Manger," "Silent Night")
- Scales to your space – can be performed on a small platform, in a fellowship hall, or right in the sanctuary aisle

PURCHASE SCRIPT TO REMOVE WATERMARK AT GODSVERSE.ORG

What You Need

- A star on a stick (battery lights or glitter are a bonus)
- Simple sheep headbands or paper ears
- Soft angel wings and basic robes/scarves
- A simple manger with a baby doll
- A few props for a “marketplace” and an “inn” (optional but fun)

Perfect For

Churches and schools that want a fresh, easy-to-stage preschool nativity where kids are moving, participating, and truly part of the story, not just standing still in costumes.

With *Follow the Star, Little Shepherds*, your youngest children don’t just watch Christmas happen—they walk the path themselves, discovering that Jesus came for them too.

Follow the Star, Little Shepherds

A Movement-Based Nativity for Preschoolers (with Older Kids Helping)

Length: ~20 minutes

Cast:

- 8–12 Preschoolers as Little Shepherds (and Sheep)
- 2–4 Older Children as Field Reporters
- 1–2 Older Children as Narrator(s)
- Optional: Mary, Joseph, 1–3 Angels (older kids or gentle grade-schoolers)

Simple Props & Costumes:

- A big star on a stick (STAR LEADER carries it)
- Sheep headbands or simple paper ears for preschoolers
- Soft angel wings & simple white shirts for angels
- Simple shawls or robes for Mary, Joseph, reporters
- A manger with a doll as baby Jesus
- A few hay bales or brown cloth for the “stable”
- Floor tape or stars on the ground to mark “path” stops

PURCHASE SCRIPT TO REMOVE WATERMARK AT GODSVERSE.ORG

STAGE LAYOUT (Simple Version)

- **Left side:** “Shepherds’ field” (blanket or green rug, maybe cardboard sheep)
- **Center:** “Path” – a winding line of taped stars or paper stars on the floor
- **Right side / upstage:** “Stable” with manger, Mary, Joseph, angels

Little shepherds begin seated or kneeling in the “field.”

Field Reporters and Narrator stand off to the side with microphones (real or toy).

OPENING

(Lights up softly. Gentle instrumental Christmas music playing, then fades.)

NARRATOR (older child)

Welcome, everyone, to *Follow the Star, Little Shepherds.*

Tonight, our little shepherds will walk, tiptoe, and wander all the way

to the place where baby Jesus lies in a manger.

They will follow a bright star,

meet some friendly helpers,

and discover that Jesus came for **everyone** —

even tiny shepherds with wiggly feet!

Grown-ups, you’re invited to join in by smiling big, clapping softly,

and singing along with the songs you know.

Now, shhh…

Let’s visit a quiet field outside the town of Bethlehem.

(Music fades. Lights focus on the shepherds’ field.)

PURCHASE SCRIPT TO REMOVE WATERMARK AT GODSVERSE.ORG

SCENE 1 – NIGHT IN THE SHEPHERDS' FIELD

(Preschoolers sit or kneel in a cluster. Some can hold stuffed sheep. A FIELD REPORTER steps forward with a toy microphone.)

FIELD REPORTER 1

Hello and good evening!

This is your **Field Reporter** coming to you live

from a dark, sleepy field near Bethlehem.

These are our **little shepherds.**

Can you wave, little shepherds?

(Prompt the children to wave at the audience.)

FIELD REPORTER 1 (to audience)

They take care of their sheep.

They watch.

They listen.

They work hard—even at night!

(To shepherds)

Little shepherds, can you show us how you take care of your sheep?

(Prompt the kids: pat the sheep, hug them, pretend to brush them.)

FIELD REPORTER 1

Wonderful!

Now, can you say this with me?

"When it's night, we do not sleep,

We watch the stars and guard our sheep."

(Say line slowly; children echo in bits.)

PURCHASE SCRIPT TO REMOVE WATERMARK AT GODSVERSE.ORG

LITTLE SHEPHERDS (together, simple echo)

We watch the stars…

and guard our sheep.

NARRATOR

It was an ordinary night.

The sky was dark.

The air was cool.

The sheep were…

FIELD REPORTER 1 (grinning)

…maybe a *little bit* stinky.

(Audience laughs. Shepherds cover their noses playfully.)

NARRATOR (warmly)

But God was about to do something **extraordinary.**

In the middle of an ordinary field…

for ordinary little shepherds…

God was about to send a bright, beautiful surprise.

(Cue soft "sparkly" sound or chime.)

PURCHASE SCRIPT TO REMOVE WATERMARK AT GODSVERSE.ORG

SCENE 2 – THE BIG BRIGHT STAR

*(From the side, an older child enters holding the **big star on a stick**. The STAR shines (maybe battery lights or glitter). They walk slowly behind the shepherds so they see it.)*

FIELD REPORTER 2 (stepping forward)

Breaking news! Breaking news!

A new light is shining in the sky tonight!

Little shepherds, do you see the star?

Can you point to the star?

(Help them point.)

FIELD REPORTER 2

That's right! A big, bright, sparkling star!

(To audience)

This star is not like the others.

It is **God's special sign.**

A baby has been born—

not just any baby—

but God's own Son—

Jesus.

(To shepherds)

Little shepherds, repeat after me:

"Big bright star,

Where you lead,

We will follow,

Yes indeed!"

(Children echo line by line.)

PURCHASE SCRIPT TO REMOVE WATERMARK AT GODSVERSE.ORG

NARRATOR

The star was high and far away.

But even from the fields, they could see it.

The star said, “Come and see what God has done.”

FIELD REPORTER 1 (to shepherds)

Little shepherds, will you follow the star?

(Encourage a loud: “Yes!”)

FIELD REPORTER 1

Let’s practice some **star-following moves.**

Everyone, stand up very carefully.

(Adults/helpers help preschoolers stand.)

FIELD REPORTER 1

First: take tiny **tiptoe steps**.

Ready?

(Lead them in place.)

FIELD REPORTER 1

Tiptoe, tiptoe, very slow,

We will follow where you glow.

Now: big **giant steps**.

(Lead them in place again.)

FIELD REPORTER 1

Step so big and step so wide,

We will walk right by Your side.

Now: quiet **sneaky steps** (like we don’t want to wake the sheep).

PURCHASE SCRIPT TO REMOVE WATERMARK AT GODSVERSE.ORG

(Kids sneak around in a small circle.)

FIELD REPORTER 1

Sneaky steps along the way,

We will find the Child today.

NARRATOR

The star was shining.

The shepherds were ready.

Heaven itself was about to speak.

(Lights dim except for star and a gentle spotlight area. ANGELS get ready offstage.)

SCENE 3 – ANGELS IN THE SKY

(1–3 ANGELS enter, wearing soft wings, hands raised. They stand a bit above or behind the shepherds. Gentle, sparkly sound.)

ANGEL 1 (gentle, clear)

Little shepherds, do not fear,

We bring good news to you right here.

FIELD REPORTER 2 (aside to audience)

Angels… in the field!

This is definitely not a regular night.

ANGEL 2

We bring a message, shining bright:

A Savior has been born tonight.

He is Christ, the Lord, God's Son—

He's the One, the promised One.

PURCHASE SCRIPT TO REMOVE WATERMARK AT GODSVERSE.ORG

NARRATOR

The little shepherds were amazed.

Their eyes were big.

Their mouths were open.

FIELD REPORTER 1 (to shepherds)

Show us your **big surprise face!**

(Kids make big "wow" faces.)

ANGEL 3 (or ANGEL 1 if only one)

You will find Him in a humble place,

Not in a palace or a fancy space.

Wrapped in cloths, in manger straw,

Love so big it fills you with awe.

ANGEL 1 (to shepherds)

Can you say:

"Thank You, God, for Jesus' birth,

Bringing Heaven's peace to earth."

(Angels and reporters help them repeat line by line.)

NARRATOR

Then the sky filled with even more angels—

singing, praising, shining.

Heaven's choir burst into song.

*(Optional: choir of older kids sings a short chorus or leads **"Gloria"** or a tiny snippet of a carol. Keep it short.)*

PURCHASE SCRIPT TO REMOVE WATERMARK AT GODSVERSE.ORG

FIELD REPORTER 2 (softly)

And just as suddenly as they came…

the angels were gone.

(Angels exit slowly, still gentle and reverent.)

NARRATOR

But the message stayed.

The star still shone.

And the shepherds had a choice to make.

SCENE 4 – LITTLE SHEPHERDS DECIDE

FIELD REPORTER 1 (to shepherds)

Little shepherds, what will you do?

Will you stay here… or follow through?

(Prompt them: "Follow the star!")

LITTLE SHEPHERDS (together, coached)

Follow the star!

FIELD REPORTER 1

Let's say it again, louder:

ALL LITTLE SHEPHERDS

Follow the star!

PURCHASE SCRIPT TO REMOVE WATERMARK AT GODSVERSE.ORG

NARRATOR

So the little shepherds got ready.

They hugged their sheep.

They grabbed their staffs.

They looked one more time at the star.

(Shepherds hug stuffed sheep, hold imaginary staffs, look up.)

FIELD REPORTER 2

Little shepherds, say goodbye to the field.

LITTLE SHEPHERDS

Goodbye, field!

FIELD REPORTER 2

Say, “Goodbye, sleepy sheep!”

LITTLE SHEPHERDS

Goodbye, sleepy sheep!

FIELD REPORTER 2

Now say:

“Hello, Bethlehem! Here we come!”

LITTLE SHEPHERDS

Hello, Bethlehem! Here we come!

NARRATOR

And so… they began to walk.

(Soft, upbeat instrumental begins – maybe a simple drum or handclap track.)

FIELD REPORTER 1 (calling gently)

Little shepherds, line up behind the star.

PURCHASE SCRIPT TO REMOVE WATERMARK AT GODSVERSE.ORG

Follow it **slowly**.

Where the star goes, **you** go.

(STAR LEADER begins to walk along the taped stars through the audience or across stage. Little shepherds follow in a line, holding onto a rope or just each other's shoulders.)

PURCHASE SCRIPT TO REMOVE WATERMARK AT GODSVERSE.ORG

MOVEMENT BREAK – FOLLOWING THE STAR

FIELD REPORTER 2 (narrating as they walk)

Now we're taking **tiny steps.**

Little shepherds, take **tiny steps**.

(Kids follow.)

FIELD REPORTER 1

Now we're taking **medium steps**.

(They demonstrate.)

FIELD REPORTER 2

Now we're taking **giant steps**!

(Kids take big stompy steps, staying safe.)

NARRATOR

They walked past sleeping houses,

past little shops closing for the night,

past other travelers trying to find a place to stay.

(You can have a few older kids on the side as "travelers," pretending to be tired and carrying bags.)

FIELD REPORTER 1 (to audience)

Crowd, can you help them?

When the star passes by,

can you whisper: “Follow the star… follow the star…”

(Audience whispers as the children walk.)

NARRATOR

And all the way, the bright star kept shining,

leading them closer and closer

to the most important baby the world would ever know.

(Star leads them to a “marketplace stop” halfway, where they pause.)

SCENE 5 – THE BUSY MARKETPLACE

(Set a few baskets, fake fruit, cloths for a simple marketplace. Two or three older kids play MARKET VENDORS.)

MARKET VENDOR 1

Fresh bread! Fresh bread!

Get your bread before it’s all gone!

MARKET VENDOR 2

Soft blankets! Warm blankets!

Perfect for cold nights!

(Little shepherds arrive, following the star, and stop.)

FIELD REPORTER 1

We have arrived at… the Bethlehem marketplace!

Shepherds, can you sniff like you can smell yummy bread?

PURCHASE SCRIPT TO REMOVE WATERMARK AT GODSVERSE.ORG

(They sniff dramatically.)

FIELD REPORTER 2

Can you rub your arms like you're a little cold?

(Kids hug themselves.)

MARKET VENDOR 1 (to shepherds)

Where are you going, little ones?

It's late! You should be in bed!

LITTLE SHEPHERD (older child leading, or all together)

We are following the star!

MARKET VENDOR 2 (curious)

Following a star?

Stars are far away!

Why are you walking after a star?

FIELD REPORTER 2 (to shepherds)

Little shepherds, remember what the angels said.

Let's tell them together:

"A Savior has been born tonight.

We're going to see the baby Light."

(Children repeat line by line.)

MARKET VENDOR 1 (softening)

A Savior… for shepherds too?

FIELD REPORTER 1

For everyone.

PURCHASE SCRIPT TO REMOVE WATERMARK AT GODSVERSE.ORG

MARKET VENDOR 2 (smiles)

Then don't let us stop you.

Follow that star, little ones.

And if you see the baby…

whisper a "thank You" from us too.

LITTLE SHEPHERDS (together, prompted)

We will!

NARRATOR

The marketplace was busy,

but the shepherds kept going.

They weren't shopping for bread

or blankets

or toys.

Their hearts were hungry

for something more:

a Savior.

FIELD REPORTER 1

Little shepherds, ready to walk again?

(Prompt a loud "Yes!")

FIELD REPORTER 1

Then follow the star.

(Star leads them away from marketplace, closer to "inn/stable area.")

PURCHASE SCRIPT TO REMOVE WATERMARK AT GODSVERSE.ORG

SCENE 6 – NO ROOM AT THE INN

(Simple door or sign: “INN.” An INNKEEPER (older child) stands there.)

INNKEEPER (calling)

No more rooms!

We are full!

No more beds, no more space!

(Mary and Joseph can appear off to the side, looking tired.)

FIELD REPORTER 2 (whisper to audience)

We found the innkeeper.

Everyone is tired.

Bethlehem is crowded.

FIELD REPORTER 1 (to INNKEEPER)

Excuse me, sir!

Have you seen a baby?

A very special baby,

born tonight?

INNKEEPER (thinking)

Hmm…

A baby in a fancy room? No.

A baby in a royal bed? No.

But…

(Points toward “stable” area.)

We *did* give a small, quiet place

to a very tired couple.

PURCHASE SCRIPT TO REMOVE WATERMARK AT GODSVERSE.ORG

They said the baby was on the way.

It's just a stable…

with animals and hay.

No pillows.

No carpets.

NARRATOR

The innkeeper thought it was

the only place he had left—

the lowest place.

But God loves to use low places

for His highest love.

FIELD REPORTER 2 (to shepherds)

Little shepherds, do you want to see

the baby in the stable?

(Prompt a big "Yes!")

FIELD REPORTER 1

Then let's whisper,

because we don't want to scare the animals.

Repeat after me, very softly:

"Star so bright,

Lead us there,

To God's love

We want to share."

(Quiet echo.)

PURCHASE SCRIPT TO REMOVE WATERMARK AT GODSVERSE.ORG

INNKEEPER

Follow that star, little ones.

You're almost there.

(Star moves slowly to the stable. Shepherds follow and gather in a half-circle around the manger.)

SCENE 7 – AT THE MANGER

(MARY sits near the manger with baby (doll). JOSEPH stands beside her. One or two ANGELS stand nearby. Soft, warm light. Music can shift to a calm instrumental (like "Silent Night" with no lyrics).)

NARRATOR (soft, reverent)

And there He was.

The One the prophets promised.

The One the angels sang about.

The One the star pointed to.

Not in a palace…

but in a simple stable.

Not wrapped in gold…

but wrapped in cloth.

Not surrounded by kings…

but by animals and

a circle of little shepherds.

FIELD REPORTER 2 (whisper)

Little shepherds,

you are standing in front of

PURCHASE SCRIPT TO REMOVE WATERMARK AT GODSVERSE.ORG

baby Jesus.

Can you kneel down

or bow your heads

to show love and respect?

(Help the preschoolers kneel or bow carefully.)

FIELD REPORTER 1 (very soft)

This is God's great gift.

God sent His Son,

His only Son,

to be with us—

to love us, forgive us,

and stay with us forever.

He came as a baby

so we would not be afraid.

MARY (older child or teen, gently)

Little shepherds,

thank you for coming.

You remind us that

Jesus came for everyone—

big and small,

young and old.

PURCHASE SCRIPT TO REMOVE WATERMARK AT GODSVERSE.ORG

JOSEPH

You came just as you are—

tired feet,

dusty clothes,

open hearts.

That's all He asks.

FIELD REPORTER 2 (to shepherds)

Let's tell Jesus thank You.

Repeat after me:

"Thank You, Jesus, for this night.

Thank You, Jesus, You're our Light.

Thank You, Jesus, for Your love,

Sent from God in Heaven above."

(Shepherds echo line by line.)

NARRATOR

The little shepherds had no gold,

no fancy gifts.

But they had something precious:

their **attention**,

their **wonder**,

their simple **love**.

And they gave that to Jesus.

PURCHASE SCRIPT TO REMOVE WATERMARK AT GODSVERSE.ORG

OPTIONAL SONG MOMENT

(Older children's choir can lead the congregation in one verse of a familiar carol—just as a cue, not full lyrics printed in the script, e.g.,)

[Suggested Song: "Away in a Manger" – 1 short verse]

(Shepherds stay kneeling or gently rocking while people sing.)

SCENE 8 – GOOD NEWS TO SHARE

(After the song, the shepherds slowly stand up again.)

FIELD REPORTER 1

Little shepherds,

you followed the star.

You listened to the angels.

You walked a long way.

You saw baby Jesus.

Now…

do you think you should

keep this good news a secret?

(Prompt a big "No!" from kids.)

FIELD REPORTER 1

That's right!

Good news is meant

to be shared.

PURCHASE SCRIPT TO REMOVE WATERMARK AT GODSVERSE.ORG

FIELD REPORTER 2 (to shepherds)

Can you turn toward the audience?

(Help them gently turn.)

Now, very big and brave,

let's tell them what you've seen.

Repeat after me:

"We have seen God's special Son.

He is Jesus, the promised One.

Born for you and born for me,

So God's love the world can see."

(Children echo line by line.)

NARRATOR

The Bible says that

after the shepherds saw Jesus,

they went back

and told **everyone**.

They praised God.

They were full of joy.

And tonight,

our little shepherds

are doing the same.

They walked,

they listened,

they followed,

PURCHASE SCRIPT TO REMOVE WATERMARK AT GODSVERSE.ORG

and now

they share the good news

with **you**.

PURCHASE

FINAL MOVEMENT & BLESSING

SCRIPT

FIELD REPORTER 1 (to shepherds)

Little shepherds,

you did such a wonderful job.

Let's take **one more walk**

TO

around the stage—

not to look for Jesus,

because you found Him—

REMOVE

but to **show His joy**.

When you walk this time,

we're going to pretend

WATERMARK

you're telling everyone:

"Jesus is born!"

(Star leader walks slowly in a circle; shepherds follow. Reporters speak as they move.)

FIELD REPORTER 2 (calling softly)

AT

Step, step, step along,

Hearts full of joy, hearts full of song.

Where you go, the news will spread:

GODSVERSE.ORG

"Jesus came, just like God said!"

(They finish the circle and come back to the manger, forming a big, gentle semi-circle facing the audience. Mary, Joseph, and angels stay by the manger. Reporters and Narrator stand to the side.)

NARRATOR (closing)

Tonight you saw

little shepherds

follow a star—

but really,

they were following

God's **love**.

They found that love

in a tiny baby—

Jesus,

the Light of the world.

And now,

from this place

to your homes,

that love

can shine through

you too.

When you see a star,

or hear a carol,

or tuck little ones into bed…

remember the story

our shepherds told:

PURCHASE SCRIPT TO REMOVE WATERMARK AT GODSVERSE.ORG

“Jesus is born.

God is with us.

God loves us so much.”

FIELD REPORTER 1 (to audience)

Grown-ups and friends,

would you help us

by clapping for our

little shepherds,

our angels,

our holy family,

and our big, bright star?

(Audience applauds. Preschoolers can wave.)

FIELD REPORTER 2

And now,

let’s end with one last

big line together.

Little shepherds, repeat after me,

and grown-ups, you can join too:

“Follow the star,

Follow God’s Son,

Christmas love

Has just begun!”

(Everyone echoes line by line. Encourage the audience to join in on the final line.)

PURCHASE SCRIPT TO REMOVE WATERMARK AT GODSVERSE.ORG

ALL (cast & audience, if willing)

Christmas love

Has just begun!

(Optional: Choir leads very short closing carol or chorus while all cast stay onstage and wave. Lights slowly fade to a soft warm glow on the manger, then dim.)

NARRATOR (voice-over as lights fade)

Thank you for joining us

for *Follow the Star, Little Shepherds.*

May God's light

guide your steps

today,

and every day.

(Lights out.)

[END OF PLAY]

PURCHASE SCRIPT TO REMOVE WATERMARK AT GODSVERSE.ORG