

Creation

Items: Canvas, fingerprint ink, wet wipes, trash can.

Creation Narrator 1: In the Beginning God...(pause) the uncaused cause, the unmade maker, the uncreated creator...

Creation Narrator 2: and He Created Everything. For Whatever begins to exist has a cause. The universe began to exist. Therefore, the universe has a cause.

CN 1: And that First cause was God... the First artist...

CN 2: But instead of paints.... or of clay...or of stone and chisel; God spoke his creative work into existence.

CN1: First he spoke...

CN2: and there was light and separated the light from the darkness and called the light Day and the darkness Night.

CN1: Next God spoke and God created the heavens. Then the waters under the heavens divided and dry land was created.

CN2: Then God expanded his creative depth and formed... LIFE,

CN1: All the amazing animals he created...he just spoke and living, breathing creatures covered the earth.

CN2: Oh the complexity of life that chaos could not have assembled, but God formed...created....the first artist.

CN1: For you, dear journeyers, are not the result of chaos and chance but are amazing creations formed by a master craftsman.

CN2: Please add your finger print to the canvas to acknowledge you are part of God's creative works.

Sin: ADAM and EVE

Item: animal fur

Adam: Oh hello, My name is Adam

Eve: and My name is Eve

Adam: and We have walked with God...we actually used to walked with the creator of.....

Eve: Well every-thing.

Adam: And it was all good, all the time. Me, My wife and God. We lived in a place called Eden, a paradise. We never had to plant or work the ground, all we had to do was harvest what we needed.

Eve: God gave us everything, everything except one tree, one fruit bearing tree.

Adam: He commanded us to never eat from the tree or we would die. So we never did

Eve: until that day.

Adam: We had a choice and that day we chose for ourselves what we thought was right and wrong.

Eve: We decided God was wrong and we second guessed God's commands.....God's (*dramatic pause*) love

Adam: So we ate the fruit of this forbidden tree and we...

Eve: We were afraid for the first time. We felt ashamed. What had I done? There can be only one truth in which right and wrong are based. And it was not ours.

Adam: We wanted to run, we wanted to hide, but where can you hide from God.

Eve: With sadness God made for us proper coverings for our nakedness. Coverings that were made of animal skin and fur. These animals died to temporarily cover our shame. Now every day we feel these covings and it reminds us that God did not give up on us, but he made a way for us.

Adam: Feel the fur and let it remind you that God has not given up on you.

(exit)

Cain

Cain enters room frustrated.

God: Cain... Why are you so angry? Why has your countenance fallen?

Cain: God, why...why did you not... what was so wrong with my sacrifice?...or do you just love my brother more???

God: If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, Sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it.

Cain: So it is my fault now, is that it?

God: My beloved creation, beware Sin desires to have you. Do not choose to give in. Choose to fight it, my son.

[Cain Exits] Crowd moves from one side of the room to the other.

Cain enters room with a beard and different cloths

Cain: Hello travelers. It has been many years since that day....the day I chose wrong. i....i....killed my brother. My little brother. God tried to warn me, but I was so angry...ashamed. I gave in and sinned, sinned against God. Now I am exiled from my family. I lost everything.

In front of you is a basket of stones, everyone must take one as you journey on. These stones represent Sins, the wrong things you have done. Feel its weight and let it be as a reminder!

The Rise and Fall of Israel

After Cain, many people came and went, but God never gave up on his creation. Part of God's plan to save his creation was to form a nation through a man named Abraham. From his seed a Savior would be born. Generation after generation, God took a wandering family and formed them into a nation. God gave this nation a promised land to live in, but they desired an earthly king, and from there we see God's plan unfold. Enter King David.

King David ushered in the royal prestige of the Kingdom. He led Israel, through God's provision to become a mighty nation.

(Serious) Costume change

The kings who came after King David lead the Israelites astray. They were no longer a people who placed God foremost, they gave into idol worship. The people were taken into exile and longed for the day when they could return to the promise land, their land. They longed for a leader... a judge....a king....anyone to establish the people of God again.

God had a plan and through his faithful prophets he told the people that a savior would come and establish the kingdom of God forever.

And so a broken people watched and waited for that time.

Birth of a King

Hello travelers, My name is Mary and this is my baby boy, Jesus.

(raises and moves toward the crowd)

My first born...laying in a manger. Not only my first born, but also divinely of God. When the angel came to me...I didn't know what would come. This is not a place for my baby boy and even more than that...this is no place for a divine child of God...

I was engaged when the angel came to me...he gave me a message from God. The angel called me blessed

...what did I do to be so honored by God?

I was to be the mother of a child conceived by the Holy Spirit

and now the day is here. We traveled to my husband's home town for the census, and there was no place for us to stay. That is how we ended up here.

And so here we are with the miracle child of God laying in a manger.

"Emmanuel" which means God With us. God has come and has traded the honor and glory of his throne for this lowly manger, built to feed the animals. No place for a king....no place for any child....

My first born, I love you son. You deserve much more than this..., but God has arranged this, and again I say

'be to your servant Lord according to your ways'

Sometimes God's intervention in our lives looks strange and seems uncomfortable.

God's will is not for us to be comfortable but to save us and to show his Glory.

Have you ever thought God had forgotten about you because you were uncomfortable?

(starts stepping backward towards manger as next lines are said)

Maybe you lost some material things or a situation didn't work out the way you had hoped, and you thought God had abandoned you.

(looks at baby while saying final lines)

A minor view of a master plan will lead you astray.

'be to your servant Lord according to your ways'

(begins singing to the baby again)

Jesus' ministry

Items: Chains, soiled cloth

Leprosy: Unclean, that was my call. No one was allowed near me, no one was allowed to touch me, but despite the gasp of the crowd, he touched me, he changed me. He didn't care that I had leprosy, he didn't care that my sickness could mark him unclean, despite my desperate cries of unclean as he approached, he kept coming. This Jesus, the teacher from Nazareth, he healed me. He made me new!

Healed Woman:

I...was...well, I had some problems. For 12 years I spent all I had trying to get better, but nothing worked. But then I heard about the man, Jesus a mighty prophet of God. I heard he healed the blind, the lame, the dumb. I knew that He could save me, he could heal me. And he did. I touched his garment and I was healed. There is no doubt he has the power of God.

Legion: I replay my encounter with Jesus, the son of the most high God, as the demons called him over and over again in my head. There was something about him...there were many people who tried to bind me in chains because of the danger they saw in me, but Jesus sought to free me. I'm not sure how he did it, or why even cared to, but all I know is that in one command, the Legion of demons that held me captive fled from me and entered a herd of pigs. It all sounds so weird to me as I tell others about this awesome thing Jesus did for me, but because I am changed, I know there is just something about him!

Look at these chains and cloths, they represent our past. This Jesus rescued us from our past and he can do the same for you.

Jesus' Teaching

Religious Leader: Ah welcome travelers, maybe you can come and help us talk some sense into these confused people. They insist on following the teachings of a homeless carpenter from Nazareth who acts like a Rabbi. This man...Jesus. He teaches against our customs. He is destroying our people. Leading them into destruction. He will cause our people to perish.
(extinguish 1st candle)

Crowd Member: No, that's not true, he heals and teaches the people the commands of God.

Religious Leader: He heals in the power of Satan. Evil obeys him because he is evil. His lies have swayed the people to reject God's law. **(extinguish 2nd candle)**

Crowd Member: He gave glory to God for those healings and claimed they were the testimony of God for his authority.

Religious Leader: Then why did he break the Law of Moses and refuse to keep the Sabbath holy. (**Ex. 3rd**)

Crowd Member: How is healing not keeping the Sabbath Holy? He only violated your traditions that you added to the Law.

Religious Leader: How dare you question me!! A Pharisee of Pharisees, can you not see how I uphold every teaching, I pray and fast, ...Look at me you filthy gentile, I am a descendent of Abraham. I am of the Tribe of Levi and you dare question ME.

(silents, return to a calmer tone)

Back to this Jesus of Nazareth, our final charge is the most condemning one of all. Blas-phemy.... He claims to have the power to forgive sins and he claims to be God.

(laughing in mockery) God I tell you. He claims to be The Lord God Almighty.

This man claims to be God....**(ex 4th)**

Crowd Member: But what if he is. Just look at the evidence. All the....

Religious Leader: ENOUGH!! You know nothing at all. Nor do you understand that it is better for you that one man should die for the people, not that the whole nation should perish.

(ex. Last candle)

(All stage lights off and darkness)

(sinister tone) Besides, we have no king, but Caesar

Cross and Death:

High Priest servant: Jesus...the homeless carpenter turned teacher. I...We hated him. He claimed to be God and we were going to stop him from misleading our people. We came to arrest this blasphemous man in the garden, and while this man spoke not a word, one of his disciples drew his sword and cut off my ear. I was poised, ready for a struggle, but the teacher did something that I will never forget. He told his friend to put his sword away and he reached out and touched my ear, restoring it to new.

I stood ...I just stood there unable to move. I watched as We...They proceeded to bind Jesus, and lead him away. His disciples ran into the night and I just stood there. What have we done? Who can restore the broken? Who can make people new? Truly this man was the son of God.

Judas enters room Frantic and angry:

Judas: Where is your Master? Where is the high priest?

Servant: You know where to find him. What do you care? Do you have more friends to betray?

Judas: (as if he didn't hear the comments)

What have I done? I have sinned by betraying innocent blood. My teacher, my master, my friend.

30 pieces of silver...this bag of money is what I exchanged for innocent blood.

(grabbing servant showing the money bag) I have helped you murder a good teacher, but not just a good teacher but a miracle worker. Could We have just killed the Christ? The one who God sent to save us.

(lets go of servant and focusing on money bag) Did I just betray God for money?

Servant: In the words of your good teacher "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also"

(Judas stares him down and then leaves)

Servant: How about your traveler? Where is your treasure?

Servant walks away from group

Cross Room:

Items: Cross, hammers nails, extra stones incase people lost their stone.

Hello travelers, I am Jesus the Christ. The Son of God. Tonight you have journeyed through the story of my redeeming plan for my fallen creation. This cross symbolizes how I died. How I gave my life as a sacrifice for yours. Executed like a criminal, I gave up my life so that you may have eternal life.

Early in your journey you received a stone that represented your sinful choices. The Wages of your sinful choices is eternal death, eternal separation from me, the one true God. But I stand here today offering you a free gift, the gift of eternal life, the gift of reconnecting with me, reconciling our broken relationship. My sacrifice has made a way from you to become right with God, but to receive this free gift you must: Believe that I lived, died and was raised again by the power of God and Confess me as the Lord of your life, turning from all the things separated us.

As a symbol of this gift, I offer you one of these Nails in exchange for your sin rock. Then, hammer your nail into the cross to symbolize my payment for your sins. There is nothing you can do to earn this exchange, all you must do is surrender your stone, lay it at my feet and receive my gift. Come now.