



# Back to Bethlehem

## Synopsis of Musical Play

### Four - Act Play

- Act 1**      **Christmas Preparations.** Mr. Johnson, Jimmy, and Hannah have Junior Church children over for a Christmas party, where Hannah announces that she wants to be a missionary.
- Act 2**      **Driving to Uncle Herbert's Farm.** Mr. Johnson, his kids, and Aunt Matilda drive in a snowstorm to Uncle Herbert's farm for a family reunion.
- Act 3**      **At Uncle Herbert's Farm.** They arrive at Uncle Herbert's house for an old-fashioned Christmas, without electricity since the power is out.
- Act 4**      **In the Stable.** Hannah learns what it means to be a missionary when she helps Uncle Herbert deliver a calf. Everyone celebrates the birth of the newborn calf.

Characters



Characters

- |    |                        |     |                                  |
|----|------------------------|-----|----------------------------------|
| 1. | Narrator               | 8.  | Adult choir (assorted relatives) |
| 2. | Fred Johnson           | 9.  | Uncle Herbert                    |
| 3. | Jimmy                  | 10. | Aunt Gerty                       |
| 4. | Hannah                 | 11. | Susie                            |
| 5. | Junior Church children | 12. | Sammy                            |
| 6. | Tommy Smith            | 13. | Bessie the cow                   |
| 7. | Aunt Matilda           | 14. | The newborn calf                 |



# Songs

- 1 ***Back to Bethlehem.*** Mr. Johnson sings the verses for this opening musical number, with Jimmy, Hannah, and the Junior Church children joining him on the chorus.
- 2 ***Let Us Now Go to Bethlehem.*** This exciting shepherds' song is sung by Mr. Johnson, Jimmy, Hannah, and the Junior Church children after Hannah announces that she wants to be a missionary.
- 3 ***The Perfect Gift.*** This sprightly chorus is a scripture song sung by Mr. Johnson, Jimmy, Hannah, and the Junior Church children at the conclusion of the Christmas party at the Johnson's home.
- 4 ***From Darkness to Light.*** This song is sung by Aunt Matilda and the adult background choir in the setting of Mr. Johnson's car on that dark, snowy night on the way to Uncle Herbert's farm.
- 5 ***Joy to the World.*** Uncle Herbert, Aunt Gerty, and other assorted relatives sing this familiar Christmas carol by the light of the fireplace, at the beginning of Act Three.
- 6 ***Silent Night.*** Uncle Herbert, Aunt Gerty, and other assorted relatives sing this lovely Christmas carol just before Mr. Johnson, Aunt Matilda, Jimmy, and Hannah arrive on that cold, snowy evening.
- 7 ***Ol' Fashioned Christmas.*** This heartwarming Christmas song is sung in the setting of Uncle Herbert's living room. The verses are sung by Aunt Matilda, with the relatives joining in on the chorus.
- 8 ***Finale Medley.*** This song is a combination of ***Back to Bethlehem***, ***From Darkness to Light***, and ***Let Us Now Go to Bethlehem***. It will be sung by the entire cast at the conclusion of this musical play.