

Children Go Where I Send Thee

- *Large scripture passages are represented by Biblical reference to avoid copyright issues. Please include scripture in the translation of your choice.*
- *This document can be saved as text, or copied and pasted into a word document. Feel free to make changes necessary for your needs.*
- *Opportunities for additional songs have been suggested.*
- *The “stage group” consists of children dressed in costume who come on stage during the appropriate Bible passages.*

Introduction:

Group One: God sent Jesus down from above
 God sends me to tell of His love

Group Two: Children go where I send thee

Group Three: How shall I send thee?

Group Four: I’m going to send thee five by five

Children sing: Children go where I send thee
 How shall I send thee
 I’m gonna send thee five by five
 Five for the people counted alive
 Born, born, born in Bethlehem

Reader: *Luke 2: 1-3*

Stage group: Costumed children gather center stage. They bump and move around while one child tries to count.

Reader: Caesar wanted a count of his kingdom for tax purposes. Our Heavenly Father has a count of His kingdom, also. We count as children of God. We have been counted for heaven and the Bible assures us our names are written in the book of life, but what about our sins? Don’t they count against us?

Children: NO! God doesn’t count our sins! God counts us!

Reader: Romans 4:7-8 reminds us: "Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man whose sin the Lord will never count against him."

Song:

Group One: God sent Jesus down from above
God sends me to tell of His love

Group Two: Children go where I send thee

Group Three: How shall I send thee?

Group Four: I'm gonna send thee four by four

Children sing:

Children go where I send thee
How shall I send thee?
I'm gonna send thee four by four
Four for the angels' singing tour
Five for the people counted alive
Born, born, born in Bethlehem

Reader: *Luke 2:8-14*

Stage group: During reading the angels and shepherds gather.

Reader: The words of the angels gave joy rather than fear. We fear God because we know of His awesome power but He does not want us to be afraid of Him. We are His children and His love fills our hearts with joy. Jesus tells us, "I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that you joy may be complete." John 15:11

Song:

Group One: God sent Jesus down from above
God sends me to tell of His love

Group Two: Children go where I send thee

Group Three: How shall I send thee?

Group Four: I'm gonna send thee three by three

Children sing:

Children go where I send thee
How shall I send thee?
I'm gonna send thee three by three
Three for the shepherd's bended knee
Four for the angels' singing tour
Five for the people counted alive
Born, born, born in Bethlehem

Reader: *Luke 2:15-16*

Stage group: During the reading, Mary, Joseph and baby should gather. The shepherds kneel beside the manger.

Children: Baby Jesus is here! He is God's Son!

Reader: The shepherds struck with awe by the angel's words and the sight of their long awaited Savior, knelt to worship the newborn child. Join with us in worship as we recite Psalm 100, a song of praise, thanking God for His immeasurable love for us.

Reader: Shout for joy to the Lord all the earth.

Cong: Know that the Lord is God

Reader: It is He who made us and we are His; we are His people the sheep of His pasture.

Cong: Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise:

Reader: Give thanks to Him and praise His name.

Cong: For the Lord is good and His love endures forever;

Reader: His faithfulness continues through all generations.

Song:

Group One: God sent Jesus down from above
God sends me to tell of His love

Group Two: Children go where I send thee

Group Three: How shall I send thee?

Group Four: I'm gonna send thee two by two

Children sing:

Children go where I send thee
How shall I send thee?
I'm gonna send thee two by two
Two for His parents chosen, too
Three for the shepherd's bended knee
Four for the angels' singing tour
Five for the people counted alive
Born, born, born in Bethlehem

Reader: *Matt 1:18-22*

Reader: Mary and Joseph were indeed chosen by God. We are also numbered among the chosen. We are His children through our baptism and have been chosen to complete God's story. He sends us to spread His word, to do His work, and to share His love with the rest of His world. In John 15:16, Jesus tells us. "You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit."

Song:

Group One: God sent Jesus down from above
God sends me to tell of His love

Group Two: Children go where I send thee

Group Three: How shall I send thee?

Group Four: I'm gonna send thee one by one

Children sing:

Children go where I send thee
How shall I send thee
I'm gonna send thee one by one
To tell the world of God's own Son
Two for His parents chosen, too
Three for the shepherd's bended knee
Four for the angels' singing tour
Five for the people counted alive

Born, born, born in Bethlehem

Reader: *Luke 2:17-20*

Stage group: Shepherds gather near people

Children: The Messiah is here!

Reader: God's Good News is too big to keep quiet. Our joy is too big to be held only in our hearts. Through the saving work of His Son, God commands us, enables us, and aids us to spread the news and make disciples. "Therefore 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 obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the end of the age." Matt. 28:19-20

Children sing:

Children go where I send thee
How shall I send thee?
I'm gonna send thee one by one
To tell the world of God's own Son
Born, born, born in Bethlehem

All Children: God sent Jesus down from above
God sends me to tell of His love

Benediction:

Children Go Where I Send Thee

(A spiritual with verses adapted for this service)

Children go where I send thee
How shall I send thee
I'm gonna send thee five by five
Five for the people counted alive
Born, born, born in Bethlehem

Children go where I send thee
How shall I send thee?
I'm gonna send thee four by four
Four for the angels' singing tour
Five for the people counted alive
Born, born, born in Bethlehem

Children go where I send thee
How shall I send thee?
I'm gonna send thee three by three
Three for the shepherd's bended knee
Four for the angels' singing tour
Five for the people counted alive
Born, born, born in Bethlehem

Children go where I send thee
How shall I send thee?
I'm gonna send thee two by two
Two for His parents chosen, too
Three for the shepherd's bended knee
Four for the angels' singing tour
Five for the people counted alive
Born, born, born in Bethlehem

Children go where I send thee
How shall I send thee
I'm gonna send thee one by one
To tell the world of God's own Son
Two for His parents chosen, too
Three for the shepherd's bended knee
Four for the angels' singing tour
Five for the people counted alive

