This is a Christmas script I adapted from other ideas gathered from all of you. I have many Santa hats for each cast member to use as a 'costume' and as each person steps forward to do his/her part I have them place the item they are speaking about on a table display at the front of the room. My Christmas gift to my students is a nicely printed copy of the script done up with a holly sprig and an ornament. Perhaps someone else can make use of it. The entire presentation takes about 20 minutes, so there's time for carols, testimonies, etc. as you wish.

The Real Meaning of Christmas

ITEMS NEEDED:

10 Santa hats, or be prepared to pass a fewer number around

Small fresh or artificial Christmas tree

1 Shiny Red Ornament

Small bell

Glittery star

Battery-operated candle

Small, beautifully wrapped gift

Candy Cane

Small wreath

Framed picture of Savior

Script

Narrator: Just a week before Christmas, I had a visitor one night. I had just finished the dishes and was preparing for bed when I heard a noise in the living room. I peeked around the doorframe and to my surprise, Santa Claus, himself, stepped out from behind the Christmas tree. He was dressed in his red, fur suit and had a jolly hat on his head. But, his face did not look jolly; in fact, he had tears in his eyes. I started to ask what was the matter, when he said, “I’ve come tonight to be sure that you teach the children.” “But, Santa,” I said, “I already have! They are so excited for Christmas Eve to come because they know all about you! They know you will come and bring lots of toys for good little boys and girls!”

“No”, he said. “Teach the children the REAL meaning of Christmas, the meaning that the modern-day world has forgotten.” And, with that, he reached into his bag and brought forth a small Christmas tree.

Santa #1: (Place tree on the table)

(tree) “The children have forgotten WHY we put up a Christmas tree every year, and why it is a pine tree. Teach them that the pine tree is an ‘evergreen’. This means that it never loses its leaves or its beautiful green color. It is a symbol of the everlasting hope of

mankind, a reminder of whom we should put our 'hope' in. The color green is the youthful, hopeful, abundant color of nature; it represents life. Green should remind us that Jesus Christ brought us everlasting life. Teach the children that, instead of broad, flat leaves, the pine tree has 'needles' which remind us that our hearts should be "pricked" by the Holy Ghost. All the needles point outward, even upward ~ reminders that our every thought should be unselfish and point us towards heaven. The great green pine tree has long been man's untiring friend. It is strong, stands against wind and storm, and represents our Creator. The pine has sheltered us with its wood, warmed us by its fire, made beauty for us, just as did Jesus Christ.

Santa #2 (Place ornament on tree)

(ornament) "Teach the children that red is the first color of Christmas. In the beginning, it was used by faithful people as a reminder of the Savior's blood, which was shed for all the world. Christ gave His life willingly and shed His blood so everyone could have God's gift of Eternal Life. Red is deep, intense, vivid ~ it is the greatest color of all. It is the symbol of the infinite gift of God. The round shape of the ball reminds us of the world which Jesus came to save."

Santa #3 (Place bell by tree)

(bell) "Teach the children that shepherds always tied tiny bells around the necks of their sheep. If the sheep wandered away, the shepherd could find him by listening for the bell. Just as lost sheep are found by the sound of the bell, it should ring for man to return to the fold of Christ. It means safety and hope. It will always remind us that all people of the earth are precious in the eyes of the Lord, Jesus Christ, the True Shepherd."

Santa #4 (Place star on tree)

(star) "Teach the children that the star was the heavenly sign of promise given long ages ago. God promised a Savior for the world and the star was a sign of the fulfillment of that promise. A perfect, new star shone for all the world to see and wonder at. Now we can look at countless, shining stars at night ~ perhaps one for each person on the earth; they show us the burning hope of all mankind, as we believe in the promises of our Savior."

Santa #5 (Place the lit candle on the table)

(candle) "Teach the children that the candle shows man's remembrance of the star of long ago. Its small light is the mirror of starlight; its tiny flame can light the darkest night. All eyes will turn towards its promise of warmth. The smoke from its flame always ascends upward, as should our prayers. For many centuries, white candles were places on the branches of the pine tree ~ a beautiful symbol of many glowing stars shining against the dark green. Now, in our modern day, we use electric lights and many colors. But, always, teach the children the meaning of the light."

Santa #6 (place gift under tree)

(gift) "Teach the children about the wise men who traveled far to bring gifts to our Savior. That is why we bring gifts to each other today. How did "I" become more important than this glorious, important message? Have you taught the children about the bow? The bow is placed on the gift to add beauty and to bind its contents. This bow is to remind us of the spirit of brotherhood of all mankind. Just as the bow is tied, so should all men be tied, all of us together, with the bonds of good will toward each other. Good will, forever, is the message of the bow. The present, itself, represents the greatest gift of all…the gift of God's beloved Son, who came in lowly circumstances so that He might know how to comfort us all."

Santa #7 (Place candy cane on tree)

(candy cane) "Teach the children that the candy cane represents the shepherd's staff. The crook on the staff helps bring back the sheep that have strayed from the flock. The color of red reminds us, once again, that Jesus came to die for us all; the white symbolizes that He was, and is, the "Prince of Peace." Jesus taught that we are, indeed, our 'brother's keepers.' This candy cane is a symbol of the loving care we should all show at Christmas time, as we search out our wandering brothers."

Santa #8 (Place holly wreath on table)

(wreath) "Please teach the children that the wreath symbolizes eternal, never-ending nature of love. It never stops, but continues in one endless round. So does the love of our Heavenly Father for each of us. All over the world, people feel this special 'spirit' of Christmas. It is, literally, the "spirit of Christ" that permeates the soul of all mankind. For just this special season, for small moments, people stop and allow the endless love of God to wash over them. Teach the children "the reason for the season!"

Santa #9 (Place Picture of Savior on table)

(Savior picture) "Please, teach the children that the real meaning of Christmas is this: 'For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoso believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.' Even I, the symbol of universal giving, exist only to remind you of that! Teach the children……."