

BASIC PUPPETRY

I. Understand Your Goals

- A. Pointing the Children to Jesus

II. Presenting the Message

- A. Appearance
 - 1. Position of the Puppeteer, Helper, and Students in Relation to the Stage
- B. The Environment
 - 1. Stages
 - 2. Backdrops
 - 3. Lighting
 - 4. Background Sounds
 - 5. Clothing
 - 6. Props
- C. Methods of Sound Projection
 - 1. The Ventriloquist
 - 2. Amplification & the Pre-recorded Presentation

III. Operating Your Puppets

- A. The Life of a Puppet
 - 1. Present puppets to the children in a way that they appear to be living individuals.
 - a. Don't let the children see the puppets before or after the presentation.
 - b. Always hold your puppets in a way which does not compromise the appearance of life.
 - c. The Method of Movement on the Stage
- B. Puppet Posture
 - 1. Standing Up Straight
 - 2. Standing Up Tall
 - 3. Eye Contact- Interacting With Other Puppets & Interacting With the Audience
- C. The Puppet Speaks
 - 1. How Does Your Mouth Move
 - a. Using Your Thumb
 - b. Motions of the Head
 - 2. When Words Come Out of Your Mouth
 - a. Biting Your Words
 - b. Open Wide?
 - c. Voices
- D. Arming Your Puppet
 - 1. Using Your Hands to Arm Your Puppets
 - a. One Rod Arm
 - b. When Your Puppet Uses Both Arms