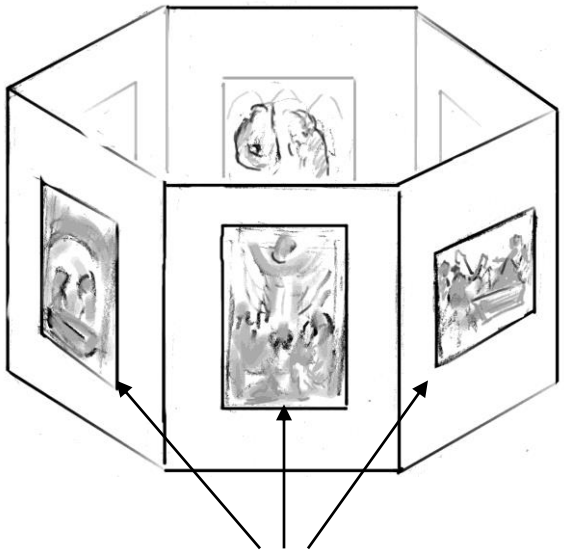
CHRISTMAS LANTERN—A TABLE DECORATION

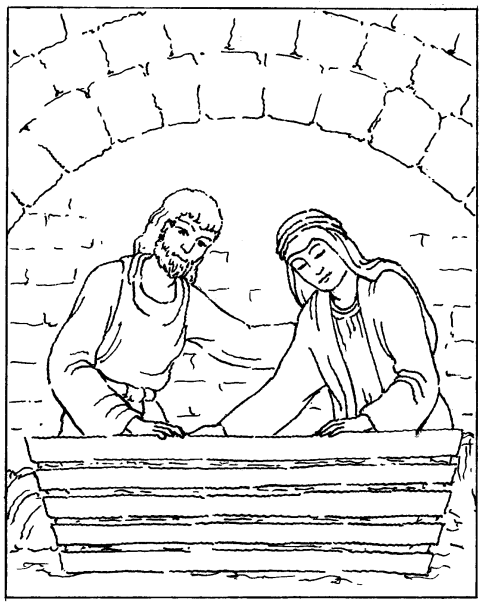
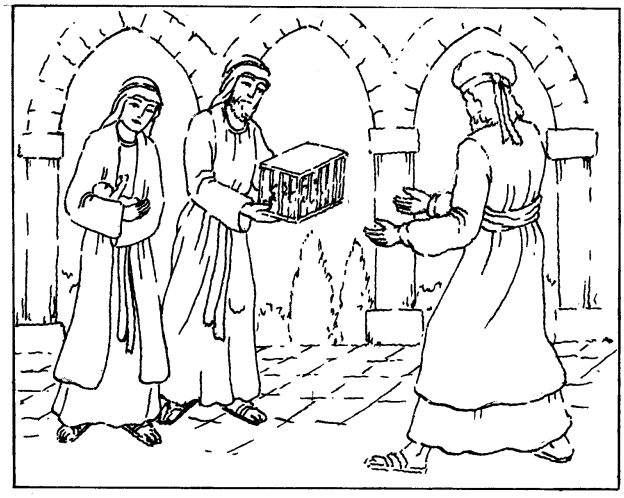


Put pictures in sequence

Suggested Materials:

line drawings of several Christmas stories (see attached)
black cover stock, card stock, or other lightweight cardboard (size A4 or 8.5" X 14")
colored pencils
scissors
glue or tape
vegetable oil
glitter
tea light candle in a small dish or a votive candle in clear glass holder

Procedure:

1. Color the pictures with colored pencils. Carefully cut out the pictures.
2. Put a little vegetable oil on each picture and let it soak in so that the pictures become translucent. Allow to dry slightly. If you have too much oil on the pictures, blot off with paper towel.
3. Take 2 pieces of black lightweight cardboard (size A4 or 81/2"x 14"). Fold each one into three equal parts widthwise. You will now have six equal folded sections (between the 2 pieces). Overlap the ends of the two pieces just enough to hold together and glue. (To make it easier, you may want to fold the edge of one of the pieces ½" or 4 mm before you glue.)
4. Lay the pictures over the cardboard—one per section. Carefully mark where you plan to place each one. Draw lightly around each picture with a pencil. Cut out the cardboard 3mm (1/4 inch) *inside* the lines. If you poke the scissors into the center of the space and cut towards the outside, you will find this easier.
5. Glue each picture into the windows you have created.
6. Now take the two ends and form the panel into a lantern-shaped circle (hexagonal tube). Overlap the ends and glue together, following directions in step 3.
7. Put a small candle in a dish in the center of the lantern. Candles should be lighted under the supervision of adults, and should not be left unattended.
8. **Options**: Use glitter to decorate the lantern. Use Christmas greenery to decorate around the base of the lantern on the table.

Christmas illustrations by Robert Glenn