

MISSIONS BLUEPRINTS

Build a Nativity Scene

By M.B. Howard

As you plan for gift buying at Christmas, consider what you could do for outreach to others. This blueprint is a simple design of a nativity scene. Cut and assembled in less than 45 minutes, they become gifts of lasting quality that would enhance any home.

How might you use these? Place them in preschools and nursing homes. Give

them to friends and family. The church foyer and Sunday School classrooms would be good areas of display.

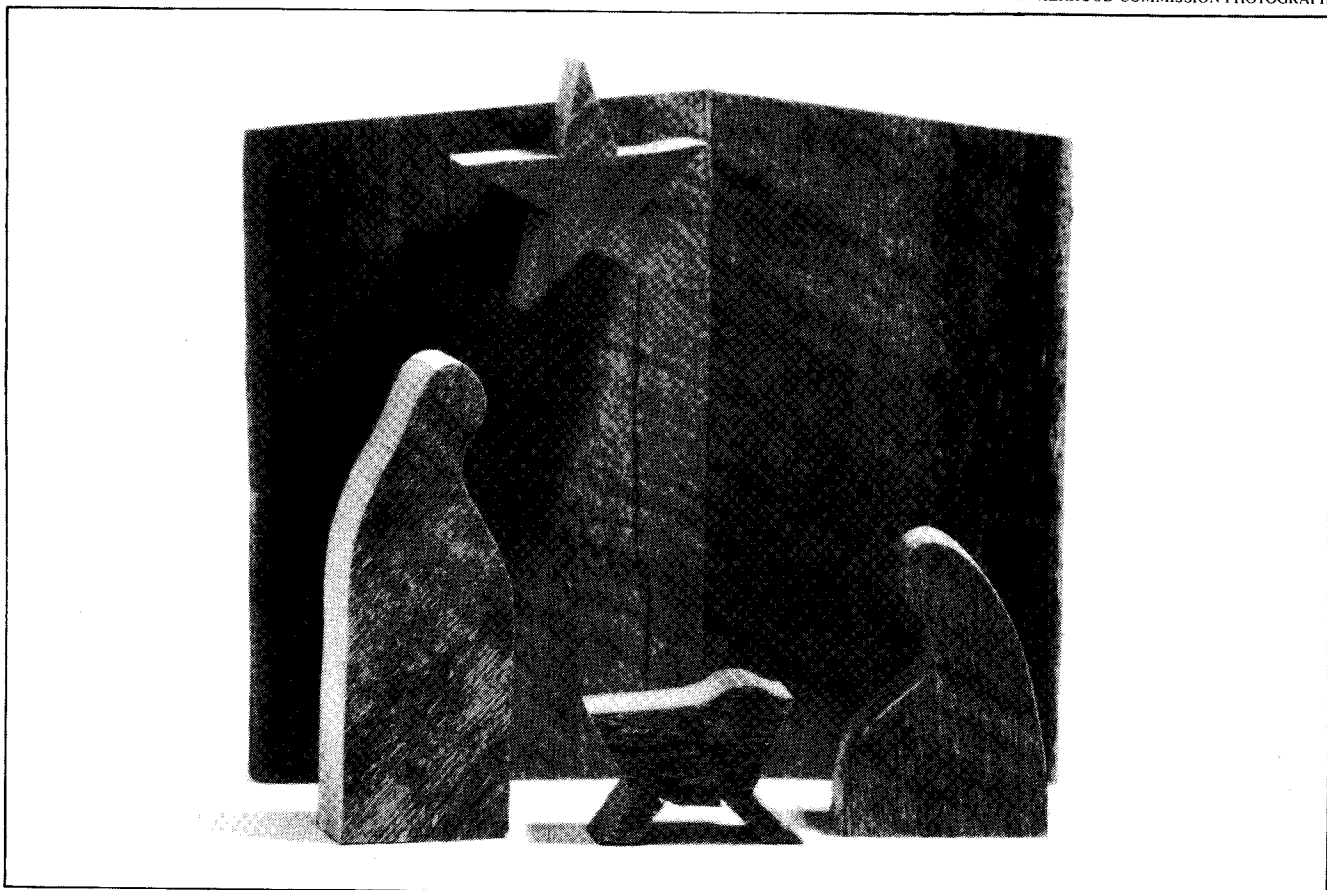
Baptist Men and Baptist Young Men might want to build these as a fund-raising project with the receipts going to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

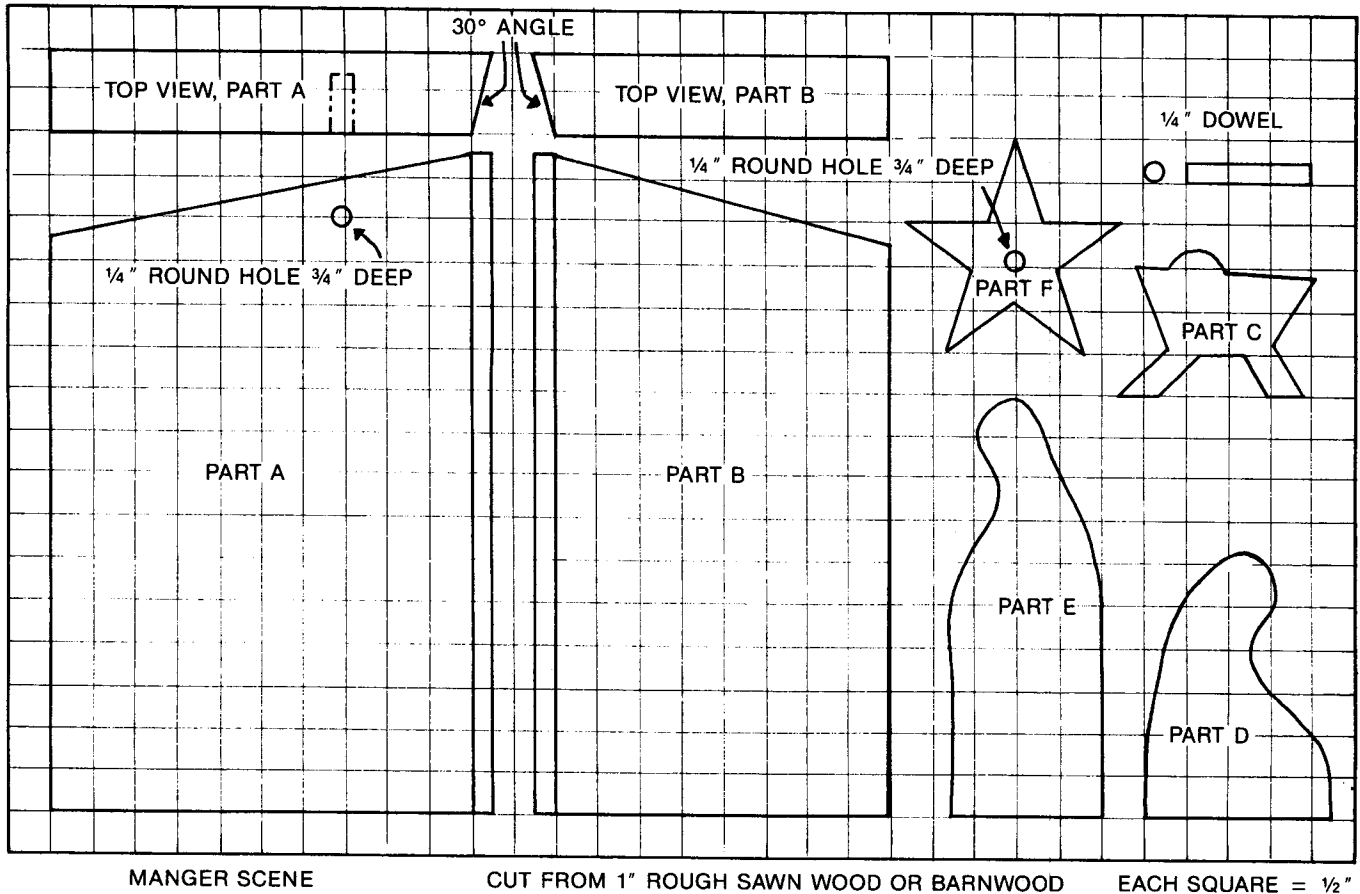
It is best to make these nativity scenes from rough sawn barn wood. You will need a 1 x 6 x 24-inch piece of

lumber. The prototype was built from a piece of lumber on a barn that was about to fall down. The rougher the board, the better. The rough wood is a constant reminder that our Savior was not born in a clean, ceramic tile environment.

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BROTHERHOOD COMMISSION PHOTOGRAPH





MANGER SCENE

CUT FROM 1" ROUGH SAWN WOOD OR BARNWOOD

EACH SQUARE = 1/2"

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Tools and Materials

- 1 x 6 x 24-inch rough sawn lumber
- 1/4-inch dowel pin, 36 inches long (will make 24 nativity scenes)
- Wood glue
- Radial arm saw
- Drill press
- 1/4-inch drill bit
- Band saw or a high-speed sabre saw
- Hand drill and 1/4-inch drill bit
- Carbon paper
- Sandpaper

Steps

1. Cut parts A and B from the 1 x 6, angling the inside edges 10 degrees. Drill 1/4-inch hole 3/4 inches deep in part A. Glue parts A and B together. (NOTE: Use a large rubber band as a clamp.) Set parts A and B aside and let dry.
2. On a sheet of typing paper, draw 1/2-inch squares. Plot parts C, D, E and F. Using carbon paper, trace the patterns onto the remaining 1 x 6.
3. Using a band saw, cut out parts C, D, E and F. If you are making more than one nativity scene, you can cut two or more figures at a time. Lightly sand

the edges. Cut the dowel 1 1/2 inches long.

4. Drill a 1/4-inch hole in the center of the star, 3/4 inches deep. Insert the 1/4-inch dowel in the star and the other end of the dowel into part A.

5. Place Mary, Joseph, Baby Jesus and the manger in appropriate places.

M. B. Howard is a Mission Service Corps volunteer serving as construction fellowship coordinator of the National Fellowship of Baptists in Missions. If you have a design idea appropriate for use in missions, send them to Missions Blueprints, 1548 Poplar Ave., Memphis, TN 38104.