

Mary Calls Home

By David Radcliff

A short Christmas reading featuring Jesus' mother Mary calling home following Jesus' birth in Bethlehem.

(Mary sits on stool and picks up imaginary phone) “Mom?” “Hi—yes, it’s me, Mary.” (short pause, listening to what her mom has to say) “Yes, yes—the Lord be praised—we’re fine.” (pause) “Yes—just tonight! It’s a boy!” (pause) “Yes, mom, just like I said—but I really did appreciate you sending that list of girl names just in case—very thoughtful.” (pause) “The baby is fine—and so am I! And Joseph—he’s so excited too!” (pause) “Yes, we did find a place. We didn’t have any reservations, but Joseph found us ... a really nice little place. It’s got ... everything. Roof, walls, windows, cows and sheep ... ” (pause) “Did I say ‘cows and sheep’? I meant ‘a place to sleep’—there’s ~~plenty~~ of very nice straw to make our beds—and a comfy little ... crib ... for the baby.” (pause) “Yes, I know you wish you would have been here for the birth. But everyone here has been very nice. The owner let us stay here for practically nothing, and we’ve even had some people stop by to see the baby. I guess that ever since the angel’s visit, I haven’t been worried about things working out. If this is the Lord’s doing, I’m depending that the Lord will provide for us. But I guess changing diapers is still up to me—and Joseph.” (pause) “Yes, I am very thankful for Joseph. He’s been so good to me and the baby. He didn’t have to, you know ... ” (pause) “Oh mom, it’s alright to cry a little. We’ve all been through a lot.” (pause) “Thanks, mom. I’m proud of you too. It hasn’t been easy—your friends talking, your family wondering. Questions about what kind of girl I am, what kind of mother you are. This has been a struggle for both of us—and mom—I couldn’t have made it without you.” (pause) “Yes, all that’s behind us—now is a time for rejoicing. It’s just the beginning of what God has in store for this baby.” (pause) “Tell papa hello too. I love both of you. We’ll be home—all three of us—before you know it! Good-bye, mom.”

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