

Community-Developed

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Mary, You are Welcome A Children's Christmas Play/Reading

Note: *This simple script allows you to divide the speaking roles among as many readers as you wish. A delightful way to present this is to have children act out the scenes while the lines are being spoken. Enhance it further by including carols between the scenes.*

Scene 1: Mary and Gabriel

A long, long, long time ago,

God sent one of his very special angels on a mission.

This angel's name was Gabriel.

Gabriel was sent to meet with a young woman, Mary.

God made sure that Gabriel knew how special Mary was. Gabriel was not to scare her, but to show Mary how much God loved her.

To prepare Mary for something God was about to do.

Would she want to be part of that plan?

That night, the angel Gabriel went to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to meet Mary.

"Mary, God loves you so very much! And is always with you!"

Mary had never met an angel before, so she was afraid.

So Gabriel started over again.

“Mary, don’t be afraid, God loves you very much and is always with you.”

“God has a plan to heal the world, and needs your help.”

Mary listened closely. “How could this be?”

Gabriel continued,

“Even though you are not yet married to Joseph, you will have a son”

“What?”

“And he will be known as the son of God.”

Mary thought this was all impossible.

But Gabriel reminded Mary that Elizabeth, her elderly cousin, had also miraculously become pregnant.

God can do amazing things.

Gabriel did not promise that this would be easy for Mary.

But he did tell her that God loves her very much, and will always be with her.

And so, Mary said yes to God’s plan.

After Gabriel left,

Mary sat alone, wondering, “What did I say yes to?”

She was still afraid

But she trusted that God loves her

And would be with her.

Always.

Scene 2: Mary and Elizabeth

Mary knew that God was always with her

But that didn't mean her friends and family would necessarily support her

What would she tell them?

Would they believe her?

What would they say?

Mary remembered Elizabeth's unbelievable news.

A miracle pregnancy just like her own.

If anyone would believe Mary, it would be Elizabeth

So Mary packed her bags, everything that she would need for a while and began the long, long journey to Judea, where Elizabeth lived

It took her days to get there.

All the while she thought about Gabriel's visit, and what God had asked of her

Unmarried and pregnant?

As soon as she arrived, Elizabeth threw open her arms

With happy shouts Elizabeth welcomed Mary

Mary knew that she was safe here

She praised God for always being with her

And for God's plan to heal the world

A plan she did not yet understand.

Elizabeth was happy to have Mary stay with her

So Mary stayed there 3 months

She was filled with joy because Elizabeth had shown her love

And God's promise was still true

She knew that God was with her

Always.

Scene 3: Mary and Joseph

Joseph and Mary were engaged to be married.

But when Joseph heard that Mary was having a baby

This worried him

He still loved Mary, but he was hurt that she was having a baby.

So he decided that he wouldn't marry her.

Before he told her, Joseph decided to sleep on it

Now, God wanted Mary and Joseph to raise this new baby together

So that night, when Joseph went to sleep,

God sent an angel to him.

God made sure the angel knew how special Joseph was.

The angel was not to scare him, but to show Joseph how much God loved him.

The angel was to show Joseph that he was to be a part of this amazing plan as well.

As Joseph slept, an angel appeared to him in a dream,

"Joseph, don't be afraid"

"God has a plan."

"And you are a part of that plan!"

"Get married. Raise this baby. Name him Jesus."

When Joseph woke up, he remembered his dream.

And he went to Mary, and told her everything.

Mary was happy.

God had again been with her.

God had moved Joseph's heart to welcome and support Mary.

The baby will have a home and family.

And Mary knew that God was with her.

Always.

Scene 4: Mary in the stable

One day, before Mary had the baby, the ruler of the land

Like the prime minister, or president, or queen

Decided that all the people had to be counted.

So everyone had to go back to the town where they were born.

Joseph and Mary had to go to Bethlehem, another very long journey for Mary.

It was a very, very, very long walk.

It took them many days to get there.

When they arrived in Bethlehem, the city was very full of people

It seemed like everyone had come to Bethlehem!

They finally found a place to stay

But it had no beds

No kitchen

No bathroom

Just hay and straw and animals

But that didn't matter

The hay was dry

The room was warm

And they had a place to sleep for the night

As Mary rested, she remembered her journey over the past year

She remembered God's promise to be with her always

She remembered Elizabeth welcoming her with open arms

She remembered how God had changed Joseph's heart

She thought about how God had been with her

Always.

And she wondered what might come next!