

# Joseph: When Faith Conquers Fear

*By Robert Blaskey*

*Selected from the collection  
"THE ROAD TO BETHLEHEM"*

***Length:*** 2 page of dialogue (618 words)

***Performance time:*** About 4 minutes

## **The Story**

Joseph, fearful and overwhelmed, struggles to get Mary to Bethlehem safely. There, his faith is renewed. He says, "I didn't know why His real Father chose for Him to be born in such a humble manner, but I knew it was my responsibility to take care of Him. At that moment, I knew that I would be able to do the job. It would be difficult, but I would never be doing it alone."

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## Joseph: When Faith Conquers Fear

On this most important of nights for my wife - for all the world - I have failed her once again. My name is Joseph, my wife is Mary. I loved Mary ever since I saw her. Her laughter, her smile and her cheerfulness could make me feel great no matter what else the world made me feel. As soon as she was of age, I was engaged to her.

But then she became pregnant - and I wasn't the father. I knew the law said that even though we weren't married, she could be stoned for adultery. She said nothing in her defense, only that she was faithful to me and I should trust her.

But I didn't know. How could this be?! Then an angel of the Lord appeared to me in a dream. "Joseph, son of David," the angel said, "have no fear about taking Mary as your wife. It is by the Holy Spirit that she has conceived this child. She is to have a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

When I awoke, I was crying, tears of relief and of joy. Everything would be all right. I didn't understand what was happening, but I would trust in God. Then I was scared. What was being asked of me? Could I take care of the Son of God? I was just a simple carpenter. But I wouldn't be doing it alone. The Lord would be with me - and so would my wife.

As the months went by, I continued my work and we made plans for our future. Then the census decree came down. How did they expect me to travel all the way from Galilee to Bethlehem when my wife would have a baby any day?

But Mary pointed out that the Messiah was supposed to be born in Bethlehem ... that was part of the prophecies. Still, I didn't feel as if I was being guided. I felt I was all alone, over my head in responsibilities.

It was even worse in Bethlehem. As we approached the city, Mary went into labor. I quickly tried to find us some place to rest and get help for the child. But all the inns were filled with travelers who were there before us. No one would give us a room! In her greatest need, I had let my wife down!

But Mary wouldn't give up and she told me not to worry. We kept on and I found a little stable. This was no place for a child to be born - especially the Son of God! But Mary insisted it would be all right and I helped her in. And there - surrounded by the animals' warm breath - the child was born. Suddenly all my doubts, all my fears, disappeared. Truly, this was the Son of God!

I didn't know why His real Father chose for Him to be born in such a humble manner, but I knew it was my responsibility to take care of Him. At that moment, I knew that I would be able to do the job. It would be difficult, but I would never be doing it alone. I would always have Mary helping me ... and I would always be helped by God - the Father of Jesus ... and my Father.



## **End of Freeview**

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