

## **“Booking a Trip to Bethlehem”**

by  
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**What** Joseph is approaching a Travel Agent to plan the upcoming trip from Nazareth to Bethlehem. Even though the Travel Agent tries to persuade Joseph to take a more luxurious trip, Joseph remains focused on the will of God to go to Bethlehem with Mary.

Themes: Advent, Christmas Eve, Christmas, Jesus, Bethlehem, Prophecy, Faith

**Who** Travel Agent  
Joseph

**When** Biblical setting in a contemporary office

**Costumes and Props** Desk or podium for the Travel Agent with maps possibly on easels. Travel Agent in Biblical attire with contemporary things like headset, phone, t-shirt from another country, etc. Joseph in biblical attire.

**Why** Micah 5:2, Matthew 2:4-6, Luke 2:4-11, John 1:45-46

**How** Keep the dialogue energetic. The travel agent loves his/her job and is a salesman trying to sell Joseph on a bigger, better trip. In contrast, Joseph just really needs to get to Bethlehem and is a little more on the reserved side.

**Time** Approximately 3-4 minutes

*Joseph enters and goes up to Travel Agent who is at a desk or behind a counter.*

**Agent:** Good morning. May I help you?

**Joseph:** Yes. My name is Joseph and I need some help with an upcoming trip.

*Travel Agent takes notes while asking questions.*

**Agent:** Where are you planning to travel?

**Joseph:** Bethlehem.

*Looks up.*

**Agent:** Bethlehem? Are you sure you want to go to Bethlehem?

**Joseph:** Yes, my wife and I need to go there.

**Agent:** That's a small town. Not much going on there this time of year. How about Mount Carmel? I can get you a luxury hotel right on the Mediterranean Sea. Lots of nice restaurants close by.

**Joseph:** No thank you, we...

**Agent:** *(interrupts)* How about Bethsaida? I can get you a quaint little cottage on the Sea of Galilee. You like to fish? This would be the perfect spot for a getaway. And the wife? She could go to one of the spas there...oh, they would cover her with mud and she would feel fantastic!

**Joseph:** No, that is...

**Agent:** *(interrupts)* Or if you really want to travel, Italy is beautiful...

**Joseph:** *(firmly)* No. My wife and I need to go to Bethlehem.

**Agent:** Oh...ok, Bethlehem it is. What takes you to this...uh, lovely little spot?

**Joseph:** I have to go for the census. My family is from there, so we have to go and register.

**Agent:** Couldn't you just mail in a form? I mean, there's not much to see in Bethlehem...maybe a few shepherds roaming the streets.

**Joseph:** We need to go in person. Can you help us or not?

**Agent:** Sure, sure. I'll help you. When do you want to go?

**Joseph:** As soon as possible.

**Agent:** OK... *(leafing through papers)* 90-mile trip for two...as soon as possible... How much luggage?

**Joseph:** None.

**Agent:** Insurance?

**Joseph:** No, we are covered.

**Agent:** Covered by what?

**Joseph:** God is with us.

**Agent:** Well, I like to think God is with me too, but a little insurance can't hurt!

**Joseph:** No thanks.

**Agent:** Oh, well... One way?

**Joseph:** Not sure yet...we may have to extend our trip to Egypt.

**Agent:** Egypt? You are the strangest customer I have had in a long time. *(pulls out a sheet)* Well, I've got a fine Arabian camel...two seater, lots of power, low on maintenance...great for long trips through the desert areas.

**Joseph:** I don't think so. You see my wife is pregnant...

**Agent:** *(startled)* Pregnant? You mean to tell me you are taking a trip to Bethlehem with your wife who is getting ready to have a child? That is crazy!

**Joseph:** That is how it has to be. Now, back to the camel...I don't think she would like to be that high off the ground.

**Agent:** *(leafing through more papers)* I do have one donkey left...one seater, slow but dependable, may be a little fussy at times.

**Joseph:** That may work. Let me talk to my wife.

**Agent:** Well, make sure she knows it won't be the smoothest ride if you pick the donkey. I hope that little baby is a tough one, cause this will be some trip.

**Joseph:** We are having a boy, and he will be a tough one. He is going to save his people!

**Agent:** I don't know how you know all of this stuff. You must be dreaming!

Joseph: I did.  
*Lights out.* PURCHASE

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