

“Songs of the Season: All Ye Faithful”

by
J.R. Mimbs

What In dueling monologues, Mary and Joseph come to grips with a major change in their lives.

Themes: Christmas, Doubt, Prophecy, Angel, Fear

Who Mary
Joseph

When A few months before Christ was born

**Wear
(Props)** Modern clothing
Chair

Why Matthew 1:18-20

How Throughout the dialogue, the two interact with the space and the chair, but are never aware of each other. Keep the pacing up. It should sound as if they are speaking as one person, or finishing each other’s sentences.

Time Approximately 5 minutes

*Lights up on **Mary** and **Joseph** on separate sides of the stage, with a solitary chair between them.*

Joseph: *(shaken)* An angel...

Mary: *(awestruck)* It was an angel...

Joseph: I've always heard about them.

Mary: One reads about them in scriptures.

Joseph: But you never expect it to happen to you.

Mary: They always appear to the righteous...

Joseph: Angels always seem to herald major catastrophic events...

Mary: ...the holy...

Joseph: ...earthquakes...

Mary: ...prophets...

Joseph: ...plagues...

Mary: ...great leaders...

Joseph: ...kingdoms falling...

Mary: ...the chosen. So why ME?

Joseph: Why me?

Mary: I don't have some great lineage, or a grand destiny, I'm just a teenage girl!

Joseph: I'm nothing but a carpenter. I'm not even married yet!

Mary: It was like a dream...

Joseph: It appeared to me in a dream.

Mary: I looked up and there it was...

Joseph: Dead asleep, I was.

Mary: ...standing right in the doorway...

Joseph: I was dreaming something about carpentry...

Mary: ...like it had just let itself in...

Joseph: Then, I was talking to this angel.

Mary: I was...terrified.

Joseph: I only knew it was real because I can actually remember it.

Mary: Then, it spoke to me.

Joseph: Every. Single. Word.

Mary: It told me... "Fear not"

Joseph: How often do you remember that much of a dream? Not often.

Mary: And all of my fear just...vanished. Like the very act of hearing it speak chased away my fear.

Joseph: I'd had a rough day. It was hard enough to even fall asleep, then an angel drops in on my dreams and tells me to not be afraid.

Mary: It called me "Highly Favored"

Joseph: Don't be afraid?!

Mary: Me! Highly favored by God!

Joseph: A harbinger of doom is visiting my dreams and I'm supposed to just not be afraid?!

Mary: Then, this angel tells me...I am to be with child.

Joseph: My betrothed is with child! We've only met a handful of times, I've never even touched her, and she tells me this morning that she's with child! You try getting to sleep with that in your head! Then an angel interrupts my dreams and tells me to not be afraid?

Mary: How? I'm still a virgin.

Joseph: How is a person supposed to react to that kind of news?

Mary: I didn't know what to say. I didn't know what to feel.

Joseph: I felt...numb...for a moment.

Mary: But the angel told me that this child is to be the Son of God.

Joseph: Unbelievable, that's the only word I could use. It was the only word that seemed to fit.

Mary: But how?

Joseph: How?

Mary: Who am I? A simple girl. About to be married. My life has barely begun! How am I to be the one to carry the Messiah? I'm no one. Yet here's this angel, standing in my doorway, calling me highly favored and saying I'm to be the mother to God's son. It's not that I don't believe it can't happen, but why me...

Joseph: I've lived my life according to the law as closely as possible. I've gone to temple every time I was supposed to, been a fair businessman. So why has this happened to me? And then, she tells me the baby is the Son of God?!

Mary: How will I tell Joseph?

Joseph: I should go ahead and divorce her.

Mary: He'll have every right to divorce me.

Joseph: It's my right.

Mary: Hopefully, he'll be kind about it.

Joseph: Quietly, so she won't be disgraced.

Mary: I wouldn't blame him.

Joseph: I thought about it...but then this angel. Telling me to not be afraid, that she truly is carrying the Messiah.

Mary: He's a good man.

Joseph: How can I raise the Son of God? What if I mess up? This shouldn't be put on me. It isn't fair. No man can be righteous enough to raise God's son.

Mary: How will he react?

Joseph: I wanted to grab that angel by his glowing collar and demand some answers.

Mary: So many unknowns.

Joseph: But when he said that..."Don't be afraid"

Mary: But the angel said to not be afraid...

Joseph: And it was like all of those fears just...melted. And I thought about Mary. How she must feel. She's probably terrified. Then to have to break this news to me, whom she hardly knows. She's just a girl...and she's had this news thrust upon her.

Mary: I can only pray that God speaks to him as He did to me. I've only met Joseph a few times, but...he's a good man. I like him. But this is a lot to ask of your future husband...

Joseph: This is a lot to ask of anyone, much less an unwed girl. Then to make the trip to Bethlehem and back for the census. I can't imagine what's going on in her mind.

Mary: The Lord has promised that this will be for His glory...

Joseph: The angel said that this child will deliver us all. I have to trust this. If Mary can do this...so can I.

Mary: He would make a great father...

Joseph: After all, I have to admit...I like her...which is important in a marriage.

Mary: And his name...

Joseph: We're to call him...

Both: Jesus.

Joseph: God with us...

Mary: The Lord saves...

Joseph: Emmanuel...

Mary: Son of the Most High...

Joseph: *(praying)* Lord...

Mary: Father...

Joseph: I can only trust that this is of You...

Mary: I know you are with me when I am afraid.

Joseph: Forgive my anger.

Mary: Bless your servant...

Joseph: Walk beside me...

Mary: Don't let me falter...

Joseph: Take away this fear...

Mary: You have a plan...

Joseph: Even though I don't understand.

Mary: And it is perfect...

Joseph: So come.

Mary: Oh, come

Joseph: Emmanuel

Mary: and I will rejoice

Joseph: I will rejoice.

Lights fade.