

Drive Thru Christmas Character Script

CHARACTER: MARY

Narrator: *Hi! Welcome to Drive Thru Christmas! We are so excited that you have chosen to come on this journey with us. My friend has so much to show and tell you! They will be here in just a second...but before I introduce you to them, here are a few quick things to know about your trip!*

- 1) Drive slowly around the parking lot area, listening to the audio and viewing the scenes as you go.*
- 2) Each banner has a hidden star...see if you can find them all.*
- 3) Oh, and you may want to turn your headlights off...but don't forget to turn them on when you leave!*
- 4) I hear your tour guide coming...enjoy the journey!*

Shalom! My name is Mary. I am the wife of a carpenter named Joseph, and the mother of our Lord and Savior Jesus. That's right! Jesus, God's Son! How can this be, you ask? I am only a human woman! That is the exact same question I asked the Angel Gabriel when he told me this news. Listen as I tell you the amazing story of how God used me to help carry out his plan.

SCENE 1: Creation

My story starts before Jesus was born. It starts at the beginning of time. In the beginning, God was all that was. He chose to create the heavens and the earth in six days... That's the Bible truth! I remember my parents telling me this lesson over and over and over as a small child.

You see, the world was empty at first. There was only God. He decided to create a wonderful world, full of beautiful creatures. After he created the land, sea, and animals, he made his most special creation – human beings. My father always used to tell me how special we are...we were created in the image of God! Perfect! Adam was the first man, and Eve the first woman. God even walked and talked with these two people! Everything on earth was good. Sadly, that soon changed.

God wanted Adam and Eve to be able to worship him and give him thanks for everything he had created for them. He placed the Tree of Knowledge of Good and evil in the garden, and told Adam and Eve that they could show their love to Him by not eating from that tree. It sounds like a simple and reasonable request! However, Satan, the evil one, was also watching Adam and Eve. One day he told them that God was hiding something from them, and that the only way they could truly be as wise as God was to eat the fruit of the tree. And they did!

It was a shameful day in the Garden of Eden. Adam and Eve hid and were terrified of God! This was a result of their disobedience. No longer could humans walk and talk with God in the same way again. Sin had ruined everything!

However, God had another plan. Even though Adam and Eve had listened to Satan and sinned, God didn't strike Adam and Eve down. God wanted to save the human race and so he told them that he would send a Savior. A Savior is someone who would "save" people from their sins. God explained that this Savior would crush Satan! In this way, even though people would physically die, they could still live eternally with God in heaven because of what the Savior would do.

Adam and Eve trusted God's promises. That's because God always keeps his promises!

We have waited many years for God to send a Savior. We continued to trust God's Word, follow his laws, and listen to the prophets God has sent. We have a few clues, but not an exact time when the Savior will come. I pray it will be soon!

Scene 2: Angel to Mary

4000 years passed from the beginning of time and every generation of Jewish people waited and watched for the Savior to come. Each father taught their children, just like my dad taught me as I grew up, that God would send a Savior who would take care of the problem of sin, once for all. Then one day an amazing event took place!

I was simply working at my usual daily tasks of making bread, preparing our dinners, and keeping house. My mother has been teaching me all of these tasks that a good Hebrew woman must learn before becoming a wife. You see, I am 14 years old and I am getting married in a short time. A wonderful, quiet, God-fearing man named Joseph has asked my father if he can marry me. Our wedding will take place soon and there is so much preparation to do! Now all of that might be changed...

I was going about my work when suddenly I noticed a light that I had never seen before. When I turned around, I was amazed to see an angel in my house! My first thought was one of terror! Then he said to me, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. You will be with child and give birth to son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High." I realized that he was talking about the Savior! "How could this be?" I wondered. I had never slept with a man before! He told me that the Holy Spirit would come upon me and that I would give birth to a Son. He also reminded me that nothing is impossible with God. It was all I could do to utter "I am the Lord's servant. May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left me.

Can you imagine how I felt? I am a humble young woman...and God chose ME to bear his Son on this earth. I know I am a sinner and need this Savior Jesus as much as anyone...the news that He will be coming soon is such a blessing for all people! It was a day full of awe and wonder! I felt so many emotions and wondered how I would tell Joseph, but I knew God was with me!

Scene 3: Caesar

When Joseph found out that I was pregnant, you can just imagine how he reacted! Thankfully, God spoke to him in a dream and told him that I had been blessed by God to have this child, and to reassure him that I had not been with another man. He will still marry me, which just shows what a wonderful man of God he is. I'm sure it must be difficult for him.

We then received some news from Rome that might have upset our plans. Caesar, the leader and King over the whole Roman Empire, issued a decree. "Everyone must go to his or her family hometown to register with the government." This is how they will take a census of the population in the Roman Empire. It's also how they collect taxes. It's a huge, overwhelmingly large empire, and our

people are not on friendly terms with the government. However, we don't have a choice. The Lord has placed this government in control for His purpose, not ours.

Joseph and I must travel to Bethlehem. Both of our families are from this town. It will be a long journey, full of walking. I'm afraid this could not come at a worse time. I'm very heavy with child, my feet are swollen, and I feel so large!

Emotionally I am overjoyed at the thought of giving birth to the Savior! But this is my first child, and I'm also feeling very nervous. My baby will be born in Bethlehem. Which is perfect, just like the prophecies from of old said. The prophet Malachi, about 400 years ago, wrote the words of the Lord which said that the Savior would be born in Bethlehem. This was just more reassurance that the Lord was in control. I kept praying for Him to give me strength as we follow this decree.

Scene 4: Shepherds

While we were in Bethlehem, the time came for my baby to be born. That night was a difficult night for me. All my energies were focused on bringing this child into the world. Little did I know what wonderful things were happening outside the city gates.

There were shepherds watching their fields at night. It was a dark night, and nothing out of the ordinary had occurred. It looked as if another night would pass without incident...a blessing since the sheep were their way of life. That was soon to change!

Suddenly the sky was lit with an brilliant glow! These simple shepherds had no idea what was happening! They fell to the ground in terror! Was this the end of the world? But just as the angel had said to me, so this angel said "Do not be afraid!" And then he told them about how Jesus, the Savior, had been born in Bethlehem. Then not just one, but a HOST of angels appeared in the sky! The light was beautiful and their voices rang with praises to God! "Glory to God in the highest!" the angels sang! Oh, how I wish I could have been there! I wonder if the angel that had visited me was their messenger also?

Scene 5: Jesus is Born!

When we arrived at Bethlehem I was exhausted! Days upon days of traveling in my condition had worn me down. Joseph promised that he would find an inn for us to stay at when we arrived. What we found at Bethlehem was a very crowded town! I was beginning to feel very uncomfortable...I thought that I might be starting labor...I asked Joseph to please find something quick! He went door to door, to every inn in town, and everything was full! By this time I knew that I was going to have my baby soon. The only space available was a stable. It was smelly, damp, and full of hay and animals. I could not believe that God would want his only son born in a place like this!

Obviously God had his reasons because this is where Jesus was born. He was a perfect child and I loved him from the moment I laid eyes on him. I wrapped him in some strips of cloth to keep him warm. A manger would have to serve as his cradle. I was sorry to have to place the Son of God in a place where animals ate, but at least it was soft and full of hay.

The night became more wonderful by the hour! Joseph and I were resting in the stable when the Savior of the World received his first visitors. These visitors were the humble shepherds whom the angels had visited in the fields that very night. What's even more wonderful is how, after worshiping Jesus, the Shepherds ran to

tell others! I have never seen anyone more excited! Everywhere they went, everyone they met was told the great news of the Savior's birth!

I sit here, gazing at God's Son, and treasure all these memories in my heart. That the Lord would choose a humble young woman to bear His son, and now send rough shepherds to be the child's first visitors is truly a sign that Jesus has come for all people!

SCENE 6: Wisemen

Shortly after Jesus was born, we found a home where we could comfortably stay. We actually stayed for a while. Jesus was growing up just like any infant does! Motherhood is an amazing thing and I am enjoying every minute of it. We have a daily routine as a family and Joseph is a wonderful father! We are cherishing these moments together as a family.

However, we do have to keep reminding ourselves that we are only Jesus' earthly parents. His life will not always be with us. He was born to fulfill God's plan of salvation and that will make him very different indeed. The visitors who came a few days ago proved to us once again just how special Jesus is!

It was a normal day, off to a normal start. I had finished the morning chores and Jesus was playing quietly in a corner of our house. I heard a noise and found a group of visitors at our front door! I went to get Joseph and we invited them in. I could tell they were not from our country. Their clothes were of a texture and richness I had rarely seen. They seemed to be very learned men, with a high level of schooling. They also spoke with accents and were very kind. They told us they came from a far land in the East and had come to worship the Christ Child.

The men continued to tell us of how they found us by following a special star they had never seen before. The men were very wise in astrology, the study of the stars. They researched the meaning of the star and through reading Scripture, discovered that the star was a symbol of an important birth...the King of the Jews, Jesus.

These wise men even brought gifts to worship Jesus! Gold, Frankincense, and Myrrh were presented to the Christ Child. These are such wealthy gifts! It reminded me that Jesus is a very special child and is worthy of all the riches in the world. These men understood this.

I was also reminded that Jesus came for all nations. These men were from a far away country, and yet they came so many miles to worship God's Son. Jesus is not just for the Jews, but to be shared with the entire world! What a wonderful way God has chosen to save the entire world!

I have cherished all these things in my heart, and they will not be forgotten. Why God chose to use a simple, humble woman to have his Son is something I will never understand. But trusting in His wisdom has brought us on this wonderful journey. God's Son has been born to fulfill God's plan of Salvation for each person, you included. God loves you and gave Jesus as a gift for all of you. Believe it and trust in him! May the birth of Christ give you joy and excitement in your heart as you celebrate this Christmas; Jesus was born for you!

Narrator:

Congratulations, you have now completed your Drive Thru Christmas Experience! Thank you for going on this journey with us! We pray that you have been blessed by your time here. You are welcome to come back and go through as another character anytime you want!

One more special note I don't want to forget! You are invited to join us for worship online or in person on Christmas Eve

God bless your Christmas preparations and may your celebrations be filled with joy and peace as we praise God for the greatest gift of all – His Son Jesus Christ! Thank you for visiting the Christmas Drive Thru and Merry Christmas!