

# LivingCharacters

Lubbock Christian University Center for Character Development

## Mary

### Part 1

#### Background Information

Many writers in history wrote about this **Most Special Baby**. Some of the writers even told of where and how he would be born. This baby was the fulfillment of the promise given to Abraham centuries earlier.

Israel was a tiny country under the rule of powerful Rome. Could anything important happen in this place?

#### Chapter 1

Who was the young lady in this story?

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Who was the angel, and what was his secret?

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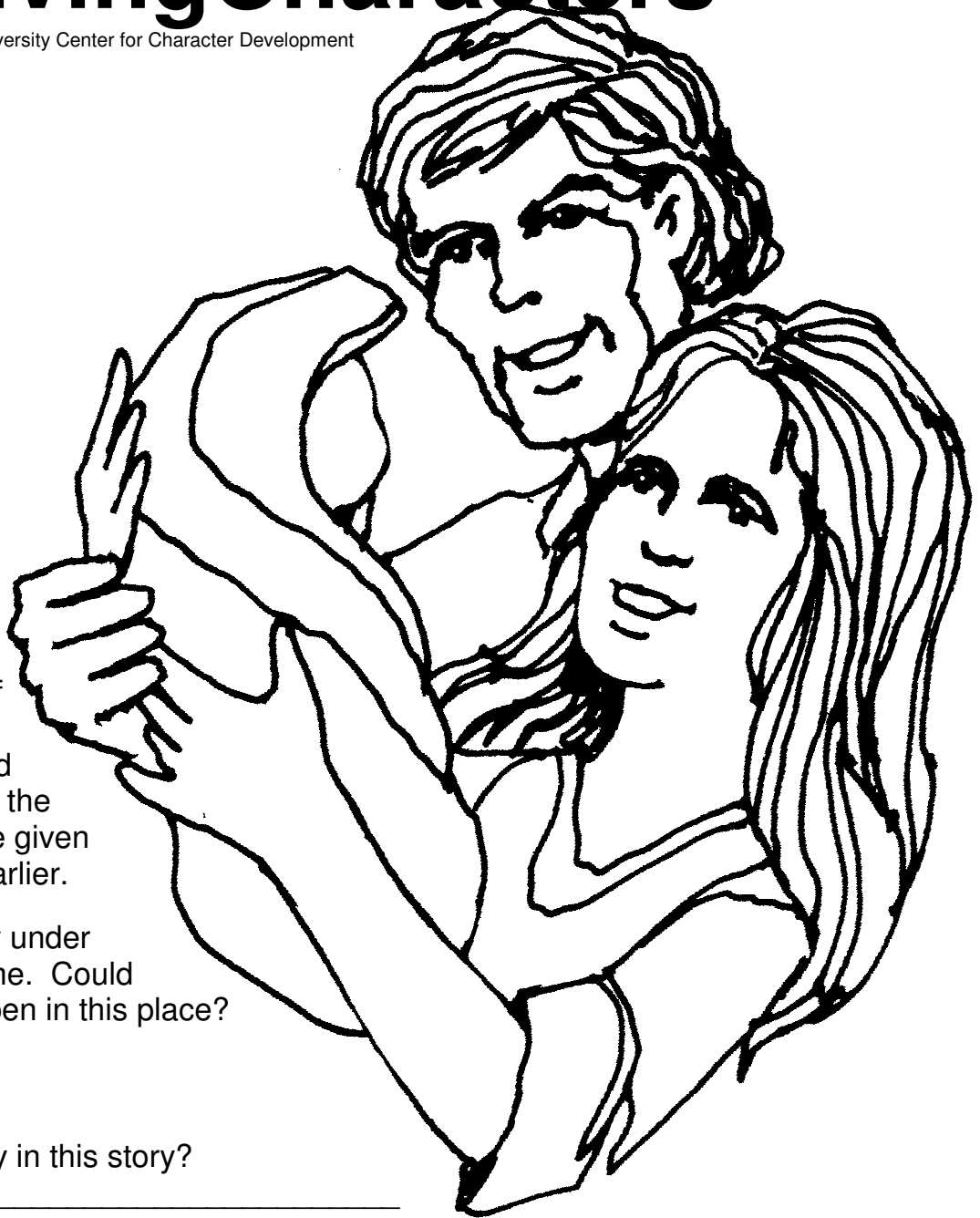
What was the young lady's reaction to the angel's secret?

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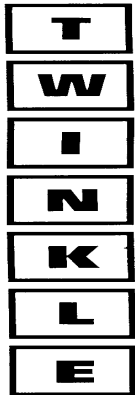
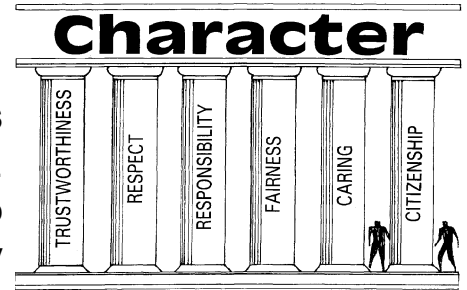
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# Six Pillars of... **Character**

## Understanding Values and Virtues

From the beginning of time people have had principles to live by. Even special people, chosen for special work, were expected to live by the accepted standards. We can learn a lot by studying the historical people of every age.



## The **Ethical Process** in finding solutions to any problem.

**Think**

**Weigh** all the parts which make up the problem. Separating the symptoms from the causes.

**Investigate** the perception of the ethical dilemma. Is it based on selfishness, self-interest, self-protection or self-righteousness? (The four natural enemies to ethics.)

**Now**, is right or wrong involved? How do we determine which is involved?

**Know** your ethical vocabulary (six pillars). Review and reflect on their supporting words.

**Look** for the higher ethic or standard.

**Evaluate** the outcome. Is it truly a good character decision?

History tells us Mary was of the family of King David. Prophets said a special child would be from the family of David. Many people during this time were expecting the coming of a man they called the Messiah. Mary was engaged to a man named Joseph. Gabriel told her she was highly favored.

## What was so different about the story of Mary. How did she show character when she heard the secret?

She was a virgin and was asked to believe she was going to have a baby. What was happening to her had not happened to any other woman.

What kind of background and character would she need to believe?

Background

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Character

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## History Says

Mary was engaged to Joseph. History tells us Gabriel appeared to Joseph and told him everything would be all right. When Caesar Augustus ordered a census taken in the entire Roman world Joseph took Mary with him to his home town to register.

## Chapter 2

In what town was **The Most Special Baby** born?

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What problem did Mary develop?

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Why did Joseph and Mary have to spend the night in a stable?

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What did Joseph and Mary name **The Most Special Baby**?

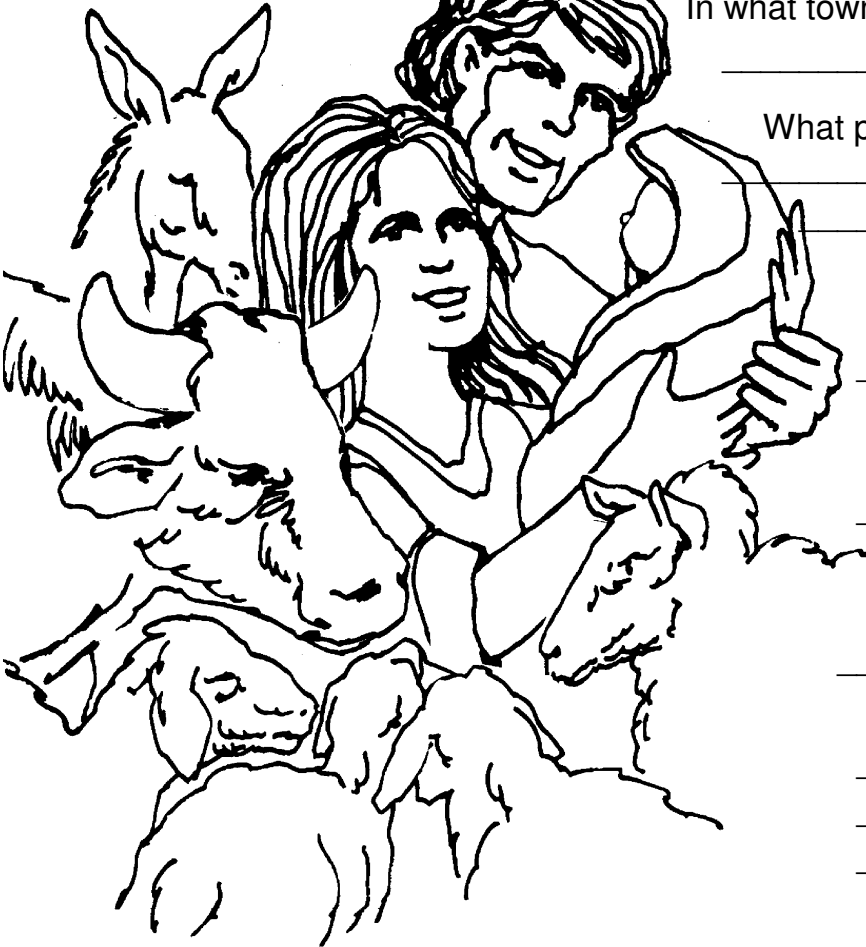
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Why did they give him his name?

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## Is it fair for good people to have bad things happen to them?

Mary didn't ask to be the mother of Jesus.

Was it fair for Joseph to have to listen to the talk about his wife to be?

How do you think she felt being pregnant when she wasn't married?

Why did Joseph have to take Mary all the way to Bethlehem when she was pregnant?

Was it fair that a pregnant woman could not have a room?

Was it fair for **The Most Special Baby** to be born in a stable with all the animals?

**I cannot determine if things are fair around me. I can only determine if I am fair to all around me.**

# Difficulties did not change Mary's character?

How did Mary demonstrate:  
trustworthiness in what seemed to be an impossible situation?

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respect and responsibility in believing the angel?

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caring in making the best of a bad situation?

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## How could difficulties effect the good character words I use in my life?

Trustworthiness

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Respect

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Responsibility

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Fairness

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Caring

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Citizenship

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**What have I done this week to demonstrate good Character?**

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