

“Birth of Jesus”

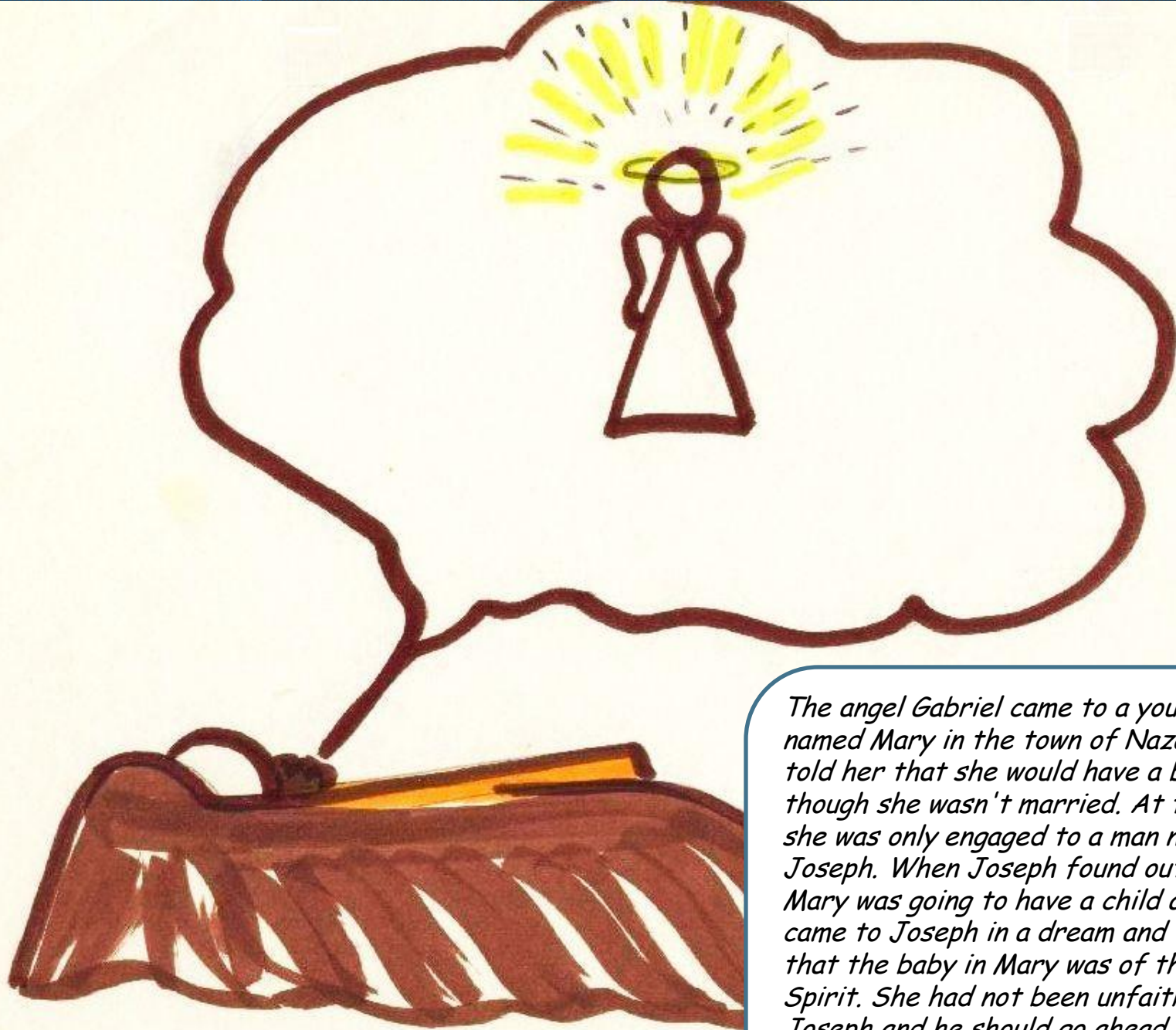


“Flipbook Bible Stories”

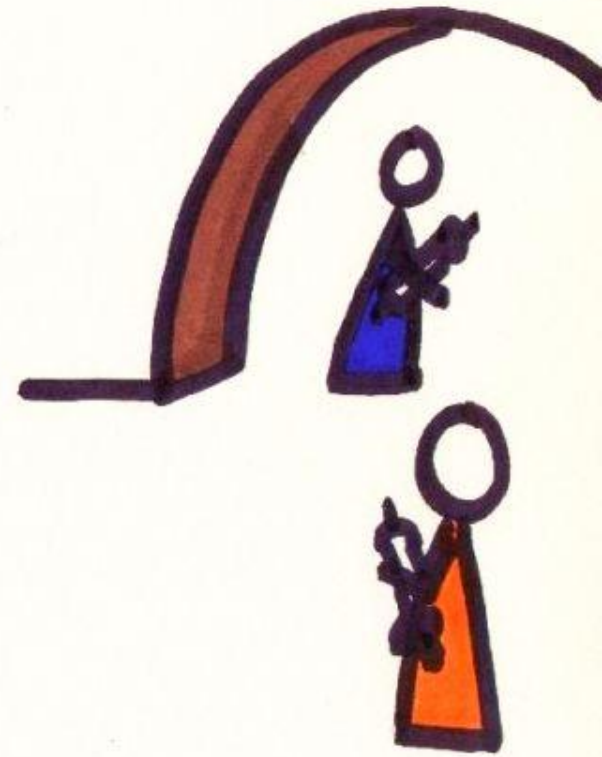
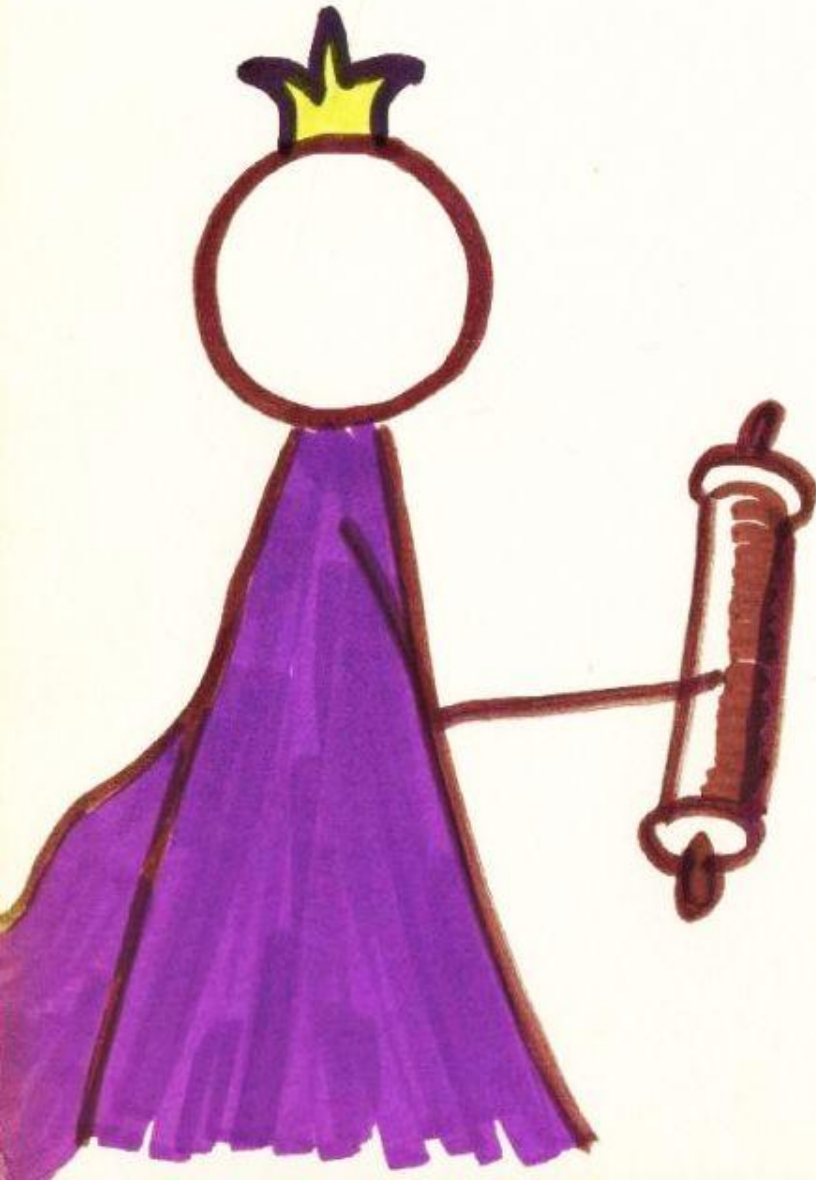
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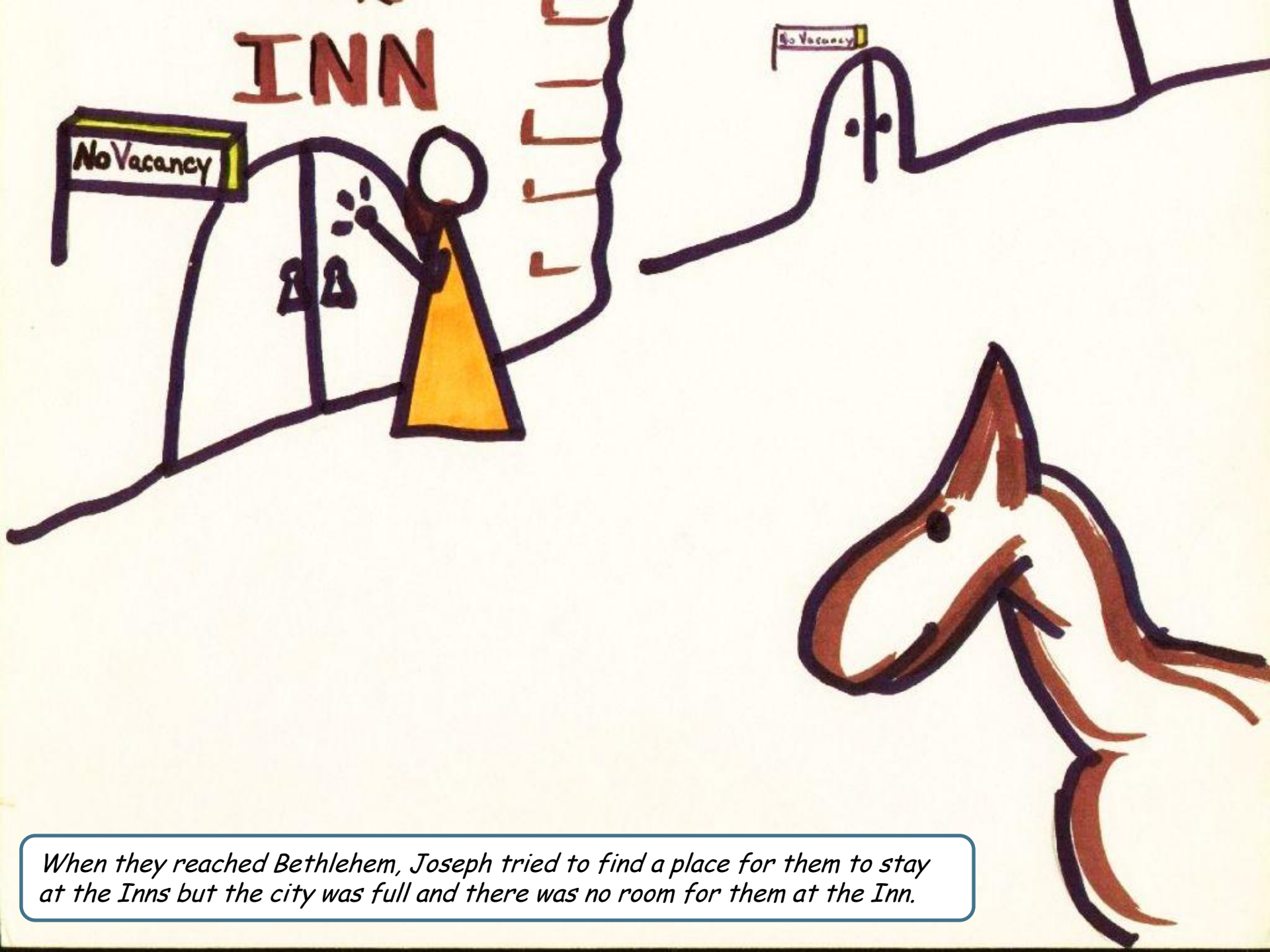
The angel Gabriel came to a young woman named Mary in the town of Nazareth. He told her that she would have a baby even though she wasn't married. At that time, she was only engaged to a man named Joseph. When Joseph found out that Mary was going to have a child an angel came to Joseph in a dream and told him that the baby in Mary was of the Holy Spirit. She had not been unfaithful to Joseph and he should go ahead and marry her. So Joseph took Mary to be his wife.



At about that time, Caesar August, Emperor of Rome, sent out a decree over all the land, saying that everyone had to go to his hometown to register for taxes.




So Joseph took Mary and went to Bethlehem which was his hometown, to register for their taxes.



When they reached Bethlehem, Joseph tried to find a place for them to stay at the Inns but the city was full and there was no room for them at the Inn.



So that night, Jesus the Son of God wasn't born in a hospital or even a house, He was born in a stable where the animals lived and laid in a manger.

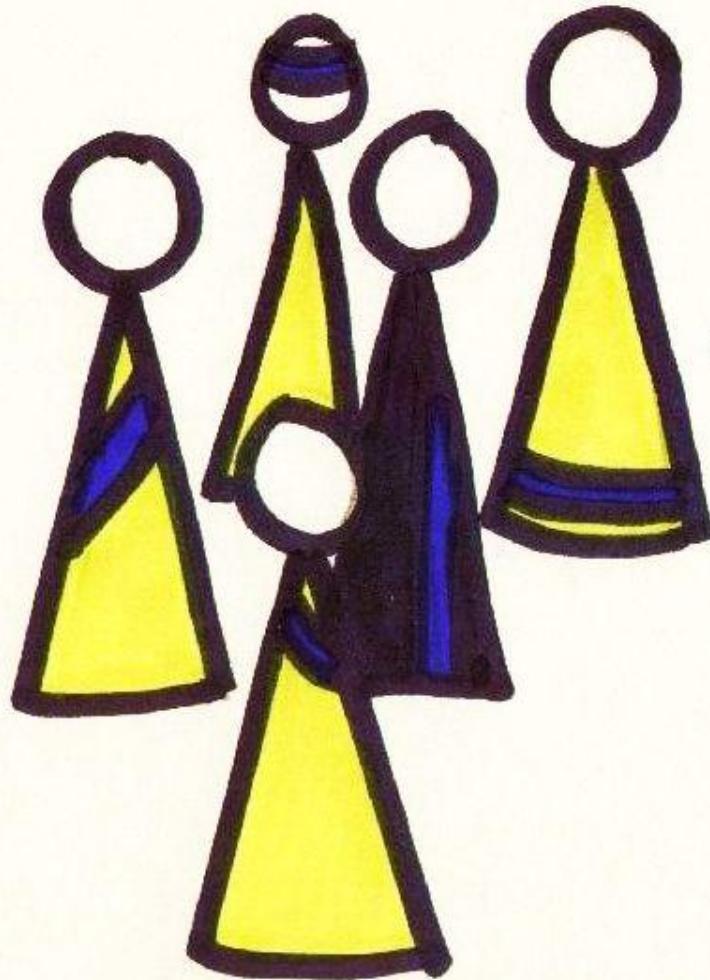


That night, there were some shepherds watching over their flocks out in the field. Suddenly in the darkness there appeared an angel. "Don't be afraid", he said, "I bring you good news! To you is born in the city of David, a Savior and He is called the Lord. Now you will find Him wrapped in swaddling clothes and He will be lying in a manger." Then suddenly the sky lit up with angels as a whole chorus of angels began to sing "Glory to God in the Highest and on earth peace, good will to men." And the shepherds went to Bethlehem and found the baby and worshipped Him.

Now when the time came that Jesus be dedicated to God as the firstborn son of the family, Joseph and Mary took Jesus to the Temple along with two birds to offer as a sacrifice as the Law of Moses commanded. And there was an old man in the Temple named Simeon who was a very good man. It had told to him by God that he would not die until he had lived long enough to see the Son of God. When Simeon saw the baby Jesus, he took Him in his arms and blessed God and said, "Now I can die in peace for my eyes have seen the salvation of the Lord." There was also a prophetess in the Temple named Anna who was 84 years old. She lived in the Temple and spent all her time fasting and praying. She also when she saw the baby Jesus began thanking God. Joseph and Mary were amazed at all the things that were being said about their child.



There were some wise men from the east who traveled to Jerusalem. They began asking "Where is He who is born to be King of the Jews?" We saw his star in the east and have come to worship Him." When King Herod heard of their question he called the wise men and asked them to search carefully throughout Bethlehem for the child and to come back and tell him so that he too could go an worship him.



So the wise men followed the star until it came to rest over the place where Jesus was. They went in and worshiped Jesus, giving Him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

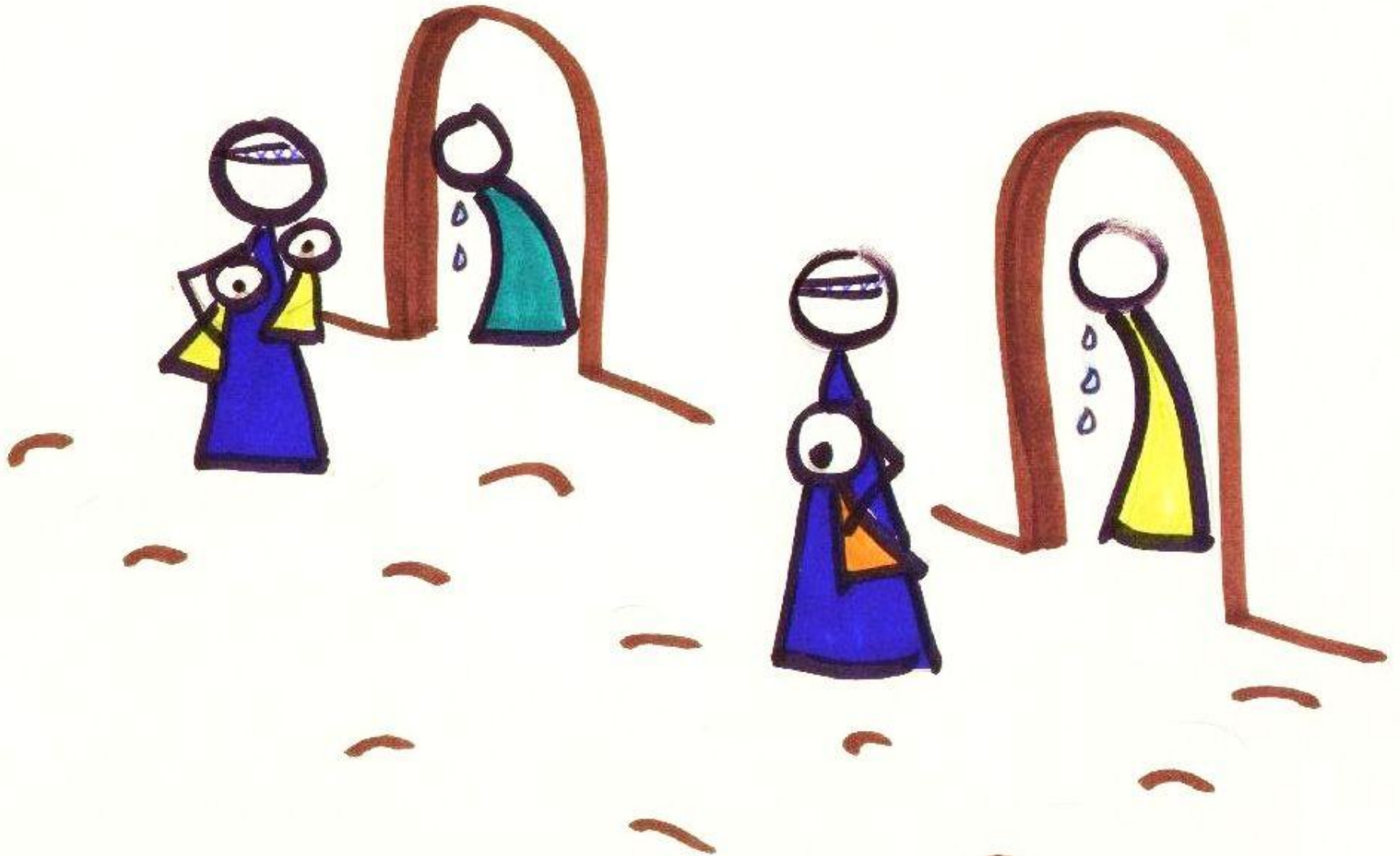




But the wise men were warned by God in a Dream. King Herod didn't want to worship Jesus, he wanted to hurt Jesus! The wise men were told not to go by Herod's home but to go back to their own country by another way. Now when the wise men had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother and go quickly to Egypt and remain there until I tell you to come back. King Herod is going to search for the child to try to destroy Him."



So Joseph took Jesus and Mary that very night and left for the land of Egypt.



Now when King Herod learned that he had been tricked by the wise men he became very angry. So he sent and had all the baby boys in Bethlehem killed. It was very sad in Bethlehem that day. King Herod was a bad man.



When King Herod died, an angel appeared to Joseph in Egypt and told him to take Jesus and Mary back to the land of Israel for the ones seeking to hurt Jesus were dead. So Joseph took his family back home to Nazareth where Jesus grew up.



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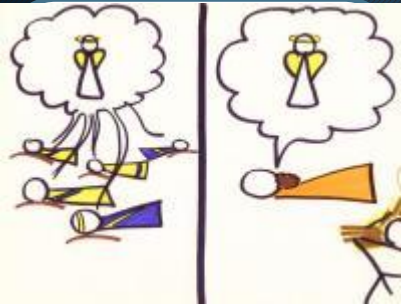
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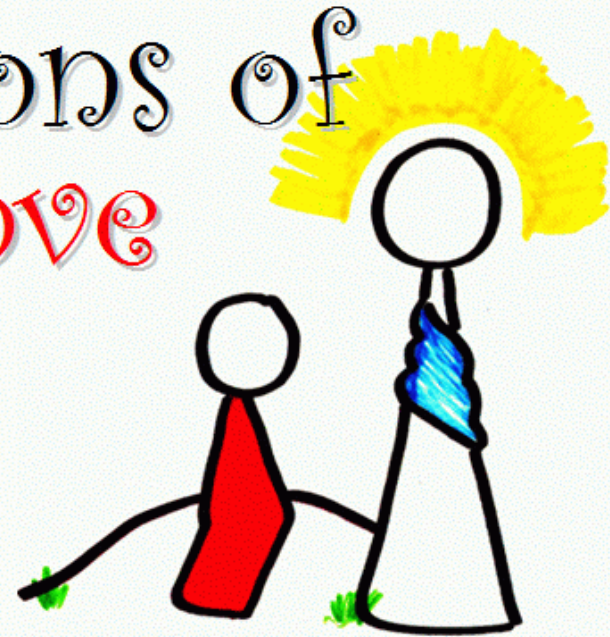
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NOTES:

Lessons of Love



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