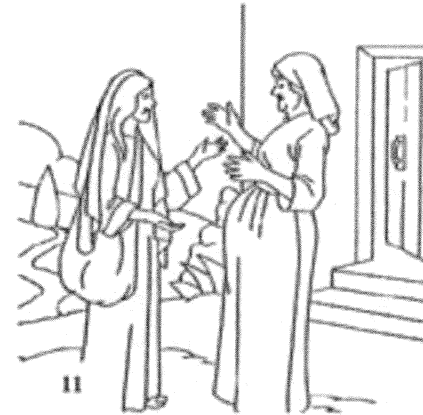




9  
Mary became engaged to Joseph at Nazareth. He was a loving and sincere young man. Everyone celebrated that there would soon be a wedding.



10  
Soon after she was engaged a very special thing happened to Mary. While she was praying God's angel came to tell her that God had chosen her to be the mother of the Savior.



11  
Before Jesus was born Mary went to visit her cousin Elizabeth, who lived near Jerusalem, Elizabeth was also going to have a baby. Her son, John, would be Jesus' cousin and friend.



12  
Mary stayed with Elizabeth. They thanked God for loving them and for their special children. Mary and Elizabeth had always loved little children.



13  
An angel also came to Joseph while he was sleeping. The angel told him that Mary's baby was God's child. Joseph would marry Mary and Jesus would be a son to him.



14  
Before Jesus was born Joseph and Mary had to go to Bethlehem to register as citizens. They made a long journey and when they arrived could not find a room.



15  
The only shelter that Mary and Joseph could find was a stable in a cave used for animals. Here, Jesus the Savior was born. Mary his mother, wrapped him in a blanket and placed him in a manger for a crib.



16  
Mary would fix Jesus a snack when he came from school. It might have been honey on fresh bread. They would talk together and enjoy each other's company, Mary loved Jesus.