

Traveling to Bethlehem

Have you ever wondered why Mary was traveling with Joseph to Bethlehem when Jesus was born? She was betrothed or engaged to Joseph, but they were not married yet. Why was she traveling with him instead of with her own family?

To the Jewish society of 4 B.C., Mary was a sinner. She was an unwed mother-to-be. In the first century, the least that would happen to her would be that she would be shunned by society. She very easily could have been an outcast from her own family.

If the letter of the law had been followed, she would have been stoned to death. The only thing that saved her was the fact that Joseph stood by her. An angel had informed him of what was going on. He believed the angel, but that does not mean that anyone else believed him. Mary may have felt safer with Joseph.

Mary evidently felt so much of an outcast in her hometown that she chose to travel to Bethlehem in the late stages of pregnancy rather than stay home in Nazareth by herself. It is not easy to travel now, on smooth roads in air-conditioned cars, during the final stages of pregnancy. Mary was walking, riding a donkey, or riding in a cart pulled by a donkey. This was a long, hard trip.

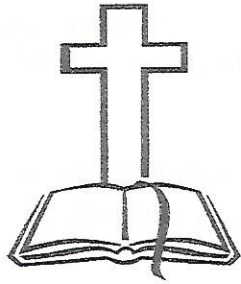
Mary endured being an outcast to be what God wanted her to be. She endured the long, uncomfortable trip to be where God wanted her to be. God had revealed centuries before that the Messiah was to be born in Bethlehem of Judea.

Are you willing to endure any discomfort to be what God wants you to be? Mary became a willing servant of God. Are you willing to give up your life to follow Jesus?

Raymond

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LEACHVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST



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Elders: Larry Brooks, Rudi Cagle, and Ken Beach
Deacons: Jerry Bolar, Joel Ingram, and Matthew Sills
Minister: Raymond Lasley
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Sunday, August 12, 2018

<p>Prayer List Updates</p> <p>Terry and Braden Lafferty – in Puerto Rico on a mission trip</p>	<p>Upcoming Events</p> <p>Tuesdays ladies' Bible study; 10 am children welcome</p>	<p>Correspondence Course Ministry</p> <p>week of August 6-11: 5 lessons graded</p>
<p>Birthdays</p> <p>Claude Salley August 15 Braden Drury August 17 Jimmy Towell August 17</p>	<p>Announcements</p> <p>A committee is being formed for the centennial celebration October 5-7. To serve, see Larry Brooks or Matthew Sills.</p>	<p>August Haiti Needs</p> <p>rulers erasers powdered milk</p>
<p>Memory Verse</p> <p>A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a difficult time.</p> <p>Proverbs 17:17</p>	<p>There will be a graveside service for Linda Taylor September 2 at 2:00 in the Leachville cemetery. Dinner will be served after for close friends and family at the former Malt Shop. If you wish to attend the meal, please R.S.V.P. to Barbara Lloyd at 870-539-6506 no later than August 24.</p>	<p>Last Week's Attendance</p> <p>Sunday morning: 57 Sunday evening: 30 Wednesday evening: 34</p>

Weekly Service Assignments

<p>Sunday Morning</p> <p>Bible class: 9:45 am worship: 10:45 am</p>		<p>Sunday Evening 6:00 pm</p>	
<p>First Prayer</p>	<p>Ken Beach</p>	<p>First Prayer</p>	<p>Rudi Cagle</p>
<p>Announcements</p>	<p>Ken Beach</p>	<p>Closing Prayer</p>	<p>Matthew Sills</p>
<p>Second Prayer</p>	<p>Rudi Cagle</p>	<p>Lord's Supper</p>	<p>Larry Brooks Rudi Cagle</p>
<p>Scripture Reading</p>	<p>Matthew Sills</p>	<p>Wednesday Evening 7:00 pm</p>	
<p>Lord's Supper</p>	<p>1. Ed Young 2. Raymond Lasley</p>	<p>First Prayer</p>	<p>Ken Beach</p>
<p>Closing Prayer</p>	<p>Larry Towell</p>	<p>Closing Prayer</p>	<p>Matthew Sills</p>
<p>3. Matthew Sills 4. Peter Salley</p>			