

JOSEPH'S DREAMS

SCENE I

NARRATOR: In a very small and poor place, there lived a cheerful and worker named Joseph. Joseph daydreamed of marrying Mary, so young and cheerful like him. They were already formally committed, when Joseph's dreams were point of becoming a nightmare. Let him tell us himself:

JOSEPH: Mary, my dear Mary, was absent from the town for a while. She told me she was going to helping his older cousin, who was expecting a child, and so she traveled to Ain Kareem.

I was looking forward to it. Every day I used to pass in front of his mother's house in case she was back. But I knew Mary. He knew he would stay there until his cousin will need it.

JOSÉ: Mary ... what happened to you? Are you pregnant? Can't be...

MARY: Joseph ... it's hard to explain... but something special has happened...

JOSEPH: You have been forced along the way! I told you not to go alone...! So many happen things to women....

MARY: No, Joseph... it wasn't that... You see... I would like to explain...

JOSEPH: So what?

MARY: One day I received a greeting from God...

JOSEPH: Mary, I am a carpenter ... A poor carpenter of Nazareth. What are you telling me? I don't understand anything about angels or divine greetings. I'd better go....

JOSEPH: I left it with the word in my mouth. What to do? That's it! I'd leave in secret! What would become of Mary? But I couldn't handle it.... What was that about a greeting from God? Mary is a woman of God, of that I never had doubt ... well, whatever it was, that Mary arranged herself with God and God with Mary. That things ... are for good people, for holy people. I was just a poor carpenter. It would just disappear. "Goodbye Mary, it breaks my heart, but this is too much for me."

NARRATOR: He fell asleep. And that night, in a dream, he heard something new... It was an angel who told Mary ... don't be afraid.

That Mary was expecting a creature who would bring salvation to the world. They both needed it. He couldn't get out of the way. Joseph would be there and put him name. I would call him Jesus, which means "God saves."

JOSEPH: My heart was filled with peace when, waking from sleep, I went home from Mary and I said: done, come with me.

There was no lack of gossip, for, against... Only we could understand the meaning of that dream that invited me to welcome something totally unexpected.

NARRATOR: So today we have a question for you. What are your dreams in relation to FAMILY? Think of your small family and also let's dream in big! What are your dreams about the Josephine Family?

SCENE II

NARRATOR: Finally, Jesus was born. Not as Joseph would have foreseen, to whom he would have liked to prepare a comfortable and well-furnished place, which for that was carpenter. Joseph soon realized that the things of God are not easy to foresee. The boy brought great joy. Not so in the palace of King Herod ... that son they started plotting something to take him down.

Years later, Jesus was a restless boy, who liked to ask questions. One day, he was helping Joseph in the workshop, and wanted to know why his parents emigrated to Egypt.

JESUS: Dad, how did Mom and you have to go to Egypt?

JOSEPH: It was shortly after you were born.

JESUS: And why?

JOSEPH: The truth is that I still wonder.

JESUS: Did Egypt seem more beautiful to you?

JOSEPH: No, no... We had to run out of our country.

JESUS: Why?

JOSEPH: Look, Jesus, I'll tell you something a little unpleasant, but it's important just so you know... Herod, the king, wanted to kill you. We had to flee.

JESUS: Dad... If Herod didn't know me...!! If I hadn't done anything wrong to him, how did you know?

JOSEPH: One night, in a dream, I felt the voice of God again with a mission for me. I, he said, "Joseph, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, for Herod seeks the child to kill him."

JESUS: And how was your journey?

JOSEPH: Very difficult. I told your mom. We got on our way right away, at midnight.

The road was long, dangerous, we had no means ... we were stopped at the border.

We had to wait for someone to lead us somewhere else to pass unnoticed.

JESUS: And what was Egypt like?

JOSEPH: Egypt is beautiful ... But, look, son ... come to a foreign country, without knowing the language, not knowing how to make a living ... it's very difficult.

JESUS: What did they do?

JOSEPH: At first, everything was very difficult... We had to sleep in the street, beg for alms, walking aimlessly ... until we found some Hebrew families, refugees also, like us. They gave us accommodation for a while. I told them it was carpenter and I started doing some construction work. They paid me one misery, but I had no way of defending myself or demanding justice.

MARY: The luck is that we had each other... and we had you.

JESUS: Do people believe in God there?

JOSEPH: They have other religions ... Yes, they believe in God, in their own way. We missed the synagogue, but in that place, there was nothing like it.

MARY: We prayed every day, at dawn, at dusk. You were very small and sometimes you interrupted us crying or playing ... when you grew up a little, you started to be interested in that and to remain silent next to us, looking at the horizon.

NARRATOR: I think, at all times, many people have gone through similar situations. They have had to flee their countries because of hunger, war, violence ... In the twenty-first century people also know this situation. What are your dreams regarding migrants and refugees? ¡Let's dream big! ¿How can the Josephine Family contribute to this whole field of human mobility? And also, counting on that work is what unites us men and women of all the centuries and all the places of the world, what are your dreams regarding to work? And ... the same ... dreaming big... what new sense of work we can share with our contemporaries.

SCENE III

NARRATOR: A few years passed. Joseph and Mary, with little Jesus followed in Egypt until, again, Joseph received a message in a dream saying that they had dead those who attempted against the child's life. They had already settled in there.

But, they felt the need to return to Israel, where everything would help the child to grow up in the faith of his parents. Jesus was still interested in knowing the details of that stage, so that he would take advantage of any break in the carpentry to ask his father.

JESUS: And then, was it the angel who commanded you to come to Nazareth?

JOSÉ: Well, yes, he told me that we could go back to Israel... He didn't say anything about settling in one place or another. But it seemed safer to go back to Galilee. And anyway, here were Mary's parents, my old friends... this is all that know...

JESUS: Coming back to Nazareth ... must have been exciting...

JOSÉ: To return to one's own land, where one feels he has his roots ... it is always exciting.

JESUS: And what happened? Surely in Egypt you had earned money to buy a house ... and tools...

JOSEPH: Ha-ha ...no, son ... No, none of that... We had to start over. I used to date often from Nazareth, to look for work in the surrounding villages.

MARY: Returning to Nazareth was one of the most beautiful experiences of my life. When I saw from afar the village, the fountain, the roads, the fields ... I felt that my heart it was overturning. It all began there: our story together, to welcome you, Jesus, walking hand in hand with God... We could find him in all things: in the people, at work, between us.

JOSEPH: My old colleagues, other artisans, helped me get a job. As you know, son, in the guild you have to do everything: cut down trees, make timber, turning them into beams, into furniture, into doors ... is every carpenter's dream! Turn the trunk that the earth offers us into something good and useful for everyday life.

JESUS: How strong and brave you were, Dad!

JOSEPH: God is strong and your mother is brave, son!

JESUS: And you too, I want to learn many things from you... but now, I'm going to play with my friend Jacob.

(Mary and Joseph are left alone)

JOSEPH The thing is... I also learn a lot about him ... With how small he is, but ... it has a "something"...

MARY: He is a boy like the others, but he has the charm of God ... how will he be major?

JOSEPH: I do not forget the words I heard in a dream: "You shall call him Jesus because he will save his people ... "How do you think that will be? Will he be a priest, a prophet, preacher, and king, chief of armies? It doesn't fit in my head...

MARY: I suppose it will be ... as it is today: simple, cheerful, generous... We do not know Joseph. But the truth is that he has A MISSION ... and I tell you something?

JOSEPH: What, Maria?

MARY: I am happy with the mission that you and I have shared all these years... I have often thought that one and the other, both of us, God entrusted us with a great mission.

JOSEPH: You mean taking care of Jesus?

MARY: Yes, and much more, because by caring for Jesus, we take care of the world, people...

JOSEPH: And in time, we may discover that this mission we share is more... In other words, it fits more people, more places, more generations...

NARRATOR: All of you, men and women of the twenty-first century, take place in this shared mission. Would you like to share your dreams regarding the MISSION SHARED?

And Joseph, who loved to dream so much, and who in his dreams received incredible messages from part of God, dreamed of a future in which Jesus would fulfill the meaning of His name: GOD SAVES. The name that he, Joseph, a poor carpenter of Nazareth, as father, I had him.