

Christmas Surprises

What if the whole world was in danger and it was your job to save everybody? How would you do it?

- Would you ask somebody important—like a president or a prime minister—to help you?
- Would you tell someone at the TV station to warn people?

- Would you call on a superhero?

Those are some good ideas. But that's not how God saved the world. God's way was full of surprises.

ILLUSTRATION BY SCOTT HOLLADAY

A SURPRISING Hero

Since almost the very beginning, our world has needed a Savior. And God promised to send one. But when the time was right, God didn't send an important person like a president. Or a superhero. Or a TV person.

S • o • i • e! G d e n a b a b .

Baby Jesus didn't look like somebody who would save the world. He just looked like an ordinary baby. He couldn't hold up his own head at first. He cried when he was hungry. He slept a lot.

But baby Jesus was also God's Son, the Savior of the world. Our hero!



A SURPRISING Servant

God could have made baby Jesus just appear—poof!—like magic. But God didn't want that. God wanted Jesus to be a real human person as well as God's Son. So Jesus needed to be born.

God could have chosen a queen or some other important person to be Jesus' mother. But God didn't choose someone important.

S • o • i • e! G d c h e M a f N a a e h .

Mary was a Jewish girl, probably a young teenager. In Mary's culture, young girls were unimportant. But Mary was ready to do whatever God asked, and that made her the perfect choice to be Jesus' mother.



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