

Through Difficulties

Luke 2:1-20

An unwanted journey,
a pregnancy without the benefit of marriage,
the birth of a first child in a stable –
 for Mary and Joseph, being used by God brought one difficulty after another.
But He always provided, step by step.
What's more, He used each struggle to glorify Himself.

Father, I can be joyful and thankful in all my difficulties as well,
 for You always provide.
You use each challenge to show me and all who know me
 just how good and great You are!

Like Mary and Joseph,
what a privilege to be involved in Your amazing, timeless purpose!
Such suffering was perhaps the
 most important,
 most far-reaching,
 most God-glorifying thing they ever did.
It was surely the greatest adventure they ever experienced.
The most important, most far-reaching, most God-glorifying things I ever do
 will involve suffering and difficulty for me as well.
Keep my eyes on You through each challenge.
Keep my faith alive and strong.

Knowing You,
serving You,
being joined to You
 stretch my faith and endurance.
They force me to release all comfort and control.
But as I do, I share in all that You are and
 all You are doing.
You become my comfort.
You become all my security.
You become my destiny.

Father, my Father, I am joyfully, comfortably, and completely Yours!

Hymn: [Partners in the Mystery](#)