

Dec. 23, 2018
“A Difficult But Joyous Journey”
(Luke 1:39-49)

This story is about Mary, the mother of Jesus, going to visit her cousin,
_____.

Elizabeth was married to a priest named _____.

What were some thoughts that went through Mary’s head?

**1.- Perhaps she thought that life certainly has some strange
_____ and _____.**

Mary should have known that her life would be no _____.

In a world filled with _____ it is important to know that our
Lord was at one time a refugee himself.

Mary and Joseph were never _____, but he was an able
_____, and Jesus was growing in stature and in favor with
_____ and _____.

Many of us have a difficult time coping with life because we think life
ought to be _____ and _____.

Yet, in the _____ of God, sometimes we discover we
have our most reliable times of _____ when life is challenging.

Some of our difficult times are designed to _____ us
spiritually.

**2.- She surely also wondered about God’s _____
and how he always keeps his _____.**

First of all, she is _____ that the God of all creation could
have chosen her for the high honor of bearing His Son.

(over)

God is _____. Not only because He chose the lowly maiden of
Nazareth, not only because He takes care of us, but because He keeps
His _____!

3.- The _____ she felt in her heart.

Mary’s _____ for Jesus, however, is but a pale _____
of God’s love for all God’s children.

Life doesn’t always work out so neatly, of course, but Christmas is all
about _____ and _____!

The _____ of Christmas still shines today!