

JAMES
To all nations!

PETER
Brethren, what we have seen, the people need to know. They are ready and many will listen.
What we thought was the end is the beginning.

(The Apostles and disciples begin to leave.)

DISCIPLE
It's not over, Cleopas. There *is* something *we* can do.

CLEOPAS
And in Jerusalem!

JOHN
(quietly)
Peter, what about Thomas?

PETER
We will find him.

(Before exiting, Peter turns to look back into the room.)

BLACKOUT

(A grove in Jerusalem. Mary, Mary Magdalene, Mary Mother of James (?), Martha and Mary, Salome, Joanna and two children, REBEKAH and JOSHUA, are picking fruit from a tree, placing them into baskets.)

MARY MOJ
. . . but I said, "I don't *care* if walking to Jerusalem brings this child before its time. I will be with my Lord and He will bless me.

JOSHUA
I just can't wait to see him again!

REBEKAH
When will we leave for Galilee?

JOANNA

We don't know, Rebekah, but soon. The angel said Jesus would go before us and we'll meet Him there.

MARY MAGDALENE

It's true, what He said, isn't it—that this experience would be like childbirth?

MARY

Yes, “A woman when she is in travail hath sorrow . . . but as soon as she is delivered of the child, she remembereth no more the anguish.”

MARY MAGDALENE

We've been grieving for three days and suddenly the grief is forgotten!

MARY MOJ

No, not forgotten. Losing a son, even the Son of God, is a sorrow that can never be forgotten, but it has changed. In our sorrow, we are finding joy.

MARTHA

Mary, did I ever tell you about the first time Jesus came to our home?

MARY MOJ

No, Martha.

MARTHA

No? Oh, He was traveling with his disciples near our city of Bethany. I had heard of this man, the Savior, but the moment I saw him my heart knew him. I invited him into our home to rest and to eat. I wanted so much to show him that I knew who He truly was and that I was a covenant Daughter of God. I did what I thought every good woman should. I frantically began straightening the home and preparing the food. The Savior was in our home. I wanted everything to be perfect for Him.

MARY

And I just wanted to sit and bask in His presence!

MARTHA

My gentle sister, Mary! And me, I was so frustrated! I also wanted to sit at his feet and listen to his words, but there was work to do and my sister was just sitting there. I said to him, “Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? Bid her, therefore, that she help me. He looked at me with love in his eyes as though He were looking into my soul. He said, “Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things. But one thing is needful, and Mary hath found and chosen that good part which shall not be taken from her. He was so gentle

in his counsel, but it pierced me to my core. He was not saying that what I was doing was wrong. He was asking me to choose something better, something that would change my life.

MARTHA

*Lay aside your labors, still your anxious heart.
Ponder His instructions and choose the better part.
He won't expect perfection, just a contrite heart.
Hear His loving counsel to choose the better part.
To choose the better part.*

MARY MOJ

Thank you

(RESUME SCRIPT on page 82)

THOMAS

Sisters!

SALOME

Thomas!

THOMAS

Mary Magdalene, I've been looking for you since yesterday. Peter said you'd gone back to the garden