

## Sample Pages Set #3

### "Mrs. Jolly's Christmas Guest"

by Frederick Passmore copyright 2025 Sheep Laughs Publications

**Narrator:** Welcoming her in warmly, Mrs. Jolly begins to explain why her family had to leave so suddenly, and how the Lord really "took her to the woodshed" over her poor treatment of her neighbor earlier. As she apologized further, Matilda expressed surprise that the Lord would want Mrs. Jolly to show her kindness. Taking the opportunity this presented, Mrs. Jolly handed her the gift she had prepared for her, assuring her that the Lord loved her, and she could find out more about this in His Word. Promising that she would read it every day, she gratefully accepted the gift. But in her face, you could see that she was even more grateful for the gift of love and friendship that Mrs. Jolly was giving her.

**(Actions during the next paragraph.)** *As Matilda is leafing through the gift Bible, Mrs. Jolly moves beside her and points out some verses. Matilda follows along carefully, pausing to ask the occasional question, to which Mrs. Jolly turns to another passage and reads it to her. Nodding, Matilda is open to the truth she is hearing. The scene goes on like this as the narration ends and the song plays.*

**Narrator:** As Matilda leafed through the gift, she repeated some of her earlier questions pertaining to the importance of Christmas, and why there was such a lot of celebrating over a baby born 2,000 years ago. This time, Mrs. Jolly was listening... and she called upon her years of Bible study and teaching to lead Matilda to a number of verses that explained who Jesus was, and how His birth was the entrance of God into the world in a physical body. She relates verses that show that Jesus came into this world through a miracle, as He was the only sinless person ever born. Being God incarnate, only He could grow up sinless, to take all our sins upon Himself and suffer and die for them, a perfect sacrifice that satisfied the requirements for the payment of the sin debt we all have. She shares how trusting in Christ, believing in Him and asking him for forgiveness, is the only way to salvation and inner peace. Hearing the Word of God as Mrs. Jolly witnessed to her, the Spirit of God was working in her heart to bring her to Jesus.

**(NOTE: THIS IS WHERE THE ORIGINAL HEARTFLIGHT SONG IS HEARD: "Come Dwell In My Heart.")**

**(Actions during the song.)** *As the back-and forth conversation progresses, and Mrs. Jolly turns from one verse to another and pointing teach one out to Matilda, who reads each one, we see Mrs. Jolly close the Bible and ask Matilda if she would like to be saved. Matilda nods, and Mrs. Jolly takes her by the hands as they pray together. Mrs. Jolly leads in prayer, and we see Matilda repeating after her for each sentence. Finally, the both lift their heads, and Matilda wipes her eyes, emotional over what she has just down. Mrs. Jolly also wipes her eyes, drying tears of joy over her friend receiving the Lord.*

**(Actions during the next paragraph.)** *Matilda hugs her with a huge smile, and as they hold each other for a moment, more tears are shed even with the smiles. As they are talking, the doorbell rings again. A little alarmed, Mrs. Jolly cautiously goes to the door and peeks out, then happily lets in her son and family, who have come back to be with her. They also bring in, lastly, the daughter-in-law's mother. They explain to Mrs. Jolly that his wife's mother didn't feel like cooking dinner, so she agreed to come back with them to Tom's mother's house ,where the Christmas dinner was already cooking. Mrs. Jolly is beaming and happy that her family has returned, and after greeting everyone happily, she draws Matilda forward from the corner where she had retreated, telling them all that her friend would be joining them for the holiday.*

**Narrator:** As Mrs. Jolly and the angels rejoice over the salvation of a soul, Matilda expresses her happiness over not only being saved, but also having a friend who cared enough for her to share what Christmas, and the Gospel of Christ, was all about. Mrs. Jolly apologizes again for not taking the time to do it earlier, and for being too caught up in getting ready for a family that didn't even stay with her. She explains to Matilda that the Lord has taught her the importance of putting the needs of others ahead of one's own needs. Mrs. Jolly stands as she recalls that the turkey is still in the oven, and is probably ready to come out. But before she can make it to the kitchen, the doorbell rings. With a wondering expression, Mrs. Jolly walks over to it, a little concerned about opening it to someone that she wasn't expecting. But when she does, her heart leaps to see her son and family standing there! As they all come in, Mrs/ Jolly is even more surprised to see her daughter-in-law's mother accompanying them. Her son Tom explains that once they got to her apartment, she had not felt like fixing dinner, and when he had suggested that they all go back together his mother's house for Christmas dinner, she was open to it! Mrs. Jolly welcomes her, and then, it was their turn to be surprised, as she introduced Matilda to

them, explaining that she is a friend who would be spending the holiday with them as well. Everyone greets her warmly, which she responds to with a wonderful smile and wipes her eyes as she is introduced to them all.

**(Actions during the next paragraph.)** *During a silence in the narration, Mrs. Jolly introduces each of her family members to Matilda one after the other, finishing with the two grand-children, who respond to her with warmth, giving her a hug as they greet her, which thrills Matilda. Mrs. Jolly lets them all know that dinner is almost ready, and her daughter-in-law moves to go into the kitchen with her, but they stop by the door and talk softly for a moment. As they apologize to each other, they embrace, and then proceed to leave the stage to go set the table. Matilda sits down and picks up the Bible that Mrs. Jolly gave her, and Tom comments on it. He recognizes it as the one they gave to his mother, but he says nothing, except that it is a wonderful gift. As the kids come over to look at it, she invites them to sit with her as she turns the pages, and they do, as she begins to read the Christmas story to them. The smallest of the grandchildren moves to sit on her lap, and she lets her, then, she continues reading to them.*

**Narrator:** As Matilda happily chats with her new friends, Mrs. Jolly draws her daughter-in-law aside and softly talks to her. She apologizes for the things she said earlier, and expresses her regret at the unkind things she said. Her son's wife also apologizes for the things she said, and explains that when she heard her mother didn't feel well, she was concerned and felt she needed to be there, particularly at Christmas. Once the suggestion was made by her son to come back here, where a dinner was already waiting, her mother was happy to do so. Mary realizes that things were not so cut-and-dried as she imagined them to be, and she saw that when people are upset about things like that, stress can take a toll, and feelings can be hurt easily. As they leave the room, Tom notices that Matilda is holding the Bible that they gave to his mother, and he comments on how nice it is. She explains that Mary had given it to her as a Christmas present, so Tom says nothing, except that it's a wonderful present. Just then both of Tom's children move to sit beside Matilda, looking at the Bible as she leafs through it, and she asks them if they would like for her to read them the Christmas Story. Moving closer to her, they listen as she begins to read... and then, the youngest of the children climbs onto her lap, which delights Matilda, who then continues reading.