Luke 1:42-44 (NLT) ⁴² Elizabeth gave a glad cry and exclaimed...

⁴³...Why am I so honored, that the mother of my Lord should visit me?
⁴⁴ When I heard your greeting, the baby in my womb jumped for JOY.

Luke 1:46-49 (NLT)

Mary responded, Oh, how my soul praises the Lord. ⁴⁷ How my spirit REJOICES in God my Savior! ⁴⁸ For He took notice of His lowly servant girl, and from now on all generations will call me blessed. ⁴⁹ For the Mighty One is holy, and He has done great things for me. Luke 2:10-11 (NLT) ¹⁰ ...the angel reassured them. "Don't be afraid!" he said. I bring you good news that will bring GREAT JOY to ALL people. ¹¹ The Savior - yes, the Messiah, the Lord - has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David!

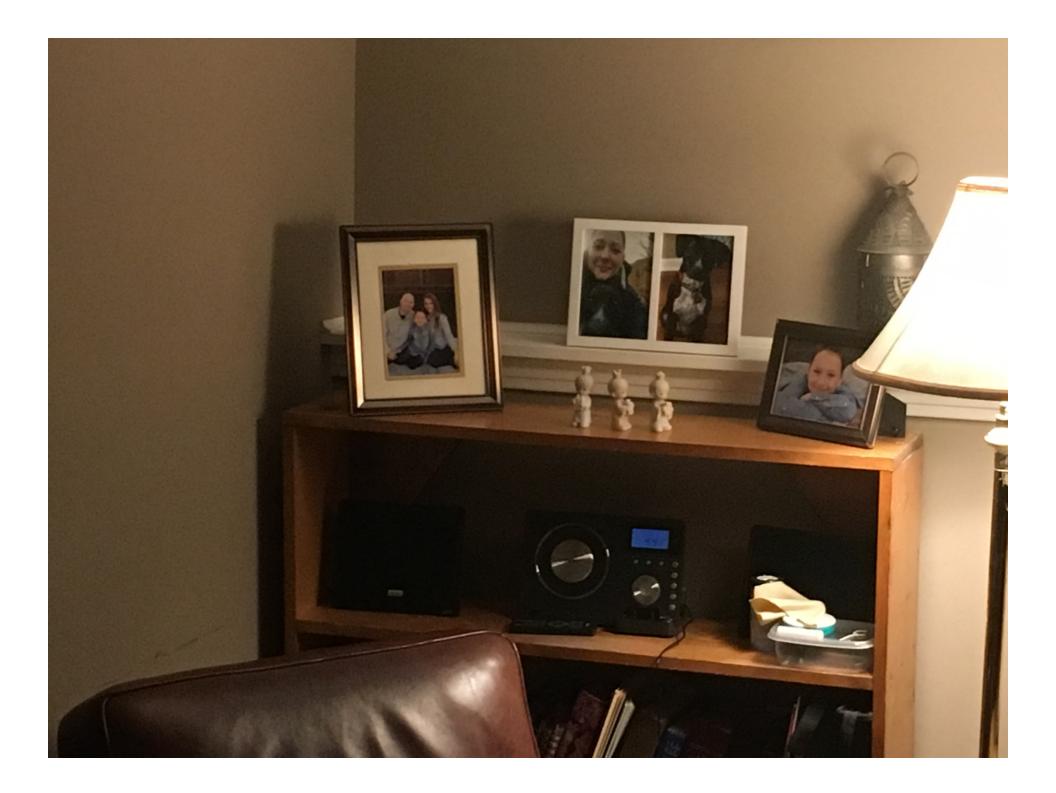
Matthew 2:10-11 (ESV)

¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹ And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped HIM...

Exceedingly Abundant JOY

Matthew 2:1-12





MARY...

PTW

BELIEVED what Gabriel said
 SUBMITTED to God
 ACTED on what she heard

God chose the OPPOSITE of what the Word would Choose

⁴⁷ How my spirit **REJOICES in** <u>God my Savior</u>.

⁴⁸ For He took notice of His lowly servant girl

1 Corinthians 1:26-31 (HCS) Brothers, consider your calling: Not many are wise from a human perspective, not many powerful, not many of noble birth. ²⁷ Instead, God has chosen what is FOOLISH in the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen what is WEAK in the world to **shame the strong**.

 ²⁸ God has chosen what is insignificant and despised in the world - what is viewed as nothing to bring to nothing what is viewed as something,
 ²⁹ so that NO ONE can BOAST in His presence.

These Verses Show the... HNT

 birth of Jesus had WORLDWIDE impact
 Messiah was a GIFT from God to ALL NATIONS
 CONTRAST Jewish priests and these Gentile Noblemen What a CONTRAST between Religious Leaders, Priest and Wisemen

> ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with GREAT JOY. (ESV)

The Magi were Men who...
Read and BELIEVED God's Word
SOUGHT the King of the Jews
Recognized the WORTH of Christ
HUMBLED themselves to Worship Jesus
OBEYED God rather than man

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WORSHIP is a lot More than just Singing or FEELING Something

¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were FILLED with JOY. ¹¹ They entered the house and saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they **bowed down and** WORSHIPED him... (NLT)