

**Esther and Emmett:** ‘Mary’s Magnificat!’

Esther: Hi Emmett. (Emmett is holding/looking through a magnifying glass)

Emmett: Hi Esther. Wow! What large eyes you have today!

Esther: Emmett, why are you looking at me through a magnifying glass?

Emmett: It’s not just you...I’m looking at everything through a magnifying glass!

Esther: Why?

Emmett: I’m trying to do what Mary did?

Esther: Which Mary?

Emmett: Mary, the mother of Jesus!

Esther: I know about Mary the mother of Jesus, but I still don’t understand why you are looking through a magnifying glass!

Emmett: I’m looking through a magnifying glass, because I am trying...to magnify the Lord!

Esther: Oh, you’re talking about Mary’s Magnificat!

Emmett: Mary had a cat??

Esther: Not a ‘cat’ – a “Magnificat”

Emmett: Sounds like quite a cat.

Esther: It’s not a cat! ‘Magnificat’ is the name given to the words Mary said when she visits her cousin Elizabeth. The word ‘Magnificat’ is Latin – it means ‘magnify’.

Emmett: Which is why I have a magnifying glass – I should see if I can find a cat to look at and magnify!

Esther: Mary’s words are really a song about God and God’s love.

Emmett: Really! What does the song say about God?

Esther: Mary was amazed and thankful that God cared about her, when she wasn’t anyone considered important in the world. She wasn’t a world leader.

Emmett: Isn’t everyone an important person to God?

Esther: Exactly, and that's what Mary says. She says that God cares about all people. She says that God lifts up the lowly.

Emmett: Lifts up the lowly...that sounds like when I slip on the ice and someone helps me get up.

Esther: I think it is like that. Sometimes people slip on ice; but sometimes people feel like they have stumbled and fallen because life is difficult; because they are hungry and can't buy food; or they feel like nobody cares about them.

Emmett: Wait a minute...I think I see...and not just through my magnifying glass!

Esther: You mean you have an idea?

Emmett: Yep! Mary was Jesus' mother, right?

Esther: Right!

Emmett: And Mary said God feeds people who are hungry and God cares about everyone...right?

Esther: Right!

Emmett: And you said that what Mary said was really a song that Mary sang?

Esther: Right!

Emmett: So maybe...just maybe...Mary sang this song to her baby Jesus and then, when Jesus grew up, he remembered that song and he treated people the way the song said God treated people.

Esther: Oh Emmett! What a beautiful way to see this story! It's like Jesus sang the Magnificat to others; as if his life was a kind of song about God's love.

Emmett: So everyone could see how much God loved them by how much Jesus loved them!

Esther: Maybe that's what Mary meant when she said that her soul magnified the Lord, that her soul made God appear larger.

Emmett: You're right, that's probably what Mary meant...but I'm not sure I know what you mean when you say that was what Mary meant!!!

Esther: I mean that when you look at things through that magnifying glass, they appear

larger. It makes it easier to see things. When we love people, and care for people, and help people get food and shelter, then we make it easier for people to see God's love in this world.

Emmett: Wow! So I don't need a magnifying glass for God.

Esther: You can see God in the love of Jesus and the love of other people. And we can help people see God's love by the way we care for one other people.

Emmett: So we can all magnify God!

Esther: Yes, we can.

Emmett: Now, can you tell me about the cat Mary had?

Esther: Mary didn't have a cat. She had a Magnificat!

Emmett: Right...Mary's Magnificat. What a great song!

Esther: About our great God! AMEN!

Emmett: And AMEN!