

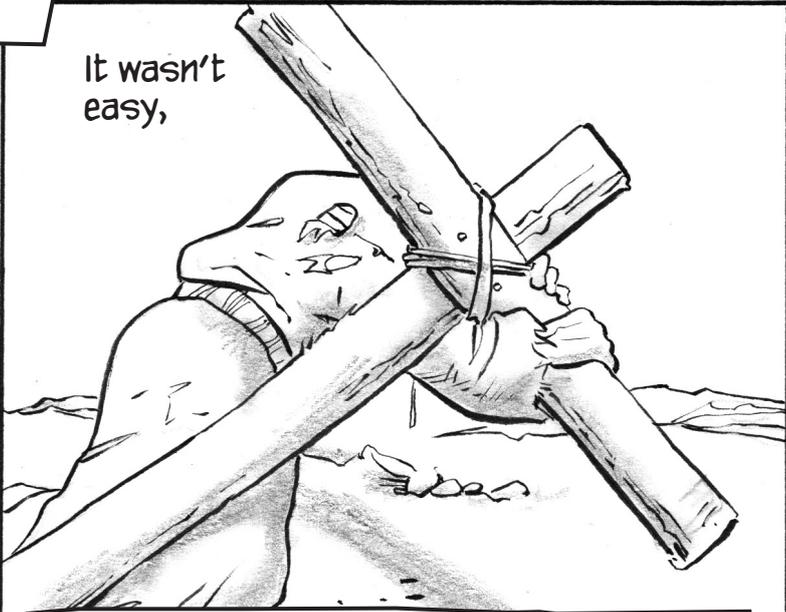
# The Gift of a Thankful Heart



When I came to earth, it wasn't to host a celebration

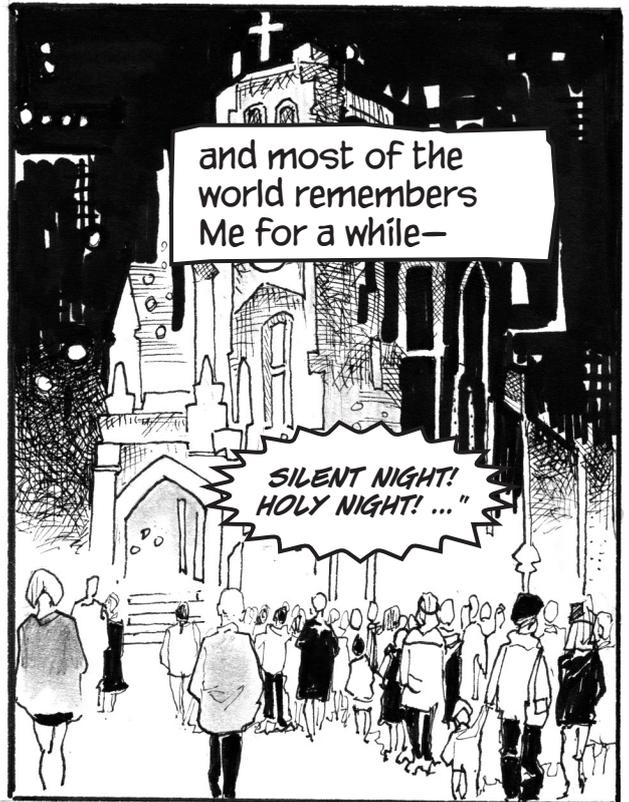
or to initiate one of the top shopping days of the year.

I came because of *you*—your eternal salvation—and coming to earth was the only way for Me to achieve that.



It wasn't easy,

but knowing that your joy and your eternal future was at stake made it worth it all.



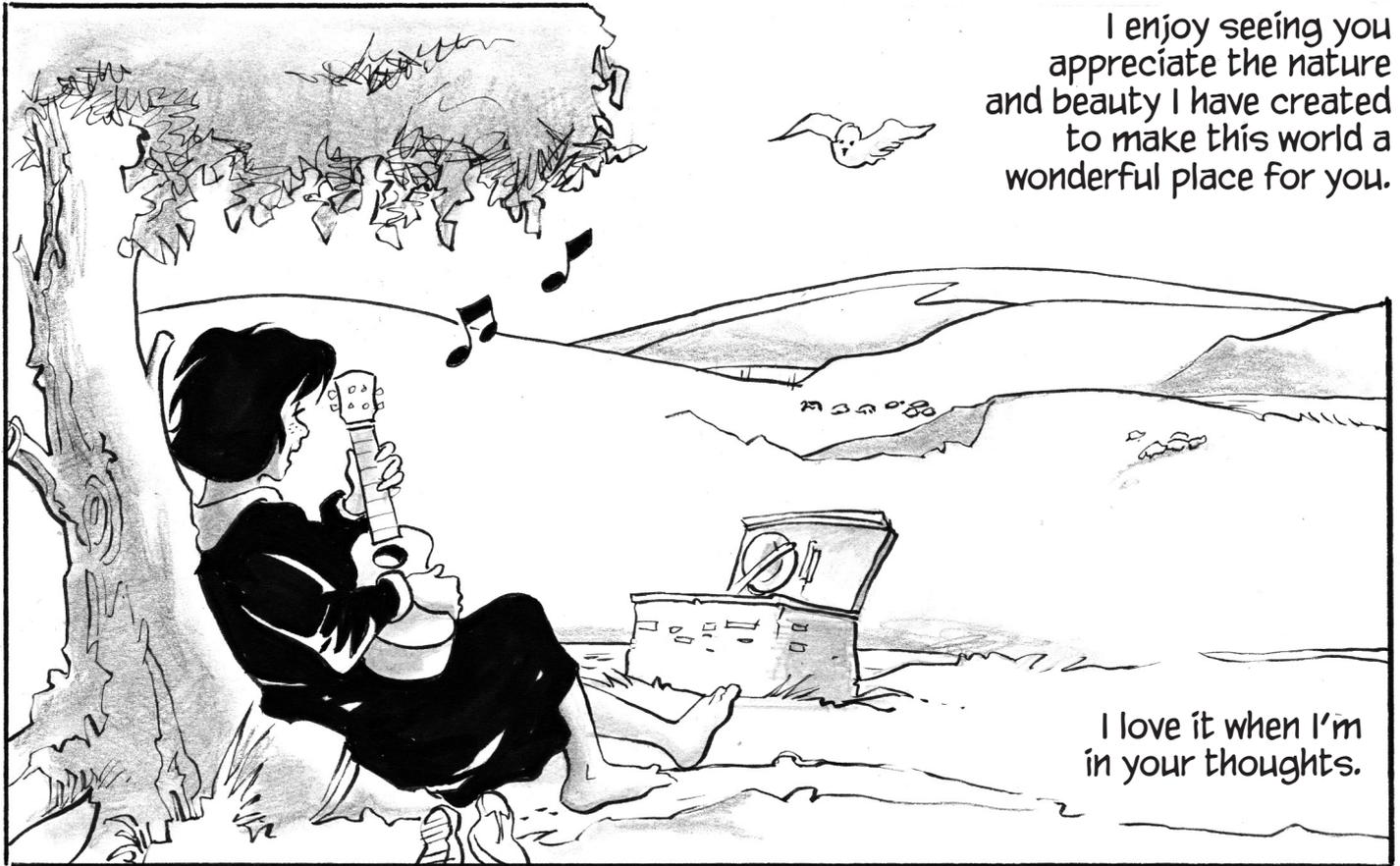
## What can you give Me this Christmas?

A thankful heart is one gift that I cherish anytime.

HEY! IT'S AN INVITATION TO BE IN THIS YEAR'S IRISH DANCE COMPETITION! THANK YOU, LORD!

You make Me happy when you are appreciative of My blessings, great and small.





I enjoy seeing you appreciate the nature and beauty I have created to make this world a wonderful place for you.

I love it when I'm in your thoughts.

It is even more beautiful when you find something to thank Me for despite difficult or unhappy circumstances.



It's easy to be thankful when everything is going well.

I'M SO HAPPY!  
MY DANCING DRESS FITS JUST RIGHT!



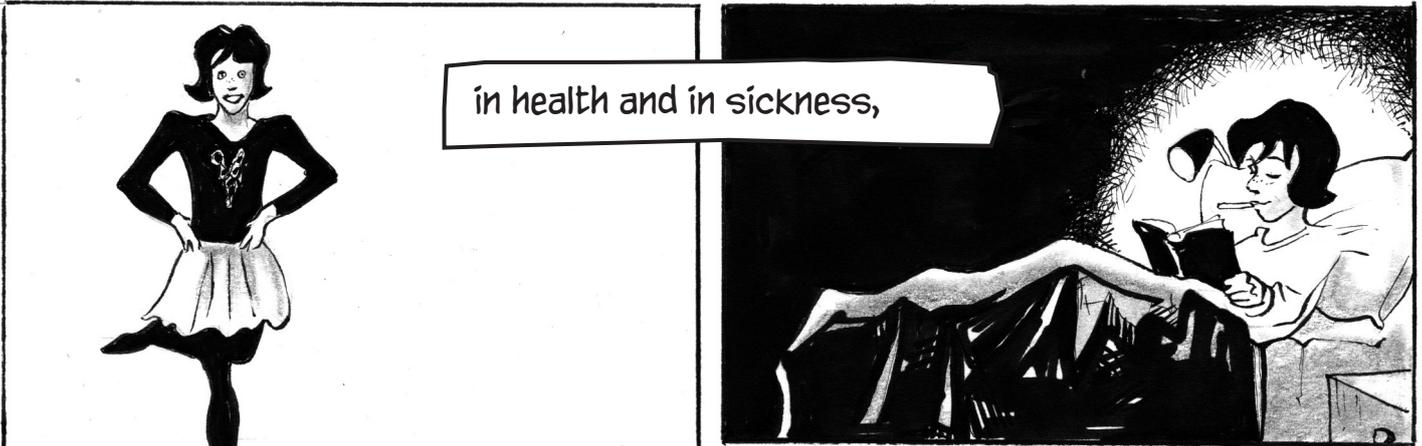
But when you can remain thankful during adversity,

THE SHOES ARRIVED, BUT THEY ARE THE WRONG SIZE!

HELP ME TO SEE THE GOOD IN THIS, LORD.

it shows even greater trust that I will work things out for you.

That's special, and I give you additional blessings in return.

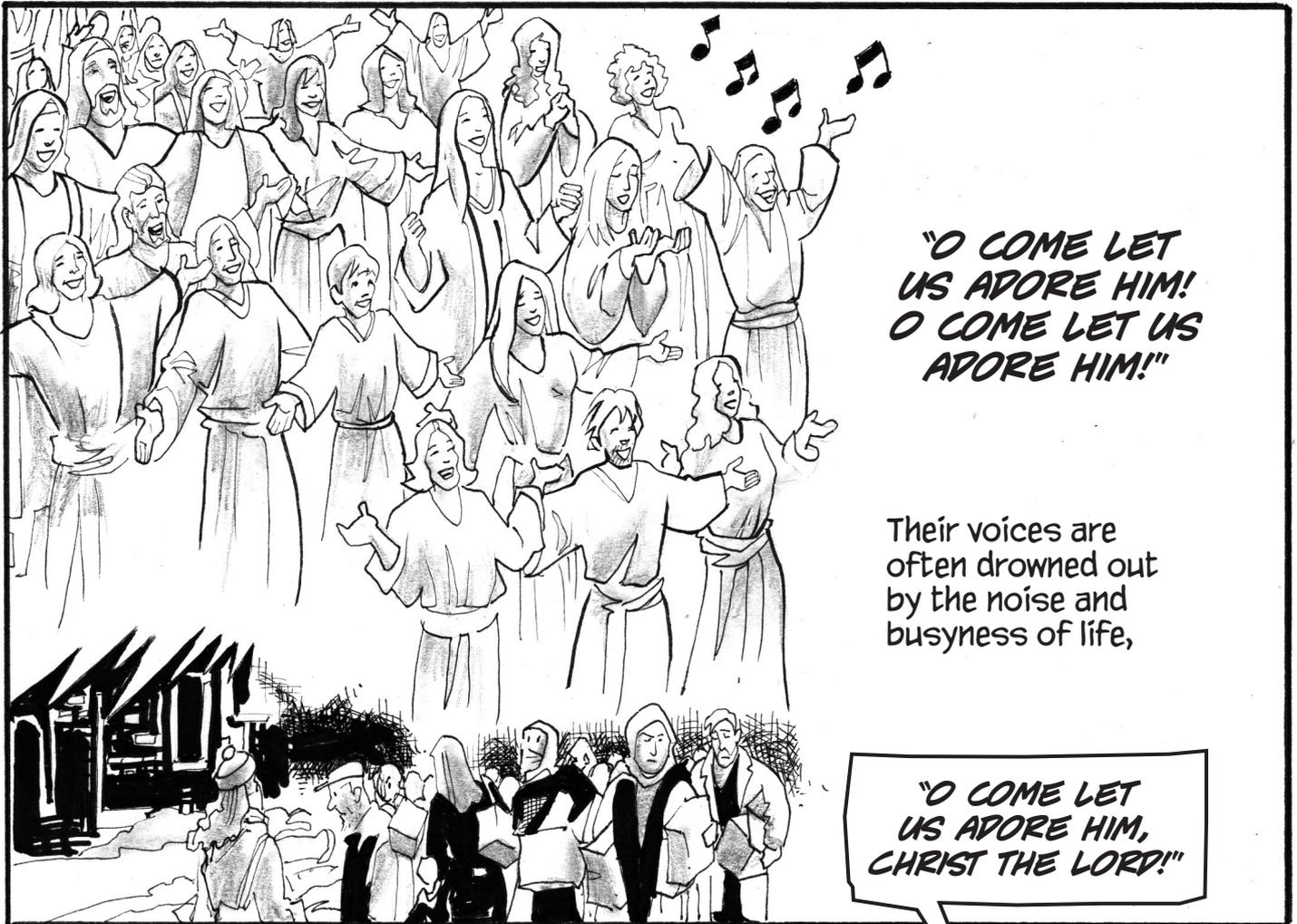


in times of abundance and in times of lack.



Thank Me because you know that everything is in My hands. My presence is with you no matter what you face, working all things together for your good.

The angels who sang praises on the night I was born still do so today.



**"O COME LET US ADORE HIM!  
O COME LET US ADORE HIM!"**

Their voices are often drowned out by the noise and busyness of life,

**"O COME LET US ADORE HIM,  
CHRIST THE LORD!"**



but if you listen carefully,

you'll hear them.



Join them in singing and thanking My Father.

S&S Link: Character Building: Values and Virtues: Gratitude-2b and Christian Life and Faith: A Personal Connection with Jesus: Joyfulness-2a

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