Another First Noel – A Christmas Devotional

Inspired by the carol 'The First Noel'

The First Noel is one of our favorite Christmas carols—one that many of us have heard or sung countless times. At first glance, it simply tells the story of that holy night when Christ was born. But if you pause and think about it, the word Noel means "birth." So, when we sing about The First Noel, we're celebrating the first birth—the arrival of Jesus into our world.

But that phrase—The First Noel—can mean something even deeper. For some, it's not just about what happened in Bethlehem long ago. It can also speak to a moment much closer to home: the moment Jesus is born in us. The moment we place our faith and trust in Him.

Maybe for some of us, this season feels like just another Christmas—another date on the calendar, another round of traditions. But for others, it's something brand new. Because every time someone comes to know Jesus, it's another First Noel. A new beginning. A spiritual birth. A heart made alive in Christ.

I'd be willing to bet there's someone here who's experienced that this year—your very first Christmas as a believer. Your first time singing these songs knowing who Jesus truly is. If so, this is your First Noel. And what a miracle that is.

That idea inspired a friend and me to write a song called "Another First Noel." It tells the fictional stories of a young boy and a woman—two people whose lives were changed when they came to faith in Christ. But really, their stories reflect the journey many of us have taken—or maybe are still waiting to take.

So tonight, as you listen or sing along, let this be more than just another Christmas. Let it be a celebration of the birth of Christ—and maybe even the birth of Christ in you.

Maybe tonight could be your First Noel.