

WOMEN OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

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Pray and ask God to help you to know Him better as you study His Word.

Read the Bible passage (preferably without using commentaries).

Begin to answer the questions using your own words.

Questions are based on the New International Version (NIV) 2011 edition.

LESSON 17

1. What truth, verse or insight from last week's study of **Mary of Bethany** was helpful to you?

SECTION I: Read Luke 8:1-3

2. What do you learn about Mary Magdalene from **Luke 8:1-3**?

3. a) **Mark 5:2-5** describes a man who was possessed by demons. From this passage, what do you think Mary Magdalene's life may have been like before she met Jesus?

b) How was Jesus' authority over demons demonstrated in **Mark 5:6-13** and **Luke 4:33-36**?

4. Which stronghold(s) of sin has the Lord driven from your life, or which stronghold(s) of sin do you desire to surrender to His authority?

5. a) How did Mary Magdalene and the other women express their gratitude to Jesus for His deliverance and healing? (See also **Mark 15:40-41**.)

b) What sacrifices and benefits do you think their devotion and support to Him may have involved?

6. What does the way you invest your resources reveal about your gratitude to Jesus? What holds you back from being more selfless in your service to the Lord?

SECTION II: Read Matthew 27:55-28:8

7. a) From **V55-56**, where was Mary Magdalene, and what had she seen and heard? (Refer to **V32-54**.)

b) Who was with her at the cross (**V56**)? Where were the disciples? (See **Matthew 26:56** and **John 19:25-27**.)

8. In **V57-61**, where was Mary Magdalene by this point, and what had she witnessed?

9. a) Put yourself in Mary Magdalene's shoes. What did she experience at the tomb in **Matthew 28:1-8**?

b) From **Mark 16:1-2** and **Luke 24:1-8**, why did she come to the tomb, and which words of Jesus did she and the other women remember?

10. Which of the promises of God do you struggle to "remember" when life gets scary, confusing, or hard?

SECTION III: Read John 20:11-18

11. From **V11-13**, what question did the two angels ask Mary Magdalene at the tomb, and how did she respond?

12. How would you describe Mary Magdalene's interaction with Jesus in **V14-16**?

13. What do you think it was like for her to do what Jesus told her to do in **V17-18**?

14. a) According to **Luke 24:9-12**, to whom did Mary Magdalene and the women go, and how was the news received?

b) What surprises you about the disciples in contrast to Mary and the women? (See also **Question 7b**.)

14. c) How willing are you to deliver the good news of the resurrection of Jesus to those who may consider it "nonsense"?

15. a) Mary Magdalene's life had such a "bad and ugly" beginning, yet such a "good" ending. Which of her character traits do you value most? Explain why.

b) Write a prayer asking the Lord to grow those traits in you.

DIGGING DEEPER

1. What are the tactics or characteristics of:

a) the devil (serpent, satan, dragon)

Genesis 3:1-5 _____

John 8:44 _____

1 Peter 5:8 _____

Revelation 12:9-10 _____

b) the demons (fallen angels, impure spirits)

Mark 1:34 _____

James 2:19 _____

2. What can we do to protect ourselves from satan's schemes:

James 4:7 _____

Revelation 12:11 _____

3. **Ephesians 6:10-18** is packed with ammunition against the devil.

a) From **V12**, what is the key insight into some of the struggles we have with people?

b) We need to put on the full armor of God. Which part of the armor do you need to be more intentional about? (**V13-17**)

c) For **V17**, why do you think God gave the visual image He did for the Word of God?

d) Why would **V18** be included following these verses on the armor of God?

4. Suggested Memory Verse: **Romans 8:38-39**

