

The Women Who Followed Jesus

Luke 8:1-3; 23:49; 55-56; 24:1-10
(Mat 27:55-56; Mk 15:40; Jn 19:25)

- I. **WOMEN ARE INDIVIDUALS.** *seen in the various accounts of Gospel women*
 - A. **Different Personalities** (Mary and Martha)—no one ideal personality for Christian women
 - B. **Different Ministries** (Rom 12:4-8)—utilizing different gifts; financial support, traveling ministry team, hospitality, cooking, discipleship, anointing, etc...
 - C. **Different Social Situations**
 1. **Marital Status** (Mat 22:30; Lk 10:41-42; 11:27-28)—relationship with Jesus is forever and takes priority, even over marriage
 2. **Economic Circumstances**—rich and poor; from the wife of Herod's household manager to the widow offering her two pennies in the temple
 3. **Moral Backgrounds**—respectable to notorious sinners; Jesus' mother and Mary Magdalene are together at the cross of Jesus
- II. **WOMEN ARE REDEEMED.** (Lk 19:10; Mat 9:12; Ruth 3:9; 4:14) *healed of demons and diseases, forgiven, restored, valued*
 - A. Jesus is our **Kinsman Redeemer**.
 - B. Jesus restores **freedom and creation glory** to women.
- III. **WOMEN ARE DISCIPLES.** *valued souls and intellects*
 - A. **Jesus discusses theology with the Woman at the Well.** (Jn 4: 7-26)
 - B. **Jesus defends the choice of Mary of Bethany to sit at His feet.** (Lk 10:42)
 - C. **Angels at the Tomb remind the women of Jesus' teaching.** (Lk 24:6-8, Mt 16:21; Mk 8:27-31; Lk 9:18-22).
- IV. **WOMEN ARE WITNESSES.** *dismissed in their culture but equal in the church*
 - A. **The Woman at the Well is the Messiah's witness to her town.** (Jn 4)
 - B. **The Women at the Tomb are the first witnesses of Jesus' resurrection.** (Mat 28:8-10; Mk 16:9; Lk 24:9-10; Jn 20:1-2, 10-18)
- V. **WOMEN ARE MESSENGERS.** (Mat 28:7, 10; Mk 16:10; Jn 20:17-18) *Sent by Jesus with instructions for the men—placing them in company of angels and prophets!*
- VI. **WOMEN ARE FRIENDS.** (Lk 20:10-16; Jn 11:5)
 - A. Jesus **heals and restores** everything ruined by the Fall. *Male-female relationship*
 - B. Jesus restores **equal dignity** to women.
 1. **As Humans** (Gen 1:27)—equal image-bearers of God
 2. **As Christians** (Joel 2:28-29/Acts 2:17-18; Gal 3:26-29)—equal heirs with sons