



**Winter 2020–2021 Theme:**  
The Call of God in the New Testament  
**Unit III: The Call of Women**

### Lesson Titles:

**Showing Loyalty**  
(Faith Pathway Bible Studies)

**Mary Magdalene: A Faithful**  
(Townsend Press Sunday School  
Commentary)

## LESSON 11—February 14, 2021

### Devotional Reading:

Romans 4:13-25

### Background Scriptures:

Mark 15:40; 16:1-9; Luke 8:1-3; John 20:10-18

### Print Passages:

Luke 8:1-3; Mark 15:40; John 20:10-18

### Key Verse(s):

The twelve were with him, and certain women, which had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities, Mary called Magdalene, out of whom went seven devils. (Luke 8:1b-2, KJV)

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The Twelve were with him, and also some women who had been cured of evil spirits and diseases: Mary (called Magdalene) from whom seven demons had come out. (Luke 8:1b-2, NIV)

### ► Questions to Consider:

1. What did the women who followed and supported Jesus' ministry have in common?
2. Why was Mary Magdalene weeping so profusely at the tomb where Jesus' body was laid?
3. What did Jesus direct Mary to go and do?

### ► Lesson Aims:

As a result of experiencing this lesson, the participants should be able to do these things:

- Discern Mary Magdalene's motivations for committing her life to Jesus.
- Appreciate the sacrifices Mary Magdalene made in order to follow Jesus.
- Embrace a lifestyle of wholehearted discipleship.

### ► Lesson Context:

Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Susanna, and Salome are the prominent characters in this week's lesson. These women were ever present in the ministry of Jesus. They **followed** Jesus gladly and supported His ministry with their resources.

### ► Lesson Outlines/Key Points:

#### I. A **Working** Disciple (Luke 8:1-3; Mark 15:40)

Key Point 1: There were a group of women who **followed** and supported Jesus' ministry.

Key Point 2: Women followed Jesus all the way to the **cross**. They were witnesses of His death, burial and resurrection.

## II. **A Weeping Disciple (John 20:10-13)**

Key Point 1: After the Crucifixion, the male disciples returned to their homes, but Mary Magdalene **remained** at the burial site.

Key Point 2: Mary Magdalene was overcome by an increase sadness not knowing what happened to Jesus' body.

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## A **Witnessing** Disciple (John 20:14-18)

Key Point 1: Jesus' appearance immediately **transforms** Mary Magdalene's sorrow to excitement and joy.

Key Point 2: Mary Magdalene had the honor of not only being the first person to see the risen Jesus, but also of being the first to be sent by Him bearing the good news of His resurrection.

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## ► **Lesson Summary:**

- Mary Magdalene and other women were **vital** to the success of Jesus' ministry.
- Women played an **important** role in Jesus' earthly ministry just as women today.
- By allowing **women** to serve and be a part of His ministry, Jesus showed that all people are equal to God and that women are important to kingdom work.

## **What Do You Think?**

**(These questions are found in this week's Faith Pathway student book.)**

1. We are often tempted to give greater honor to front-line or visible roles in ministry. Explain the importance of the ministry that Mary Magdalene and other women fulfilled for Jesus
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2. Is it possible to be so distracted by painful or other emotions that you miss a significant occurrence, possibly an angel of God? Some angels appear to us as strangers (see Hebrews 13:2).
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3. We are often tempted to give greater honor to front-line or visible roles in ministry. Explain the importance of the ministry that Mary Magdalene and other women fulfilled for Jesus.
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4. **As a result of this lesson, I will do the following:**
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