

Beyond Proverbs 31 – Mary Magdalene



Synopsis: Mary Magdalene wasn't a woman of ill repute. In fact, she got a bad rap. She also wasn't Jesus's wife or love interest. She was a woman who was delivered by Jesus of seven demons. She was an ardent follower and supporter of Jesus. She was also the first one to know of the resurrection.

Biblical References (ESV, English Standard Version is used)

Verse	Text
Luke 7:37-39	And behold, a woman of the city, who was a sinner, when she learned that he was reclining at table in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster flask of ointment, ³⁸ and standing behind him at his feet, weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head and kissed his feet and anointed them with the ointment. ³⁹ Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what sort of woman this is who is touching him, for she is a sinner."
John 8:3-4	The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery, and placing her in the midst ⁴ they said to him, "Teacher, this woman has been caught in the act of adultery.
Luke 8:1-2	Soon afterward he went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. And the twelve were with him, ² and also some women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out,
Luke 8:3	and Joanna, the wife of Chuza, Herod's household manager, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for them out of their means.
John 20:1-2	Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. ² So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him."
John 20:12-18	And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. ¹³ They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." ¹⁴ Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵ Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." ¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Aramaic, ^b "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher). ¹⁷ Jesus said to her, "Do not

	cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” ¹⁸ Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”—and that he had said these things to her.
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Questions for Discussion or Journaling

The following questions are perfect for a group discussion. If working individually, these questions are great for journal.

1. Why do you think so many people tried to discredit Mary Magdalene?
2. The Bible isn’t clear on what Mary’s sin was. Does it matter?
3. In another time, do you think Mary could have been an apostle?
4. Why do you think Mary was chosen to be the first one to know of the resurrection and not one of the disciples?
5. Mary shows that Jesus sees us for us not for what society sees. How does Jesus see you?