

# Women of the Bible:

## *Mary*

*First: Start with the facts from each passage:*

*Second: What would her life have been like at this time*

*Third: What traits do we discover about her*

*Fourth: How did God work through this person, even after their mistake(s)*

*Fifth: What inspiration or lessons can be learned?*

Luke 1:26-38

Luke 1:39-45

Luke 1:46-56

Matthew 1:16

Luke 2:1-7

Luke 2:16-20

Luke 2:21-40

Matthew 2:11, 12

Matthew 2:13-18

Matthew 2:19-23

Matthew 13:55-57

Luke 2:41-52

John 2:1-11

John 2:12

Matthew 12:46-50

John 19:25-27

Acts 1:14

Lessons for Our Lives:

## **DID YOU NOTICE:**

Mary—means: bitter (from same root as Mara—see Naomi).

Additional meanings (up to 70) also include: Beloved.

Luke 1:26-38 Note the contrast between an “older woman” who was barren, to be the mother of John the Baptist; and a “younger woman”, a virgin; to be the mother of Jesus. Even in her youth, Mary had found favor with God. Mary does not question who the child will be and His role as the Messiah, she accepts that and her place as the mother. She does wonder about the particulars of her pregnancy.

Luke 1:39-45 Mary is related to Elizabeth; making John the Baptist and Jesus related. Elizabeth was aware immediately of the significance of Mary’s baby. Even before he was born, John the Baptist was used by God to declare the Messiah.

Luke 1:46-56 Mary glorifies God and praises Him for remembering the humble and lowly. The focus is upon God and what HE IS DOING; not upon her.

Matthew 1:16 When contrasting this genealogy with the one in Luke 3; it is noted that they are 2 separate lines from David on. Scholars suggest one is the genealogy of Mary and the other of Joseph. Signifying that Mary as well was a descendant of David (fulfilling the Messianic prophecies).

Matthew 1:18-25 Mary is protected and provided for; as the Lord raises up Joseph to be her husband.

Luke 2:1-7 Mary was accepting God’s leading, regardless what others might think. She accepts her lot and does not demand better accommodations for Jesus and her.

Luke 2:16-20 Mary is savoring the events surrounding the birth of Jesus.

Luke 2:21-40 Mary is living a life of meager means (demonstrated by the offering). Mary sees that God continues to reveal to others who her Son, really is. Note that the praise and adoration of Simeon and Anna are focused upon Jesus and not His mother, Mary.

Matthew 2:11, 12 Mary and Joseph have settled in Bethlehem and have a house to live in. The one that is worshiped by the Magi, is Jesus, not Mary.

Matthew 2:13-18 Mary goes to Egypt; led by Joseph; to assure the safety of her son and stays there for awhile.

Matthew 2:19-23 Mary accompanies Joseph back to Israel and they settle in Nazareth.

Matthew 13:55-56 Mary had several other children and would be busy caring for them; as well as Jesus.

Luke 2:41-52 Mary (along with Joseph) had come to have full confidence in Jesus and did not worry when He was not with them as they left Jerusalem. She continued to raise Him and He accepted her authority.

John 2:1-11 Mary shows concern for the couple who would be humiliated if they ran out of wine. She is confident that Jesus can remedy the situation and implores Him to intervene. Notice that Jesus addresses her as “woman” making clear that she was not to be “controlling” His ministry.

John 2:12 Mary accompanied Jesus for at least “part” of His ministry.

Matthew 12:46-50 (Mark 3:20, 21; 31-35) Mary appears with the siblings of Jesus. The family is concerned for His safety (and sanity) and want to intervene. He prohibits and continues to separate from their influence and control.

John 19:25-27 Mary is present at the cross and is entrusted to the apostle John; who would be responsible to care for her.

Acts 1:14 She is there with John, in the upper room where the people are gathered to pray. She is mentioned last of the group.