

WOMEN IN CHURCH 1.0

Luke 8:1-3 NIV



#1 - In NT times, women were considered INFERIOR to and SUBSERVIENT to men.
 “Women were not allowed to testify in court trials. They could not go out in public or talk to strangers. When outside the home they were to be doubly veiled. They had become second-class Jews, excluded from the worship and teaching of God, with status scarcely above slaves.”
 - Oxford Companion To The Bible

#2 - Jesus extraordinary to RESTORE women to FULL PARTICIPANTS in Christianity.
 “After this, Jesus traveled about from one town and village to another, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God. The Twelve were with him, and also some women...” Luke 8:1-2a NIV

Consider these women interacting with Jesus:

- Jesus ignored ritual impurity laws. - Mark 5:25-34
- Jesus talked to a foreign woman (doubly ritually unclean) - John 4:7-5:30
- Jesus allowed the prostitute to perfume his feet. - Luke 7:36-50
- Jesus taught women students (allowed Mary to sit at his feet.) - Luke 10:38-42
- Jesus accepted women into his inner circle. - Luke 8:1-3
- Mostly women were present at Jesus’ execution. - Matthew 27:55-56
- Jesus appeared first to women after his resurrection. - Matthew 28:9-10

Consider these women as faith models in Jesus’ teaching:

- The widow of Zarephath - Luke 4:24-26
- The Queen of The South - Luke 11:31
- The Woman Finding the Lost Coin - Luke 15:8-10
- The Persistent Widow - Luke 18:1-8
- The Poor Widow’s Offering - Luke 21:1-4

“In Christ, there is no difference between Jew and Greek, slave and free person, male and female. You are all the same in Christ Jesus.” Galatians 3:28 NCV

#3 - As Christ-followers we use our GIFTS and BLESSINGS as our ministries.
 Romans 12, 1 Corinthians 12, Ephesians 4

Example #1: Mary Magdalene - ENCOURAGEMENT & HOPE

*“Also some women were with him. They had been cured from evil spirits and various illnesses. These women were Mary, also called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out.”
 Luke 8:2 GWT*

Example #2: Joanna - ORGANIZATION & SUPERVISION

“Joanna, the wife of Chuza, Herod’s business manager.” Luke 8:3a NLT

Example #3: Susanna - FINANCIAL & NETWORKING

*“Susanna and many others, who were contributing to their support out of their private means.”
 Luke 8:3b NASB*