

# FAITH Part 2

## Mary Magdalene's Faith

**Matthew 4:23-25** *And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people.*

*Then His fame went throughout all Syria; and they brought to Him all sick people who were afflicted with various diseases and torments, and those who were demon-possessed, epileptics, and paralytics; and He healed them.*

*Great multitudes followed Him—from Galilee, and from Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and beyond the Jordan.*

---

God is able to deliver, save, and use people from all backgrounds, no matter how destroyed their lives may be. The main ingredient is their faith. (Paul the Apostle in Acts 9)

---

1. **Mary was an amazing person of faith.** She is mentioned by name 14 times in all four gospels. Mary was from Magdala, an ancient city on the western shore of the Sea of Galilee in the north.
2. She was powerfully delivered and set free as **Jesus cast seven demons out of her** (Luke 8:1-2; Mark 16:9). Mary is included with other women who **provided for Christ's ministry out of their own possessions** (Luke 8:1-3).
  - Luke 8:1-3 *Now it came to pass, afterward, that He went through every city and village, preaching and bringing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God. And the twelve were with Him, 2 and certain women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities—Mary called Magdalene, out of whom had come seven demons, 3 and Joanna the wife of Chuza, Herod's steward, and Susanna, and many others who provided for Him from their substance.*
  - That's an enormous leap... deliverance from 7 demonic spirits to one of Christ's ministry provider!
3. While the disciples deserted Jesus when He was arrested in the Garden (Mark 14:50), **Mary stood firm at the cross** alongside John, Mary, the mother of Jesus and other women (John 19:25).
4. **She was honored as the first person to see and talk with the Risen Christ** (John 20:1-18, especially 11-18). She could have missed that opportunity like the rest **but she hung around!** Many times we miss God by leaving too early!

- John 20:10-11 *Then the disciples went away again to their own homes. 11 **BUT** Mary stood outside by the tomb weeping, and as she wept she stooped down and looked into the tomb.*
  - Exodus 33:11 *The LORD would speak to Moses face to face, as one speaks to a friend. Then Moses would return to the camp, but his young aide Joshua son of Nun did not leave the tent.*
  - Luke 7:47 *...who has been forgiven much, loves much.*
5. At a time when women were a non-issue (the reason the disciples did not believe them earlier) Mary was a brilliant example of someone Christ **delivered form a strong demonic hold and placed her at a high place!**
- Proverbs 15: 33 *The fear of the LORD is the instruction of wisdom, and humility comes before honor.*

---

**What are a few principles of faith?** (Hebrews 11:1)

1. **Faith is relational**, not necessarily a “power.” Hebrews 11:6 *But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.*
2. **Faith must be acted upon.** We may carry a bank card in our wallet but it will not work until we activate it. (James 2:14-26)
3. Faith is wholeheartedly **convinced of God’s ability** fulfill His promises. Romans 4:18-21 *...He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform.*
4. God can turn the world “**right side up**” with people of faith, who have been delivered from a life of sin and bondage. Acts 17:6 *These who have turned the world upside down have come here too.* (Acts 4:13)