



# Women in the New Testament

Luke 1:39-66; 7:36-50; 10:38-42

John 4:4-26



# Roles in the New Testament

- Women are mentioned in all the gospels, but especially in Luke
- Women are presented as wives, mothers, and disciples
- The earliest and most devout followers of Jesus (Luke 8:1-3)
- Often excluded from religious discussion until the arrival of Jesus (John 4:27)
- Husbands and wives worked as missionary teams (Romans 16:1-15)
- Teachings were directed towards “Brothers and Sisters”



# Influential Women in the NT

- ▶ Elizabeth: Zechariah's wife, mother of John the Baptist
- ▶ Herodias: wife of Herod, persuaded her daughter to ask for John the Baptist's head
- ▶ Mary: wife of Joseph, virgin mother of Jesus
- ▶ Mary Magdalene: disciple of Jesus, first to hear of Jesus' resurrection
- ▶ Martha: sister of Mary and Lazarus, disciple of Jesus
- ▶ Numerous unnamed women, important in parables and conversion stories. (John 4:4-42, Luke 10:38-42, John 11:1-44)



# Luke

➤ 1:26-38

The announcement of the conception of Jesus.

➤ 7:36-50

Forgiveness of the adulterous woman.

➤ 21:1-4

Contribution of the poor widow.

➤ 23:26-31

Jesus talks to women on the way to his crucifixion.

# NT: Mary, mother of Jesus

- ▶ Known commonly as Mary of Nazareth
- ▶ “Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary. Of her was born Jesus, who is called the Messiah.” (Matthew 1:16)
- ▶ Chosen by God to bear His son because of her great faith and virtue.
- ▶ Was a virgin and gave birth to Christ, the Messiah.
- ▶ Present at Jesus' first miracle, crucifixion, and resurrection.
- ▶ Important saint often prayed for intercession.
- ▶ Believed to have been assumed into Heaven, body and soul.
- ▶ Has made many apparitions on Earth, important to many





# NT: Mary Magdalene

- “Mary” derived from Miriam, sister of Moses
- Jesus cured her of seven demons and she followed him from one town to another as he preached.
- Present at the crucifixion of Christ
- In all of the four gospels, Mary Magdalene is present at the resurrection of Jesus, one of the first to learn about his resurrection