

MARY

JOHN 2:1-12

There is a song, sung often around Christmas, called Mary Did You Know? The problem with the song is its implication that Mary didn't know who Jesus was or what the future would hold. We tend to stereotype Mary in our Christian witness as the faithful, yet demure teenager who gave birth to Jesus. We seldom see her depicted outside of birthing Jesus or holding his dead body. Yet the Scriptural account of Mary is much richer.

☐ **Monday: Read Luke 1:26-38.**

Mary declares, "I am the Lord's servant."

What does surrendering your life in service to God look like in your own life?

☐ **Tuesday: Read Luke 1:46-55.**

Mary's song speaks of a God who lifts the lowly and brings down the powerful.

How do Biblical visions of justice like lifting the lowly and confronting the powerful shape your faith?

☐ **Wednesday: Read John 2:1-11.**

Mary trusts that Jesus will act, even before He says He's ready.

How does confidence in Jesus challenge or inform your faith?

☐ **Thursday: Read Mark 3:20-25.**

Mary heard that Jesus was in distress and came to help.

How do you trust in God's plan when faced with your own anxiety and fear for your family and community?

☐ **Friday: Read Acts 1:12-14.**

Mary continues in faith after the resurrection.

How can faith in Jesus provide the strength you need to face grief, loss, and an uncertain future?

☐ **Saturday: Read John 19:25-27**

Mary's commitment to her son did not waver, even at the cross.

What does it look like to stay faithful in the painful and difficult moments of life?

Mary declared herself "the Lord's servant" at the annunciation of Gabriel, and from that commitment, she did not waver. She informs Jesus that the wine has run out at the wedding in John's Gospel, and instructs the servants to follow his instructions, knowing Jesus would fix the problem. In Mark's Gospel, Mary brings family to try and help Jesus when word is spreading that he's possessed. Before Mary holds the body of Jesus after his death, John says she is present at the foot of the cross. And in the book of Acts, Mary is

with the disciples praying after the resurrection and ascension, now part of those who would form the early church.

Following Jesus is being present with others, offering unwavering support rather than easy answers.

Prayer: Jesus, the cross was laid upon your shoulders, and you carried it toward Golgotha. Though innocent, you bore the weight of our sins. You walked the path of suffering with strength and love. Lord, when the burdens of life feel heavy, help me to carry them with patience. Teach me to trust that you walk with me, and that through the cross, there is redemption. Amen.