

[HOMEPAGE]

For families of junior soldiers

THIS WEEK'S TOPIC:

Mary
Magdalene

MEMORY VERSE:

John 5:19 (NIV)

"Jesus answered, 'What I'm about to tell you is true. The Son can do nothing by himself. He can do only what he sees his Father doing. *What the Father does, the Son also does.*'"

The memory verse for the week is included on each HOMEPAGE. Help your child review it during the week. The portion of the memory verse printed in *italics* is the portion of the verse for younger junior soldiers to memorize.

PARENT POINT:

Talk to your child about ways you can support the work of the Lord as a family.



TODAY IN JUNIOR SOLDIERS, the children continued learning about people from the New Testament who exhibited faith in Jesus Christ. Today they learned about a woman who was healed by Jesus, and then became a follower of Christ.

Mary Magdalene experienced a dramatic life change when she encountered Jesus. The name "Mary" was a common name in biblical times, as it is today. "Mary" appears over 50 times in the New Testament; usually an identifying name accompanies it. The most common "Marys" include Mary, the mother of Jesus; Mary, the sister of Martha and Lazarus; Mary, the mother of James; Mary, the mother of John Mark; and Mary, the Magdalene.

The name Mary Magdalene tells us where Mary was from, the city of Magdala. Magdala was a town on the coast of Galilee near the city of Capernaum where Jesus spent much of His time in ministry. Many scholars believe that the sinful woman who washed Jesus' feet with tears and dried them with her hair was Mary Magdalene. However, a name isn't given to the sinful woman; therefore, we can't say for certain that this was Mary Magdalene.

We do know that Mary Magdalene was a sad woman before she met Jesus. We don't know exactly how Mary Magdalene was healed of her disease, but we do know that she was a changed person. She became a follower and supporter of Christ.

Mary Magdalene gave money to Jesus and the disciples to help with their expenses. She may have helped prepare meals and accommodations for Jesus and His disciples. Mary Magdalene followed Jesus from the moment she was healed of her demons. Even when Jesus died on the cross, she was there. Mary helped as some of Jesus' friends removed Him from the cross and put Him in the tomb.

She was one of the first people to find out that Jesus wasn't in the tomb. Early on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene went to Jesus' tomb with other women to put perfume and oil on His body. She was chosen to help Jesus; she was picked to be the messenger about His resurrection. Jesus gave Mary the job of telling the disciples that He was alive.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOME

This lesson helped junior soldiers understand that Jesus Christ changes people's lives. Through the story of Mary Magdalene, they learned that both men and women followed and supported Jesus. They were encouraged to know that they can serve God too.