

# God Hearted

## Women of the Bible

Volume One



God Hearted Girls

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# Introduction

*Women in the Bible are not just characters. They are real people who lived real lives during real times in real places. Although they lived centuries ago, their stories are true and full of lessons to be learned.*

***God Hearted Women of the Bible*** highlights the life of ten everyday women from the Bible who have a powerful testimony that will change your life if you allow it.

*These one sheet snapshots are only a summary of their accounts. As you learn about these women take the time to look up their full stories in the Bible. Picture yourselves in their situations. What would you do if you were them? How would you react? If it were you, do you think the outcome would be the same?*



"MY HEART REJOICES IN THE LORD"

1 Samuel 2:1

# Hannah

## Background

During the days of Hannah a woman's status was defined by her ability to bear children. Hannah could not have children, although she desperately wanted a son.

## Problem

Hannah wanted to have a child but her womb was closed. To add to her troubles, her husband had another wife, Peninnah, who was able to have many children. Not only was Peninnah able to have children, she made it her mission to make Hannah miserable. She teased and tormented her and mocked her inability to have children. She wanted Hannah to become angry and bitter.

## Solution

Prayer. Hannah poured her HEART out to God. The Bible tells us in 1 Samuel 1:10 that "in her deep distress, she prayed to the Lord and wept bitterly". During her prayer, she made a vow to the Lord. She promised if given a son, she would dedicate his life to the Lord.

## Outcome

Hannah prayed a heartfelt prayer that God HEARD and ANSWERED. God didn't give Hannah just one child, but FIVE children. As promised, Hannah dedicated her first son, Samuel, to the Lord, and he grew up to be a great judge and prophet.



Known For:

PRAYER

FAITHFULNESS

HONESTY

STRENGTH

GRACE

Why is Hannah's testimony important?

Hannah's testimony reveals what happens when we keep our eyes focused on God. Living in a home with a bully who seemed to have everything Hannah wanted could have easily landed Hannah in the comparison trap. She could have easily ended up old, bitter and alone, but instead she brought her burden to God and He blessed her.

"MAY ALL WHO LOVE YOU BE LIKE THE SUN WHEN IT  
RISES IN ITS STRENGTH"

*Judges 5:31*

# Deborah

## Background

*Deborah was a woman of high status. She was known as a prophetess (chosen by God to deliver His instructions). As a judge, she was responsible for settling disputes among the people. During this particular time period, it was not common for women to hold such titles. Because of this, we can conclude that Deborah must have been well-liked and respected by many. She was a powerful woman, securely connected to the one and only true source of power... God.*



## Known For:

**STRENGTH**  
**WORSHIP**  
**BOLDNESS**  
**OBEDIENCE**

## Problem

*Israel was going into battle with Sisera. Judges 4 introduces us to an army commander, Barak. Deborah had specific instruction from God for Barak. He was to go into battle, and Sisera would be delivered into his hands. Barak refused to go unless Deborah went with him. It is important to know that the problem was not with Deborah, but with Barak. God had laid out a victory for him but he needed to take action.*

## Solution

*Understanding the word of the Lord, Deborah led by taking action. She accompanied Barak into battle, and at the word of God, she told him when to "go".*

## Outcome

*Through the obedience of Deborah and compliance of Barak, Sisera was defeated and delivered into the hands of Barak. Having achieved the victory, Deborah and Barak sang a song of worship.*

## Why is Deborah's testimony important?

*Deborah's testimony reveals what happens when we act on God's Word. Sometimes God's instructions can be scary. But God requires us to trust Him and to move in obedience with boldness. When we are obedient, God will help us because we are entering into a partnership with Him. Lastly, her act of worship in Judges 5 shows us how to remain humble, as the victory always belongs to God.*

# "WHO KNOWS WHETHER YOU WERE BORN FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS"

*Esther 4:14*

## Esther

### Background

*Esther was a Jewish orphan being raised by her uncle. During her life, the King of Persia was in need of a Queen, and because of the favor of God and man, Esther was made queen of Persia.*

### Problem

*Esther was a Jewish woman but the king didn't know. Through a series of jealous acts, the king's best friend convinced the king to sign a law that would put all Jewish people to death. Esther was afraid to do anything about it because she didn't want to be put to death. She had a choice to either stay quiet and let her people die or to use her voice and save them.*

### Solution

*Esther and the Jewish people fasted. They did not eat or drink for three days. She settled the dilemma in her heart and declared out loud, "if I should die, I die."*

### Outcome

*Because of fasting and seeking the Lord, Esther was able to be led by God in how she should confront the problem. With boldness and much wisdom, she revealed her lineage to the king. He immediately took care of the problem and the king allowed Esther, on his behalf, to write a new law. Because Queen Esther was brave and stood against evil, millions of lives were saved.*



## Known For:

**BRAVERY**

**WISDOM**

**SELFLESSNESS**

**OBEDIENCE**

## Why is Esther's testimony important?

*Esther's testimony is the perfect example of what it means to be born "for such a time as this," and the value of using our voices to speak out against wrongdoings with wisdom, even when we are scared. This is especially relevant in a time when there is a great deal of censorship. With God there is no defeat, only victory. All we have to do is trust Him and follow His leading.*

# "SERVING NIGHT AND DAY WITH FASTS AND PRAYERS"

Luke 2:37

## Anna

### Background

*In the Bible, Anna's testimony is told in one paragraph. Two verses to be exact. Her story is short but impactful. Anna was a prophetess who was widowed shortly after her marriage. She spent her life fasting, praying, and awaiting on the Messiah.*

### Problem

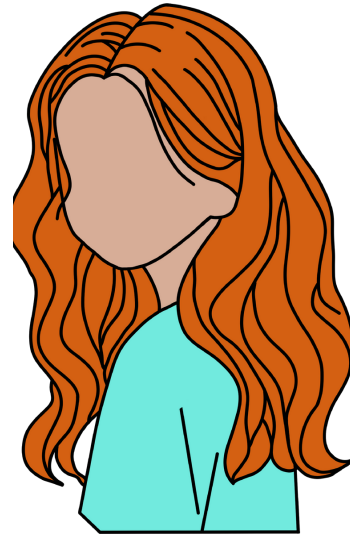
*Anna's testimony does not seem to have a problem in the conventional sense, however, there are a few obstacles. Seven years after her marriage Anna becomes a widow. She was a widow until the age of 84. The scriptures are not specific about what age she became a widow but it implies she was a widow for a long time.*

### Solution

*Refusing to be bitter, Anna spends her days as a widow at the temple. In Luke 2, we are told, "she never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying."*

### Outcome

*Through her commitment and devotion, Anna saw the promise of the coming Messiah fulfilled. The moment she laid eyes on baby Jesus in the temple, she immediately thanked God and told everyone who would listen that redemption had come.*



## Known For:

**LOYALTY**

**COMMITMENT**

**PRAYER**

**WORSHIP**

## Why is Anna's testimony important?

*Anna's testimony highlights the importance of faithfulness. Anna did not let the obstacle of losing a husband stop her from pursuing the promises of God. She knew the Messiah was coming, and she dedicated her life to the cause. Her testimony is a wonderful example of waiting with grace. Oftentimes in life when we desire something or think we deserve something, we want it to happen immediately. But waiting in hope produces a process of refining which ultimately leads to growth and fulfillment of God's promises.*

"WHERE YOU GO I WILL GO"

Ruth 1:16

# Ruth

## Background

Ruth was a woman who married into a family that suffered a great deal of loss—the type of loss that touched everyone in the family. For Ruth, it was the loss of her husband. Because of his death, she was faced with multiple decisions that would determine the rest of her life.

## Problem

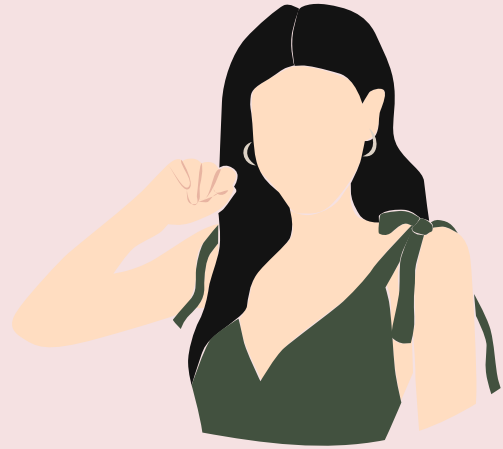
After the loss of her husband, Ruth lived in a town with her sister- and mother-in-law. Her mother-in-law, Naomi, came to a realization: she had nothing left to offer her daughter-in-laws. Hopeless, she tried to make them leave; but Ruth loved Naomi deeply and couldn't imagine ever leaving her. Faced with a dilemma, Ruth could either return to her own family and perhaps remarry one of her own kinsmen or stay with Naomi and face unknown hardship.

## Solution

Ruth settled in her heart to remain with Naomi and made an oath to make Naomi's God, her God. While with Naomi, Ruth didn't sit around waiting for things to get worse, she went to work in the fields, gleaning whatever grain she could for food.

## Outcome

By no coincidence, Ruth gleaned from the field of Boaz. Boaz was a very wealthy man, who by Jewish law could redeem Ruth. Through Ruth's hard work and obedience to Naomi, found favor in the eyes of Boaz. Boaz blessed and redeemed her. They married and became a key couple in the genealogy of Jesus.



Known For:

**LOYALTY**  
**COMMITMENT**  
**HARD WORK**  
**OBEDIENCE**

*Why is Ruth's testimony important?*

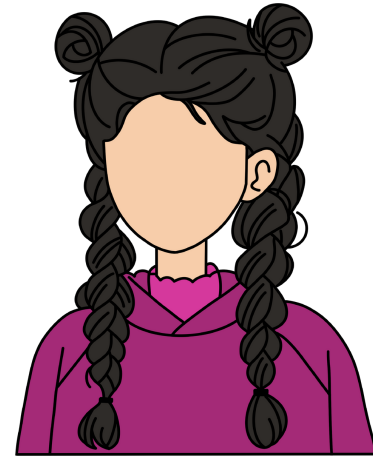
Ruth starts as a Moabite woman, she chooses to leave her home and her own religion to follow Naomi and God. This reveals that it does not matter what family you are born into or what religion you are born into—when you meet Jesus, you can leave it all behind and follow Him. Ruth's life is a beautiful example of surrender. It is also an example of Hope, it would have been understandable if Ruth had stayed home with her own family. Naomi had nothing to offer, but Ruth chose to stick it out with her. Because of this, she found favor and was blessed beyond measure.



"MY SOUL EXALTS THE LORD AND MY SPIRIT HAS  
REJOICED IN GOD, MY SAVIOR"

*Luke 1:46-47*

# Mary of Nazareth



## Background

*At a young age, Mary of Nazareth was visited by the angel Gabriel. Amazingly, he told Mary she had found favor with God and was chosen to be the mother of Jesus, the Messiah.*

## Problem

*Mary was a virgin. She'd never been with a man and was promised to her soon-to-be husband, Joseph. How would Joseph ever believe that, she a virgin, conceived a child without having been with a man? During this time period in history, a woman conceiving a child outside of marriage was a crime. People, including Joseph, could have easily assumed Mary committed adultery, an act punishable by death!*

## Solution

*Mary was not concerned. Her response to the angel was, "I am the Lord's servant. Let everything you've said happen to me." Mary answered "yes" to God! She held tight to His promise and put her trust in Him.*

## Outcome

*Mary was not left alone. God gave her an assignment, and because it was from God, He was with her every step of the way. God sent the same angel, Gabriel, to give a message to Joseph. In fact, he assured Joseph that Mary would be giving birth to the Son of God.*

## Known For:

**TRUST**  
**FAVOR**  
**FAITHFULNESS**  
**OBEDIENCE**

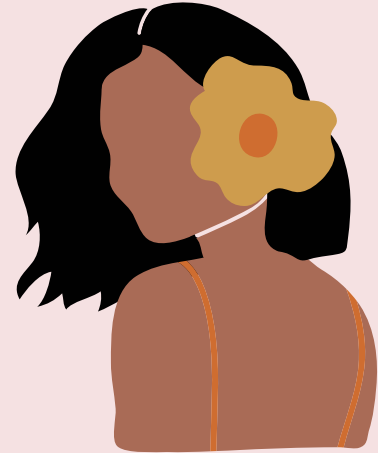
## Why is Mary's testimony important?

*Mary's testimony highlights the importance of our "yes". God has given us all an assignment, but it requires an action on our part. God will not violate the free will He has given to us. We have to agree. Mary's testimony shows us that if God entrusts us with something, He will provide for and protect us.*

"ONLY ONE THING IS NECESSARY"

Luke 1:46-47

# Mary of Bethany



## Background

Mary of Bethany is only mentioned a few times in the Bible. She is most known for an account shared with her sister, Martha.

## Problem

Martha and Mary welcomed Jesus into their home while he traveled through their village. Martha became distracted with all of the preparations while Mary chose to sit at the feet of Jesus, listening to what he taught. Martha is frustrated with Mary for not helping and tattled on her sister. She went to Jesus and said, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!"

## Solution

Jesus corrected Martha. He told her Mary has chosen the ONE THING that is necessary and that ONE THING cannot be taken away from her.

## Outcome

Mary developed a deep understanding of spiritual truths. On the occasions we do see Mary of Bethany, she is always in the same place- at the feet of Jesus.

Known For:

LOVE  
KINDNESS  
DEVOTION  
CLOSENESS TO GOD

## Why is Mary's testimony important?

Mary's testimony is important because it emphasizes our relationship with Jesus Christ, and it challenges us to keep Him the number one priority. Life can get busy. We have school work, projects, friends and family. It can get overwhelming. In the midst of busyness, we have to make sure we are putting God first. Mary's story is a great reminder that it is okay, and even necessary, to step away from all our duties and just sit at the feet of Jesus.

"GIVE ME A DRINK"  
John 4:7

# The Woman at the Well

## Background

Scripture doesn't tell us the name of the woman at the well. Instead, we are told she was a Samaritan woman. This is likely just as important as her name. Because during this time in history Jewish people and Samaritan people did not get along at all. In fact, they would have nothing to do with each other.

## Problem

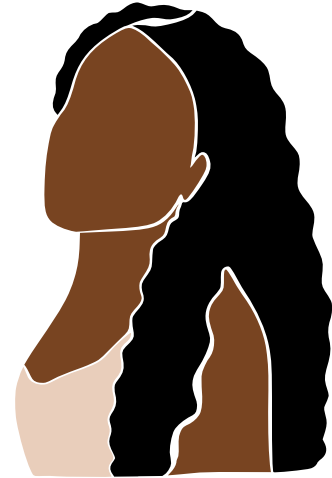
There are several problems presented in this small story of the Bible. First, the woman at the well is by herself due to social isolation. The woman had a reputation, and people did not want to be seen with her. Next, Jesus purposed to stop and talk to the woman. An extreme oddity, as men did not socialize with women. Furthermore, Jesus, a Jew, asked her, a Samaritan woman, for a drink from the well.

## Solution

Taken aback by Jesus, the woman at the well stood and talked with Him. He asked her questions about her life, and she engaged by asking Him questions as well.

## Outcome

Jesus revealed himself to her as the Messiah. He told her things about herself no one but God could know. He also told her He was "living water". Those who will take a drink of Him will never thirst again. She believed him! She she went away excited, telling everyone the Messiah had come.



## Known For:

**KINDNESS**  
**SEEKING TRUTH**  
**COURAGE**

## Why is the Woman at the well's testimony important?

The Woman at the Well teaches us that our pasts do not define us. This woman lived a questionable life at best, yet Jesus saw her. Not only did He see her... he stopped, spent time with her. AND He revealed Himself as the Messiah to her, an amazing gesture of love! Women were not valued back then, but through the Woman at the Well, Jesus showed us we were and are important.

# "I HAVE SEEN THE LORD"

*John 20:18*

## Mary Magdalene

### *Background*

*Mary Magdalene is known for being a faithful follower of Jesus. In fact, she is the first person He reveals Himself to after He rose from the grave. However, her life was not always pleasant.*

### *Problem*

*We do not meet Mary before she meets Jesus. However, Luke 8:2 tells us she was once filled with many demons and sicknesses.*

### *Solution*

*Mary encounters Jesus.*

### *Outcome*

*Mary encounters Jesus, and her life is drastically changed. She is set free, delivered from all demons and all sicknesses, and all throughout the gospels wherever Jesus is... so is Mary.*



### Known For:

**DEDICATION**  
**FAITHFULNESS**  
**SUPPORT**

### *Why is Mary's testimony important?*

*Mary's testimony teaches us that there is NOTHING that the Lord cannot help us with. There is no sickness, no disease or demon too strong for Jesus. Mary's testimony teaches us that once we encounter Jesus, there must be transformation. When Mary met Jesus there was no going back. She followed Him everywhere He went, helped Him, and supported His ministry.*

# 'THIS TIME I WILL PRAISE THE LORD'

*Genesis 39:25*

## Leah

### Background

*Leah was the daughter of Laban and the sister of Rachel. Laban gave Leah to Jacob to marry.*

### Problem

*Jacob did not want to marry Leah, he wanted to marry Rachel. Rachel was beautiful in form and appearance. Jacob loved Rachel and made a deal with Laban to marry her. But Laban, being a dishonest man, tricked Jacob into marrying Leah instead. Eventually, Laban also gave Rachel to Jacob to marry. Jacob favored Rachel. Leah was left feeling ugly, unwanted, and unloved.*

### Solution

*Leah tried her best to be the perfect wife. She was diligent in the role she was given. God saw that Leah was unloved, and He gave her favor and the ability to have many children.*

### Outcome

*In a culture where bearing children, especially sons, was as a sign of success and favor, Leah was convinced Jacob would love her if she gave him children. She did. He didn't. No matter what Leah did, she was always the runner-up. She just couldn't win Jacob's love. When giving birth to her fourth son, Judah, Leah decided within herself, "This time I will praise the Lord." Leah's praise indicates a shift in her thinking. She was willing to praise the Lord even though she would remain an unloved wife.*



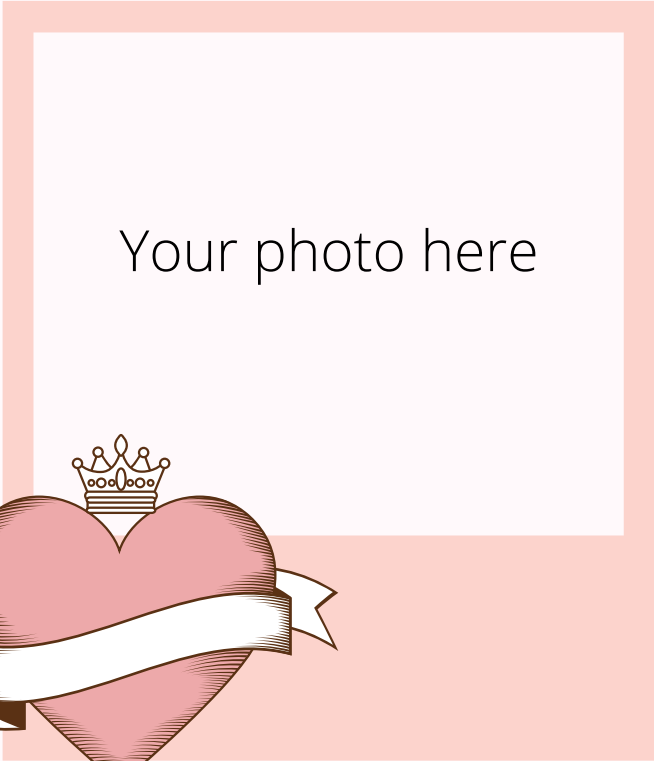
## Known For:

**GENTLENESS**  
**DILIGENCE**

## Why is Leah's testimony important?

*Leah's testimony is important because it is especially relatable. We have all felt insecure, ugly, and maybe even unwanted at some point. Leah might have been unloved and unwanted by people, but she was most definitely seen and loved by God. Her testimony teaches us that our worth cannot be found through people. Our identity and worth can only be found in Jesus.*

*Your Name Here*



Your photo here

**What is your story?**

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**Known For:**

**Why is your testimony important?**

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# Read More



Hannah

1 Samuel



Deborah

Judges 4, 5

Esther

Esther



Anna

Luke 2



Ruth

Ruth



# Read More



Mary N.

Matthew/Luke



Mary B.

Luke 1

Woman at the Well

John 4



Mary M.

Gospels



Leah

Genesis 29





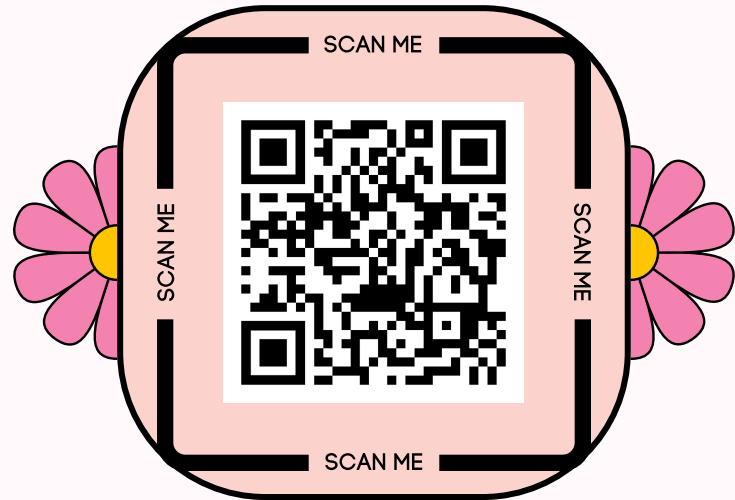
# SCAN



## *More Resources*



## *Girls Corner*



## *Website*

