

LESSONS FROM MARY MAGDALENE - HEIDI STRONG

Inside every single one of us is a desire to be noticed and recognised, for somebody to witness our lives and for our lives to matter. That's what I love about Jesus – He noticed people. He saw them. Ordinary, everyday people.

Mary Magdalene was a Jewish woman that Jesus noticed. She came from a small little fishing village and, as Luke 8:2 tells us, was possessed by not just one, but seven demons. But Jesus delivered her and she became one of His followers and admirers - He was her beautiful Saviour. Not only did she have the awesome privilege of Jesus performing a miracle in her life but she also got to see Him perform many other miracles and hear His wonderful teachings.

She was always nearby Jesus. During His trial. When He was persecuted. When He was crucified she stood with the family at the foot of the cross. She helped prepare His body for the tomb.

In John 20:15-18 carries such significance for me. Mary Magdalene goes to the tomb, finds the stone rolled away and Jesus' body gone. And she weeps because not only is her Saviour dead but His body is now gone. As she turns around she sees a man who she presumes is the gardener and he says to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" After she explains why Jesus says, "Mary" to which she replies, "Rabbi!" – she sees Jesus for who He is; the Risen Saviour.

So not only is she the first witness to His resurrection but Jesus takes this ordinary Jewish woman and gives her probably one of the most important jobs – to go and tell the disciples that He is now alive. What an honour to be a herald for Jesus and she goes running off to tell the disciples!

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This spoke to me because here is this ordinary woman that Jesus uses for possibly one of the most important tasks – to herald the Good News to the world that Jesus is alive.

Be encouraged to know this morning that Jesus can and DOES use you.

He recognises you.

He sees you.

Have a brilliant day and God bless.