

Women of Faith: In Spite of It All

Miriam: Mother for a Movement

Micah 6:4

Introduction

Throughout this series we have learned from the stories of two great women of faith: Miriam and Esther. In spite of all they faced they experienced freedom from the hand of God working in and through their lives.

Today, we will return to the life of Miriam for **another lesson** from her life. These lessons are powerfully applicable to our lives.

Life is precious.

There are four stories recorded in Scripture that give details into her life. The last detail of Miriam's' life describes her death which is recorded in Numbers 20:1. With just a few short words Miriam's story comes to an abrupt end.

Something interesting is observable in the death of Miriam when compared to that of her brothers. Both Aaron and Moses's death were accompanied with 30 days of mourning. Why does Miriam's death seem to skip a time of mourning? Did her life mean less than that of her brothers?

Tradition suggests that she was given a proper funeral but Scripture seems to reveal some inequality. However, a look at Numbers 19 and then the verses directly following Numbers 20:1 indicate that she was, in fact, mourned by her fellow travelers. Her life was precious to God just as all lives are.

If life is precious to God then how do we reflect that belief in our own lives?

1. We realize, on a personal level, that our life has value to God.
 2. Upon the realization that our life is valuable to God, our value of others should be evident.
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Conclusion

As we have been so powerfully reminded, not just through Miriam's life, but especially in her death, life is precious. It should never take someone dying for us to be reminded of this truth.

See: James 1:18; Ephesians 2:10; and Psalms 139:13-18.