

# Women of Faith: In Spite of It All

## Miriam: Mother for a Movement

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### Introduction

Last week we started a new series entitled, “Women of Faith: In Spite of It All,” by looking at the life of Miriam, who became the mother of a movement. She witnessed the hand of God in providing freedom first to Moses and then to her nation before she faced personal struggles and needed freedom herself.

Today, we will continue examining the life of Miriam as we discover another truth from her life that points to the power of Jesus in providing freedom for us. In spite of what we are encountering there is a powerful work that God wants to do in and through our lives.

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### Freedom from Sin. (Numbers 12)

Numbers 12 tells the sad story of Miriam’s rebellion. Though she is not alone in her sin, she was likely the ring leader. The root of her complaint wasn’t against her brother, nor was it about his choice of a mate, but it was really against God.

The same voice that in the past was used to speak up for Moses and God was now being used to speak against them.

While it is true that we must know who we are in Christ, it is also true that we must also remember who we are not.

God's reprimand of Miriam’s sinful negligence effected four areas of her life. Sin is the same way:

1. God’s presence disappears. (Spiritual).
2. God’s wrath is opened up. (Physical).
3. Separation is experienced (Mental and Emotional).
4. God’s movement is suspended. (Relational).

The freedom experienced in this story is one that Miriam needed herself. The brother she once saved, had to save her. Thankfully, there is a Savior who has the power to intervene in our lives through the atonement and who daily makes intercession for us in heaven.

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## Conclusion

Miriam's rebellion reminds us that even the most righteous are susceptible to sin. Therefore, there is a call to us from Miriam's trouble to evaluate our own lives. Sinful attitudes and actions, though they may seem innocent and understandable, will keep us from moving forward with what God wants to do.

Through Jesus there is freedom from sin!