



# Mary Magdalene

“Lenten Series of Monologues”

*“Now when Jesus was risen early the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had cast seven devils.” Mark 16:9 KJV*

“I had been filled with what they called evil demons; I knew no good. I saw people throng around this gentle man who was speaking about a new heaven where all would be right; I wanted to know more. The more I listened to him, the more I realized that he was telling the truth. He was really not like anyone else I had ever seen. And believe me, I knew many people. I had used everyone I could just as they used me. One day I asked him to cast the evil spirits out of my body as he had done for others. That day I knew that he was the Son of God. He was the Messiah, the only one that could heal me.

“I continued to follow as many others did. We wanted to hear more. We all wanted to know as much as possible about this man who was so wonderful, who told us how we too could become a part of his Heavenly Kingdom. He healed people; he removed evil spirits. He made the lame to walk; he made the blind to see.

“When the authorities seized him and wanted to put him to death, we were all devastated. There was nothing we could do. He had told the disciples this would happen. They didn’t understand any more than the rest of us. He had taught us to be gentle, to forgive, as he had forgiven us.

“As I stood at the foot of the cross with the other people who also loved Jesus, I heard one of the centurions admit that he felt this man was truly the Son of God, but he also could do nothing to prevent what was happening. There were many of us there, both men and women.

“When he died, they cut the body down. A man named Joseph asked to have Christ’s body put into his own tomb. He and Nicodemus anointed the body with the proper oils, put him in linen clothes, and laid him in a tomb that had been recently hewn from the rock for Joseph. I along with a couple other women stood off and watched them as they took care of his body and then sealed the tomb.

“On Sabbath morning, I, along with the other Mary, went to the tomb. There had been a great earthquake and the stone had rolled away. We were afraid. As we cried an angel told us not to be afraid. He told us that Jesus had risen from the dead. What a joy. Then I heard that familiar voice say ‘Mary’. The dimness from my eyes was lifted as I saw our risen Lord standing beside me. Tears returned to my eyes, but this time they were joyful tears. Jesus told us to not be afraid and to go and tell his disciples that he would see them in Galilee. The disciples also were shy, uncertain and confused when I told them. We had such great news. None of us would ever be the same again.”

There is a song sung by Mary Magdalene in Jesus Christ Superstar a rock opera by Andrew Lloyd Webber, with lyrics by Tim Rice. These are some of the words.

## **I don’t know how to Love Him**

“I don't know how to love him. What to do, how to move him.  
I've been changed, yes really changed In these past few days  
When I've seen myself I seem like someone else.

Don't you think it's rather funny I should be in this position?  
I'm the one Who's always been So calm so cool  
No lover's fool. Running every show. He scares me so.  
I never thought I'd come to this. What's it all about?”

Prayer: Heavenly Father, you have told us that you are always with us. In times of loss, we sometimes forget that you are still there. When we are frightened, we know in our hearts that you are there. Help us to be strong like Mary Magdalene and the disciples and be willing to do all that we can to help others know about you by our actions as well as our words. Amen

1. How are we like Mary Magdalene? How can we be a witness to others?
2. Is it right for us to seek to know the truth even though we may not feel we are good enough to be in the places where God’s word is taught because we do not have the right clothes or know the right people?

3. Do we ever turn others away by treating them like they are not good enough to be a part of our church?
4. Do we know how to love Christ and show that love to others?

Mary Magdalene: Mary Magdalene with references to the crucifixion are found in all four Gospels also. Matthew 27:56-61; Matthew 28:1; Mark 15:40-47; Mark 16:1-9; Luke 24:10; John 19:25; and John 20:1-18.

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