

WOMEN IN THE BIBLE ... AND ME

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14 BIBLE LESSONS

FOR NURTURE AND
ENCOURAGEMENT

1. DEBORAH
2. HANNAH
3. NAOMI
4. ABIGAIL
5. MIRIAM
6. RAHAB
7. MARY
8. THE CAPTIVE MAID
9. PHOEBE
10. LYDIA
11. RHODA
12. ANNA
13. THE ELECT LADY
14. THE HEALED WOMAN





WOMEN IN THE BIBLE . . . AND ME

INTRODUCTION

Women are important to God. As one studies the Scriptures, it is amazing to discover how many stories of important women God has included in His book. God makes it clear that women are important to Him.

It is good to know that other women—the women of the Bible—have walked before us. How wonderful to know these women have left us sure guidelines, practical instruction, wise principles, comfort and hope. The women featured in “The Women in the Bible... and Me” will help you face your trials, knowing you are not alone.

Studying the lives of these noteworthy women, you will learn that God has called women to play a significant role in the home, in the church and in the community. You will understand that each woman today is invited to fulfill God’s call to be a blessing—in the

home, in the church, and in the community. You will learn from their mistakes, their success, and their challenges. You will discover that God’s blessings are heaped upon the woman who trusts in the Lord.

Through the stories of these women of the Bible, God has a message for a woman like you. We pray that this study will help you to know the great value He places on you. May you trust His calling and follow in faith.

Appreciation:

We thank the General Conference Ministerial Association for partnering with Women’s Ministries in producing these materials to enrich our study of Bible women.

General Conference of SDA
Women’s Ministries Department

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Evelyn Glass is active in her local church and has worked in several areas. These included teaching elementary school, serving as Women’s Ministries Director for the Mid-America Union and as a partner in the family business of farming. Evelyn is a writer and currently authors a weekly column for the local newspaper. She and her husband, Darrell, are enjoying retirement while still keeping active in their community and the church. Quilting is one of the current hobbies with which she is involved.

MAY GOD GIVE US “EYES TO SEE AND EARS TO HEAR” AS WE EXPLORE GOD’S WORD EITHER AS INDIVIDUALS OR AS A GROUP.

1. SUGGESTIONS FOR INDIVIDUAL STUDY

1. Begin each study with prayer. Ask God to help you understand the passage and apply it to your life.
2. Read the questions and find the answers. Write your answers in the space provided in the study guide. This will help you to clearly express your understanding of the passage.
3. Apply to your own life. How is this lesson relevant to your own life? Can you apply it to your daily living? What parts of the lesson apply to you?

2. SUGGESTIONS FOR GROUP STUDY

OPENING EACH STUDY SESSION

Either the facilitator (who could be the group leader) or different members of the group should open the study session with a time of prayer. These prayers could also reflect any significant events, joys, or needs of the members of the group.

READING FROM THE TEXT

- Encourage all participants to read the prescribed text ahead of time.
- If all members have not read the text, invite one person to read it aloud. This could also be a refresher to those who have read it at home.
- Consider reading aloud a parallel text from another translation during this time. Spend a few moments identifying any significant differences.

DISCOVERY

- This is to provide a framework for studying about the character.

GOING DEEPER

- The questions for exploring the text further are only samples. The group leader is encouraged to add other questions and methods that will be useful to the group.
- Encourage participants to dialogue with the text, asking questions without fear of being judged. Feel free to explore the feelings of the characters in the story and relate them to our feelings.

WORDS FOR TODAY

- Encourage participants to apply the questions to their own lives.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

Discussion starters: the facilitator’s role is the key to this segment. The designated group leader may become the facilitator.

THE FACILITATOR SHOULD:

- Create an unhurried atmosphere during the group’s discussion.
- Encourage sharing of members’ personal stories and experiences.
- Encourage and validate each person’s contribution to the discussion.
- Be comfortable with silence. Read the silence: has the topic been exhausted? Then move to the next. Has boredom crept in? Find active and creative ways for revitalizing the group...singing, getting up, moving around, etc.

THE FACILITATOR’S ROLE IS:

- To keep the discussion focused and moving.
- To encourage active participation by all.

- To encourage free expression of ideas without inserting personal bias.
- To monitor the time.

WORDS OF WISDOM

- Recommend that this section be read in silence.

MY PRAYER FOR TODAY

- Invite a member to give the prayer.

SHARING

- Encourage members to put into practice some of the practical applications from each lesson. Members may enjoy hearing the results from time to time.



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