

## GIRL POWER: FEMALE POWER BROKERS IN SCRIPTURE, Part 4

- **“Girl Power,”** popularized in the mid-1990’s, is a slogan that encourages and celebrates women’s empowerment, independence, confidence, and strength.
- When we read the Bible with understanding of the culture in which it takes place, we repeatedly see God’s efforts to elevate women above the role thrust upon them by the male dominated society around them.
- From the beginning of creation, God intended that men and women complement each other and function together.

### I. **DEBORAH (JUDGES 4-5)**

- Served as a Prophetess and only female judge in Hebraic History.
- Leadership lessons learned from Deborah:
  1. Make Intimacy With God A Priority
  2. Be Usable By God
  3. BE A Consistent Encourager
  4. Be Intentional About Glorifying God
  5. Be Secure Enough To Celebrate Others

### II. **LYDIA ( ACTS 16:11-15)**

1. Balance
2. Boldness

### III. **MARY OF BETHANY** (Luke 10:38-42; John 11:1-35, 12:1-8)

- Mary was the sister of Martha and Lazarus.
- Family lived in Bethany; a village less than 2 miles from Jerusalem.
- Jesus had a special relationship with this family and would often spend time in their home.
- Mary would often sit at Jesus' feet, while Martha served and focused on hospitality.
- We see Mary of Bethany three (3) different times in the Bible:
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
- Life lessons from Mary of Bethany:
  1. \_\_\_\_\_ (Luke 10:38-42)
    - It becomes clear when reading this text that Mary's focus was to \_\_\_\_\_.
    - Mary's \_\_\_\_\_, at Jesus' feet, reveals the \_\_\_\_\_ – she is in a place of \_\_\_\_\_.
    - It was her humility that opened the door to her \_\_\_\_\_; allowing her to \_\_\_\_\_.

2. \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_
- Martha is \_\_\_\_\_ because she does not find balance between \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_ . Our worship and sitting is \_\_\_\_\_ to work and serve.
- Martha wanted Jesus to rebuke Mary for working, but instead Jesus rebukes Martha for not worshipping.
- Mary's position and posture never change. She \_\_\_\_\_ the entire time. There are times we must \_\_\_\_\_ and let \_\_\_\_\_ the detractors and the distractions.

3. \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_
- When Mary hears that Jesus has come and is calling for her, she immediately leaves the assembly of mourners in her home and \_\_\_\_\_ .
- Mary shows us that we can depend on Jesus to \_\_\_\_\_ in our \_\_\_\_\_ .
- When we place our lives in Jesus' nail-scarred hands, we will find \_\_\_\_\_ .

4. \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_
- Mary had \_\_\_\_\_ that the time of Jesus' death was drawing near. Even Jesus' Disciples had missed this reality.
- Mary's commitment of \_\_\_\_\_ toward Jesus increased her \_\_\_\_\_, while the Disciples \_\_\_\_\_ about who would be the greatest in the Kingdom.
- We will often miss \_\_\_\_\_ when we allow other things to supersede \_\_\_\_\_.
- Mary's adoration releases such a \_\_\_\_\_ in her soul about Jesus. She is not even compelled to defend herself in the face of criticism— she \_\_\_\_\_.