

Welcome to *Jesus Changes Everything!*

For the next several weeks, we'll be taking a look at women in the Gospels who encountered Jesus and whose lives were forever changed as a result. We think you will discover you have much in common with these women. And we pray that, like them, as you encounter Jesus your life will be transformed.

Our study will include three major elements. First, you will be invited to explore each woman's story for yourself. Then, you will discuss what you discovered with some friends in a small group setting. Finally, one of our teachers will share her insights with the larger group. We believe you'll get the most benefit from this study by participating in all three elements.

A few words about the "homework." Each week you will receive one Bible passage to read and a few questions to answer. The questions are in two parts:

- "What's Her Story?" focuses on understanding the woman of the week and her encounter with Jesus.
- "What's Your Story?" helps you personalize the lesson to your own situation.

You will notice that the questions are identical each week. The reason for this is to develop a Bible Study Method that can be used any time you are reading about a person in the New Testament. In other words, we hope to leave this study with a skill that will be usable when we study the Bible on our own in the future. As a result of this approach, however, you may occasionally find a question that "doesn't apply" or needs to be re-phrased by you. Don't get hung up on that. Just make a note, "Doesn't apply." Or, come up with a question of your own that DOES apply and answer that. The idea is to practice thinking about these stories from the point of view of the characters themselves, and then think about how they relate to you. If you think of a question you want to explore that isn't listed in the assignment, go ahead. There's even extra space in the notebook to add pages for those thoughts. As much as possible, answer questions based on what you see in the assigned passage. If your answer is based on another passage, make a note of where you found it, but please limit yourself to what the Bible says rather than what you heard or read somewhere else.

In your small group you will find friends who are also exploring Jesus. Feel free to share what you are discovering and what you are struggling with. No grades will be given and there are no wrong answers or dumb questions. Your small group leader is there to facilitate the discussion, not to check and correct your answers. ☺

We will wrap the morning up with a large group time, which will help tie up any loose ends with a lesson presented by a member of our teaching team.

We are praying that as a result of our time together, you will agree that...

Jesus Changes Everything!

Heather and Friends

Assignment #: 1
A Woman Caught
John 8:2-11

What's **HER** Story?

What can we learn about the woman *from this passage*?

For example... Do we know her name, where she is from, her background, or family situation? What problem, need, or concern did she have when she encountered Jesus?

What is the context for Jesus in this story?

For example... What was He doing? Where had He just been? Where was He going?

What were other people in the story doing or saying? How did Jesus interact with them?

How did Jesus interact with the woman? Did He speak to her, or touch her? What did He say or do?

How did the woman respond to Jesus? (What did she say or do?)

How did the woman's life change after her encounter with Jesus?

What lessons can you learn from Jesus? the woman? others in the story?

What's **YOUR** Story?

How can you identify with the woman in this story? (What do you have in common with her?)

How can you follow the example of the woman in this story? (Be specific.)

Has Jesus changed your life in any way that's similar to what you see in this story?

Do you want or need this kind of change?

Write a prayer offering Jesus this area of your life and asking for His intervention to change your life.