

# Mentor/Student Discussion Guide

## Mary Magdalene

### March 2023

- \*Your goals in your time together today are check in with one another and to discuss Mary Magdalene, her relationship to Jesus, and how she helped promote the gospel.
- \*Remember that kids this age are at various levels in their ability to grasp abstract concepts and that you are not expected to have all the answers.
- \*Today you will need a pencil, paper, and a Connect Bible.
- \*It is just as important for youth to get to know mentors as it is for mentors to get to know youth. Both mentor and student should answer the questions for one another.
- \*Neither person should be made to feel that they should share more than they are comfortable sharing.
- \*You do not need to make sure you have answered every question listed below. They are provided merely as a way to guide your discussion. Neither should you feel limited to these questions.
- \*You will not be reporting answers to anyone. If it is helpful to write answers or take notes, feel free to do so knowing that it is not necessary.
- \*Please take a moment to pray together at the beginning of your time together. You may pray your own prayer or use the following (spoken by one person or both together).

*Almighty God, your Son first entrusted Mary Magdalene with the joyful news of his resurrection. Following the example of her witness, may we proclaim Christ as our living Lord and one day see him in glory, for he live and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen (Evangelical Lutheran Worship, p. 57, Prayer of the Day for the commemoration of Mary Magdalene, Apostle)*

#### QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

##### Check in

- \*Check in about any events that have happened since or conversation from the last time you met.
- \*Each person share a high and a low (something good and something no-so-good that happened) from the previous week.

##### VIDEO

- \*What did you learn about Mary Magdalene?
- \*Why do you think Mary was not named as one of the 12 disciples?
- \*What does it mean to be an unsung hero? How is Mary an unsung apostle of Jesus?

## BIBLE

\*“People in Mary’s time thought that demons, sent by Satan, could inhabit a person’s body and cause them to do evil things. Today, many people believe that the symptoms of demon possession during Jesus’ time were like the symptoms of mental illness or physical disorders like epilepsy.” (re:form Ancestors, Mary Magdalene, p. 79)

-Read Luke 8:1-3

-How do these three short verses help shape your understanding of Mary?

-Talk together about “demons” with which you have been afflicted in your own life. How have you dealt with them? Who has helped you?

\*Read Mark 15:33-47

-What do you think Mary, who had been a follower of Jesus, was thinking and feeling as she saw him on the cross?

-Why do you think Mary remained at the cross after the other disciples fled?

-If you were Mary, what do you think you would have done after you saw the stone rolled in front of the tomb?

\*Read John 20:1-18

-Talk about what it might have been like to be Mary on that first Easter morning.

-Do you think you would have believed it was really Jesus? Why or why not?

-What do you think her conversation with the disciples was like?

## FURTHER DISCUSSION

\*How do the stories of Mary Magdalene and Jesus show that they were friends? What characteristics do you think are important to have in a friend? How do you try to be a good friend?

\*Who are some of the important women in your life? How have they shared the good news of God’s love with you?

\*Who are some of the unsung heroes/apostles in our church and in your life? Make a plan to thank one of them this week.