Jesus and the Worth of Women Luke 8:1-3 • Sunday, June 9, 2025 • Brad Manley The status of women in the ______. Jesus' teaching affirmed the worth of women as ______.

Luke 8:1-3

¹ Soon afterward he went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. And the twelve were with him, ² and also some women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, ³ and Joanna, the wife of Chuza, Herod's household manager, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for them out of their means. (ESV)

Personal Reflection or Group Discussion Questions

Open: Share about a woman in your life—past or present—whose faith or character has inspired you.

Read & Discuss: Luke 8:1-3

- 1. As Jesus pursued his mission of spreading the good news of redemption, Luke tells us that Jesus' travel group included not only His twelve disciples but also "many" women (v. 3). What strikes you about the inclusion of these women in Jesus' traveling ministry, especially considering the cultural norms of that time period?
- 2. Luke specifically names Mary Magdalene, Joanna, and Susanna before mentioning "and many others" (v. 2-3). What might be significant about the fact that three of these women are identified by name?
- 3. According to verse 2, these women had "been healed of evil spirits and infirmities." How does Jesus' act of healing and restoring these women, rather than dismissing them due to their past or condition, demonstrate His valuing of their individual lives and well-being?
- 4. Some of the women mentioned in this text provided financially for the ministry of Jesus (v. 3). What does this detail communicate about their influence in the spread of Jesus' message?
- 5. Even after Jesus' resurrection, women hold key roles in Jesus' life. *Read Matthew 28:9-10.* What does Jesus' choice to appear first to these women and then commission them to share the news with His disciples communicate about their role as messengers of the most important event in history?
- 6. After Jesus' ascension, in Acts 1:14 Luke records that women were also present in the upper room with His disciples as they gathered for prayer in Jerusalem—suggesting that participation in serving Christ's Church would continue to include women. *Read Romans 16:1-16*, noting the many women Paul names as important workers in His ministry. Share with your group some of the names of women you know who serve Jesus' church.
- 7. What are some unhelpful and unbiblical attitudes that may have developed in our present Christian culture? Should there be any limitations on roles for women in the church? Explain. (For example, see 1 Timothy 2:11-14; 1 Timothy 3:1-7; Galatians 3:28.) What is our role in helping the next generation have a biblical view of the roles of men and women in the church?

Apply: Think about a specific woman (or women) in your life (family, friends, church, community). This week, how can you specifically affirm and support her worth and contributions in a way that reflects Jesus's example from this passage?

Pray: Pray for a heart that reflects Jesus' love, asking God to help us see and honor the value of all people in His kingdom.