

ND26

BECOMING WOMEN

LIES,
LABELS &
LIBERATION



RAHAB

ALL
ABOUT
HIM



MIRIAM

REAL FAITH,
REAL
FEELINGS



HANNAH

INNER REST,
OUTER
RUSH



MARY & MARTHA

**HER STORY
THEIR STORIES
MY STORY**

**I AM SURE OF THIS, THAT HE WHO BEGAN A GOOD WORK IN
YOU WILL BRING IT TO COMPLETION - PHILIPPIANS 1:6**

BECOMING WOMEN





WHY “BECOMING”?

BECOMING WOMEN

When we encounter the real Jesus, we don't just pick up new beliefs or rearrange a few priorities. We hear His call to “Come, follow Me” - a life-altering, never-be-the-same-again invitation. It's a call to die and be born again, raised with Him into the new life He has designed for us.

Our life is all about ‘becoming’. Who we are now is not who we will remain. But this is more than simply growing into adulthood or maturing with age and experience. Becoming Women is the intentional pathway of discipleship for every girl and woman who chooses, and keeps choosing, to follow Jesus. He has called us on a lifelong journey of increasing love and freedom, delighting in the One who fulfils our deepest desires.

But we won't drift into this by following the current of our culture. We must walk in truth and obedience. Our Father is committed to forming us into redeemed women made in His image, in true righteousness and holiness, free from everything that once held us captive. Let us partner with Him, giving ourselves wholeheartedly to His grace-empowered work, so that we become the women He created us to be.

PAUSE TO REFLECT

The women who
currently influence me
are...

The women who inspire
me are...

When I think about the
woman I want to be,
these words come to
mind...

As we learn from **Her Story** and **Their Stories**, we can consider **My Story** with confidence in the One whose word is timeless, faithful and true.



Joshua 2:1-24; 6:22-25; Matthew 1:5; James 2:25; Hebrews 11:31

"I know that the Lord has given you the land, and that the fear of you has fallen upon us... For the Lord your God, he is God in the heavens above and on the earth beneath... Now then, please swear to me by the Lord that, as I have dealt kindly with you, you also will deal kindly with my father's house and ... will deliver our lives from death."
By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had given a friendly welcome to the spies.

HER STORY

Rahab's story is a powerful reminder that no one is beyond God's redemption. A marginalised woman with a shameful reputation becomes part of God's rescue plan because of her faith. Though she was a Canaanite, Rahab recognised that Yahweh was the true God and put her trust in Him. She courageously protected the Israelite spies and obeyed the command to hang a scarlet cord from her window, trusting God to spare her family when Jericho fell. Against all expectations, the prostitute Rahab became part of the family line through which God's salvation would come.

THEIR STORIES

What stood out to me when listening to others sharing their stories?

MY STORY

What labels am I currently wearing that do not come from God and need to be peeled off and left behind?

What are the words that God speaks over my life that will increasingly define me as I receive and believe them?





1 Samuel 1:1 - 2:11

Hannah was deeply distressed and prayed to the Lord and wept bitterly. "I have been pouring out my soul before the Lord..." Then Eli answered, "Go in peace, and the God of Israel grant your petition..."

Hannah went her way and ate, and her face was no longer sad. They rose early in the morning and worshipped before the Lord ... And in due time Hannah conceived and bore a son, and she called his name Samuel, for she said, "For this child I prayed, and the Lord has granted me my petition ... therefore for his whole life he will be given over to the Lord."

HER STORY

Hannah's inability to have children caused her deep heartbreak, but instead of turning away or hiding her pain, she poured out her heart to God in prayer. She was honest with her emotions and trusted Him with her deepest desires. She prayed fervently, and even when she was misunderstood and wrongly judged, she continued to seek God, promising to devote her son to Him if He heard her cries. Before she saw any answer, she chose to worship God for His faithfulness. When Samuel was born, Hannah kept her promise and dedicated him to the Lord.

THEIR STORIES

What stood out to me when listening to others sharing their stories?

MY STORY

What do I do with my emotions? Draw on the line your current approach:

EXPRESS

SUPPRESS

RELEASE

CONTROL

SHARE

HIDE

ACCEPT

JUDGE

What feelings do I experience that I have never brought to God? Why might this be?

What feelings do I experience that I have never talked about with anyone else? Why might this be?





Exodus 2:1-10; 15:20-21; Numbers 12:1-16; 20:1; Micah 6:4

Miriam ... took a tambourine in her hand, and all the women went out after her with tambourines and dancing. And Miriam sang to them: "Sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea."...
Miriam and Aaron said, "Has the Lord indeed spoken only through Moses? Has he not spoken through us also?" The anger of the Lord was kindled against them ... and when the cloud removed from over the tent, behold, Miriam was leprous, like snow.
And Aaron said to Moses, "Oh my lord, do not punish us because we have done foolishly and have sinned". ... And Moses cried to the Lord, "O God, please heal her."

HER STORY

Miriam, the first prophetess in the Bible, played a vital role in Israel's history. She helped save her brother Moses from genocide, ensuring he was nursed by their mother before being raised in Pharaoh's household. Years later, after the Israelites crossed the Red Sea, Miriam led the women in exuberant worship, celebrating God's mighty deliverance from Egypt. She shared significant leadership alongside her brothers and learned humility and obedience through the Lord's loving and restorative discipline.

THEIR STORIES

What stood out to me when listening to others sharing their stories?

MY STORY

Miriam's eyes were fixed on God, and her worship flowed from awe at His saving power. What captures my attention when I worship? Where are my eyes fixed?

Passionate worship, bold faith, and a desire to lead can be dismissed as "too much." Am I afraid of what others might think if I wholeheartedly follow Jesus?

What is God saying to me today about self-consciousness?





Luke 10:38-41; John 11:1-46; John 12:1-8

Martha welcomed Jesus into her house. And her sister Mary ... sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching. But Martha was distracted with much serving. And she went up to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her."

HER STORY

Mary and Martha's story highlights the tension and the balance between devotion to Jesus and active service for Jesus. Mary chose to sit at her Lord's feet, listening attentively to His voice to be nourished by His word. Martha faithfully served her Lord and her guests, but with busy hospitality that was underpinned by anxiety, frustration and distraction. Jesus' gentle words to these sisters still speak to us today, reminding us that the 'one thing' that comes above all else is our intimate relationship with Him.

THEIR STORIES

What stood out to me when listening to others sharing their stories?

MY STORY

What are 'my distractions' that make it difficult for me to sit at His feet? Shade the ones that are true for you and add your own.

Socialising

Not wanting to be on my own

Having a busy schedule

Feeling like I have to 'do for Him' more than 'be with Him'

FOMO (fear of missing out)

Pressure to do well in school

Serving in church

My mind is always busy with other thoughts

Disorganisation

Not sure how to approach Jesus in this way

Lack of motivation

He seems far away

Never feels like the right time

What is Jesus inviting me to do in response to what I have heard today?



BECOMING WOMEN



BE SHAPED BY GOD

BECOMING WOMEN

Habits reflect who you are and form who you are becoming. These practices enable you to intentionally partner with your Father as He shapes you to be like Jesus:

SCRIPTURE The Bible teaches you who God is, who you are, and why you're here. As you read and discover Christ on every page you will live more and more in His story for your life.

Habit: *Read a chapter or some verses every morning, before you look at your phone.*

PRAYER You have an invitation to bring your whole self to your Father who loves to know all of you. Prayer teaches you to be honest with your struggles and your desires. Through prayer you will learn to lean on Him and not yourself. **Habit:** *Talk to God about your thoughts, fears, hopes and struggles each day, and listen as He talks back to you.*

SILENCE The noise doesn't just distract you, it numbs you to God and to yourself. Silence will enable you to hear and feel again, to know yourself and to know Him. **Habit:** *Five minutes before bed each night, no phone, no music, just stillness. Write down anything that comes to mind.*

FASTING Saying no to a physical appetite and yes to your dependency on the Holy Spirit will increase your zeal, refocus your mind, and strengthen your awareness of grace. **Habit:** *Once a week choose to turn your heart to prayer in the time you would usually be eating a meal.*

COMMUNITY Build relational connections with people, some who are like you and some who are not like you. Be real, patient and forgiving, and commit to 'we' rather than 'I'. Sin and shame thrive in isolation, but God made you for community. **Habit:** *Stay connected to your church / youth group, and invest in one friendship to bless and encourage even if it doesn't directly benefit you.*

ABSTINENCE Phones, make-up, selfies, Insta, TikTok, Snapchat, Pinterest - think of anything that is pulling you towards a version of yourself that you don't want to be. Commit yourself to a deliberate period of time without it and let the Holy Spirit grow the fruit of self control in you. **Habit:** *Pick one thing and give it up for a week and notice what changes in you.*

SERVICE Consider an area where you can give your time and energy to support someone or something else. Serving develops generosity, humility and purpose. **Habit:** *Look for one regular way to serve your family, church or community and commit to it even when you don't feel like it.*

CHOOSE ONE PRACTICE TO START WITH AND CONSIDER:

When and how will I do this? What will I need to **stop** doing if I am going to **start** doing this?

Who can I ask to hold me accountable to this?

BECOMING WOMEN LITURGY

Father, You are the Creator and Designer of all things,
and all things are created to worship You.

As You clothe the grass with flowers, we thank You that we are
even more precious and wonderfully taken care of by You.

You lovingly created male and female, in Your image.

As we become women, may we grow more
in the identity You have given each one of us.

May we lean on You, our Helper, as we stand in the gap for others,
extending our hands to serve and support those in need.

We pray we become women after Your own heart,
women with our eyes fixed on You, who learn and lead
with strength, dignity and integrity.

Pause

May we be redeemed women of faith like Rahab
and devote our hopes and dreams to You like Hannah.

May we worship like Miriam,
listen like Mary and believe like Martha.

As we journey into becoming women of God,
teach us what it means to be cherished daughters
who look to You, our Heavenly Father, for love, light and life.

We long to know You and be known by You,
to love You and be deeply loved by You,
to worship You and be championed by You
into greater places, true identities and glorious futures.
Forever and ever, Amen.

Matthew 6:9-13; 6:28-30; Genesis 1:1-2:25; Proverbs 31

In each seminar we are sharing some
tools of transformation to help you walk
with the Spirit into freedom, grow as an
obedient disciple of Jesus, and enjoy the
goodness of your Father in your life. Scan
for your digital copy and download the
Becoming Women Tool Kit here:



BECOMING WOMEN

