

A guide to growing in faith and walking with God

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1. Begin by Studying the Lives of Women in Scripture

When you approach the Bible, don't rush first to the stories of men like Moses, David, Ezekiel, John, or Paul. While these narratives are important, beginning there without first studying the women in Scripture will cause you to miss foundational lessons that speak directly to your journey.

2. Learn from Ruth Before Focusing on David

Before you dive deep into David's story of heroism, first read about Ruth — a woman who found favor with God.

Study how Ruth cared for her mother-in-law and trusted God's plan. Learn how she honored her family and embraced God's will. Ruth's life offers lessons in loyalty, humility, and faith — qualities that deeply matter in your walk with God.

Write down the lessons you find. These truths will help you live in a way that pleases God, even more than simply reading about David's victories.

3. Study Abigail Before David's Great Victory

Before focusing on how David defeated Goliath, read about Abigail — the woman who intervened and prevented unnecessary bloodshed.

In *1 Samuel 25:32-33 (NIV)* we read:

“Then David said to Abigail, ‘Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, who has sent you today to meet me.’ And David accepted Abigail’s gift, and she said to him, ‘Go in peace...’”

Abigail’s humility, wisdom, and courage teach you how godly women can influence situations for good before studying the battle itself.

4. Study Sarah Before Abraham

Before spending time on Abraham’s story of faith, first examine Sarah’s life.

In *1 Peter 3:5–6 (NIV)* it says:

“For this is the way the holy women of the past who put their hope in God used to adorn themselves...like Sarah, who obeyed Abraham and called him her lord.”

Learn how Sarah honored God and supported her husband. Her faith and character carry lessons that are especially relevant to you — more so than starting immediately with Abraham’s experiences.

5. Learn from the Women Who Followed Jesus

Before focusing only on the male disciples (Peter, John, Matthew), take time to study the women who faithfully supported Jesus.

In *Luke 8:1–3 (NIV)* we read:

“After this, Jesus traveled about from one town and village, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God. The Twelve

were with him, and also some women... Mary called Magdalene... Joanna, the wife of Chuza... and many others. These women were helping to support them out of their own means.”

These women were not just followers — they impacted ministry through devotion, service, and generosity. Study how they served the Lord with their time, resources, and hearts.

6. Learn from Martha Before Zacchaeus

Before reading how Zacchaeus welcomed Jesus into his home and gave half his wealth to the poor (Luke 19:1-8), first study Martha.

In *John 12:2-3 (NIV)* we see:

“Martha served while Lazarus was at the table with him. Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard... and poured it on Jesus’ feet.”

Martha's hospitality and Mary's act of love show you how worship and service can be expressed from the heart. Understand their devotion before moving to Zacchaeus' story.

7. Learn from the First Witnesses of the Resurrection

Before focusing only on what Peter and the others experienced, remember that the first witnesses of Christ's resurrection were women.

In *John 20:16 (NIV)*:

"Jesus said to her, 'Mary.' She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, 'Rabboni!' (which means 'Teacher')."

These women were the first to encounter the risen Savior — a profound truth about God's design and the important role women had in revealing the risen Christ.

8. Learn from Other Women in Scripture

Study the lives of other women who showed faith, courage, and devotion, such as Deborah, Hannah, Rahab, Esther, and Dorcas. Let their stories teach you how to live boldly for God with humility and strength.

Also, study examples of what to avoid. In *1 Timothy 5:13 (NIV)* we read about the danger of idle talk — a warning against gossip and distraction. Avoiding such behavior is a valuable lesson.

Learn also from women whose lives reflect what not to do. For example:

- Jezebel — a woman whose actions displeased God deeply (cf. 2 Kings 9:30).
- Lot's wife — whose disobedience led to a tragic end.
- Vashti — whose pride caused her to lose her position, teaching us the value of humility.

Final Encouragement

May the Lord bless you richly. I believe that as you apply these lessons and continue studying God's Word, you will grow in

wisdom and strength as a woman who pleases God.

Maranatha.

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