



SEQUIM COMMUNITY CHURCH  
**WOMEN OF THE BIBLE**  
January 3, 2017

*Miriam*

A REMARKABLE LEADER

Miriam served as a spokeswoman for God. She was acclaimed as a prophet and recognized as a leader of the Israelites. Miriam is even credited with authoring some of the earliest texts in the Bible. She was also known as the sister of Moses.

Read Exodus 2:1-9; 15:1-18 & 21

**Small Group Opener:**

When you have free time what do you like to do? \_\_\_\_\_

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**MAIN BIBLE STUDY:**

Please read the verses and answer the following questions.

1. As we've learned, Miriam was the sister who stood and watched over her baby brother. Recall and itemize her deeds as described in Exodus 2:5-9 \_\_\_\_\_

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2. Miriam mirrored her mother's "merits." Look up the following verses and note the merited value identified in each one:

• I Corinthians 11:1 \_\_\_\_\_

• Philippians 4:9 \_\_\_\_\_

• I Thessalonians 1:6 \_\_\_\_\_

Which quality is your strength? \_\_\_\_\_

Which one are you working on? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Many of the faithful of the faith were "singing saints." Miriam and Moses were such singers. Read their songs in Exodus 15:1-18 & 21- jot down the characteristics of God that they found worthy to praise. \_\_\_\_\_  
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4. Besides Miriam, only four other women are given the title prophetess in the Bible. Read the following passages to discover who they were:

- Judges 4:4 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 Kings 22:14 \_\_\_\_\_
- Luke 2:36 \_\_\_\_\_
- Acts 21:9 \_\_\_\_\_

5. Read Numbers 12:1-16. What was Miriam and Aaron's accusation against Moses?

- Why? (vs.1-2) \_\_\_\_\_
- Miriam may have led in the rebellion against Moses because she alone was punished by God. Read Exodus 15:10 - what was her punishment? \_\_\_\_\_
- Now re-read Exodus 15:13-15. What was Moses' response to God's judgment upon Miriam?  
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And what was God's response to Moses' plea?  
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### Going Further - Additional Study

It is very interesting to study Jesus' leadership style. A great verse that summarizes Jesus' leadership style is Luke 22:26, "The one who serves you best will be your leader." Jesus models several helpful leadership skills in His life.

1. **Be a good example.** Jesus states in John 13:15, "I have given you an example to follow. Now do as I have done to you." Leadership is not about being bossy. (1 Peter 5:3)

Read I Timothy 4:12. What are the five areas Paul's lists in terms of being a good example?  
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2. **Jesus calls people to a greater purpose.** An important purpose often demands our very best. Jesus challenged people to a greater purpose in three different ways:
- Priorities (*Read Mark 10:21*)
  - Faith (*Matthew 10:7-8*)
  - Thinking [not thinking small] (*Matthew 28:19-10*)

3. **Jesus affirms people's potential.** Read up Mark 10:21 and John 14:12 to see Jesus in action. When we believe in someone, that often inspires them to do more than they think they can. In this way a Biblical leader is like a coach or personal trainer. "A word of encouragement does wonders!" (*Proverbs 12:25*).

4. **Jesus trusts people with responsibility.** I think Jesus did this because nothing develops us faster than having responsibility put in our lap. What does Jesus identify in Matthew 16:19 as our greatest responsibilities as a Christian? \_\_\_\_\_
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Another element of encouraging personal responsibility is what Jesus states in Luke 16:10: "If you love someone...you will always believe in them and always expect the best in them."

5. **Jesus gave people honest feedback.** We all need occasional corrective input and appraisal - we are all on the grow. One time, the disciples were trying to do this miracle and they couldn't do it. So they came back to Jesus and said, "What's up? You told us to go do this and we couldn't do it." Jesus gave them some honest, helpful feedback:

"It was because you did not have enough faith...I assure you that if you have faith as a mustard seed, you could do anything." (*Matthew 17:20*)

Notice Jesus follows a negative with a positive. Correction should be accompanied by encouragement to improve.

6. **Jesus prays for people He is leading.** Read what Jesus prayed for Simon in Luke 22:32. Our prayers for others invoke spiritual power in their lives. Remember, nothing is too small for God's concern, nor too big for God's power.