

God's Woman

Women have always played an important part in service to God. Their obedience to God as evidenced by their lives has had a tremendous impact on the lives of many who are searching for a relationship with God. Unlike many religions prevalent in the world today, Christianity, and God's earlier family, the Jews, have been instrumental in bringing about God's will for many of us.

Deborah was a judge over Israel and recognized the victories that were gained by her army were God's. She led the chosen people of God acceptably and successfully. **(Judges 4 and 5)**

Sarah bore the child God promised to Abraham, the child through whose lineage the Messiah would be born. **(Genesis 21)**

Jochebed was a Levite woman who hid and eventually protected Moses, the one through whom the Law was given. **(Exodus 2)**

Hannah bore Samuel and dedicated him to serve the Lord. He became a great leader and influence for the people of God. **(1 Samuel 1)**

Rahab, the prostitute who aided the Hebrew spies, was the great-great-grandmother to David. **(Matthew 1)**

Ruth, who was from Moab and not Jewish, gave birth to Jesse, the father of David, the greatest of all of the kings of Israel; "a man after God's own heart." **(Ruth 4, 1 Samuel 13, Acts 13)**

Bathsheba, although an adulteress, became one of the women through whose lineage the Christ would be born. **(2 Samuel 12, Matthew 1)**

Elizabeth was the mother of John, the man who accepted the responsibility of "making straight the way of the Lord." **(Luke 1, John 1)**

Mary was "highly favored among women" and gave birth to Jesus, the Messiah, the Savior of the world, the Christ, the Son of God. **(Luke 2)**

Mary Magdalene was one of Jesus' most faithful disciples. **(Matthew 27 and 28)**

Priscilla, alongside of her husband Aquila, taught the gospel and served Paul as his associates. **(Acts 18, Romans 16, 1 Corinthians 16, 2 Timothy 4)**

Lois and Eunice, Timothy's grandmother and mother, instilled a faith in God that lived on in him, causing him to preach Christ faithfully. **(2 Timothy 1)**

I know I left out many—but I believe you see the point I'm making. Many women have **accepted the role God gave them** (not one they had made for themselves, by their own will) and made the most of it. They, through their example and encouragement, inspired

many to accept Jesus Christ, both men and women. It is the obligation of Christian women everywhere to continue to do so.

---Johnny Stephens