



Titus Women

ALL OF ME FOR ALL OF JESUS

We are women who know the joy of the Spirit-filled life. We live and abide in the love of Jesus, trusting that He is enough to meet every need and satisfy every heart.

Lives Changed by Jesus— Their Lives and Our Lives

“This study began in 2020. That infamous year, filled with so many societal upheavals and personal struggles, forced me to slow down in my Bible reading. As everyone moved home life slowed down on the outside and became constant activity on the inside, so I decided to change my Bible study reading and simply cover one chapter of John's gospel every day.

For 21 days, I faithfully read my chapter, drinking in the words and stories of Jesus. After three weeks, I had read John through one time, and I decided to start all over and read it again—one chapter a day for 21 days.

By the time I finished the second go-around, I noticed something unusual about the stories in John. I noticed there were many stories about women and most of them were long stories—not brief snippets but developed and thoughtful episodes in Jesus' life.

Then, I recognized that Jesus spoke some of His “I AM” statements to the women in these stories. Then, I observed that the stories began with His mother and ended with Mary Magdalene—some might say 'the best and the worst' of women.

And finally, and with a shock, I realized that there were seven stories if we include the woman in John 8. I began re-reading these stories—one after another, amazed by John's inclusion of the women in his gospel and astounded by Jesus' honest and open dialogue with these women. Curious, I thought, "Maybe John wrote seven specific stories about men too," so I went back and read the rest of the stories, but John did not. The stories about men are open ended and mixed with Jesus' theological monologues and challenges to the Pharisees. They include individuals and groups, disciples and Pharisees without any clear boundaries. I concluded that the stories about these women were intentionally written.

These women were transformed by Jesus.

These encounters were written in God's eternal redemptive story.

These stories are our stories.

Jesus saw, engaged, comforted, protected, challenged, provided for, called, and sent these women. Their lives were changed by Jesus. He wants to encounter us as well.

~Cricket Albertson