

Women Who Helped Build The Church

Introduction: Most congregations are majority women. Many people accuse the church today of being repressive towards women. Today we will see from the Scriptures that its oftentimes the women who are the backbone of the church.

Mary

- A. Raised Jesus
 - Lk 2:52 Grew in wisdom, stature, wisdom with God and man
- B. Encouraged People to follow Jesus
 - John 2:5 Whatever he says to you, do it
- C. Held these things deep in her heart
 - Luke 2:18 Shepherds report: Mary treasured these things and held them in her heart
 - Luke 2:51 Jesus in temple: Mary treasured these things in her heart
 - John 19:25-27 At crucifixion: woman behold your son (Mt 27:56 Mary maybe at empty tomb) 3-7 Mary's
 - Acts 1:14 present with Apostles at the beginning of the church

Tabitha, Acts 9:36-39

- A. Provided food and clothing to those in need
 - City of Joppa Tabitha or Dorcas (Grk)
 - Disciple (only woman called this) reserved of 12 disciples
 - Known for good works and charity: at death windows present things she made for them.
 - Rev. 14:13 Blessed are they that die in the Lord and their works follow them.

Lydia, Acts 16:11-15

- A. Opens her heart, v. 14-15
 - In Philippi from Thyatira met Paul at river, heart opened and her family obeyed. Stay at my house
- B. Opened her house, Acts 16:40
 - When Paul and Silas let out of prison got to Lydia's house and see brethren
- C. Opened the way the way, Philippians 4:15-16
 - Church in Philippi supported Paul, sent aid to Thessalonica

Lois and Eunice, 2 Tim. 1:5

- A. Taught Timothy the Scriptures, 2 Tim 3:16
 - Taught Timothy as a child his heritage and about God
- B. Provided a spiritual home, Acts 16
 - Acts 16:1 Father was Greek, 1 Pt 3:1-6 Quiet and gentle spirit