**Luke 8: 1-21**

**8***After this, Jesus travelled about from one town and village to another, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God. The Twelve were with him,****2****and also certain women who had been cured of evil spirits and diseases: Mary (called Magdalene) from whom seven demons had come out;****3****Joanna the wife of Chuza, the manager of Herod’s household; Susanna; and many others. These women were helping to support them out of their own means.*

**Biblical Commentary:**

“*And certain women*”: Luke specifically mentioned certain women who followed Jesus, because this was unusual. Jesus had a different attitude towards women than the religious leaders and teachers of that day.

“The rabbis refused to teach women and generally assigned them a very inferior place.” (Morris) It’s interesting to note that, in the four Gospels, all of Jesus’ enemies were men.

“*One of these women was Mary called Magdalene*”. This Mary had been demon possessed until Jesus freed her. Many also assume that she was given over to immorality, but this isn’t said by the Biblical text. “The Christian imagination has made free with Mary Magdalene, mostly seeing her as a beautiful woman whom Jesus had saved from an immoral life. There is nothing whatever in the sources to indicate this.” (Morris)

**Questions:**

1. What do these details, only recorded in Luke’s narrative, tell us about Mary Magdalene?

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1. How do we know she is from a privileged background?
2. How do we know she has a long-term personal commitment to her faith?
3. How do we know she is privileged with Jesus’ special trust?