PORTRAIT

A WOMAN USED BY GOD

Lessons from the life of Mary of Nazareth

An Ordinary woman.

What is it that gives my life significance? Do I believe that God can use my life to make a difference in this world?

A *pure* woman.

Am I a pure woman? Am I pure in my behavior—my relationships, what I watch, read, and listen to, the way I dress? Am I pure in my motives, thoughts, and private habits?

An *Undeserving* woman.

Am I conscious that anything good or useful about my life is the result of His undeserved grace poured out on me?

A *ChOSEN* woman.

Am I conscious of having been chosen by God to fulfill a specific purpose in my generation?

A Spirit-filled woman.

Am I depending on the power of the Holy Spirit to be and to do that for which God has chosen me? Do I seek a fresh, daily filling of His Holy Spirit in my life?

An *available* woman.

Have I made myself fully available to God, for whatever purposes He might want to use my life? Am I willing for Him to use my life, at any price?

A *believing* woman.

Am I exercising faith in the promises of God? What am I believing God for that is impossible apart from His power? How does my life demonstrate faith in the power of God?

A praising woman.

Is my life characterized by a spirit of praise? Do I respond to the circumstances and challenges of each day by expressing gratitude for the greatness and mercy of God? Do my responses to life give the world a proper estimation of God?

A woman *of the Word*.

Do I love the Word of God? Do I read it, memorize it, meditate on it, and share it with others? Do I use the Word in the midst of real-life situations?

A reflective woman.

Do I take time to remember what God has done and to meditate on what He is doing in my life and in my circumstances?

A *humble* woman.

Am I content not to be recognized for my role in ministry? Is it my goal that "He might increase and I might decrease"?

A *trusting* woman.

Do I trust God to fulfill His purposes in my life and in the lives of those I love? Is there any area of my life where I am trying to work things out on my own, rather than trusting God to do what needs to be done?

A *SUbmissive* woman.

Am I willing to wait for God to work in and through the authorities that He has placed in my life?

An *influential* woman.

Does my life draw attention away from myself and toward Jesus? How is my life influencing others to love, worship, and obey the Lord Jesus?

A *praying* woman.

Am I a woman of prayer? Do I consistently join with other believers in praying for the revival of the church and the evangelization of the world?

A *devoted* woman.

Am I a faithful follower of the Lord Jesus—in the good times and in the bad? Am I committed to follow Him even when it is costly or when others fail to do so?

A *loved* woman.

Am I letting Jesus love me, care for me, and meet my needs? Am I receiving the provision He has made to meet my needs?

A *wounded* woman.

Am I willing to suffer in order that Jesus' redeeming life may be experienced by others?

Revive Our Hearts"

©2001 by Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth PO Box 2000 | Niles, MI | 49120 ReviveOurHearts.com | 800-569-5959 Excerpted from *Becoming God's True Woman*