

AWARENESS.SKILLS.KNOWLEDGE.

Intergenerational Women's Ministry and Study of Women In the Bible

St. Matthew AME Church

Reverend Melvin E. Wilson, Pastor|Teacher

24 February 2024

This month provides an overview of how her

Spiritual Gifts

Personality (Presence/Perspective)

Experiences (Positions/Protection)

Cares/Passions

Interest

Abilities

Life Talents

contributes to her special God-given purpose, equipping her to **minister to all God's children.**

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“Whether you are called by God to preach the gospel from the pulpit or to serve faithfully in the pew, as woman, you continue to play a significant role in the church, in society and in the advancement of God’s kingdom. We cannot allow culture, tradition, denomination or gender to hinder us from that which God has called and anointed us to do.” Dr. A. Elaine Brown Crawford, Interdenominational Theological Center

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From "All Women of the Bible" by Herbert Lockyer

The Daughters of Philip

Acts 21:8-9 (Pages 244)

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AWARENESS

Leaving the next day, we reached Caesarea and stayed at the house of Phillip the evangelist, one of the Seven. He had four unmarried daughters who prophesied.

What We Know

- Philip was one of 7 Greek speaking Jewish men who became an evangelist traveling throughout the Holy Land.
- His wife was not named, he was believed to be a widow, nor were his 4 daughters in the Book Of Acts that was written by Luke.
- It is a safe assumption that the mother had great influence over the lives of her daughters.
- The four are noted as a remarkable quartet of gospel women who lived out their lives among heathen neighbors.

The Four Daughters Are Nameless

- What would knowing their names mean? After all they were noted to have lived and occupied an important place in the primitive fellowship of the church.
- Is it important to have their names listed in the small chapter reference or their names inscribed upon the roll of the redeemed in heaven?
- Philip's four anonymous daughters represent countless numbers of the faithful serving a generation who knows them not.

They Were Virgins

- They had a rare spiritual gift and decided a celibate life deeming such preferable for women called or specially qualified to be God's interpreters. The author further notes that the Roman Catholic writers regard them as the first nuns of the Christian Church.
- As we know Paul in 1 Corinthians 7:5-34 sanctioned the unmarried life as presenting a higher standard of excellence than the duties of domestic life.

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They Prophesied

- Joel had prophesied extraordinary spiritual gifts to be bestowed upon both sexes, to daughters as well as sons. See Joel 2:28
- Peter, at Pentecost inspired by the prediction said, “your sons and daughters shall Prophesy.” See Acts 2:17-18 (Note: “God's purpose at Pentecost was to equip His church with the mighty power of the Holy Spirit so that we would be His witnesses to all the nations, resulting in His eternal glory.”)
- Because of the teaching of Paul regarding the silence of women as preachers in churches (1 Corinthians 14:34; 1 Timothy 2:12), it is possible that Philip's daughters confined their ministry to their own sex, preaching only to women.
- Their devotion to the Lord must have pleased their father. For along his missionary trips they were with him seeing many opportunities to preach to women and assist with baptism.
- The church will never know how much it owes to its unknown, consecrated women.

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Other Commentary

- “They had a mission to proclaim the gospel in their own womanly way” [H. Leo Boles, *A Commentary on Acts of the Apostles*, p. 333]
- “So, we don't know much about them, but we do know that they existed. Their legacy lives on today through the shout-out given to them in the Bible.” (Source: virtuousgirls)

MARCH 23, 2024: NO SESSION – Facilitator Care Time

APRIL 27, 2024: WOMAN OF THE MONTH – Babylon The Queen

Revelations 18-7-8 (Book Pages 267-269)

MAY 25, 2024: WOMAN OF THE MONTH - Rizpah, The Woman Who Guarded Her Dead

2 Samuel 3:7; 21; 8-14 (Book Pages 142-144)

BLESSINGS OVERFLOW!!!

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SKILL

Step Twenty-Eight: Evangelize With Love

LESSONS WE CAN LEARN FROM THE DAUGHTERS OF PHILIP?

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EVANGELISM – SEEK TO CONVERT SOMEONE TO CHRISTIANITY

WHAT? When we evangelize, we share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. “Evangelizing involves helping others know Christ and develop a relationship with Him, a loving bond with the One who wants to be accepted for who he is: Savior and Lord.”¹ God has created us with different personalities and gifts, and some of us are more adept at the verbal proclamation of the Gospel than others. Nevertheless, declaring the message of salvation through Christ is the responsibility of us all, and we must seek opportunities to preach (and teach) the Gospel. Only if we confess Him before men (and women) will He confess us before the Father ([Matt. 10:32–33](#)).²

HOW&WHO? We must use our spiritual gifts to minister to others for on earth for God who is in heaven. We all must evangelize in the spirit of Love! “Charity is much stronger than knowledge. Yes, the Lord needs us, but his banner is love. It is by love that the world is sanctified, it is by love and respect that men and women are freed from vain habits, and by a sincere interest in people that the Spirit makes himself known to them. If we want to show that we know God then let us show that we love our brothers and sisters as ourselves. Let us hasten to be reconciled with others.”³

WHY & WHERE? Even though our names might be mentioned, others might, but the Lord will not underestimate our leadership and our influence in building His kingdom. “Yet the mission of the Church is to proclaim the Gospel. Christ himself was sent by the Father ‘to evangelize the poor... to heal the brokenhearted’ (Luke 4:18), and ‘to seek and to save the lost’ (Lk 19:10). He also sent his disciples to make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit (Mat 28:19).

¹ <https://pembrokediocese.com/recommended-texts/what-is-evangelization/>

² <https://www.ligonier.org/learn/devotionals/what-evangelism#:~:text=Evangelism%20is%20the%20term%20we,the%20Gospel%20of%20Jesus%20Christ.>

³ <https://pembrokediocese.com/recommended-texts/what-is-evangelization/>

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KNOWLEDGE



Dear (insert your name)

Today I engaged in a conversation about women in the Bible who did incredible work for the Lord in the early days and their names were not mentioned. Even nameless they, we are still a part of God’s plan. I know trusting God and being patient with God is best for my journey and testimony as an Ambassador of Christ. “God is doing something wonderful in me!” I must be aware of tools Satan will use – impatience, doubt, arrogance, distrust, strife, and division for example - to keep me from fully serving the Lord in mind, spirit and heart. Because of what I heard, shared, learned, witnessed, thought about, I want to remember most,

In Jesus Name,

—

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