

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. *What did you think of the film?*
2. *Which woman in the film do you most identify with? What part of her story do you most relate with?*
3. *How did Jesus' encounter with this woman affect you? What stirred in you as you watched her story unfold?*
4. *After watching the film, has your view of Jesus changed? Why or Why not?*
5. *Tell us your story. Share about your spiritual background.*
6. *Where are you today in your faith journey? Are you like Rivka wondering if God sees you and knows you? Are you like Mary Magdalene who knows Jesus and follows Him closely? Or, are you somewhere in between?*
7. *At the end of the film, Mary Magdalene shares with Rivka what God's plan for us has been since the beginning of time:*

"When God created the world, He formed man and woman to live in His presence and feel His joy. That was His plan. But we didn't believe Him and disobeyed His command. This shameful act separated us from God, and marred the close relationship between the woman and the man. We too have continued this disobedience. The Scriptures declare there is no one who does not sin. The result of this sin is death, and separation from God. But God was not satisfied for us to remain cut off from Him and His love, living in shame and fear. So, just as He provided a ram to die in place of Abraham's son, God sent Jesus to die in our place. Jesus' life, death and resurrection restored the relationship between God and all those who turn and follow Him. And this close relationship with Almighty God will not end, even though we die....Those who put their trust in Jesus will escape eternal punishment and live with God forever...by following Him in faith."

8. *After this, Rivka prayed a simple prayer thanking God that He died in her place and forgives her and accepts her. Would you like to pray that same prayer now?*

"God, my Father in heaven, You are holy and righteous. Thank You that You love me. I have sinned against You. Thank You that You sent the promised Messiah, Jesus, to destroy the curse of shame and guilt. Thank You that He died in my place. I want to follow my living Savior. Thank You for forgiving me and accepting me. Amen."

Mary Magdalene briefly mentioned after Rivka's prayer, four ways that we can grow in our faith. Does anyone remember the four ways? (Obey God, pray, be with those who follow Jesus, and share with others about Jesus.)

9. *What is the next step for you on your faith journey?*

Magdalena
RELEASED FROM SHAME

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