

# Mark 15:41

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

(Who also, when he was in Galilee, followed him, and ministered unto him;) and many other women which came up with him unto Jerusalem.

## Analysis

**Who also, when he was in Galilee, followed him, and ministered unto him—** Mark emphasizes these women's longstanding discipleship. The Greek imperfect tense for followed indicates continuous action—they regularly, habitually followed Jesus throughout His Galilean ministry. Ministered means served, supported, provided for needs. These were disciples providing financial and logistical support enabling Jesus's itinerant ministry. Luke 8:1-3 identifies several women who provided for them out of their means. In first-century culture, honorable women did not typically travel with unrelated men, making these women's association countercultural and potentially scandalous. Yet Jesus welcomed and valued their discipleship. **And many other women which came up with him unto Jerusalem—** Beyond the three named, many other women pilgrimaged to Jerusalem with Jesus for Passover.

## Historical Context

First-century Jewish culture was patriarchal, with women's roles largely domestic. Rabbinic tradition taught that men should not speak with women in public (John 4:27 shows disciples' shock). Yet Jesus included women among His followers, taught them as disciples (Luke 10:39), and commissioned them as witnesses—all countercultural and revolutionary. These women's financial support was crucial—Jesus's disciples had left occupations to follow Him full-time; someone needed to

fund food, lodging, and travel. Wealthy women like Joanna provided resources. This partnership continued in the early church (Romans 16:1-2).

## Related Passages

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**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

## Study Questions

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1. How do these women's faithful service model practical discipleship—using resources, time, and presence to advance Christ's mission?
2. What does Jesus's inclusion and validation of women disciples teach about the gospel's transformation of social hierarchies?
3. How can contemporary Christians emulate these women's perseverance—remaining faithful through suffering and seeming defeat?

## Interlinear Text

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αὖτε καὶ ὅτε ἦν ἐν αἷς Γαλιλαία ἡκολούθουν  
(Who also when he was in women which Galilee followed  
G3739 G2532 G3753 G2258 G1722 G3588 G1056 G190

αὐτῷ καὶ διηκόνουν αὐτῷ καὶ ἄλλαι πολλαὶ αἱ  
him also ministered him also other many women which  
G846 G2532 G1247 G846 G2532 G243 G4183 G3588

συναναβᾶσαι αὐτῷ εἰς Ἱεροσόλυμα  
came up unto Jerusalem  
G4872 G846 G1519 G2414

