

Women in the Gospel of Matthew

References to Women Found only in Matthew

Passage (Source)	Brief Description
Matt. 1:3, 5, 6	Genealogy of Jesus: “. . . and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar. . . and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth . . . and David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah.”
Matt. 1:16	Genealogy of Jesus: “. . . Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born.”
Matt. 1:18–25	Birth of Jesus: “When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit . . . ‘Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son.’”
Matt. 2:11	Magi’s visit: “On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage.”
Matt. 5:27–28	Sermon on the Mount, on adultery: “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart.”
Matt. 5:31–32	Sermon on the Mount, on divorce: “It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.” (cf. Mark 10:2–12)
Matt. 14:21	Feeding of the 5,000: “Those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.”
Matt. 15:38	Feeding of the 4,000: “Those who had eaten were four thousand men, besides women and children.”
Matt. 18:25	Parable of the Unforgiving Servant: “. . . his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made.”
Matt. 21:5	Jesus’s entrance into Jerusalem: “Tell the

	daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.” (cf. Isa. 62:11; Zech. 9:9; John 12:15)
Matt. 25:1–13	Parable of the Ten Bridesmaids and Their Lamps
Matt. 27:19	Pilate’s wife: “While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, ‘Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him.’”

References to Women Found in Both Matthew and Luke

(Possibly Derived from the “Q” Source)

Ref.	Brief Description	Cross Reference
Matt. 10:35	Divisions within households: “For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law.”	Luke 12:53
Matt. 10:37	Conditions of discipleship: “Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.”	Luke 14:26
Matt. 11:11	Jesus speaks about John the Baptist: “Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”	Luke 7:28
Matt. 12:42	Seeking signs: “The Queen of the South will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because she came from the ends of the earth to listen to the wisdom of Solomon, and see, something greater than Solomon is here!”	Luke 11:31
Matt. 13:33	New parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”	Luke 13:20–21
Matt. 23:37b	Lament over Jerusalem: “How often have I desired to gather your	Luke 13:34

	children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!”	
Matt. 24:38	Apocalyptic discourse: “For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark.”	Luke 17:26–27
Matt. 24:41	Apocalyptic discourse: “Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left.”	Luke 17:35

References to Women Found in Matthew and Mark

(Sometimes also Luke and/or John)—Probably Derived by

Matthew from Redaction of Mark’s Gospel

Matt.	Brief Description	Mark	Luke	John
8:14–15	Healing of Simon’s mother-in-law	1:29–31	4:38–39	
12:46–50	Concern of Jesus’s family: mother and brothers	3:19b–21, 31–35	8:19–21	
9:18–19, 23–26	The daughter of Jairus	5:21–24, 35–43	8:40–42, 49–56	
9:20–22	A woman with a flow of blood	5:25–34	8:43–48	
13:55–56	Jesus is called “Son of Mary”; ref. to his sisters	6:3		[6:42]*
14:3–12	John the Baptist’s death: Herodias and her daughter	6:17–29	[3:19–20]	
15:21–28	The Syrophenician woman’s daughter	7:24–30		
19:3–12	On divorce	10:2–12	[16:18]	
19:19	Jesus quotes the Decalogue: “Honor your father and mother”	10:19	18:20	
19:29	“Everyone who	10:29–30	18:29	

	has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields, for my sake”			
22:23–33	The case of a woman who had seven husbands	12:18–27	20:27–40	
24:19	“Woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing infants in those days!”	13:17	21:23–24	
26:6–13	Anointing in Bethany: anonymous woman	14:3–9	[7:36–50]	12:1–8
26:69–72	Peter’s denials: the serving girl	14:66–70	22:56–57	18:17
27:55–56	Women at the cross: Mary Magdalene, Mary mother of James and Joses, and Salome	15:40–41	23:49	19:25–27
27:61	Women see Jesus buried	15:47	23:55–56	
28:1–8	Women go to Jesus’s tomb	16:1–8	24:1–10	20:1–2, 11–13
28:9–10	[Jesus appears to Mary Magdalene / women]	[16:9–11]	24:10–11	20:14–18

*Brackets indicate a less exact or direct reference.