

Women in the Gospel of Luke

Women are mentioned frequently in all four of the New Testament Gospels, but they are especially prominent in Luke:

Passage	Brief Description
Luke 1:5–7	Zechariah’s wife Elizabeth is named; both are righteous and old
Luke 1:13, 18	Gabriel and Zechariah each mention Elizabeth briefly
Luke 1:24–25	Elizabeth conceives and praises God for taking away her “disgrace” (of being barren)
Luke 1:26–38	Annunciation: Gabriel visits Mary to proclaim Jesus’s birth; Mary agrees to cooperate
Luke 1:39–56	Mary visits Elizabeth; Elizabeth praises Mary; Mary praises God in the “Magnificat”
Luke 1:57–61	Elizabeth gives birth to John and she names him
Luke 2:5–7	Mary goes with Joseph to Bethlehem and gives birth to her firstborn child
Luke 2:15–20	Shepherds visit Mary and Joseph; Mary treasures all things in her heart (v. 19)
Luke 2:22, 27	“ They ” go to Jerusalem for “their” purification; Simeon speaks to both “parents”
Luke 2:34–35	Simeon speaks directly to Mary : a sword shall pass through her heart
Luke 2:36–38	Prophet-widow Anna praises God and speaks to the people about Jesus
Luke 2:41–51	Both “parents” take Jesus to Jerusalem; his mother speaks (v. 48) and “treasures” all (v. 51)
Luke 3:19	Wicked Herodias mentioned only very briefly (contrast Mark 6:17–29)
Luke 4:25–26	Jesus cites the Old Testament stories of the widows of Israel and the widow of Zarephath
Luke 4:38–39	Jesus heals Simon’s mother-in-law ; she then immediately serves them all
Luke 7:11–17	Jesus has compassion for a widow in Nain , and so restores her only son to life
Luke 7:28	“Among those born of women no one is greater than John” (the Baptist)

Luke 7:35	“Wisdom is vindicated by all her children”
Luke 7:36–50	A sinful woman anoints Jesus and is forgiven; she is contrasted to Simon the Pharisee
Luke 8:1–3	Several women are named who accompany Jesus and provide for the disciples
Luke 8:19–21	Jesus’s mother and brothers come; those who hear and do God’s word are his mother and brothers
Luke 8:40–42, 49–56	Jesus restores Jairus’s daughter to life; child’s parents both mentioned (vv. 51, 56)
Luke 8:43–48	Jesus heals a hemorrhaging woman ; she takes the initiative and is praised for her faith
Luke 10:38–42	Martha serves and complains while Mary sits at Jesus’s feet (like a disciple) and is praised
Luke 11:27–28	A woman says, “Blessed is the womb that bore you and the breasts that nursed you!”
Luke 11:31	The Queen of the South used as a positive example; she came to hear Solomon’s wisdom
Luke 12:45	In a parable, both men and women slaves are beaten by a wicked manager
Luke 12:53	Families will be divided: father and son, mother and daughter, mother-in-law and daughter-in-law
Luke 13:10–17	On the Sabbath, Jesus cures a woman crippled for eighteen years
Luke 13:20–21	Parable of the Kingdom of God being like a woman mixing yeast and flour
Luke 13:34	Jesus wants to gather Jerusalem’s children like a mother hen protects her brood
Luke 14:26	Disciples must “hate” father, mother, wife , children, brothers, sisters
Luke 15:8–10	Parable of a woman who lost and found a coin, then rejoices with her friends
Luke 16:18	Brief saying against men divorcing their wives or marrying divorced women
Luke 17:26–27	In the days of Noah, people were marrying and giving in marriage
Luke 17:32	“Remember Lot’s wife ”
Luke 17:35	Two women will be grinding grain: one will be taken, one left
Luke 18:1–8	Parable of a widow fighting for her rights against an unjust judge
Luke 18:20	“Honor your father and mother ” (cited from Exod. 20:12)
Luke 18:28–30	Disciples who have left wives , brothers, parents , children, and so on will be rewarded

Luke 20:27–36	Sadducees question the resurrection with story of a woman who had seven husbands
Luke 21:1–4	Poor widow's small offering is worth more than the offerings of rich people
Luke 21:23–24	Alas for pregnant and nursing women in the days of Jerusalem's destruction
Luke 22:56–57	Peter's first denial comes after a servant girl challenges him
Luke 23:27–31	Jesus speaks to wailing women in the crowd on the way to his crucifixion
Luke 23:49	The women from Galilee watch Jesus's crucifixion from a distance
Luke 23:55–56	The women see where Jesus is buried and prepare spices and ointments
Luke 24:1–11	The women find Jesus's tomb empty; two messengers speak with them; they remember Jesus's words and go tell the other disciples, who don't believe them
Luke 24:22–24	Two disciples (two men? a married couple? "Cleopas" in 24:18) on the road to Emmaus tell Jesus how some women of their group went to the tomb that morning and saw a vision of angels