

Mary, the Magnificent  
Mother  
Of Jesus



# **The Five Character Traits of Mary**

Jesus and Mary had a strong bond---one that may not have included Joseph (most scholars think he died early on in Jesus' life). Mary was the only person who was at both Jesus' birth and death.

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## 1. She Was Real

The Hebrew name for Mary---*Miriam*--- means *wished-for child* or *bitter*. Mary's genealogy is found in Luke 3. She was from the tribe of Judah and was between twelve and fourteen years old when she conceived by the Holy Spirit.

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## 2. She Was Humble

Mary's last words to the angel were words of submission (see v. 38).

*Maidservant* means *slave maid*. In antiquity, servants were free people and were compensated; slaves had no rights or legal privileges and had to obey their master

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## 3. She Was Worshipful

When life bumps up against you, what comes out?

In Mary's case, it was praise and worship.

Mary's prayer is known as the *Magnificat* in Latin.

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## 4. She Was Scriptural

Over fifteen allusions connect Mary's prayer to the Scriptures, especially to parts of Hannah's prayer in 1 Samuel 2.

In addition to Scripture, she knew theology: "To Abraham and to his seed forever" (v. 55).

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## 5. She Was Needful

Mary was not immaculate and does not dispense grace. Rather, she was a sinner in need of a Savior---  
and she knew it.

If you want to honor Mary, worship the Savior she bore.