

Guardrails From 5 Amazing Women in the Bible May 7 & 8, 2022

What is a guardrail?

A system designed to keep vehicles from <u>straying</u> into dangerous areas.

What is a spiritual guardrail?

A standard or behavior that becomes a matter of <u>conscience</u> that serves as a guardrail for my life.

There are 200 women mentioned specifically in the Bible.

The Miriam Guardrail Teaches Us That:



A <u>positive</u> attitude focused on God will always prevail over a negative attitude focused on my circumstances.

Exodus 2:4-8 (NLT)

"The baby's sister then stood at a distance, watching to see what would happen to him. Soon Pharaoh's daughter came down to bathe in the river... When the princess saw the basket... the princess opened it, she saw the baby... Then the baby's sister approached the princess. 'Should I go and find one of the Hebrew women to nurse the baby for you?' she asked. 'Yes, do!' the princess replied. So the girl went and called the baby's mother."

Exodus 15:20-21 (NLT)

"Then Miriam the prophet, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine and led all the women as they played their tambourines and danced. And Miriam sang this song: 'Sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously; he has hurled both horse and rider into the sea.'"

Numbers 12:2 (NLT)

"They said, 'Has the LORD spoken only through Moses? Hasn't he spoken through us, too?' But the LORD heard them."

Micah 6:4 (NLT)

"For I brought you out of Egypt and redeemed you from slavery. I sent Moses, Aaron, and Miriam to help you."

The Mary Magdalene Guardrail Teaches Us That:



We must always stay faithful when no one else is.

Luke 8:2 (NLT)

- "...along with some women who had been cured of evil spirits and diseases. Among them were Mary Magdalene, from whom he had cast out seven demons..."
- She followed Jesus everywhere he went.
- She recognized Jesus' voice.

John 20:11-14, 16-17 (TPT)

"Mary arrived back at the tomb, broken and sobbing. She stooped to peer inside, and through her tears she saw two angels in dazzling white robes, sitting where Jesus' body had been laid—one at the head and one at the feet! 'Dear woman, why are you crying?' they asked. Mary answered, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I don't know where they've laid him.' Then she turned around to leave, and there was Jesus standing in front of her, but she didn't realize that it was him!... 'Mary,' Jesus interrupted her. Turning to face him, she said, Rabboni!' (Aramaic for 'My teacher!')... 'Now go to my brothers and tell them what I've told you, that I am ascending to my Father—and your Father, to my God—and your God!"

The "WAW" (Woman at the Well) Guardrail Teaches Us That:



My <u>past</u> has no power over the future Jesus has planned for me.

John 4:8-10 (TPT)

"Soon a Samaritan woman came to draw water. Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' She replied, 'Why would a Jewish man ask a Samaritan woman for a drink of water?' (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) Jesus replied, 'If you only knew who I am and the gift that God wants to give you, you'd ask me for a drink, and I would give you living water."

John 4:17-19 (TPT)

"'But I'm not married,' the woman answered. 'That's true,' Jesus said, 'for you've been married five times, and now you're living with a man who is not your husband. You have told the truth.' The woman changed the subject. 'You must be a prophet!'"

John 4:39 (TPT)

"Many from the Samaritan village became believers in Jesus because of the woman's testimony: 'He told me everything I ever did!"

The Esther Guardrail Teaches Us That:



<u>Reacting</u> impulsively is never as wise as acting in prayerful humility.

Esther 4:16 (NLT)

"Go and gather together all the Jews of Susa and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. My maids and I will do the same. And then, though it is against the law, I will go in to see the king. If I must die, I must die."

Esther 5:1-3 (NLT)

"On the third day of the fast, Esther put on her royal robes and entered the inner court of the palace, just across from the king's hall. The king was sitting on his royal throne, facing the entrance. When he saw Queen Esther standing there in the inner court, he welcomed her and held out the gold scepter to her. So Esther approached and touched the end of the scepter. Then the king asked her, 'What do you want, Queen Esther? What is your request? I will give it to you, even if it is half the kingdom!"

Esther 8:5, 17 (NLT)

"Esther said, 'If it please the king, and if I have found favor with him, and if he thinks it is right, and if I am pleasing to him, let there be a decree that reverses the orders of Haman son of Hammedatha the Agagite, who ordered that Jews throughout all the king's provinces should be destroyed.' In every province and city, wherever the king's decree arrived, the Jews rejoiced and had a great celebration and declared a public festival and holiday. And many of the people of the land became Jews themselves, for they feared what the Jews might do to them."

The Abigail Guardrail Teaches Us That:



<u>Seeing</u> God's bigger picture will carry you through life's temporary storms.

1 Samuel 25:3, 10, 12 (NLT)

"This man's name was Nabal, and his wife, Abigail, was a sensible and beautiful woman. But Nabal, a descendant of Caleb, was crude and mean in all his dealings... 'Who is this fellow David?' Nabal sneered to the young men. 'Who does this son of Jesse think he is? There are lots of servants these days who run away from their masters.'... So David's young men returned and told him what Nabal had said."

1 Samuel 25:23-28 (NLT)

"When Abigail saw David, she quickly got off her donkey and bowed low before him. She fell at his feet and said, 'I accept all blame in this matter, my lord. Please listen to what I have to say. I know Nabal is a wicked and ill-tempered man; please don't pay any attention to him. He is a fool, just as his name suggests. But I never even saw the young men you sent.' 'Now, my lord, as surely as the LORD lives and you yourself live, since the LORD has kept you from murdering and taking vengeance into your own hands, let all your enemies and those who try to harm you be as cursed as Nabal is. And here is a present that I, your servant, have brought to you and your young men. Please forgive me if I have offended you in any way. The LORD will surely reward you with a lasting dynasty, for you are fighting the LORD's battles. And you have not done wrong throughout your entire life."

2 Corinthians 4:17 (NLT)

"For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever! So we don't look at the troubles we can't see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever."



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