

HIDDEN FIGURES| Unnamed Women |Week 3 | July 20/21, 2019

Luke 8:43-48

These study guides are designed for individual or group study but highly encouraged to be experienced in community with a small group or other friends on the journey with Jesus.

Guest Speaker Bio: This weekend's speaker was Chi Chi Okwu. Chi Chi is the Senior Community Relations Advisor at World Vision, and a widely celebrated national speaker and preacher.

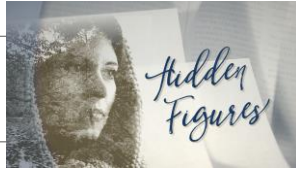
Opening: The Bible is full of stories women who used their influence and took great personal risks to confront the injustices of their time. They knew the dangers of doing what they did yet their love for God propelled them to a different way of life that ran counter to cultural and societal norms. This series explores these hidden figures of the scriptures allowing them to lead, teach and challenge us to become who God is calling us to become by the grace and love of Jesus.

Read: [Luke 8:43-48](#) (Using this link will take you to [BibleGateway.com](#) where you can explore this passage through three preselected translations of the scripture.)

• *Journal or share what especially intrigued, challenged, encouraged, warmed, helped, or surprised you in this passage?*

Reflect: Our study this week focuses on an Unnamed Woman. Here we see an inspiring example of faith in God from an anonymous source.

- How motivated are you by public feedback and appreciation?
- Journal or share a story from your recent past where you were recognized publicly. How did you feel? How would that have been different if you were not recognized? Would you have been upset or hurt? You sure?
- Journal or share what you have been thinking about since you heard this week's guest speaker? Why do you think that is?
- Journal or share what particularly excited, challenged, disturbed, or encouraged you from what Chi Chi shared with us?
- Journal or share a key way you can live in response to what was shared this week.
- Journal or share what other unnamed women of the Scriptures have inspired and challenged you? Consider the [women at the well in John 4](#) or the [widow's offering in Mark 12:41-44](#).



Practice of the Week: The Service of Secrecy

The service of secrecy is where you follow the Spirit's leading to bless or encourage someone in secret, seeking to remain unnamed. Follow these steps as you enter into this anonymous practice:

1. Prayerfully consider who you might serve in this way. It's easy to do this for those that are easy like our family and friends. But perhaps God is leading us to do something for the boss no one likes. Or my neighbor who always does that annoying thing.
2. Choose something practical to do for the person that will encourage, help or support them. Such as provide them a gift card for gas or local grocery store; Cut their grass when they are at work; pay their rent or mortgage for the month. The practice should entail prayerful discernment with God. Don't over think and have fun with it.
3. Carry out your service of secrecy in secret. If the Lord reveals it was you in some way then embrace it and continue to encourage the person.
4. Enjoy knowing God is blessed, as you bless this person.

Family Formation:

Use the service of secrecy practice from above, as a family formational practice this week. Have the family decide together who to do something for and why. Pray for this person then perform this act of secret blessing and encouragement for them and celebrate God's blessing on someone's life and the joy that you had a part in it even without the public recognition.

We'd love to hear from you!

If you have thoughts, questions, comments, ideas on how to make these study guides more meaningful for you or your small group, please let us know.

We also enjoy hearing how God is using these study guides in your lives.

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