

# Ladies, Here are Your Role Models

*by Bryan Gibson*

**Lydia**, whose heart was receptive to the gospel, and who then showed hospitality toward those who taught her the gospel (Acts 16:14-15, 40).

**Eunice and Lois**, Timothy's mother and grandmother, who both had a "genuine faith," and who made sure that Timothy knew the Scriptures "from childhood" (2 Timothy 1:5; 3:14-15).

**Dorcas**, who "was full of good works and charitable deeds," especially toward the widows, for whom she made "tunics and garments" (Acts 9:36-39).

**Phoebe**, described by Paul as "a servant of the church in Cenchrea," and "a helper of many and of myself also" (Romans 16:1-2).

**Priscilla**, who together with her husband, Aquila, explained to Apollos "the way of God more accurately" (Acts 18:24-26). Paul described Aquila and **Priscilla** as "my fellow workers in Christ Jesus, who risked their own necks for my life, to whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles" (Romans 16:3-4).

**Anna**, a prophetess, who "served God...night and day," who gave thanks to God at the birth of Jesus, and then "spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem" (Luke 2:36-38).

**Elizabeth**, John the Baptist's mother, who along with her husband Zacharias, were "righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless" (Luke 1:6).

**Martha**, who showed hospitality to Jesus on at least a couple occasions (Luke 10:38-42; John 12:1-8); and who also proclaimed her faith in Jesus by saying, "I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is to come into the world" (John 11:24-27).

**Mary**, the sister of Martha, who also showed hospitality to Jesus, but who also took time aside to sit at His feet and listen to Him teach (Luke 10:38-42). She further showed her humble devotion to Jesus when she anointed his head and feet with oil (Matthew 26:6-13; Mark 14:3-9; John 12:1-8), an act for which she was criticized by some, but praised by Jesus ("she has done a good work for Me"—Matthew 26:10; "she has done what she could"—Mark 14:8; "wherever the gospel is preached...what this woman has done will also be told as a memorial to her"—Mark 14:9).

**Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Susanna, and other women**, all of whom provided for Jesus from their "private means" (NAS) (Luke 8:1-3).

**Mary**, the mother of John Mark, in whose home "many were gathered together praying" (Acts 12:12).

**Tryphena, Tryphosa, and other ladies**, of whom it is simply said that they "labored in the Lord," or "in the gospel," and in some cases, that they "labored much in the Lord" (Romans 16:6, 12; Philippians 4:3).