A Life Worth Giving
Luke 8:1-3
Sermon Outline

A. A Mission to Complete (vs. 1; Luke 4:17-20; John 3:16):

1. Jesus decided to do something that has never been done before. He arose, and went from one city to villages preaching a message that was never preached before.
   a) “Soon afterwards” (8:1) marks the transition to another phase of Jesus’ activities. He now embarks on an itinerant preaching ministry that calls for rapid visits to various places. The chapter begins with some teachings of Jesus, followed by four miracles.[1]

2. This is something that Christ did with no intent of stopping.
   a) The time we saw coming had now come. Jesus was on the road. The synagogues were now not open to Him, as once they had been. He had begun, as it were, in the church, where any man with a message from God might expect to find a responsive and receptive audience. Instead of a welcome He had found opposition; instead of eager listeners He had found the scribes and Pharisees bleakly waiting to catch Him out; so now He took to the open road and the hillside and the lake shore (John 1:9-13). [2]

3. Jesus, as a herald of the gospel message, continually with no end in sight kept calling all those who would listen to enter into the kingdom of God.

4. Jesus continually spoke loudly in an attempt to evangelize the cities He entered.

5. Christ sought to reach everyone who is willing to come under the rule of God in and for their lives.

6. Christ had the full support of His disciples.

B. A Common Purpose .... Willing Spirits (vs. 2-3; 2 Corinthians 9:10-15):

1. These are women who Christ restored to full physical, mental and spiritual health. He made them whole again. Some of these women came from high regard.
   a) These three and many other women were helping to support them (i.e., Jesus and the Twelve) out of their own means. This would have been viewed
as a scandalous situation in Palestine in that day. However, like the forgiven woman (7:36–50), these women had also been forgiven much and they loved much. They were responding positively to Jesus’ message about His kingdom.[3]

2. The women who were in a completed state of being restored to perfect health, whether physical, mental or spiritual, without any medical treatment.
   a) Some of the women including Magdalene were healed from malicious spirits (demons) who sought to cause inner distress or even bodily injury.
   b) The seven demons where no longer a part of her life. They were removed and had no further access.

• Mary Magdalene – She was one of the women at Calvary who were "looking on from afar" (Mark 15:40) when Jesus died on the cross (also John 19:25). She was at Joseph’s tomb when the body of Jesus was wrapped in a fine linen cloth and a large stone was rolled against the door of the tomb (Matt 27:61; Mark 15:47). And she was a witness of the risen Christ (Matt 28:1; Mark 16:1; Luke 24:10; John 20:1). In fact, she was the first of any of Jesus' followers to see Him after His resurrection (Mark 16:9; John 20:11-18). [4]

3. Joanna’s husband was a manager of Herod’s affairs.

4. There were many others who were indefinitely managing Christ ministry, giving their wages and food, volunteering their services by waiting on tables and serving dinner and caring for the needs of the twelve disciples.

5. They continually made it a habit to provide all that was needed, even from their own possessions (Judas had the Lord’s money), in order that the ministry of Christ progresses forward. This is why the Macedonians were in 2 Corinthians 8:1-6.
   a) Those matrons being wealthy and of high rank, it reflects higher commendation on their pious zeal, that they supply Christ’s expenses out of their own property, and, not satisfied with so doing, leave the care of their household affairs, and choose to follow Him, attended by reproach and many other inconveniences, through various and uncertain habitations, instead of living quietly and at case in their own houses.[5]
