

Bible Text New International Version	Who are the people involved and what is the situation?	What traits of God are displayed in this story? What are the traits of the people?	In what ways do you see yourself in this story? How is God inviting you to respond?
<p>Mark 6:14-29 John the Baptist Beheaded</p> <p>¹⁴ King Herod heard about this, for Jesus' name had become well known. Some were saying, ^[a] "John the Baptist has been raised from the dead, and that is why miraculous powers are at work in him."</p> <p>¹⁵ Others said, "He is Elijah." And still others claimed, "He is a prophet, like one of the prophets of long ago."</p> <p>¹⁶ But when Herod heard this, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised from the dead!"</p> <p>¹⁷ For Herod himself had given orders to have John arrested, and he had him bound and put in prison. He did this because of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, whom he had married. ¹⁸ For John had been saying to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." ¹⁹ So Herodias nursed a grudge against John and wanted to kill him. But she was not able to, ²⁰ because Herod feared John and protected him, knowing him to be a righteous and holy man. When Herod heard John, he was greatly puzzled^[b]; yet he liked to listen to him.</p> <p>²¹ Finally the opportune time came. On his birthday Herod gave a banquet for his high officials and military commanders and the leading men of Galilee. ²² When the daughter of ^[c] Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his dinner guests. The king said to the girl, "Ask me for anything you want, and I'll give it to you." <i>(continued)</i></p> <p>a. Mark 6:14 - Some early manuscripts <i>He was saying</i> b. Mark 6:20 - Some early manuscripts <i>he did many things</i> c. Mark 6:22 - Some early manuscripts <i>When his daughter</i></p>			

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<p>Mark 6:14-29 – <i>continued</i></p> <p>²³ And he promised her with an oath, “Whatever you ask I will give you, up to half my kingdom.”</p> <p>²⁴ She went out and said to her mother, “What shall I ask for?”</p> <p>“The head of John the Baptist,” she answered.</p> <p>²⁵ At once the girl hurried in to the king with the request: “I want you to give me right now the head of John the Baptist on a platter.”</p> <p>²⁶ The king was greatly distressed, but because of his oaths and his dinner guests, he did not want to refuse her. ²⁷ So he immediately sent an executioner with orders to bring John’s head. The man went, beheaded John in the prison, ²⁸ and brought back his head on a platter. He presented it to the girl, and she gave it to her mother. ²⁹ On hearing of this, John’s disciples came and took his body and laid it in a tomb.</p> <p>Luke 8:1-3 The Parable of the Sower</p> <p>8 After this, Jesus traveled about from one town and village to another, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God. The Twelve were with him, ² and also some women who had been cured of evil spirits and diseases: Mary (called Magdalene) from whom seven demons had come out; ³ Joanna the wife of Chuza, the manager of Herod’s household; Susanna; and many others. These women were helping to support them out of their own means.</p>			

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<p>Mark 15:40-41</p> <p>⁴⁰ Some women were watching from a distance. Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joseph,^[d] and Salome. ⁴¹ In Galilee these women had followed him and cared for his needs. Many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem were also there.</p> <p>John 20:11-18 Jesus Appears to Mary Magdalene</p> <p>¹¹ Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb ¹² and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.</p> <p>¹³ They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?" "They have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I don't know where they have put him." ¹⁴ At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.</p> <p>¹⁵ He asked her, "Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?" Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him."</p> <p>¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means "Teacher"). (continued)</p> <p>d. Mark 6:40 - Greek <i>Joses</i>, a variant of <i>Joseph</i>; also in verse 47</p>			

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<p>John 20:11-18</p> <p>¹⁷ Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"</p> <p>¹⁸ Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them that he had said these things to her.</p>			

Reflections

Have you ever wanted revenge? Why? How did you feel and what did you do? What was the outcome?

What do your actions reveal about the state of your heart?

Prayer Requests
