



# Miriam's Story

A heroic young girl and a valiant woman

"For I brought you up from the land of Egypt and ransomed you from the house of slavery, and I sent before you Moses [to lead you], Aaron [the high priest], and Miriam [the prophetess]." Micah 6:4 AMP

## Miriam's Story

- ✿ Miriam was the daughter of Amram and Jochebed and the older sister of Moses and Aaron.
- ✿ Miriam was a prophetess of God, gifted in song and dance.
- ✿ By the time Miriam was born, things had changed a lot for God's people; the Israelites were no longer free, but slaves.
- ✿ The pharaoh who ruled at the time did not want God's people to get stronger and prosper, so he devised an evil plan. He spoke to the Hebrew midwives, Shipah and Puah, to kill any Hebrew babies they delivered that were boys.
- ✿ Thankfully, the midwives honoured God, and saved all the babies instead. They then explained to the pharaoh that by the time they got to the mothers, the babies were already born. The pharaoh changed his plan and commanded all his people to throw Hebrew baby boys into the river, but to let the girls live.
- ✿ During this tragic time, Moses - Miriam's little brother - was born. In fear of the Egyptians murdering him, Jochebed, his mother, devised a plan when he was three months old.
- ✿ Jochebed placed him in a basket made from papyrus, covered and sealed with tar and pitch; and then hid it amongst the bullrushes in the Nile River.
- ✿ Miriam chose to stand watch over her little brother's basket for his safekeeping. There she witnessed the princess of Egypt, who found him when she went down to bathe in the river, and how she took a genuine liking to him (Exodus 2:4).
- ✿ Miriam bravely went to the princess and told her that she would fetch a Hebrew woman to take care of the baby for her (Exodus 2:7-8). This was an opportunity for Moses's real mother to be able to nurse him and look after him in the palace, while he was weaning.
- ✿ We only read about Miriam again later in the Bible when Moses returns to Egypt to help lead God's people out slavery.

## God's Hand in Miriam's Life

- ✿ God protected Miriam during the time when she safeguarded her little brother.
- ✿ Later in her life as an adult, God used Miriam to play an important role together with Moses and Aaron as she helped lead the Israelites out of slavery and out of Egypt (Micah 6:4).
- ✿ In the book of Exodus, chapter 15, the Word of God explains how it was Miriam who led the Israelite women into worship by singing and dancing when God delivered the Israelites from the Egyptians once they had crossed the Red Sea. Miriam gave great honour to God as she publicly praised Him.
- ✿ Sadly though, there was also a time when Miriam and Aaron were prejudiced against Moses's wife because she was from a different nation (Ethiopian woman). Pridefully, they went against Moses. As much as God loved and valued Miriam as His daughter and prophetess on earth, God did not support any form of discrimination. As a result, Miriam, contracted leprosy; a dreadful disease that affects the skin and body. In those days an entire city would cast lepers out of their gates. Thankfully, this only lasted for seven days, as God healed her. During this time, Miriam was able to experience how horrible it was to be ostracized because of her ailment; and she was able to repent before the Lord and cleanse her heart (Numbers 12:10).

Spend some time with the Holy Spirit in reflection, and search your heart whether you have ever been discriminatory towards others; and, if so, why? Ask God to work in your heart, to give you His perspective. Pray for your brothers and sisters across the world who belong to different people groups and who speak different languages. God is an all-loving God, Who wants to use you as a vessel of peace and love.

You can read more of Miriam's story in the Bible, in Exodus 2, Exodus 15, Numbers 12, and Micah 6:4



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God is a good Father. So, you are loved by Him! Jesus wants to be your Saviour. He also wants to be your Healer. God can forgive, restore, and help you. So, if you make Jesus the Lord of your life, good things will come from your hurt and pain. Say this prayer for your Salvation:

Father, I come to You in the Name of Jesus. Please forgive me for my sins, as I believe Jesus died for me on the cross. Father, thank You for raising up Jesus from the dead. Jesus, I ask You to come into my heart, and to be the Lord of my life today. In the Name of Jesus, I pray, Amen.

(For reference read Romans 10:9 & 10)

A prayer for your healing:

Father God, I come to You in the Name of Jesus. I need Your healing hand in my life. Holy Spirit, you know my story. Please come and touch me today. I receive Your healing to restore my soul.

In the Name of Jesus Christ. Thank You. Amen.