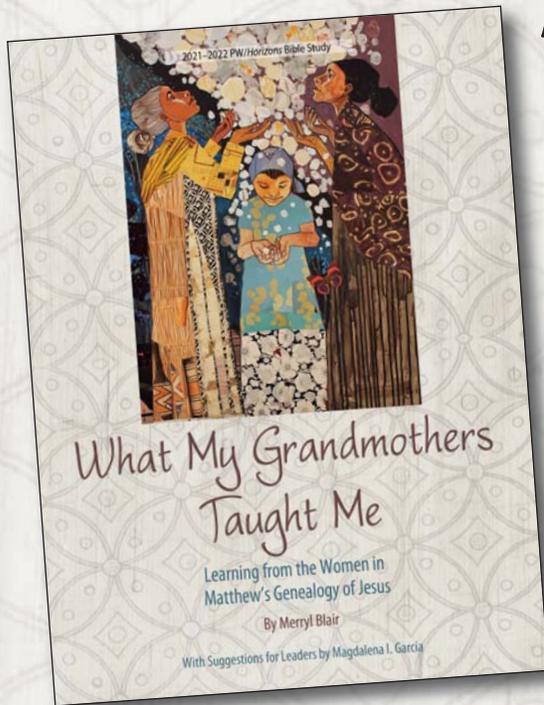


## Introducing the 2021–2022 PW/*Horizons* Bible study



The first chapter of the Gospel of Matthew invites us into the family stories that helped shape Jesus and shape us too. The women in Jesus' family tree have backstories that are exactly the kind of story you can imagine hearing while sitting spellbound as a grandmother reminisces about her early life.

Matthew chose to mention a handful of women: Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Bathsheba, and Mary.

What can they teach us? Matthew has named these women for a reason. Their stories will lead us into the Gospel, the Good News about Jesus Christ. Having explored their stories together, we will have a richer idea about what the good news is.

### About the authors



God has gently nudged author **Merryl Blair** in interesting directions throughout her working life (nurse, youth minister, Old Testament lecturer—perhaps not the normal career path). For 25 years she has served as senior lecturer in Old Testament at Stirling Theological College (part of the

University of Divinity, Melbourne, Australia). She and her late husband, Graeme, also taught, during sabbaticals, at Northrise University, in northern Zambia.

Merryl has represented Churches of Christ in Australia on ecumenical councils at state, national, and international levels. In “retirement” she continues to present Bible studies at women's conferences. She met PW executive director, Susan Jackson Dowd, at one three years ago!



**Rev. Magdalena I. García**, writer of the Suggestions for Leaders, is pastor of Ravenswood Presbyterian Church, in Chicago, Illinois. Formerly, she served as hospice chaplain for Vitas Healthcare. She is a graduate of McCormick Theological Seminary (MDiv, 1989) and a recipient of the

2008 Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Women of Faith

Award. She writes and translates for Presbyterian publications and publishes liturgies under her personal blog: [justleros.blogspot.com](http://justleros.blogspot.com). A native of Cuba, Magdalena has lived in Chicago since 1971.

### About the artist



**Cody F. Miller's** paintings have been exhibited in solo and group exhibitions in galleries, art festivals, and museums, and have received numerous awards and honors. Cody lives with his wife and sons in Columbus, Ohio. See more of his art at [www.codyfmiller.com](http://www.codyfmiller.com).

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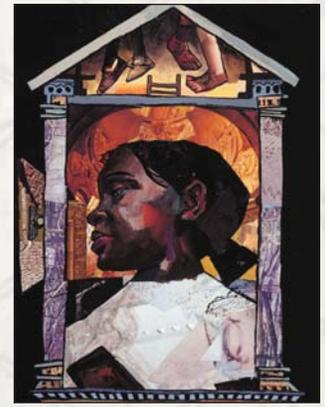
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Family Trees



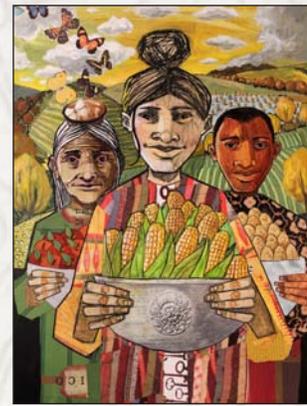
LESSON TWO  
Tamar



LESSON THREE  
Rahab



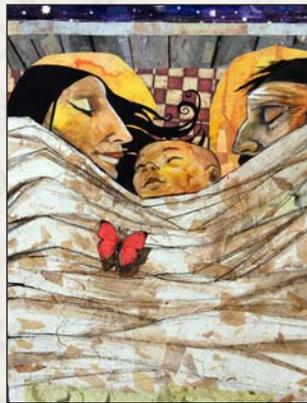
LESSON FOUR  
Ruth and  
Loyal Love



LESSON FIVE  
Ruth and  
Redemption



LESSON SIX  
Bathsheba



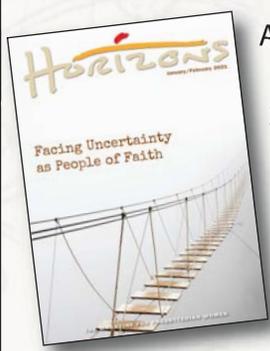
LESSON SEVEN  
Mary



LESSON EIGHT  
Mary in the Faith and  
Tradition of the Church



LESSON NINE  
What Are These Women  
Doing in a Place Like This?



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