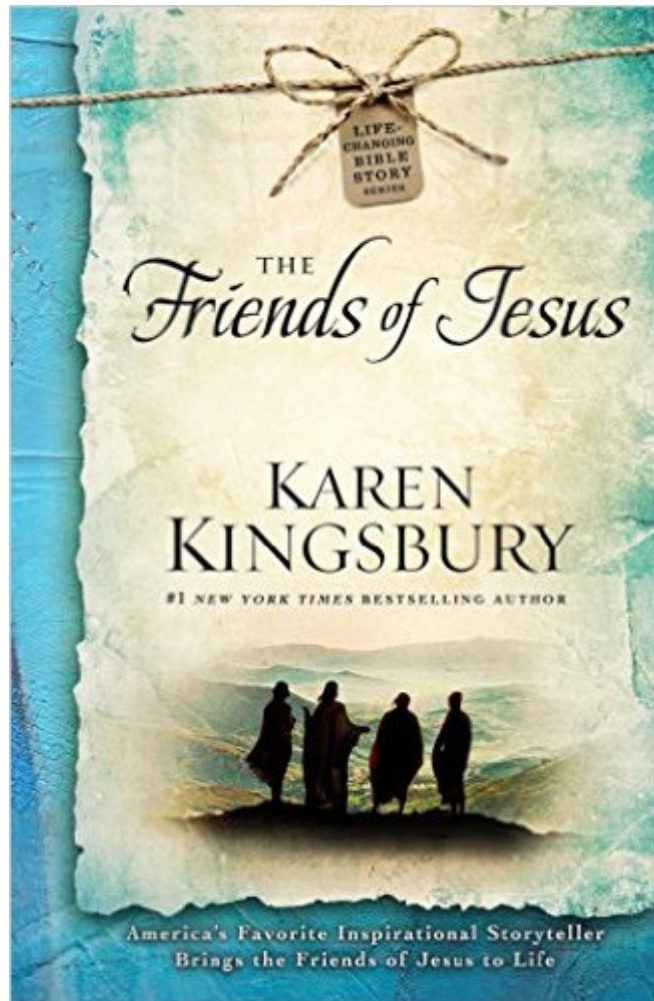


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# The Friends Of Jesus (Life-Changing Bible Story Series)



## Synopsis

America's favorite inspirational novelist and #1 New York Times bestselling author paints vividly realized portraits of six of Jesus's closest friends and companions, bringing biblical truths to life in this captivating continuation of her Life-Changing Bible Story series. In our everyday lives, friends are the people whom we spend the most time with, go through struggles with, and who know us best. Each of Jesus's friends—Peter, John, Matthew, Judas, Mary Magdalene, and Lazarus—traveled with Jesus and were part of His daily ministry, and each has a compelling story to tell. There were some who would question or doubt Him—and one would even betray Him. Kingsbury brings these fascinating personalities to life in ways that will not only help bring you closer to the truths found in Scripture, but also to Christ. By combining valuable, instructive Bible study with compelling, insightful character sketches of Jesus's companions, Kingsbury provides you with a deeper understanding of the scriptural teachings featuring these fascinating people. Emotionally powerful, thought-provoking, and soulful, *The Friends of Jesus* will help you to appreciate the Bible and understand how it applies to your relationships with the most important people in your life.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I have no doubt that my friend, Karen Kingsbury, is an amazingly gifted storyteller. I've seen this time and time again from her, but in a whole new level with *The Family of Jesus*, which was the first book in the Life-Changing Bible Story Series. It was one of the best books I ever read! Anyway, I tell you this because I was so excited to see what Karen did with this next book in the series, *The*

Friends of Jesus. What I loved about this book is Karen's heart and desire for biblical accuracy. She is a fictional storyteller, so it can be easy when reading books like this to want to question things. What I love that Karen did is include a letter at the beginning of the book explaining how she weaved the truths in Scripture together with fiction. She does this in such a delicate, yet honest way. I give her so much credit for being able to pull this type of book off. I also love the way Karen brings the people in the stories to life in a way that makes me learn something new about them. Through reading this book, I found myself saying "I never thought of that." I loved how I finished this book with a deeper understanding of the characters and what life could have been like for them. Karen took these people and made them feel more real to me. Since I loved the first book in this series so much, it was hard not to compare these two. While I got a lot out of this book and enjoyed the stories, I still absolutely love The Family of Jesus. There was just something about the way it was written that I became so connected with the story and the characters. That said, I enjoyed learning more about people Jesus associated with and would still recommend this book to someone because of the way it made me think differently about these friends of Jesus.

Six very different people. Yet all had an encounter with one man who would change their lives forever. They would be the same in some aspects but vastly different because of that one encounter and in many cases a continued relationship as being friends of Jesus. In the book, The Friends of Jesus by Karen Kingsbury, we get an up close and personal look at the very lives of six people who were forever changed in remarkable ways by those who encountered Jesus. From Simon, once a man of political power and influence, brought low and left abandoned by his family and friends when he became a leper. It was only through his faith in Jesus Christ, that would offer him a new life and a new faith. Martha, sister of Mary and Lazarus, was one of Jesus' closest friends, who would have her own faith challenged and tested when her brother dies while waiting for Jesus. She learns what the meaning of belief truly is. Jarius, a man who had one of the highest places of authority in the council of the high priests. As they are making preparations to arrest Jesus, he learns his daughter is dying. He has to make a decision to be with his daughter during her final hours, or trust and hope that the Jesus they have been debating truly has the power to heal. Mary Magdalene, is probably one of the most notable women from the Bible, aside from Mary, Jesus' mother. Hers was a life spent looking for answers in all the wrong places for happiness until she was seized by the power of seven demons. Her life would have remained an internal prison if not for the love and compassion from Jesus to dedicate the rest of her life to serving Him.

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