

Magdalene Community Gathering

AI-Generated Summary

March 30, 2025

The group explored the Gospel of the Beloved Companion, the story of Mary anointing Jesus, and the role of Mary Magdalene in Jesus' life and ministry. They discussed the Cathars, the potential for a third version of a Christian text, and an upcoming nationwide demonstration called "Hands Off". The members were reminded of the upcoming Gathering with Paula Mekdeci, tentatively scheduled for April 1st

Astrology and the Gospel of the Beloved Companion

A member discussed the significance of the current weekend, highlighting it as a crucial period due to the partial solar eclipse in Aries and the new moon. She emphasized the astrological year's beginning and the equal number of planets in fire and water signs, representing the spiritual warrior. She also mentioned the arrival of Neptune in Aries for the first time in 106 years, which could signify a change in beliefs. She encouraged the group to reassess their values and intentions, considering the new world they might be entering. A member introduced the topic of the Gospel of the Beloved Companion, a manuscript published 15 years ago, and its importance in their community. The group decided to focus on specific verses from the manuscript that resonate with them, acknowledging the lack of scholarly proof but emphasizing the emotional and spiritual impact of the text.

Mary Magdalene's Anointing Story Variations

In the meeting, several discussed the Gospel of the Beloved Companion, specifically focusing on the story of Mary anointing Jesus. They compared different versions of the story, noting variations in the details. The group also discussed the significance of Mary Magdalene's role in the story and her eventual recognition. A member raised a question about the possibility of Mary Magdalene's story being lost due to the burning of some manuscripts. The group also touched on the process of copying manuscripts and the potential for variations in the text.

Mary Magdalene Anointing of Jesus

The story of Mary anointing Jesus' feet with expensive oil, which was a significant event in the Bible was discussed. Several provided their perspectives on the story, with readings from John's account and noting the repetition of the story in Matthew and Mark. Also discussed was highlighting the focus on the poor and the anointing as a sign of Jesus being called the King. Mary Magdalene's role in Jesus' life and ministry was discussed deeper, focusing on her anointing of Jesus and her independent status. They explored the idea that Mary had her own resources and didn't share them with Judas, who managed the group's finances. The conversation shifts to the different portrayals of Mary in various gospels, including the Gospel of the Beloved Companion. They consider how Mary's renaming as "The Tower" by Jesus might have been a message about her strength and ability to stand by him during difficult times. The discussion concludes with reflections on how Christianity might have been different if Mary had been more prominently recognized throughout history.

Cathars: Women's Spiritual Equality in Early Christianity

The group discussed the Cathars, an early Christian movement that existed between the 11th and 13th centuries. A member shared that in the Cathar faith, women had equal spiritual standings to men, which was unusual for the time. A documentary series about the Cathars and their connections to other regions in Europe was brought up,

including the possibility that Dante was a Cathar. They discussed the Cathars' beliefs, including their dualistic view of good and evil, and their persecution by the Catholic Church.

Christian Text's Third Version Discussion

The group discussed the potential for a third version of a Christian text, questioning the origins and authenticity of the text. They discussed the similarities between the Gospel of the Beloved Companion and the Gospel of John, noting a significant change in language after the resurrection. They expressed interest in the author/s visit to the source material, while others speculated about the new information that might be included in the third version.

Mary Magdalene's Role in the Gospel

The group discussed the possibility of Mary being a liturgist. They explored the concept of the virgin birth and other possibilities that could have influenced the narrative of Jesus' birth. The group also touched on the idea of the Immaculate Conception and the respect for Mary in the Quran.

Nationwide Demonstration: Hands Off

The group discussed an upcoming nationwide demonstration called "Hands Off" on April 5th, sponsored by Indivisible. A member informed that there will be an event at Houston City Hall from noon to 3 PM, and she offers to forward the information. The members expressed interest in participating, with a member planning to attend in Lafayette Square. They also discussed wearing Quaker t-shirts with testimonies and creating signs for the event. The group acknowledges the importance of setting intentions for the new astrological year and showing up for demonstrations, even in traditionally conservative areas.

The meeting ended with group prayers.

"This overview was created with the assistance of AI for clarity and brevity."