TWELVE EXTRAORDINARY WOMEN by John MacArthur

CHAPTER 10 - Mary Magdalene: Delivered from Darkness (Mark 16:9)

After reading chapter ten, please respond to each item in preparation for group discussion:

1. Mary Magdalene has been the subject of misunderstandings, speculations, myths and legends. Which, if any, were you aware of? What is your reaction to those listed in the chapter?
2. What does scripture actually say about her dark background? Please cite scripture verses that correspond with each truth you find.
3. MacArthur says that Scripture makes a clear distinction between demon possession and diseases. (Matthew 4:24) Discuss the difference between disease and bondage to an evil spirit.
4. List the New Testament descriptions of the torments and agonies that demoniacs suffer:
5. How many demons possessed Mary Magdalene? How many was she delivered from? How many demon-possessed people came to Christ to be delivered? What explanation is there for this?

6. Jesus' drew out and delivered demoniacs. "Their emancipation from demonic bondage was always instantaneous and complete." What prevents demoniacs from saving themselves?
7. How did Mary Magdalene express her profound depth of gratitude to Christ for her delivery from bondage a. during His ministry?
b. at the cross?
c. at His burial?
8. What unique honor was conferred upon Mary Magdalene after Jesus' resurrection?
"Now when He rose early on the first day of the week, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom He had cast seven demons."

Mark 16:9 NKJV