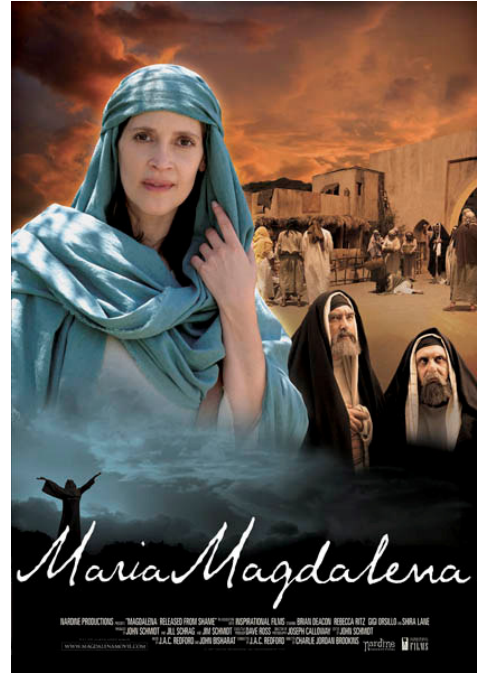


**Our new film version for women's ministry** was intended for cultures where women are oppressed. But other countries' ministries want it too. So, recently we had the premiere showing in Poland (85% Catholic) where Mary the mother of Jesus is often worshiped. Even though this film centers more around Mary Magdalene—it depicts Mary, mother of Jesus, in a very biblical manner. The film teaches our direct link to Jesus, rather than needing to go through Mary.

The Warsaw showing was by invitation only, to church leaders (many Catholic) and business and political leaders. It was not treated as an evangelistic outreach but as a National Premiere of a religious movie. The theater was filled and there were some prominent guests who were very blessed by the film. Many people were wiping away tears. Also present was a woman from the Polish basketball team. She drove 100 miles in the snow to come. She was very emotional, and said she was drawn to come. Before the premiere, she seemed to be content with her life, but afterward she understood that life is more than money, and now she wants to be in a small-group Bible study.



Here are some of the comments:

*'A beautiful movie. It gives hope, teaches how to look at another person - a woman - in a different way. We need more of such movies. Congratulations!'*

*'During the show I had goose-bumps. The film was so moving, though I understand how difficult it is to do religious movies.'* [This is a comment of a Catholic journalist.]

*'[the movie is] very optimistic, full of faith. I think that every believer should see this movie. I will encourage people whose faith isn't strong to see the movie so that they could understand the most important passages from the Bible, seen with the woman's eyes.'*



**In December, was the premiere of the Albanian version**, as well. And it must be stated that the old communist view of women was that they were equal with men, but only from a production standpoint. *Magdalena: Released From Shame* is our answer concerning the value of women—not as compared to men—but in the eyes of God, their Creator. One Albanian woman said after viewing it, "It touched me deep inside. God really cares and loves me."

Thank you for your part in my 20 year award from the JESUS Film Project!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David".