After years of missionary training and language study, Muriel arrived at a port city in Algeria. At the age of 26, she was eager to share the good news of Jesus with nationals recently ravaged by war. Muriel would go on to spend her entire career teaching God’s Word to Arabs in North Africa and France, walking alongside them in discipleship ministry. Hers is a remarkable story that belongs among those of the heroes of faith.

I recently learned from a mutual friend that Muriel had passed away in her home country of England. This friend was able to sit with Muriel in her last days and told me of her incredible testimony of faith to the very end. At age 89, the day before she died, Muriel was reciting aloud Psalm 121. Scripture was always on her lips.

In her live-streamed funeral service, Muriel was remembered as “someone who was steeped in Scripture, who often had a word in season and had a way of expressing God’s truth to everyone, regardless of their age, cultural background or status.” She was described as “someone who loved the Bible, who was convinced that hearing it, imbibing it, living it was the way to go – not just because it is a great book but because it told her (and tells us) about God Himself.” She was described in other ways too – adventurous, funny, a faithful friend, known for hospitality. Yet it is her love of God’s Word and her ability to share it naturally with others that stood out. Her life matching her words.

Our daily Bible reading guides are designed to help you meditate on God’s Word, to let it seep into your mind and heart and shape your life. I’m amazed by some of our faithful Bible guide readers who have connected with me – some of you have been reading and studying with us for a half a century or more. May there be many more “Muriels” who are transformed and living in our world as salt and light.

By Gail A. Martin
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