A Woman of Action

We must teach more by example than by word.

MM 1867

Mary MacKillop respected the human dignity of every person she met whether they were a friend, a fellow traveller, a prisoner, an elderly or sick person. She tried to treat everyone equally.

Once the Governor of SA wanted his grandson to come to her school. The Governor wanted him to have a special desk. Mary said he would be welcome but he must sit in the same kind of desk as all the other children. She did not want to have favourites.

On another occasion she went to visit a prisoner called Fagan. He was a violent murderer and everyone else had given up on him. Mary was so affected by his situation that tears poured down her face. He was so moved that he knelt down and prayed with Mary MacKillop. No-one could believe that she could calm him down.

Nancy Bruce was a young aboriginal girl whom Mary met while a governess in Penola. Mary saw her standing watching the other children learning at school. Mary took a special interest in Nancy and taught her to read and write. Through this education she found a pathway forward for her life.



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Jesus sent them out to proclaim the Kingdom of God. Luke 9:2