

### Discussion Questions for the Week

- #1. Why is the resurrection the heart of Christianity?
- #2. Read 1 Corinthians 15:14-10 and answer the following questions:
- A. In v. 14 Paul says if Christ hasn't been raised, preaching the gospel is useless and so is our faith. Why?
  - B. If Christ hasn't been raised what does that make Paul? (v. 15)
  - C. In v. 17 Paul says if Christ hasn't been raised your faith is futile. What does this mean?
  - D. In v. 17b Paul says if Christ hasn't been raised we are still in our sins. What does that mean?
  - E. In v. 18 Paul says if Christ hasn't been raised those who have died are lost. What does that mean?
  - F. In v. 19 Paul says without the hope of resurrection we are to be pitied more than all men. Why?
- #3. Each of the disciples mentioned in John chapter 20, came to faith in the risen Jesus in different ways (see below). What conclusions can you make about the amount of evidence required for each to come to faith in the risen Jesus.
- A. John saw and believed, v. 8
  - B. Mary recognized Jesus voice and believed, v. 16
  - C. The disciples saw his hands and side then believed, vv. 19-20
  - D. Thomas had to touch Jesus and believed, vv. 25 & 27
- #5. After Jesus rose from the dead a transition period began. Discuss how it must have been for the disciples to go from having Jesus with them in the flesh, to ascending to heaven (John 16:7).
- #6. Why is the resurrection the basis of our hope? (1 Peter 1:3-5)

# Easter Sunday

## "I Have Seen the Lord!"

### John 20:1-18

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Mary Magdalene's world was shattered when Jesus died! She is filled with sorrow and grief when she discovers that the stone blocking the tomb has been moved, and the body of Jesus isn't there. The only logical conclusion that she could draw was that grave robbers stole the body. The thought of resurrection was absent from her mind. When she discovered that Jesus rose from the dead, her grief turned into joy as she entered into a new relationship with her Lord.

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#### #1. MARY MAGDALENE UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL

- A. Mary was an early disciple of Christ
  - B. Mary had 7 demons cast out of her, (Mk 16:9)
  - C. Mary traveled with Jesus, (Luke 8:1-3)
  - D. Mary helped support Jesus, (Luke 8:1-3)
  - E. Mary's name is first on many lists
  - F. Mary was at the cross, (John 19:25)
  - G. Mary was the first to see Jesus risen, (John 20:16)
  - H. Mary was commissioned as the first evangelist, (John 20:17)
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**April 12, 2020**  
**Hillcrest Church**  
**Pastor Bruce Guckelberg, PhD**

**#2. MARY, PETER & JOHN EXAMINE THE EMPTY TOMB, vv. 1-9**

- A. She assumed that the body was stolen by grave robbers, v. 2
- B. She tells Peter & John the body is gone, v. 2
- C. Peter & John sprint to the tomb, vv. 2-3
- D. They evaluate the evidence:
  - 1. The strips of linen, vv. 6-7
  - 2. The burial cloth is separate from the linen, v. 7
  - 3. The burial cloth is folded neatly by itself, v. 7
  - 4. There were elite Roman guards, v. 7
  - 5. The tomb was sealed, (Mat 27:63-66)

**THE CONCLUSIONS OF MARY, PETER, AND JOHN**

- ♣ Mary thought robbers stole the body, v. 2,
- ♣ Peter didn't get it, (Luke 24:12)
- ♣ John came to faith, "He saw and believed", v. 8
- ♣ They all didn't understand the Scriptures, v. 9

**#3. MARY IS GRIEVING THE LOSS OF JESUS, vv. 11-16**

- A. Mary is a train-wreck, v. 11
- B. The angels ask "why are you crying", vv. 12-13
- C. They've taken away my Lord, v. 13
- D. She thought Jesus was the gardener, vv. 14-15
- E. Jesus asks, "Why are you crying", v. 15
- F. Jesus asks, "Who are you looking for", v. 15
- G. Resurrection never entered her mind, v. 15
- H. She recognized His voice, v. 16, (Jn 10:3-4)

**#4. MARY MUST TRANSITION TO A NEW RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS, vv. 17-18**

- A. Mary fell at Jesus' feet & grabbed Him, v. 17
- B. Jesus told her not to hold onto me, v. 17
- C. Jesus hadn't ascended to the Father, v. 17
- D. Jesus would send the Spirit, (John 16:7)
- E. Jesus commissioned her, v. 17
- F. Jesus defined the new relationship, v. 17

**#5. MARY LIVES ON MISSION FOR THE RISEN JESUS, v. 18**

- A. Mary is commissioned as an evangelist
- B. Mary is an unlikely witness for 1<sup>st</sup> C. culture

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**April 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:00:** Every Friday Aaron & Melissa Olsen will be leading a Bible study based on discussing the previous Sunday's sermon. This will be ongoing until further notice.

**Online Prayer & Sharing:** Wednesdays at 6:30 you can participate in the prayer meeting and connect with your Hillcrest family.

**Giving:** Be sure to continue honoring the Lord with your tithes and offerings. You can give online by going to our website.

**If you have any needs:** feel free to contact pastor Bruce, Aaron, or Keith.

**Cancellations:** Everything is cancelled due to the corona virus until further notice.